

A proposal for provision of 3 manned level crossings to pass a PWD road from Dhrangadhra to Kuda has, however, been received. Two of these level crossings will be located at Kms. 58/10-11 and 43/11-12 respectively on the railway line from Dhrangadhra to Kuda. Plans have been finalised and the work will be physically taken in hand as soon as the State Government allocate necessary funds to meet the costs involved.

Agro-Industrial Potential of Little Rann

6330. Shri Sriraj Meghrajji Dhrangadhra: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes are under consideration for the exploitation and development of the agro-industrial potential of the Dhrangadhra Rann or Little Rann; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Corruption Cases on Railways

6332. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha: Shri K. P. Singh Des:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of corruption dealt with by the Directorate of Vigilance, Railway Board, upto now;

(b) the number of corrupt officials penalized so far, as a result of the enquiry held by the Directorate of Vigilance;

(c) the number of cases of alleged corruption still lying pending before it;

(d) the average number of cases of corruption against the gazetted officers that come before the Director General of Vigilance per month; and

(e) the steps taken to eradicate corruption?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Ponnappa): (a) During the period 1-4-65 to 31-3-67 the number of complaints dealt with by the Vigilance Directorate was 7091.

(b) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House

(c) The number of cases of alleged corruption still lying with the Vigilance Directorate is 1331 as on 30-6-67.

(d) The average number of cases of alleged corruption against gazetted officers which come up before Director General (Vigilance) is approximately 40-50 per month. However, it might be explained that a substantial percentage of such cases is accounted for by cases against gazetted officers which, on investigation, are not substantiated.

(e) All possible steps such as preventive checks through surprise visits, investigation of complaints and information received, inspection of stores, construction works, depots etc. and watch over progress of disciplinary proceedings are being taken continuously by the Vigilance Directorate to check the evil of corruption. Assistance of the Central Bureau of Investigation is also taken where required.

Provident Fund Scheme for Railway Porters

6333. Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1341 on the 2nd June, 1967 and state:

(a) whether a Provident Fund Scheme is proposed to be introduced for the benefit of the Railway porters;