

WATER-LOGGING OF VILLAGES IN DELHI

*554. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that over 50 villages in the low lying areas of Delhi remained water-logged this year till as late as November;

(b) whether any master scheme is under Government's consideration for improving the lot of the inhabitants of these villages; if so, what is that scheme; and

(c) the estimated damage caused to life, property and standing crops in these villages on account of floods this year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) to (c). A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Delhi Administration have reported that the number of villages affected is 35—11 extensively and 24 partly.

(b) A scheme for the improvement of drainage in the Najafgarh *Jheel* area is under preparation by the Central Water and Power Commission. This scheme envisages:

(i) regrading of the Najafgarh drain in order to improve its capacity;

(ii) diversion of some of the drainage systems to a point lower down from where the Najafgarh drain has a better slope; and

(iii) improvement of the Mangeshpur, Nangloi and other drains draining into the Najafgarh drain.

(c) There has been no loss of life. Damage to property and standing crops is estimated to be about Rs. 1,70,000.

AGE RELAXATION IN FAVOUR OF DISPLACED PERSONS FOR THE POSTS OF TELE-GRAPHISTS

*555. DR. A. N. BOSE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the age limit for displaced persons has been relaxed to 28 years as against 24 years for others for direct recruitment from the open field to the posts of telegraphists;

(b) whether the same age relaxation in favour of displaced persons is also applicable to the posts of junior checkers in the Overseas Communications Service, and if not, why not; and

(c) whether there is any age-relaxation in favour of Scheduled Caste candidates in the Overseas Communications Service itself?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No age concession is given to displaced persons at present but the question is being re-examined.

(c) Yes, Sir; up to a maximum of 5 years.

TELEGRAPH MASTERS' EXAMINATION
HELD IN 1953

*556. DR. A. N. BOSE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that candidates from West Bengal circle securing much higher marks in Telegraph Masters' examination held in 1953 were not selected as Telegraph Masters, although candidates securing much less marks in Bombay Circle were selected;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what was the number of vacancies, if any, in the post of Telegraph Masters in West Bengal;

after the examination of 1953 and what is the number of vacancies, if any, now?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. K. PATIL): (a) and (b). No. Some candidates of Bombay Circle who were not allowed to appear in the Telegraph Masters' examination, 1949 due to wrong interpretation of orders but had qualified in Telegraph Masters' examination in 1953 were selected, as a special case.

(c) The number of vacancies was not calculated separately for each circle in 1953.

There is no vacancy in the Telegraph Masters' cadre in West Bengal Circle at present.

VISIT OF F.A.O. EXPERT ON FISHING HARBOURS

*557. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Food and Agriculture Organisation Technical Expert on the development of Fishing Harbours has been invited to India to advise Government on Fishing Harbours in the country;

(b) if so, what are the places visited by the expert so far; and

(c) whether he has submitted any report regarding the places to be developed as Fishing Harbours?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) The principal sites visited are Kandla, Okha, Porbander, Mangrol, Veraval, Dahanu, Bassein, Satpati, Versova, Bombay and Ratnagiri in the Bombay State; Karwar, Malpe and Mangalore in the Mysore State; Beypore, Cochin, Thangasseri and Vizhinjom in Kerala State; and

Colachel, Leepuram, Tuticorin, Pamban, Nagapattinam, Cuddalore and Madras in the Madras State.

(c) Monthly progress reports of studies have been received from the experts, but their recommendations on the places to be developed are awaited.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES

*563. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) what are the functions of the Advisory Committee for Homoeopathic Medicines; and

(b) how many of its meetings have so far been held since it was set up?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) The functions of the Advisory Committee for Homoeopathic Medicines are to examine and evaluate schemes of research and development of Homoeopathy as may be recommended by the State Governments for the grant of financial assistance by the Central Government.

(b) Six.

TUNGABHADRA POWER PROJECT

*564. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange asked for by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for completion of the Tungabhadra Power Project; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken by Government on granting of foreign exchange to this project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) and (b). The Andhra Pradesh Government had asked for foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 136 lakhs for the second stage of