

the Government of India. All other expenses, including transport charges to and from India, were borne by the Government of the United States of America.

RATES FOR LOCAL TELEPHONE CALLS IN BOMBAY, CALCUTTA AND DELHI

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

(a) whether it is a fact that three different rates are charged for local telephone calls in the three cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi, and if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) how these rates differ from city to city; and

(c) whether Government propose to bring about uniformity in these rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The present charges for local calls in Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi are as follows:

Bombay	.. 10 calls to a rupee
Calcutta	.. 8 calls to a rupee
Delhi	.. 12 calls to a rupee

The rates for Delhi are the same as for all other exchanges on the message rate system.

(c) Uniformity in these rates is not possible. Telephone rates are based on a number of factors like capital cost, running expenses etc. Since expenses depend upon various local factors uniformity of charges is not possible. A revised rates structure for telephone systems is under examination at present.

PLAN FOR ERADICATION OF MALARIA IN ALL ASIAN COUNTRIES

*139. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Third Asian Malaria Conference held under the

Chairmanship of the Central Health Minister has recommended speedy and effective implementation of the programmes towards total eradication of Malaria in all Asian countries;

(b) whether any integrated plan has been evolved for this purpose;

(c) which are the countries that have so far joined in this plan; and

(d) in what way India is likely to contribute towards successful implementation of the integrated plan?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) to (d). The recommendations and conclusions arrived at the Third Asian Malaria Conference have not so far been received from the World Health Organisation.

DEMAND FOR ABOLITION OF FOOD ZONES

*140. SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand has been made by some of the States concerned for the abolition of their food zones; if so for what reasons; and

(b) what is the decision taken by the Central Government on this demand?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) and (b). There have been from time to time suggestions for the constitution of smaller zones where more than one State were included in the same zone and, where considered desirable, some changes have been made accordingly. The suggestion for the constitution of smaller zones in place of the present Southern rice zone is under consideration of the Government.

TELEPHONE CONTROL OFFICE AT SAMDARI

*141. SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Telephone Control Office has been cons-

tructed at Samdari on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, how much money has been spent on that account?

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

(a) Yes, a Telephone Control Office was constructed at Samdari Station, but later on the scheme was modified and the Control Office Building is being utilised as the Office of the Inspector of Works (Special).

(b) Rs. 12,000 approximately.

DISCONTINUANCE OF ICE VENDORS' COMPARTMENTS IN TRAINS

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

(a) the number of trains in which ice vendors' compartments have been discontinued;

(b) the number of trains from which they have yet to be discontinued; and

(c) the annual loss to the Railways as a result of the discontinuance of the ice vendors' compartments?

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

(a) to (c). The information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE IN DE-LUXE TRAINS

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

(a) how much accommodation is available in de-luxe trains running between Delhi-Bombay and Delhi-Madras; and

(b) the average number of travellers in each one of those trains in the year 1958?

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

(a) and (b). A statement giving the information is attached. [See Appendix XXV, Annexure No. 12.]

नई दिल्ली रेलवे स्टेशन पर डी-लक्स रेलगाड़ियों के लिये टिकट

३०. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को सूचना है कि नई दिल्ली रेलवे स्टेशन पर डी-लक्स एयर कंडीशंड रेलगाड़ियों के लिये टिकट लेने में लगभग पौन घंटा लगता है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सुधार करने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

†[TICKETS FOR DE-LUXE TRAINS AT NEW DELHI RAILWAY STATION]

30. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that nearly three quarters of an hour are required at the New Delhi Railway Station for procuring a ticket for the de-luxe air-conditioned trains; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to make improvement in this regard?]

रेल उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) आमतौर पर टिकट पाने में लगभग ५ मिनट का समय लगता है। लेकिन दिन में ११ बजे से लेकर १ बजे तक जब काम की भीड़ रहती है और सब गाड़ियों में जगह आरक्षित कराने के लिये लोग आते हैं, तो टिकट मिलने में अधिक समय लग जाता है। लेकिन भीड़ के समय भी ४५ मिनट से कम समय लगता है।