

†GAUHATI FLYING CLUB

*129. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH:
Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of boys trained by the Gauhati Flying Club during the years 1960-61 and 1961-62;

(b) how many of them have got the required number of flying hours training; and

(c) whether Government propose to change the present set-up of the Club in order to make adequate arrangements for the training of boys there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) The number of applicants trained by the Club during the years 1960-61 and 1961-62 was 6 and 10 respectively.

(b) All the 16 candidates acquired the required number of flying hours for the issue of 'A' Licence.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

GAS PLANTS WORKING ON COW-DUNG AND OTHER VILLAGE REFUSE

*415. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved any scheme for supplying, subsidising and/or encouraging the use of gas plants working on cow-dungs and other village refuse for use in villages; and

(b) if so, what is the provision made and through which agency the scheme is to be implemented?

†Transferred from the 7th August, 1962.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) The scheme for the popularisation in villages of gas plants working on cow-dungs and other refuse is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

GRAIN SHOPS FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*416. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of grain shops which are being run by the Railways at present; and

(b) the number of employees who take advantage of this amenity and what is the total cost of the Railways including loss, maintenance charges and cost of staff etc. on these shops?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Five.

(b) Number of employees taking advantage of the grain shops is 3013 and the total cost to the Railways including loss, maintenance charges and cost of staff etc. during 1961-62 is Rs. 18,15,000.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:
Would it not be cheaper to distribute this sum to these people instead of running these grain shops at such a huge loss?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The employees who are taking advantage of these grain shops are paid dearness allowance at a lower rate and as a result of that there is an indirect saving to Government to the tune of Rs. 12 lakhs.