

## GUNTUR-REPALLE BRANCH LINE

\*771. Shri Raghuramalah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether ticketless travel is on the increase on the Guntur-Repalle Branch Line in Madras State;

(b) whether it is a fact that the trains running on that line are not keeping up the timings announced in the time-table; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to stop the ticketless travel and ensure the proper running of trains on that line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Ticketless travel on the Guntur-Repalle Branch Line of the Southern Railway has lately decreased.

(b) Their punctuality is not what it should be.

(c) All trains running on the section are now manned by a Travelling Ticket Examiner.

As regards punctuality of trains, improvement will be effected with the conversion of Kolluru Road into a crossing station, which work is now in hand, and also with the utilisation of the new engines which are expected early in 1953.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

## ASSAM RAIL LINK

\*772. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amount of money so far spent for making temporary arrangements for running the trains over the Assam Rail Link on account of breaches of the rail-road and bridges during the floods in June-July of 1952?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): About Rs. 12 lakhs have been spent on temporary repairs and other arrangements on this section.

## ASSAM RAIL LINK

\*773. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred in construction and maintenance of the so called "Hidden works" for protect-

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ing the bridges and rail-roads from the onrush of waters from the Himalayan regions in the Assam Rail Link since its inception; and

(b) how far it has been a good protective measure in that line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) About Rs. 20,000/- on two hidden works and about Rs. 2,000/- on their maintenance.

(b) The works have proved very effective.

## WOMEN WORKERS IN TEA GARDENS

\*774. Shri K. P. Tripathi: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to his answer given to starred question No. 2096 asked on the 24th July, 1952 regarding women workers in Tea Gardens and state:

(a) what information, if any, Government have collected, as was promised;

(b) whether Government have reconsidered the whole position;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of women workers have been thrown out of employment since the decision of the tribunal; and

(d) what steps, if any, Government propose to take to relieve the distress?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) In Assam, 11,223 women are working along with their husbands in 98 tea gardens other than those in the membership of the Indian Tea Association. In West Bengal, the number of such women workers in 41 tea gardens in Jalpaiguri District under the Indian Tea Planters' Association is 10,590. Further information is being collected by the State Governments.

(c) Information regarding the number of women workers discharged since the decision of the Tribunal is not readily available and is being collected through the State Governments concerned.

(b) and (d). Government have been considering the matter, but cannot see how, in view of the considerations mentioned in the reply to part (a) of question No. 2096, Government can interfere with the discretion of management.

## TEA LABOURERS

\*775. Shri K. P. Tripathi: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Tea Association has issued a

notice to the effect that the Tea Industry is going to cast aside labourers without wages in winter ;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent this or to save the labourers from starvation during the period ; and

(c) what will be the number of workers involved?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) to (c). No information is available regarding West Bengal. As regards Assam, it is understood that a circular letter has been issued by the Assam Branch of the Indian Tea Association indicating the possibility of lay-off of workers during winter for whom sufficient work may not be available. The State Government, who are responsible for dealing with industrial relations in the Plantation industry, have issued a directive that labourers who might be thrown out of employment should be employed to the maximum possible extent on Public Works Department projects and are also persuading local bodies, contractors and other concerns to give work to as many labourers as possible. The exact number of workers who might be laid off cannot be ascertained at present as it is related to the volume of work which employers might find it possible to provide.

#### HINDI TELEGRAPH SERVICE

\*776. **Shri Telhikar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindi Telegraph Service in Devanagari script is going to be extended to some stations in Hyderabad State ; and

(b) whether there is any possibility of establishing Telegraph Service in Devanagari script in all or any other Indian language?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes. Efforts are being made as a first step to provide the Devanagari telegraph service at Secunderabad.

(b) The service is already available for telegrams in any Indian language, written in the Devanagari script between stations having the Hindi telegraph service.

#### EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

\*777. **Shri Telhikar:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employment Exchanges

have been made use of by private employers and employees;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Employment Exchanges have collected necessary statistical information from private concerns from all parts of India; and

(c) whether there is any periodical of the Department publishing up-to-date information on the subject?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, there are two sources of information available to us. One through the Inspectors of Factories in respect of large industrial establishments, and through a Return prescribed for the use of Exchanges in respect of private establishments within the jurisdiction of the Exchanges.

(c) Statistics relating to Employment Exchanges are published in the Monthly Review of work done by the "Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment", "Employment News", and "Indian Labour Gazette".

#### VIZIANAGARAM-RAIPUR RAILWAY LINE

\*778. **Shri Sanganna:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of Railway stations on the Vizianagaram-Raipur Railway line of the Eastern Zone which have no waiting rooms for passengers?

(b) Do Government propose to construct waiting rooms at all such railway stations and if so, when?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) At only two stations on the Raipur-Vizianagaram section, there are waiting rooms for First, Second and Inter-class passengers. Waiting halls for third class passengers, however, exist at 31 out of 32 stations on this section. At the remaining station Dolkalu the waiting hall is already under construction.

(b) Additional waiting accommodation is proposed to be provided as follows during the current and next financial years:

Titilagarh Parvatipuram	} Inter class waiting rooms
Nawadara Road Kesinga	
	} Upper class waiting rooms including im- provements to exist- ing ones.