

pumpa and command other irrigation facilities.

POST OFFICE IN PERINAD

671. { Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:
Shri Punnoose:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any idea to change the Post Office from the present site in Perinad (near Qullon), Travancore-Cochin;

(b) if so, why; and

(c) whether the Department has acquired a site for putting up the Post Office Building and if so, why is it that no building has been put up?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Due to insufficiency of accommodation available in the present building.

(c) A site belonging to the ex-arch department has been transferred to the Department. No construction has been taken up because in the building programme, priority has been given to the rehabilitation of existing buildings in Travancore-Cochin over new construction.

VISAKHAPATNAM HARBOUR (ACCIDENT)

672. { Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:
Shri Punnoose:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an accident in Visakhapatnam Harbour recently resulting in the death of a passenger in S.S. "Rajula";

(b) if so, what were the reasons for the same; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to compensate the dependents of the deceased?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesa): (a) and (b). No. The S. S. "Rajula" does not visit the Visakhapatnam Port. At the port of Nagapatnam, however, a fatal accident took place on the 26th October, 1952, resulting in the death of an unberthed passenger on board this ship while she was loading cargo. It is reported that the passenger bound from Madras to Singapore, disregarding the hatch-coaming guards put his head under the guard chain of

No. 1 hatch to look down the hatch just as a sling of cargo was being lowered and his head was trapped between the hatch-coaming and the sling of cargo. As a result, he sustained serious injuries on the head as a result of which he subsequently died although medical assistance was immediately rendered by the ship's Surgeon.

(c) As the S. S. "Rajula" is not owned or chartered by the Government of India, the question of their paying any compensation to the dependents of the deceased does not arise.

FAMILY PLANNING

673. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent so far by the Government of India on the experiments carried out for the rhythmic method of family planning; and

(b) the date on which these experiments were started?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Rs. 41,543/1/- upto the end of October, 1952.

(b) The undermentioned Family Planning Centres were started on the dates shown against them:—

(i) Lodi Colony Centre, New Delhi, July, 1952.

(ii) Lady Hardinge Medical College Centre, New Delhi, July, 1952.

(iii) Romanagaram Centre (near Bangalore), May, 1952.

HEALTH MINISTER'S CHARITY FUND

674. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Health Minister's name is given in the advertisement of Health Seals Campaign;

(b) the amount of funds so far collected and credited to the Health Minister's Charity Fund; and

(c) the actual amount spent so far on each item separately?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The Appeal is sponsored by the Health Minister.