

(c) the estimated cost of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) There is no proposal to remodel the Hospet-Guntakal line but four additional crossing stations and facilities are being provided. The yard at Guntakal is being remodelled.

(b) The present facilities in the Guntakal Yard and the Hospet-Guntakal Section are inadequate to deal with the present traffic and the anticipated increase in traffic of iron ore from Hospet to Madras Port.

(c) The Guntakal Yard is being remodelled at an estimated cost of Rs. 26.04 lakhs.

Sone River Barrage

*512. { Shri Kamal Singh;
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 580 on the 1st August, 1956, regarding the proposed barrage on the Sone River in the District of Shahabad, Bihar and to state:

(a) whether the complete plan has been prepared and has been received from the Government of Bihar;

(b) if so, the important features and estimate of cost; and

(c) when the work is likely to be taken up?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the scheme are as follows:

(i) A new Barrage, combined with 24 ft. wide road bridge 4,752 ft. long, five miles upstream of the present Sone anicut.

(ii) New reaches of the left and right bank main canal with a capacity of 8,000 and 3,600 cusecs respectively.

(iii) High level canals from both the main canals to bring under command new areas.

(iv) Total area to be irrigated is 17.11 lakh acres.

(v) Power benefits to the extent of 13,775 K.W. for 5 months and 6,570 K.W. for 7 months.

(vi) Estimated cost, excluding power portion and remodeling of existing distribution system, is Rs. 13.09 crores.

(c) The project report is under technical examination and no decision to undertake the work has yet been taken.

Howrah-Delhi Janata Express

*513. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 1st January, 1957 the 69 Up Janata Express met with an accident at Pora station of the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, what were the casualties and how they were treated;

(c) whether it is a fact that a relief train which carried the passengers of the said Express, including the injured, was detained for a long time at Aligarh station where there was no arrangement for relief and supply even of food; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 35.]

Non-Departmental Telephone Operators

*514. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are non-departmental telephone operators employed in the Madras circle;

(b) if so, their number;