

be laid on the table of the Sabha as soon as it is available.

Catering at Gauhati and Agartala Airports

1005. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the catering arrangements at some of the Airports like Gauhati and Agartala are very poor and proper sanitary conditions are not observed there;

(b) whether it is also a fact that pure and cool drinking water is not available at these airports; and

(c) the arrangements being made to improve the quality of catering and to provide cool drinking water to the passengers?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin):

(a) to (c). There have been a few complaints against the catering contractors at these airports regarding their service and the quality of food served. Their contracts are due to expire on 31st December 1963 and tenders have been called for the award of the contracts from 1st January 1964.

The position in regard to supply of pure and cool drinking water at the Gauhati and Agartala airports is being investigated and a statement would be laid on the Table of the House in this regard in due course.

Chakradharpur Railway Division

1006. Shri H. C. Soy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several illegal encroachments by tea-stalls and commercial firms have been effected in the Railway premises and land in Chakradharpur and other important Railway stations in Chakradharpur Railway Division in South Eastern Railway; and

(b) whether a review of the rules governing the lease of Railway land is

involved and if so, the steps taken in this connection?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). There have been some encroachments and action has already been taken to get them evicted. The correct procedure to be adopted in such cases has been laid down by the Railway after reviewing the extent rules for licensing of Railway land.

Chakradharpur Railway Division

1007. Shri H. C. Soy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Administration has not paid compensation to persons whose land was acquired in Chakradharpur Railway Division in S.E. Railway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The amount of compensation to be paid to the land owners is to be determined by the State Government who have not yet given their award. Compensation will be paid as soon as the award is finalised.

Medicinal Plants

1008. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Department of the Government of Punjab sought the advice of the Central Indian Medicinal Plant Organisation for the growing of medicinal plants in the border districts of Lahaula and Spiti;

(b) if so, when the advice was sought; and

(c) the names of the main medicinal plants which can be developed in that area?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the State