

to be supplied to Nepal during the course of this year.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: What was the quality of the rice that was supplied to Nepal?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The rice has been supplied from the imported stock.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: Are Government going to supply more rice to Nepal this year and next year and if so, how much?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: No programme has been made for next year and no request has also been made,

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: Has it been supplied to any other country besides Nepal?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We have got close and friendly relations with our neighbouring countries and it is only fit and proper that they should be given rice when they are in distress.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: How many foreign countries have supplied rice to India up-to-date?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We have the PL. 480 and PL65 and other programmes also with Burma also there is a deal.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Is not Nepal a surplus area and has it not been supplying rice to India?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: This year, it very has been finding it difficult with its existing supplies. During 1955-56 also, it was finding it difficult and we supplied during those years also.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: What is the price we are charging for the Government?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We are charging Rs. 18 per maund inclusive

of the cost of gunnies, loaded into wagons. We are going to supply 3,100 tons on replacement basis and arrangement has been made to release about 16,000 tons immediately from Calcutta.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The hon. Deputy Minister has stated that some rice was supplied by way of gift. I would like to know whether the transport charges were borne by us or by Nepal.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We have given 10,000 maunds as gift, ex godown, and they are arranging to lift them, immediately from Calcutta.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Is it Indian rice or imported rice?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said it already.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We have got only imported stocks in Calcutta and some stocks in Orissa.

INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC TIME ANSWERING DEVICE IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

•374. SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an automatic time answering device is proposed to be installed in Bombay and Calcutta before the end of this year; and

(b) if so, whether it will be accurate to the second?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR) : (a) It would not be possible to do so before the end of the year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: May I know from which part of the world this special equipment has been ordered?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: This is coming from Germany.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: What would be the cost of the equipment?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The cost of the equipment would be Rs. 1,28,005.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: What is the cost of its installation?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I haven't got the figures with me now.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: Will the installation be done by Indians or by foreigners?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: It will be done by Indians, as far as possible.

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: Do the Government propose to instal this machine in Delhi also, and if not, why not?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: Delhi, a3 the hon. Members are aware, has already a machine which gives time.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Does the Delhi machine pay its way?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I have to ask for notice, Sir.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: In what language will the answer be given?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The intention is that in Calcutta it will be in English and Hindi.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: At how many places we have got these machines?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: At present we have got it in Delhi.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: Sir, in Delhi the answer is given only in Hindi. Doe", the hon. Minister know that most of the non-Hindi speaking people are put to a lot of difficulty, and in some cases we have to ring up some other house ...

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: That question had been taken up, and I understand that in this machine the necessary changes cannot be made. But it is being done in Calcutta and Bombay. And here, if it can be done, it will be done.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Is there any proposal to instal one such machine at Madras?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: It is a suggestion for action which will betaken due note of.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, on what ground the answer in Calcutta is not made in Bengali also?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The hon. Member's suggestion will be borne in mind. But I may inform him that if we have more types of answers and a more complicated machine, there will be greater chances of its going wrong which will involve higher expenses.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, he can bear in mind so many things. But I would like to know on what basis was it decided that in a place like Calcutta the answer should be given in Hindi or in English, when it is very-well known that the majority of those people there speak Bengali, and do not understand English?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The hon. Member, Sir, need not be told that English and Hindi both are being used as national languages, and therefore we generally decided in these matters that these two languages should be used which can be understood. And I expect that Shri Bhupesh Gupta and other inhabitants of Calcutta at least know that much of Hindi, and I think that as many as 98 per cent., of the people in Calcutta are able to understand that much of Hindi, and perhaps even more.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, there seems to be a misunderstanding. I have no quarrel with Hindi. But I would like to know why English has

been chosen in that case in preference to Bengali?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Because, Sir, generally, some people take delight in speaking in English and not in the regional language.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Did I understand the hon. Minister correctly when he said that both English and Hindi are used as national languages?

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the present.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: English never used to be taken as a national language; neither Hindi that way. It is Rashtra-Bhasha in the Constitution.

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान: इस मशीन में स्पीचेज नहीं होती हैं, न बंगाली की न हिन्दी की, बल्कि जो हिंदसे हैं—१, २, ३, ४, ७ वगैरह—वही सुने जाते हैं जो कि बंगाली और हिन्दी में एक ही हैं। क्या यह सच है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर : जी हां, ऐसा ही है। बहुत सरल है। भूपेश गुप्ता जी बेकार नाराज हो रहे हैं। सब समझ लेते हैं। इसमें कोई कठिनाई नहीं है।

POST OFFICES IN HISSAR DISTRICT

*375. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices at present in existence in Hissar District and the number of villages in that District where there are no post offices; and

(b) how many persons in Hissar District were prosecuted during the year 1956 for using radio sets without licence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI HUMAYAN KABIR) : (a) (i) Number of Post Offices in existence on 1st August 1957231.

(ii) Number of villages without Post Offices according to the 1951 Census Report.....797.

(b) S-x persons.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, the amount realised from these defaulters as fine?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: Out of six cases, Sir, four were compounded in the court, and one person was fined a sum of Rs. 15. The sixth person was not traced.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVER-BRIDGE AT JAKHAL RAILWAY STATION

*376. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is no over-bridge provided for the persons of Mandi area at Jakhal Railway Junction on Northern Railway,

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to construct an over-bridge there; and

(c) if so, when such a bridge is likely to be constructed?

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

(b) The existing foot overbridge is proposed to be extended to connect approach road on Mandi side.

(c) After 1958-59, subject to availability of funds and steel.

ISSUE OF CONCESSION TICKETS FOR RAILWAY TRAVEL

*377. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue concession tickets from August 15 to September 15, 1957 for travel from place to place; and