

(i) Yes.

(j) The Asian Technical Manpower Conference held in Bangalore last year recommended that two Regional centres should be established in Asia, one for instructors for training skilled workers and the other for teaching staff for training craftsmen in cottage industry and handicrafts. The I.L.O. have asked the Governments in the Asian region to state their requirements in the field. The I.L.O. are also surveying the existing training facilities in India with a view to exploring the possibilities of establishing one or two training centres in this country.

(c) The programme comprises the organisation of regional training centres, training of supervisory personnel and skilled workers in foreign countries, and the provision of expert assistance to Governments for promoting their national technical and vocational training programme. It aims at increasing the productive efficiency of workers already skilled in their jobs and in training new workers in skilled occupations.

(d) Out of 240 experts India will be having four in 1952. The Government of India will be responsible for bearing the cost of accommodation, travelling within India and office assistance.

(e) The I.L.O. intend to grant not 300 but 800 fellowships during the year 1952. The Government of India have not so far finalised their requirements for these fellowships.

SODIUM NITRATE FROM CHILE

380. Dr. Ram Subhas Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gifts received by the Government of India this year also include a gift of natural sodium nitrate from Chile;

(b) if so, what is the quantity of that gift; and

(c) how it is being utilized?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnaappa): (a) and (b). Yes. In February 1950 the Corporacion de Ventas de Salitre yodo de Chile offered to place 300 tons of Chilean Nitrate of Soda at the free disposal of the Government of India for experimentation and general fertiliser research. The first lot of 100 tons was received in 1931 and the second lot of 100 tons is expected in February-March, 1952.

(c) The fertiliser has been supplied to various States where the trials are in progress. Results are awaited.

BOMBAY-VISAKHAPATANAM RAILWAY LINE

381. Sbrt Telkhar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new railway line was proposed to join Bombay with Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, whether there was an actual survey of the said line;

(c) whether it is a fact that the proposed line would now be completed by constructing a railroad from Kurduwadi to Ramgundam only;

(d) whether the line was to pass through Hyderabad State;

(e) whether Latur, Udagir, Deglout and Bochhan (in Hyderabad State) were the main proposed stations on the said line;

(f) whether the scheme is yet in contemplation;

(g) if so, when the work is going to start; and

(h) if not, why the scheme has been abandoned?

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

(a) There has been no proposal for a new railway line to connect Bombay and Visakhapatnam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No.

(d) If built such a direct line would pass through Hyderabad State.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) No such scheme has been considered?

COORDINATION OF TRANSPORT

382. Shri Telkhar: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration to link airways with (i) railways, (ii) roads, (iii) inland waterways, and (iv) coastal shipping in the general co-ordination Scheme of transport?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Machinery for the coordination of all forms of Transport already exists in the form of the Central Board of Transport the composition and functions of which were described by me in my reply to Unstarred Question No. 166 by Shri Vidyalankar on the