

1st October, and after that, within a period of three months, anybody may change the old stamps for current stamps of the same value.

INDIAN BOARD FOR WILD LIFE

*490. SHRI H. C. DASAPPA (ON BEHALF OF SHRI GOVINDA REDDY): Will) the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many recommendations made so far by the Indian Board for Wild Life have been implemented by Government; and

(b) what are those recommendations?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (a) and (b). All recommendations but one have been accepted by the Government. A statement showing the recommendations made and action taken on each is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 136.]

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I find that practically all these recommendations have been referred to the respective State Governments. May I know, Sir, whether the States have formed any National Parks in India?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, most of these recommendations primarily concern the State Governments and it is our desire to assist them wherever possible but those steps have not yet been taken.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know whether it is also not the responsibility of the Centre to start these National Parks?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Constitutionally speaking, I do not think that responsibility falls on our shoulders; but since we want development of all sides of our life, the Central Government and the Planning Commission would consider these recommendations.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Does not one of the recommendations refer to the unrestricted export of trophies and skins and various other things?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The hon. Member referred to the question of National Parks and I dealt with that in my reply.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I am now referring to the other recommendation that the unrestricted exports of trophies and skins of these animals and birds should be controlled.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: We are taking steps in that direction.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I would also like to know whether there has not been unrestricted export of animals and birds?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is dealt with more by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I find that the recommendation has been sent to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry—and that is two years ago—and that no final decision has been taken. May I know when the final decision will be taken?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I think the whole thing is being pursued actively.

LOSS OF LIFE OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES DUE TO FLOODS

♦491. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR): Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any railway employees have lost their lives as a result of the recent floods affecting the Assam link section of the North Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what is the number of such employees and what are the circumstances under which they lost their lives; and

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to their families?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

No railway employee on the Assam link section of the North-Eastern Railway lost his life "as a result of the recent floods". However, 4 railway employees are missing (believed to be dead) as a result of an accident to a light engine on Hatinullah Bridge between Chalsa and Nagrakata on that Railway. On receipt of a message from the Gauge Reader at Hatinullah that the water level was rapidly and abnormally on the increase, the Inspector of Works, Mal Junction, presumably with a view to immediately inspecting the safety of the bridge, took out a light engine from Mal Junction and piloted it with trolly-men, leaving Chalsa station at 2.50 hours on 23rd August 1954. It is presumed that when the engine was on the bridge, a pier collapsed due to sudden floods taking down the engine along with the crew of three, the Inspector of Works and the trolly-men. The search party could trace only the Inspector of Works in an exhausted condition but no trace of the driver, two firemen and trolly-man is available so far. An enquiry has already been instituted and the actual course of events will be known only after it has been completed.

The payment of compensation due and admissible will be considered when the enquiry is completed after the Inspector of Works is in a fit condition to tender his evidence.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: May I know how long it will be before the enquiry is completed?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It could not take long—I can only say that.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: It is a month now since these em-

ployees have been reported missing and I would like to know whether any 'provision' is being made for their dependants while the enquiry is taking place?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I think those provisions will be made.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I want to know when it will be made.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: No provision has been made just at present and we have received no representations from their families also, but I think that the enquiry has almost been completed. In a few days' time we hope to be able to look into that matter further and consider about giving relief to the employees' dependants.

TRAINING OF INDIAN FARMERS IN DENMARK

•498. SHRI B. C. GHOSE (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. N. DWIVEDI): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to send a batch of farmers to Denmark for training;

(b) if so, when those farmers are to be sent;

(c) what will be the period of their training;

(d) whether their selection has been made; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, what procedure was adopted for the selection?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) It is proposed to send 15 Instructors from the various Extension Training Centres and Basic Agricultural Schools to Denmark for training.

(b) The trainees are expected to sail from Bombay on the 9th October 1954.