

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) and (b) The names of railway lines which have so far been electrified/expected to be electrified by the end of the Third Five Year Plan period are given in the statement attached. [See Appendix XLV, Annexure No. 7].

(c) The amount so far spent for the electrification of railway lines during the first, Second and Third Plans up to the end of October, 1963 is about Rs. 68.71 crores out of which Rs. 46.22 crores were spent during the First and Second Plans. It is expected that by the end of the Third Plan period about Rs. 144 crores would be spent on Railway Electrification Works carried out during First, Second and Third Plans

CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY No. 47

162. SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration by Government to construct bridges across the Chalakudi and Karumali rivers in Kerala, on National Highway No. 47, as the existing road-cum-rail bridges across those rivers are not quite safe and cause great inconvenience to the road users?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to construct separate road bridges on these crossings. Technical details with regard to the construction of these new bridges are being collected. These bridges have not yet been included in the Plan. After the technical details have been finalised, efforts will be made to find funds for the commencement of their construction during the current Plan period.

SETTING UP OF A CORPORATION TO PROMOTE TOURISM

163. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Corporation to promote tourism;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal; and

(c) when it would materialise?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c) The Ad Hoc Committee on Tourism have recommended the formation of a Corporation under the Companies Act for handling activities of a commercial and quasi-commercial nature connected with tourism. This recommendation is under examination.

ALL INDIA CADRE OF AGRICULTURE OFFICERS

164. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal under consideration by Government to constitute an all-India cadre for senior officers of agriculture;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal; and

(c) when the cadre would be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH):

(a) Yes.

(b) Details are still to be worked out.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to indicate when the cadre will be finally constituted.

PURCHASE OF CARAVELLE FOR I.A.C.

165. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines Corporation propose to purchase a Caravelle;