

pleased to state whether the construction of Bobbili-Salur Branch line has been completed?

(b) If so, when are the trains expected to commence running on this line?

(c) What is the total cost incurred on the restoration of this line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Not yet, Sir. It is still in progress.

(b) Before the end of the current financial year.

(c) Rs. 11.69 lakhs approximately.

OVER-BRIDGE AT BOBBILI RAILWAY STATION

525. Shri K. Subrahmanyam: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to construct an over-bridge at the Bobbili Railway Station?

(b) If so, when its construction will begin?

(c) What is the estimated cost?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As soon as all the materials for fabrication of the bridge structure, which have been indented for, are received, the fabrication work will be taken in hand. Actual construction work at site would be started soon after the fabrication work has been completed.

(c) Rs. 15,256.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN KANGRA DISTRICT

526. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post and telegraph offices in the Kangra District, in August, 1947;

(b) the number of post and telegraph offices opened there up to date, year-wise, since August, 1947; and

(c) the number of places where new post and telegraph offices are proposed to be opened during the remaining three years of the First Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) On the 15th August, 1947, the number of post and telegraph offices in Kangra District was as follows:—

(i) Post Offices excluding Combined Post and Telegraph Offices ... 190

(ii) Combined Post and Telegraph Offices 29

(b)	P. Os.	C. Os.
1947-48	33	—
1948-49	8	—
1949-50	11	—
1950-51	4	2
1951-52	7	1
1952-53	1	—
1953-54	4	—
(up to date)	68	3

(c) Post Offices ... 19
Combined Post Offices ... 2

PILGRIMAGE TAX

527. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the stations in Rajasthan where terminal or pilgrim tax is levied; and

(b) the annual income from such taxes at each station?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

LOCUST INVASION

528. Shri D. C. Sharma: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount of damage caused by the locust invasion in India in 1953?

(b) How does it compare with the invasion of 1952?