

(b) The figure for the Calender Year 1958 is not available. There were, however, 49 cases of child births in running trains during the financial year 1958-59.

TRAVELLING BY NAVA-BUDDHAS WITHOUT TICKETS FROM NAGPUR TO BOMBAY

*415. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of Scheduled Caste Nava-Buddhas recently travelled without tickets from Nagpur and intermediary stations to Bombay to attend the funeral ceremony of their leader in Bombay;

(b) whether it is a fact that many of them travelled without tickets even on their return journey; and

(c) whether any action was taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. Seventy passengers paid the amount on demand and 420 passengers were prosecuted.

GASTRO-ENTERITIS IN DELHI

*416. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of children are suffering from Gastro-enteritis in Delhi at present; and

(b) if so, what is the cause of the disease and what action Government have "taken in this regard?"

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SIGNALLERS IN THE CENTRAL RAILWAY

*417. DR. R. B. GOUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain selected Signallers in the Central Railway were ordered to join Wireless Training Class at Byculia on 1st August, 1947, positively;

(b) whether some of them were not spared due to administrative inconvenience and could join the training class only on the crucial (option date) date, viz. 16th August, 1947;

(c) whether such employees are-the losers as regards fixation of their pay in the prescribed scales; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

DISPUTE BETWEEN WEST BENGAL AND D.V.C. OVER PAYMENT OF DUES

f SHRI LALJI PENDSE: *418 J SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: I^SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND-POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any dispute has arisen between the Government of West Bengal and the Damodar Valley Corporation over the payment of dues for the supply of irrigation water to that State:

(b) if so, the nature of the dispute and the contentions of the State Government; and

(c) how the dispute is proposed to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (HAFIZ MOHAMMAD IBRAHIM): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected from-

the Damodar Valley Corporation and the Government of West Bengal and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

SUSPENSION OF OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY

*419. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction) and a District Engineer of the South-Eastern Railway have been suspended;

(b) what are the grounds for their suspension; and

(c) whether the investigations in those cases have been entrusted to the Special Police Establishment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes.

(b) The standard of construction work, executed under their supervision, has been found to be below the specifications laid down for such work.

(c) Departmental action has been instituted. The Special Police Establishment have also been authorised to make investigations.

STATE TRADING IN FOODGRAINS

f DR. Z. A. AHMED:
| SHRI V. PRASAD RAO:
♦420. ^ SHRI PERATH NARAYAN
| NAIR:
I^SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the licensing of the wholesale trades is made under the scheme for State Trading in Foodgrains; and

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of State Governments concerned have chosen to rely almost

wholly on wholesale traders for procurement of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN) : (a) The licensing is done under the "Licensing Orders" issued by the State Governments. The definition of a wholesaler varies somewhat from State to State, but broadly speaking it covers dealers who purchase, sell or store for sale, more than a specified quantity, the quantity varying from ten maunds to hundred maunds in the different States.

(b) In some States, purchases are being made on a system of levy on mills and/or wholesale trade, at controlled prices as contemplated by the Scheme of State trading. In certain States, particularly surplus States, purchases are being made on a voluntary system from anyone who offers to sell to Government, at the purchase price fixed by the Government. In order that the farmer is paid his legitimate price the State Governments were advised to make arrangements for buying direct from the farmer also and some of the Governments have actually made such arrangements.

INCREASE IN PRODUCTION OF PADDY BY EFFORTS OF N.E.S. BLOCKS

*265. SHRI P. A. SOLOMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any increase has taken place in the production of paddy by the efforts of the National Extension Service Blocks during the last fiscal year; and

(b) if so, what is the quantitative increase of paddy-production in each State in the last fiscal year?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI S. D. MISRA) : (a) and

•{•Transferred from the 4th May, 1959.