

**Shri Madhao Reddi:** What is the object in introducing this system?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** In order to relieve congestion and ensure better efficiency in the service; apart from that, to release a little more capacity on the telephones, and to effect economy.

**Shri Madhao Reddi:** What are the other cities to which this system will be extended this year?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Amritsar, Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Allahabad, Indore, Kanpur, Madras, Nagpur, Poona, and Simla.

**Shri Heda:** Is it not a fact that the telephone machinery at Hyderabad is worn out; and if so, what steps are being taken to replace it?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** We are attending to it from time to time. Apart from that, we have got schemes for replacements and renewals. For the present we propose to set up two new Exchanges, one at Secunderabad, the other at Saifabad, each will be a 1,400 line exchange. And then, the 500 lines which will be released from the auto board at Secunderabad will be diverted and added to the Golangoda Exchange.

#### KAZIPET-BALARSHA PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICE

\*1181. **Shri Madhao Reddi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to provide an additional passenger train service between Kazipet and Balarsha on the Central Railway; and

(b) whether Government are aware that before Police Action in Hyderabad, there was an additional passenger train between Kazipet and Balarsha?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes, by extending the present passenger and parcel train (211 Down/212 Up) running between Bezwada and Kazipet to run between Bezwada and Balarshah.

(b) An additional passenger and parcel train was run on the Kazipet-Balarshah section as a trial measure for about 3 months from 1-4-48 to 10-7-48.

**Shri B. S. Marthy:** May I know whether any complaints have been received from the travelling public that the parcel passenger train is not convenient and that they must have separate passenger trains instead of the parcel passenger trains?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not have any information with regard to any such representations having been made.

#### SOIL EROSION

\*1182. **Shri N. M. Liagam:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for soil and moisture conservation:

(b) the areas which are most exposed to soil and wind erosion; and

(c) whether steps have been taken to check soil erosion in the vicinity of power and irrigation dams with a view to prevent silting up of the dams?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Preparation and execution of schemes for prevention of soil erosion are the responsibility of the State Governments. The Governments of Bombay, Punjab, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Travancore-Cochin and Uttar Pradesh etc. have got well organised soil conservation units and have schemes for combating soil erosion.

(b) The worst areas from this point of view are the foot hills of the Himalayas, the uplands of Central India, Chota Nagpur and the Deccan Plateau, Rajasthan and in the basins of the Yamuna, the Chambal, the Mahanadi, the Kistna and other rivers.

(c) Schemes for checking soil erosion in the vicinity of dams under construction are under preparation.

**Shri N. M. Liagam:** May I know if our officers have been sent abroad for training in the methods of prevention of soil erosion, and if so where?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There were five officers who were sent abroad, to U.S.A.

**Shri B. S. Marthy:** May I know whether any expert has been invited