

**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 Lishé 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.