

(b) Whether passengers are charged penalty fees for crossing the ghat straightway; and

(c) If so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes

(b) and (c) There are separate ferry services licensed by the State Government exclusively to cater to the passengers moving from one ghat to the other. The Railway ferry is not authorised to carry passengers when they travel only from one ghat to the other and when no part of their journey is over the railway. In such circumstances, passengers detected over the ferry, travelling from one ghat to the other are treated as travelling without tickets and fares and excess charges are collected from them accordingly.

Timber for Railways

113 Dr. Samantsunhar. Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the annual requirement of timber for Indian Railways

(b) the value of timber imported during 1958,

(c) the quantity of timber imported price paid per cubic foot for different varieties of timber, foreign exchange involved and freight paid for imported timber (country-wise) during the above period; and

(d) the price paid for each cubic foot of different kinds of Indian timber during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): A statement is placed on the Table [See Appendix I, annexure No 32]

Fishing Harbours

114. Shri Subbiah Ambalam: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 619 on the 1st December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the Harbour Experts appointed to conduct survey of important centres for developing fishing harbours have since submitted their report,

(b) if so, whether a copy of the same will be laid on the Table; and

(c) the names of the centres in Madras State visited by them?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Not yet

(b) Does not arise

(c) The principal centres visited by the Experts in Madras State are Colachel, Leepuram, Tuticorin, Pamban Nagapattinam, Cuddalore and Madras

Tuticorin Port

115 Shri Subbiah Ambalam Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Traffic Survey of the Tuticorin Port has since been received,

(b) if so, the main features and recommendations and

(c) whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, the report was received in the Ministry only on the 6th February 1959

(b) The report is under examination

(c) This is a report made confidentially to the State Government about a Minor Port which falls within legislative powers of the State. The Madras Government have not yet formulated their conclusions on the

report. It is therefore considered premature to lay the report on the Table of the House. The question of placing it before the House will be considered in due course.

Claims

116. **Shri Anirudha Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases for claims received involving compensation for goods or parcels lost, damaged, delayed and carried over by the North-Eastern Railway Administration during the year 1958 and the amount of compensation involved.

(b) the number of cases settled out of Courts and also the number of cases pending settlements in Courts at the end of the year 1958 and

(c) the amount of compensation paid during the same period for goods lost, damaged or delayed in transit.

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) On account of loss of or damage etc. to goods or parcels booked to stations on the North Eastern Railway during the year 1958, 38,878 claims for compensation were preferred.

The amount claimed was about Rs. 179.2 lakhs exclusive of the cases in which claims were preferred without specifying any amount.

Statistics of claims arising out of consignments booked from the stations on the North-Eastern Railway to stations on other Railways are not maintained nor is it possible to collect such statistics now without spending undue time and labour.

(b) During the year 1958, 1748 cases in which suits were filed by the claimants against the N.E. Railway, in courts lying within their jurisdiction were compromised and settled out of courts and 2523 suits were pending in Courts at the end of 1958.

(c) Rs. 31.6 lakhs approximately.

Rural Credit

117. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state.

(a) whether the drafting of the districts and general reports relating to the first follow-up survey of rural credit has been completed in Punjab, and

(b) if not, by what time it would be completed?

The Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) No.

(b) The general report is expected to be completed in about four months and the district reports, two months thereafter.

Rural Water Supply Scheme in Punjab

118. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how far the amounts allotted to the Punjab Government for implementing the rural water supply scheme during Second Five Year Plan have been utilised so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): During 1957-58 a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs was paid to the State Government. For the current financial year a sum of Rs. 22.0 lakhs has been allocated, out of which 16.5 lakhs would have been paid to the State Government on monthly basis as wages and means advances. The final sanctions will be issued in February—March of this year. During the Second Five Year Plan period the Government of Punjab have spent Rs. 26.45 lakhs upto 31.10.58 on their rural water supply schemes.