

(d) What was the income from the private manufactures' stalls etc?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Practically all the models and exhibits displayed in the Indian Railways' Pavilion and other Railway stalls are of a permanent character.

(b) Most of the models have been selected for exhibition on the Metre Gauge and Broad Gauge Exhibition Trains which are now going round the country. All other models have been returned to the Railways concerned, who have been instructed to keep them in good order.

(c) No dismantlement of the pavilions has taken place. The Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply propose to use the pavilions in connection with the International Exhibition on Low Cost Housing to be held in January 1954. The materials used in the building and the pavilion are ordinary platform shed material and are fully re-usable.

(d) The income by way of rental from private stall holders, amusement park and refreshment contractors, hoarding sites, etc. is approximately Rs. 4.5 lakhs.

D. T. S.

58. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what was the income to the D.T.S. buses on account of the Indian Railways Centenary Exhibition?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): As no special buses were run exclusively for the Exhibition, the income to Delhi Transport Service buses on account of the Exhibition cannot be assessed.

FOOD SCARCITY IN JIRIBUM (MANIPUR)

59. Shri L. J. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Jiribam, a sub-division of Manipur State, is having food scarcity conditions?

(b) Is it a fact that a number of starvation deaths have been reported from the said area?

(c) What is the extent of the area where scarcity conditions are prevailing?

(d) What is the number of the affected people?

(e) What are the relief measures Government have already taken or are likely to take to combat the scarcity conditions in Manipur?

(f) Have Government contemplated any relief works in the scarcity affected areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) About 70 sq. miles.

(d) About 8,000.

(e) The relief measures taken are mentioned below:—

(i) Distribution of Rs. 25,000/- as agricultural loan.

(ii) Selling of 1,000 maunds of rice at subsidised rate of Rs. 15/- per maund.

(iii) Distribution of another 1,000 maunds of rice and 500 maunds of paddy to deserving persons.

(iv) Remission of land revenue to the extent of Rs. 3,210-2-0.

(v) Distribution to deserving persons of Rs. 1,300/- from the money donated by the India Red Cross Society.

(f) No.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE FOR SITAMASHI

60. Shri D. N. Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for the opening up of a telephone exchange at Sitamashi (Bihar)?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The scheme is under examination and will be taken up if it does not involve any loss.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE AT SONBURNA

61. Shri D. N. Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for the opening up of a telegraph office at Sonburna in Muzaffarpur (Bihar)?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The proposal is under examination.

CANTEENS ON EASTERN RAILWAY

62. Shri Sanganna: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to

state the number of restaurants and canteens opened so far on the Waltair-Raipur Railway and the Parlakimidi Lishe Railway lines (Eastern Railway) for the convenience of the travelling public?

(b) If not, what alternative arrangements have been made in this respect on these two railway lines?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Presumably the hon. Member is referring to Refreshment Rooms and Tea or Food Stalls provided at stations. The following arrangements in this regard exist on the Waltair-Raipur section for the convenience of the travelling public:—

Station	Vegetarian Refreshment room	Non Vegetarian Refreshment room	Vegetarian Tea Stall	Non Vegetarian Tea Stall
Raipur	I	I	I	I
Mahasamand	...	...	I	I
Khariar Road	...	...	I	...
Kantabanji	I	...	I	I
Titilagarh	...	...	I	...
Kasinga	...	...	I	...
Rayaghada	I	...	I	...
Bobbli	...	...	I	...
Sectanagaran	...	...	I	...
Vizianagram	I	I	I	I
Waltair	I	I	I	I

In addition, the construction of Tea kiosks as Kottavalasa and Pendurti has also been included in the Railway's Works Programme for 1954-55.

As regards the Parlakimedi Light Railway Section, there are no catering or vending arrangements at present but construction of Tea kiosks at Tekkali and Gunupur has been included in the Railway's Works Programme for 1954-55. There are no alternative arrangements for catering and vending in this Section at present. A system of train vending had been introduced as an experimental measure prior to 1-7-1951, but it was a failure. Efforts had been

made to start station vending at Tekkali, Ganguvada, Parlakimedi, Varanasi and Gunupur. Initially no contractor was prepared to accept these contracts. Subsequently, a contractor was persuaded to make vending arrangements at these stations. But the service rendered by him was reported to be extremely unsatisfactory and these vending arrangements had to be stopped.

The only representation received in this connection is a very recent one dated 14-7-1953 for a tea stall at Parlakimedi which is under the Railway's consideration.