

has not been replaced since then, in spite of the repeated demands from the public of the said area for the replacement of this line?

(b) Do Government propose to begin the work of replacement of this line in the year 1952?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) The question of restoration of the Darwha-Pusad line was reconsidered by the Central Board of Transport at their meeting held on 29th August 1950, but after taking into consideration all factors including demands from the public the restoration was not agreed to. The line has, therefore, not been restored.

(b) Does not arise.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (INDEX)

56. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to give the general index of agricultural production for the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): 1944 in 1950-51 with 1948-49 as the base. The index number for 1951-52 is not so far available since Final Estimates for 1951-52 crops are not yet ready.

POST OFFICES

57. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss sustained by Government in giving effect to the programme of opening post offices in rural as well as urban areas during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) the total number of such post offices in each circle which have not become self-supporting; and

(c) the number of such post offices in each circle which are still being run at a loss?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a).

Loss, for 1950-51.

(i) Urban Ra. 33,867
(ii) Rural Ra. 17,34,583

Loss for 1951-52.

(i) Urban Ra. 28,802
(ii) Rural ... Ra. 19,62,770

(b) and (c). A statement is attached.

Name of Circle	No. of rural Post offices running at a loss, as on 1-4-1952.	No. of urban Post offices running at a loss, as on 1-4-1952.
Assam	217	18
Bombay	707	—
Bihar	1,536	—
Central	1,201	28
Delhi	17	—
Hyderabad	436	2
Mudras	3,044	7
Orissa	405	4
Punjab	956	2
U. P.	2,097	13
West Bengal	659	—
TOTAL	11,305	74

AERODROMES

58. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many new aerodromes have been constructed and in which places in India since 1947 up to date (year by year);

(b) how many new aerodromes are going to be constructed in the year 1952-53;

(c) how many abolished military aerodromes were taken up and reconstructed for civil purposes since 1947; and

(d) the developments made in existing aerodromes year by year since 1947?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) 10 new civil Aerodromes have been constructed by the Civil Aviation Department since 1947. Of these, 4 were constructed in Tripura State at Kailashahr, Kamalpur, Khowai and Belonia during 1950-51, and 4 in Assam at North Lakhimpur, Pasighat, Sadiya, and Shella during 1951-52; the construction of one runway each at Gauhati and Mangalore has just been completed.

(b) Proposals regarding the construction of three new aerodromes are under consideration.

(c) 17.

(d) A statement showing the requisite information is attached. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 34]