

**Disruption of Tambaram-Madras Electric Train Service**

942. SHRI KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state the reasons for the disruption in the running of Tambaram-Madras Beach suburban electric train service on the Southern Railway on 23rd April, 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : Failure of Power supply between Madras Egmore and Madras Park stations resulting in consequent failure of signal points and track circuits.

**Regular Service for Casual Labourers Employed as Gangmen in Permanent Way Department**

943. SHRI KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of casual labourers in the Permanent Way, working as Gangmen on all the railways as on 31st March, 1971 ; and

(b) the policy of Government to regularise the services of these casual labourers ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) 1,03,275.

(b) In 1970 it was decided that recruitment to Class IV posts from outside should be banned and that all existing vacancies as well as those which may occur upto 31-12-1972 should be filled up from amongst casual labourers with service of six months and above. These casual labourers will also receive consideration for absorption against regular posts in accordance with this decision.

**Railway Accident near Samalpathi (Southern Railway) on 11th-12th March, 1971**

944. SHRI KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether an accident occurred near Samalpathi on the Southern Railway on the night of 11-12th March, 1971, involving No 25 Express bound for Bangalore ; and

(b) the findings of the enquiry regarding the cause of the accident ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) According to the findings of the inquiry committee the derailment was the result of an act of sabotage by some person or persons unknown.

**Rural Electrification in West Bengal**

945. SHRI SAMAR OUHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER (SINCHAI AUR VIDYUT MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central funds have been allotted for rural electrification in West Bengal ;

(b) if so, main features of the scheme drawn out for the purpose in the State and the acreage of agricultural land that is to be covered by such schemes ;

(c) whether Midnapur-I and Midnapur-II Schemes have been drawn out for rural electrification of the district of Midnapur (West Bengal) ; and,