

Kusiargaon on N.E. Railway Katihar-Jaghani Section; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal was examined but it was found lacking in justification, either financially or on grounds of volume of passenger traffic expected to be dealt with thereat. Consequently the proposal was not accepted.

Kursela Railway Bridge

1628. Shri Mohammed Tahir: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which Kursela Railway bridge on Kosi river near Kursela railway station on N.E. Railway was constructed;

(b) what was the period of expected life of the bridge at the time of construction;

(c) whether Government have examined the bridge and are satisfied that the bridge is still serviceable; and

(d) if so, for how many more years?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The Railway bridge on Kosi River near Kursela was completed in 1902

(b) The average anticipated life of a Railway bridge is 60 years for steel-work and 100 years for masonry.

(c) and (d). The bridge is inspected and examined regularly as laid down in the rules. The condition of this bridge is satisfactory and the girders are expected to exceed the average life of 60 years.

Catering on Bombay-Poona Race Specials

1629. Shri Naushir Bharucha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints about catering on Bombay-Poona Race Specials;

(b) whether in the catering elementary hygienic principles are not observed and conditions are filthy;

(c) whether drinking water supplied to passengers is procured from Lavatory taps and cups, plates and utensils washed under the same taps;

(d) whether there is Government inspection on Race Special Catering establishment; and

(e) what Government proposes to do in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, 4 complaints were received in 1957-58.

(b) Hygienic principles are observed and conditions are not filthy.

(c) No.

(d) Yes

(e) Supervision with a view to ensuring high standard of food, service and hygiene will be maintained.

Railway Over Bridges

1630. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Un-Starred Question No. 2036 on the 5th April, 1958 and state what progress has been made in regard to the construction of overhead bridge between Millerganj area and Ludhiana town in order to eliminate the traffic jam on the G. T. Road railway crossing?

The Deputy Minister for Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): The proposal of providing an overbridge at Ludhiana on G. T. Road in replacement of existing level crossing is still under correspondence with the Punjab Government. The design originally prepared by the Railway Administration was revised at the request of the State Government and the revised plan since submitted awaits their approval.