

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The views of the Governments of Bihar and U.P. are awaited.

Canals at Konar Dam, Bihar

*435. Shri Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irrigation canals have not yet been dug at Konar Dam, Bihar though the dam was completed two years ago;

(b) when the same is likely to be undertaken; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent on it?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No direct irrigation from the Konar Reservoir was visualised even at the time the Damodar Valley Projects were first planned. It was intended, however, to utilise a part of the Konar waters for irrigation through the Durgapur Barrage and the Canal System in West Bengal. Investigations revealed that the Konar area is too undulating to permit of a satisfactory flow irrigation system and, therefore, no irrigation scheme has been planned, so far as this reservoir is concerned.

(c) Does not arise.

Indian Labour Conference

*436. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the decisions of the 15th and 16th Sessions of the Indian Labour Conferences held in July, 1957 and May, 1958 respectively; and

(b) if so, the action taken in implementing the decisions regarding the recognition of Unions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and

(b). The matter is under examination in consultation with the Labour Ministry.

Accident near Talabaru Station

*437. { Shri Subiman Ghose:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri S. C. Godsora:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an accident took place near Talabaru Station in South Eastern Railway on the 13th October, 1958;

(b) if so, the number of persons died and injured;

(c) the cause of the accident; and

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the families of the dead and the injured.

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three persons were killed and 57 received injuries.

(c) According to the provisional finding of the Government Inspector the accident was caused by the failure of Railway staff.

(d) Not yet, but the following *ex-gratia* payments have been made:

Rs. 100 each, in respect of the three persons killed;

Rs. 100 each, in respect of four injured; and

Rs. 50 each, in respect of sixteen injured.

Bridges on Pipli-Konarak Road

*438. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sites for construction of the three proposed bridges on Pipli-Konarak Road in the district of Puri in Orissa, have been selected;