SIDING ACCOMMODATION IN JHARIA AND RANIGANJ COAL-FIELDS

*685. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a great dearth •of siding accommodation in Jharia and Raniganj coal-fields; and
- (b) if so, what action Government propose to take to remove this shortage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) This is not cur information.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is the hon. Deputy Minister aware that coal has been accumulating near the collieries in West Bengal and Bihar on account of difficulties of getting siding accommodation near the railways where the wagons could be brought?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As I have said, as far as our information goes, there is a lot of loading accommodation still available for further allotment, in all the areas Asansol, Dhan-bad and Jharia.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Does the hon. Deputy Minister know that with regard to certain collieries there has been difficulty in obtaining siding accommodation even when they are assisted or fully paid by the collieries themselves?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As I have said, no such problem has arisen; we are in a position to allot loading space.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Is it a fact that some of the collieries in Jharia and Raniganj have applied to Government for construction of sidings at their own cost and even then the sidings have not been constructed?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, all such requests are considered and they are granted or refused as the case may be on the merits of each case.

to Questions

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Has the hon. Minister enquired whether applications are still pending for the provisions of siding accommodation which have not been acceded to by the Railway authorities?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, this is a sort of a continuous affair. Whenever a particular concern feels that they should have a private siding or an assisted siding they do apply and the request is considered. There may be requests pending and under consideration.

मध्य भारत में स्नोल गये डाक, तार तथा पाब्लिक काल आकिसेज *६८६ श्री कृष्णकान्त व्यास : क्या संसार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पिछले पांच वर्षों में मध्यभारत में किन किन स्थानों पर नये डाक, तार तथा पब्लिक काल आफिसेज खोले गये ?

f [New Post, Telegraph and Public Call Offices opened in Madhya Bharat

*686. SHRI KRISHNAKANT VYAS: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of the places in Madhya Bharat where new post, telegraph and public call offices have been opened during the last five years?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Information is being collected and will be furnished as soon as it becomes available.

श्री कृष्णकांत व्यास : में अपने सवाल का जवाब हिन्दी में चाहता हं।

t[SHR1 KRISHNAKANT VYAS: I want the reply to my question in Hindi.]

English translation.