

(««')Number of employees
whose notices were re
voked 12145

The nature of offences for which punishments are awarded are such as are mentioned in Sections 4 and 5 of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance 1960, and indulging in acts of sabotage, violence and gross misbehaviour.

AIR SERVICES

*443. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new air links were established in India during the year 1959-60; and

(b) whether it is proposed to introduce more air services by the end of the current Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN) : (a) New air links were established on 8 sectors by the Indian Airlines Corporation during 1959-60.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Corporation have plans to airlink 7 more sectors before the end of the current financial year.

OPENING OF SUB-POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE AT DERA BABA JAIMALSINGH

♦459. SHRI K. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open a sub-post and telegraph office at Dera Baba Jaimalsingh, near Beas railway station in the District of Amritsar, Punjab; and

(b) if so, by what date it will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN) : (a) An Extra-Departmental Sub-Post and Telegraph Office on phonocom system already exists. It is proposed to upgrade it into a Departmental Sub-Office shortly. The

question of extending "Morse" telegraph facilities would be examined thereafter.

(b) No definite date can be given now.

SHORTFALL IN COTTON PRODUCTION

*461. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the shortfall in the production of cotton as compared to the Plan targets; and

(b) whether Government are taking any effective steps to bridge the gap between the actual production and the Plan targets?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The shortfall in production of cotton was chiefly due to adverse seasonal conditions experienced during the last three seasons. The short supply of fertilizers, lack of irrigation facilities, paucity in supplies of pesticides and equipments were the other contributory factors in the non-achievement of the targets of cotton production.

(b) Yes. It is intended to intensify work on Cotton Extension by making increased facilities available to the farmers by supplying more fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation. It is also intended to increase cotton production by introducing cotton in the rice fallows of Deltaic areas in the States of Madras, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Mysore. With the completion of the Rajasthan Canal, a large area will also be available for cotton in Rajasthan.