

life of a tractor, which has been taken to be 10,000 hours while working out the output indicated above, is also a variable factor which depends on the amount of care given to it, the repairs undertaken, extent of use, climate of the place, type of work, etc.

(b) The per-acre cost is also very much dependent on the conditions mentioned above. On an average, the cost of ploughing on sandy loam soil upto a depth of 7" comes to about Rs. 20 to Rs. 30/- per acre.

#### NEW RAILWAY STATIONS

**500. Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new full-fledged stations, Flag and Halt-Stations opened on the six Zonal Railways during 1952-53 and 1953-54;

(b) the expenditure incurred in opening them; and

(c) the earning from these stations in the same period?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a)—

	1952-53	1953-54
Ordinary Stations	35	29
Flag Stations	15	25
Halt Stations	7	12

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### INDIAN TELEPHONE INDUSTRIES

**501. Shri Thimmalah:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the welfare measures so far taken for the workers and lower grade staff of Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 56.]

#### माल गाड़ी के डिब्बे

५०२. { श्री जी० एल० चौधरी :  
श्री लोटन राम :

क्या रेलवे मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के आइज़टनगर कार्यालय में मैलानी-कोडियालाघाट लाइन के किन किन स्टेशनों से वैगन रजिस्टर कराये गए;

(ख) कितने वैगन रजिस्टर कराये गए;

(ग) कितने वैगन दिए गए; और

(घ) वे कितने समय के बाद दिए गए ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Indents for wagons are registered at the stations themselves, including the eight on the Mailani-Kauriala Ghat Section of the North-Eastern Railway.

(b) and (c). During the Calendar Year, 1953, indents for 5787 wagons were registered at the stations on the Mailani-Kauriala Ghat Section. of these 255 wagons were loaded and indents for 1583 wagons were withdrawn and cancelled. At the end of the year registrations for 1949 wagons were outstanding. Judged in the light of the experience of large scale withdrawals of indents on liberal supply of wagons, the outstanding registrations did not necessarily reflect the actual quantum of traffic that was then awaiting clearance.

(d) Average time taken in clearance of individual indents during 1953 was about three months, the minimum being 16 days.

#### RAILWAY RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

**503. Shri Meghnad Saha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a department of scientific research on Railways has been created;