

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I asked for this information because the report says that the tolls have been allowed to exist. I thought most probably sanction must have been taken for the tolls to continue and in respect of those matters where the sanction must have been given, the details must be within the Ministry.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We are collecting the information. My information is that we have not given sanction for any new tolls. About the continuance, we are collecting information. We got replies only from certain Governments. As soon as we get from all the State Governments, we will place it on the Table of the House.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know whether continuance of these tolls was accepted *ipso facto* and no sanction was given when control of these national highways was taken, over, by the Government?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Before the national highways were taken over loans were granted from the Centre for construction of bridges to the State Governments and they were permitted to levy tolls to reimburse that amount. It is not known how far they are being continued. We are collecting the information.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not a fact that the Transport Advisory Council recommended that these tolls should be abolished?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes. We have also issued instructions in our letter to the various State Governments as far back as 1948 that no new tolls should be levied and the existing tolls should be abolished as early as possible.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Then what is the information that is being collected, may I ask?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Whether any tolls were levied there before, which was for the purpose of paying the loans they have taken from the Central Government for the construction of bridges, whether any such tolls are being continued—that is the information which is being collected.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: As these tolls are collected by local bodies I want to know whether the Centre has sent any directives to the State Governments to ascertain the opinions of those local bodies and then forward them on to the Centre?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I could not follow the hon. Member. These are all national highways. I don't know what the hon. Member wants.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: These tolls are imposed by the local bodies *also* even though they are national highways and they constitute the major part of the revenue to many of the Panchayat Boards and also the municipalities. So as far as these tolls are concerned, I want to know whether the Centre has directed the State Governments to ascertain the opinions of the local bodies as far as these toll taxes are concerned?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That is a different matter because these are all tolls on national highways. Such of the roads as pass through municipalities do not form part of the Provisional National Highways.

शबन करने और घूस लेने के लिये दंडित डाक कर्मचारी

*१६०. श्री किशोरी राम : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उन डाक कर्मचारियों की संख्या कितनी है जो १९५४ और १९५५ में (१) सरकारी धन का शबन करने और (२) घूस लेने के अपराधी ठहराये गये और जो इन आरोपों के लिये दंडित किये गये ?

†[POSTAL EMPLOYEES PUNISHED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT AND ILLEGAL GRATIFICATION

*160. SHRI KISHORI RAM: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of postal employees who were found guilty of and punished for (i) embezzlement of public money and (ii) acceptance of illegal gratification in 1954 and 1955?

मंत्री संचार भंडारण (श्री राज बहादुर) : सूचना पंचांग वर्षों के हिसाब में उपलब्ध नहीं है। नीचे दी हुई सूचना सरकारी (official) वर्षों से सम्बन्धित है :

१९५३-५४

अपराध में सम्बन्धित दंडित कर्मचारी कर्मचारी

(१) गवन के अपराध में ११४२ ३३३

(२) घूस लेने के अपराध में आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं एकत्रित किये जा रहे हैं।

१९५४-५५

अपराध में सम्बन्धित दंडित कर्मचारी कर्मचारी

(१) गवन के अपराध में ५७० १२७

(२) घूस लेने के अपराध में आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, एकत्रित किये जा रहे हैं।

†[THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Information by calendar years is not available. Information furnished below relates to official years:—

1953-54

	No. of officials involved	No. punished
(i) for embezzlement	1142	333
(ii) for acceptance of illegal gratification	Figures not available. Being collected.	12

1954-55

	No. of officials involved	No. punished
(i) for embezzlement	870	127
(ii) for acceptance of illegal gratification.	Figures not available. Being collected.	1

श्री किशोरी राम : इस अवधि में गवन की राशि कितनी है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : सन् १९५३-५४ में १,१२० केमेब हुये जिनमें गवन की राशि ७,७५,६५७ रु० थी। सन् १९५४-५५ में १,६४ केमेब घट कर ५,६६ की संख्या रह गई और गवन की राशि ७,५९,४८१ रु० थी।

श्री किशोरी राम : इन मामलों में मनी-आर्डर के गवन करने के कितने मामले हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मनी-आर्डर और भिन्न भिन्न प्रकार के मामलों की रकमों में अलग अलग नहीं दे पाऊंगा।

यात्रियों

पटना हवाई अड्डे पर यात्रियों के लिये यातायात की सुविधाओं का अभाव

*१६१. **श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पटना में यात्रियों को हवाई अड्डे से शहर तक ले जाने के लिये इस समय कितनी गाड़ियाँ काम में लाई जा रही हैं और उन में कितने यात्री बैठ सकते हैं ; और

(ख) पटना हवाई अड्डे पर औसतन कितने यात्री आते जाते हैं ?

†[LACK OF TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR PASSENGERS AT PATNA AIR PORT

*161. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicles which are at present in use for the conveyance of passengers from the air port to the city at Patna and the number of passengers they can carry; and

(b) the average number of in-cum-ing and out-going passengers at the Patna air port?