

modern equipments and pesticides. Wireless sets, which have already been installed in the various strategic points would also be used for locust intelligence and to maintain close liaison for control operations. Two aeroplanes have also been kept in readiness for undertaking aerial operations, if required.

PROPOSAL FOR A NEW STATION BETWEEN ALIPUR DUAR AND BANESWAR

*412. **SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the needs of the people of the villages of Kholta, Bokalir Math, Baraibori and the neighbourhood bordering the Alipur Duar-Cooch Behar section of the North Eastern Railway for a new station between Alipur Duar and Baneswar of this section, for which they have been petitioning the Government from 1956 onwards; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the proposal for this new station has been approved; and if so, when its construction will be taken in hand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY):

(a) and (b). Three representations were received between November, 1954 and March, 1956 for opening of stations to serve the villages referred to. The proposals were not accepted for want of adequate justification.

APPOINTMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES TO RAILWAY SERVICE

*413. **SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates who appeared before the Railway Service Commission, Calcutta in the years 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 for appointment to different cadres of railway service in its jurisdiction;

(b) the number of candidates belonging to (i) the Scheduled Castes and (ii) the Scheduled Tribes who were selected by the Commission in those years; and

(c) the number of such candidates who were actually provided for in the railway services?

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

(a)	Year.		
	1955-56	.	13,476
	1956-57	.	41,747
	1957-58	.	29,165
(b)		Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
	1955-56	718	84
	1956-57	2,656	251
	1957-58	2,372	182

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

SUGARCANE-CRUSHING FACTORIES

*414. **SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government propose to stop the issue of further licences for sugarcane-crushing factories?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): Issue of further licences for establishment of new sugar factories has been stopped as the entire additional capacity targeted for the Second Plan period has already been licensed. However, cases of expansions in existing uneconomic units and utilization of capacity lying idle in the country are still being considered.

DEEPENING OF NORTH BUCKINGHAM CANAL

*415. **SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether the Government of