

Indian Red Cross Society on the 17th August, 1962.

(b) The donation is being utilised towards providing relief supplies for flood sufferers in Assam, Bihar and U.P.

P. & T. Buildings

2348. **Shri Yajnik:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any contracts for constructing any buildings for Post and Telegraph offices in the current year;

(b) whether Government have also given any contracts for constructing quarters for the employees of the P. & T. Department during the current year; and

(c) if so, the estimated value of these contracts, separately?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Rs. 33,18,112 for Office buildings and Rs. 59,88,198 for staff quarters in the current financial year.

Concrete Sleepers

2349. { **Shri Himmatsinhji:**
Shrimati Gayatri Devi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the difference in the cost of concrete sleepers and those used at present?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): A statement indicating the cost of various kinds of sleepers used at present and that of concrete sleepers is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE APPROXIMATE AVERAGE COST OF VARIOUS KIND OF SLEEPERS

Category	Approximate cost inclusive of fittings	Approximate life in years
I. Steel	B.G. Rs. 44.00 M.G. Rs. 30.00	35 35
II. Cast iron	B.G. Rs. 46.70 M.G. Rs. 27.20	40 40
I I. Wooden :		
(i) Hard wood	B.G. Rs. 25.50 M.G. Rs. 13.25	15 15
(ii) Soft wood (including cost of treatment)	B.G. Rs. 28.50 M.G. Rs. 14.50	12 1
IV. Concrete—Prices vary from Rs. 37.00 to Rs. 69.00 for through sleeper B.G. and from Rs. 24.00 to Rs. 27.12 for through sleeper M.G. depending on the different types.		

Kandla Port

2350. { **Shri Himmatsinhji:**
Shri Solanki:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that owing to unemployment the people from Gandhidham and that area near Kandla Port are gradually migrating elsewhere; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans for establishing small scale industries or any other means of employment for the displaced persons and others who settled down there after partition?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The economic situation in the Kandla-Gandhidham area continues to be practically what it has been for the past three or four years. With the completion of the major harbour works at Kandla Port, the population of the area, which was at one time about 40,000 came down to about 35,000, and

has remained more or less at that figure.

(b) Land near the port as well as in the Township of Gandhidham has been demarcated and is being allotted for setting up industries. Although a number of plots have been taken up by private parties, the actual construction work has not gained momentum. This is probably due to the fact that the area is completely isolated and has to develop almost from scratch and the parties concerned adopt a wait-and-see policy. Thus the industrial growth of the area has been rather slow.

A major industry to produce formaldehyde, a very important raw material for plastic and textile industries, is being established at Kandla by a Bombay firm. This firm has also plans for establishing a plant for the production of hexamine, an important pharmaceutical product. A fish canning factory is already functioning at the port. A licence for the establishment of a spinning mill with a capacity of 12,000 spindles has also been granted recently to M/s. Sindhu Resettlement Corporation Ltd. who are developing the Gandhidham Township in collaboration with the Kandla Port Organisation.

An industrial estate with 52 sheds for small scale industries has been completed and 34 sheds have been allotted. Ten industries have recently been established in this Estate.

A decision on the proposal for the establishment of a Free Trade Zone to give a fillip to the industrial development of the region is expected to be taken within about six weeks.

Engineering Supervisors in Posts and Telegraphs

2351. { Shri Buta Singh:
Shri Gulshan:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Engineering Supervisors (temporary and permanent) working in each P. & T. Circle on the 1st April, 1962;

(b) the number of Schedule Caste/Tribe Engineering Supervisors (tem-

porary and permanent) in each P. & T. Circle on the same date;

(c) the reason for low representation in permanent category; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in this matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) to (d). The required information is being collected from the various recruiting authorities and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Goods Traffic

2352. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though the carrying capacity of the Indian Railways for general goods has increased during the quarter April to June, 1962 by about 1.5 per cent over the corresponding period last year, yet it falls short of the revised targets of 8 to 10 per cent; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to increase this capacity according to the revised phased programme so as to achieve the target?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The originating traffic loaded on the Indian Railways has increased by 5.2% during the quarter April, 1962 to June, 1962 as compared to the corresponding period of the last year. Since the 2nd period of June, 1962 the loading has shown an increase of about 10%.

तीसरी योजना में उत्तर प्रदेश में रेलवे लाइनों

२३५३. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या रेलवे मंत्री ७ दिसम्बर, १९६१ के तारंकित प्रश्न संख्या ६५१ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस बीच तीसरी योजना में सम्मिलित करने के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार से रेलवे लाइनों के प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हो गये हैं ;