

(b) whether the Cochin Port Administration has recommended the doubling of the above-line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

Housing Colony for P. & T. Workers

*444. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to build a Housing Colony for the Posts and Telegraphs workers in Madurai; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). No scheme has been sanctioned so far. A proposal to provide some quarters in the Telegraph Office compound will be taken up during 1958-59.

Bombay Telephone Service

*445. Shri Naushir Bharucha: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Telephone service in Bombay City has considerably deteriorated since the introduction of 6-digit numbers;

(b) whether Government are aware that faults remain unattended for days together in spite of repeated complaints;

(c) the reasons for such deterioration; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to remedy the defects?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The service has not deteriorated. Average number of faults per 100 connections per month before conversion to 6 digits was 59 and after conversion it is 37.

(b) The faults receive prompt attention. Average duration per fault

before conversion to 6 digits was 4.9 hours and after conversion it is 3.6 hours.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Railway Anti-Corruption Organisation.

301. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the work done during 1956-57 by the Anti-Corruption Organisation of the Central Railway, Division-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 17.]

Railway Claims Cases.

302. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old claim cases pending settlement on the Central Railway on the 1st April, 1956;

(b) the number of new claims received on the same Railway during 1956-57, and

(c) the number of claims settled by the 31st March, 1957?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a) 8,933.

(b) *90,690 (including 7637 cases re-opened)

(c) *90,004 (including re-opened cases).

*Provisional Figures, as audited figures are not yet available.

Payment of Railway Claims

303. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of claims so far paid by the Railway department to traders in the Secunderabad Division of the Central Railway from 1955 for the loss of their goods; and

(b) the total number of claims at present under consideration?