

## MINOR PORTS

\*742. **Shri C. Bhatt:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to give loans to maritime States for the development of the more important minor ports?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Yes.

## RAILWAY AMENITIES COMMITTEE

\*743. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Amenities Committee which recently toured Assam has submitted its report?

(b) If so, what are its main recommendations?

(c) What steps, if any, have been decided upon in the light of the recommendations?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Report of the Committee is under detailed examination by the Railway Board in consultation with the North Eastern Railway and suitable action will be taken in the light of the results of this examination.

## MONKEYS

\*744 **Shri Kirolikar:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have agreed to a Scheme for the killing of monkeys on a reward basis in PEPSU for 1953-54?

(b) If so, what amount has been sanctioned?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 8,500.

## NEW TELEGRAPH OFFICES

\*745. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places where telegraph offices were proposed to be opened in 1952-53 and have not so far been opened; and

(b) the reasons for the same and the time by which these facilities would be extended?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). No target according to the number of places had been fixed. It may, however, be stated that 185 offices were opened during 1952-53, including some sanctioned in earlier years. Most of the offices already sanctioned would be opened within this year.

## LABOUR APPELLATE TRIBUNAL, CALCUTTA

\*746. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Labour Appellate Tribunal, Calcutta has been holding its sittings in various States under its jurisdiction, from time to time; and

(b) if so, the dates of its sittings in different States from January 1952 up-to-date?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) Ordinarily the Benches of the Tribunal sit at Bombay, Calcutta, Lucknow and Madras and occasionally at other centres for the convenience of the parties. Under the Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Act, 1950, the Chairman of the Labour Appellate Tribunal has the power to decide where the Benches should sit for hearing appeals.

(b) Information has been called for and will be placed on the Table of the House.

## LABOUR APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

\*747. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Labour Appellate Tribunal has fixed up Patna for the hearing of the appeal of sugar industry, concerning the bonus of 1949-50 and 1950-51 crushing season involving a sum to the extent of about Rs. 50 lakhs, to which all the sugar factories and all their workmen numbering about 30,000 are parties;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Tribunal had asked the Bihar Government to make an alternative arrangement for its sitting if any court-room of the High Court was not available and the latter had accordingly made arrangements; and

(c) if so, the reasons for changing the sittings of the Tribunal from Patna to Calcutta?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) In connection with a request to secure reservation of accommodation in the High Court Buildings at Patna the Tribunal informed Government that it proposed to hold sittings at Patna from the middle of November, 1953.

(b) and (c). The Tribunal has been requested to furnish this information.

#### IMPORTED WHEAT

**\*748. Shri N. M. Lingam:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of imported wheat lying unsold in India at present and its value;

(b) the period of storage of these stocks;

(c) the rate of off-take of wheat at present; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to accelerate disposal of the stocks?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) The unallotted stocks with the Government of India on 1st December, 1953 amounted to about 540 thousand tons valued at about Rs. 22.79 crores.

(b) The bulk of the stocks was received in the central depots during the months May to November, 1953, though some quantities also pertain to earlier months.

(c) About 150 thousand tons per month.

(d) The question of accelerated disposal arises only in the case of that

part of the stock which cannot stand much longer storage, but the bulk of the stocks is meant to cover requirements of the next few months and to operate as a reserve.

#### RAW JUTE

**\*749. Pandit C. N. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to implement the recommendations made by the Expert Committee on quality of Jute?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** A statement indicating the steps proposed to be taken to implement the recommendations made by the Expert Committee on Quality of Jute is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 9.]

#### RAILWAY TIME TABLE

**\*750. Shri S. C. Deb:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the authorities have received some complaints regarding such major changes in the time table of October, 1953 of some of the railway lines of Assam Zone of the N.E. Railway and whether the authorities propose to consider the removal of any genuine grievances by revising the time table in question?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** Yes, Sir. The revision of timings of train services on the Pandu Region will be considered for the April, 1954 Time-Table for which proposals are being examined.

#### SALE OF QUININE THROUGH POST OFFICES

**\*751. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the practice of selling quinine through village post offices for the benefit of poor people in villages has been discontinued and if so, since how long?

(b) What reasons is this due to?