

**DELAY in SENDING ELECTRICITY BILLS BY  
NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE-**

299. SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the New Delhi Municipal Committee usually do not send the electricity bills to the Members of Parliament for months together; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not sending the electricity bills every month?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) New Delhi Municipal Committee have intimated that electricity bills are not sent to the Members of Parliament during the period Parliament is not in Session.

(b) (i) The experience of the New Delhi Municipal Committee in the past years showed that majority of the Members remained out of Delhi during the off-Session period and, therefore, electricity bills could not be delivered to them every month in spite of their being issued well in time.

(ii) In view of (i) above, the Members could not avail of the discount usually allowed by the Committee on such bills because of their late payment. It was, therefore, suggested by the Lok Sabha Secretariat that the system of issuing bills during the off-Session months may be stopped by the Committee. This fact was notified in Part TI of the Bulletin issued by the Lok Sabha Secretariat in July, 1958.

(iii) Accordingly, bills for the off-Sess'on months are issued by the Committee in the beginning of the next Session and regularly every month during the period the Session lasts.

**PERSONS EMPLOYED AT BONGAIGAON  
RAILWAY WORKSHOP**

300. SHRI J. B. HAGJER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons, technical and otherwise, are employed at pre-

sent at the Bongaigaon railway workshop; and

(b) out of them how many belong to local tribals?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Technical—857; Non-technical—268.

(b) Railways maintain statistics of recruitment of Scheduled Tribes as such and not localitywise. The number out of the above belonging to Scheduled Tribes is 30.

**ASSAM NORTH TRUNK ROAD**

301. SHRI J. B. HAGJER: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam North Trunk Road has been declared a National Highway;

(b) whether the present alignment of the road is proposed to be changed; and

(c) if so, what will be the new alignment and what are the reasons for the change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, as a consequence of the decision to construct a rail-cum-road bridge across the Brahmaputra at Pandu, it is necessary to extend National Highway No. 31 from North Salmara to Amin-gaon more or less along the route of the Assam North Trunk Road in that section. The precise alignment of the extension of National Highway No. 31 will be fixed when a detailed survey, which is in progress at present, has been completed.

**NUMBER OF TAXIS AND AUTO-RICKSHAWS  
IN DELHI**

302. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of (i) taxis, (ii) four-seater auto-rickshaws and (iii) two-seater auto-rickshaws at present operating in the Union Territory of Delhi?