

for Saurashtra without any notice to the public in April, 1957; and

(b) if so, what was the reason for this sudden change?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Changes in timings of trains were effected with effect from 1st April 1957 and they were notified in important newspapers on the 31st March 1957 and in Sheet Time Tables displayed at stations.

(b) Due to last minute changes in the timings of certain trains the changes could not be publicised earlier.

AIR-CONDITIONED DE LUXE JANATA TRAINS

*104. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of passengers each of the air-conditioned de luxe Janata trains can accommodate and the number of passengers who actually travelled by these trains from the first day of their introduction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): Each fully air-conditioned train has 20 air-conditioned class berths and 240 III class air conditioned seats.

A statement showing the average number of persons month by month, who travelled by these trains from the date of their introduction, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XVII, Annexure No. 19.]

SPEED CONTROL OF RAILWAYS IN SAURASHTRA

*105. SHRI JETHALAL JOSHI: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for imposing speed control over the Railways in Saurashtra;

(b) when this control is to be lifted; and

(c) what is the amount of loss incurred by the Railways as a result of imposition of such speed control?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

MOBILE POST OFFICES IN NEW DELHI AND DELHI

*106. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present number of mobile post offices functioning in Delhi and New Delhi; and

(b) whether they are sufficient to meet the requirements and if not, what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) One.

(b) No. Arrangements are under way to start a second Mobile Post Office in Delhi shortly.

REQUEST BY ALL INDIA FARMERS' COUNCIL FOR EARLY FIXATION OF PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

*107. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the All India Farmers' Council which met in Delhi recently requested Government to fix and announce the prices of important agricultural produce well in advance of the sowing season; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to accept this request?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) The Farmers' Council which met in September 1956 passed a resolution requesting Government to fix prices of Agricultural Commodities at the commencement of the season.

(b) The matter is under consideration.