(c) Yes; as a general policy due to the insufficiency of wagons for coal loading and the fact that there is no shortage of production of this commodity.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT AND THE FIVE YEAR PLAN

- *662. SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) how much out of the monetary allotments made for development schemes in the Posts and Telegraphs Department under the Five Year Plan, has so far been expended;
- (b) whether plans for expending the balance have been drawn up; and
- (c) whether the P. & T. Unions were consulted in the preparation and execution of the plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) About Rs. 11,54 lakhs.

- (b) A broad plan has been drawn, details of which are now being filled in.
 - (c) Does not arise.

AID TO STATE TRACTOR ORGANISATIONS

•670. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether the State Tractor Organisations are given any financial assistance by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI): Yes. Financial assistance by way of loan is given to States under the Grow More Food programme mainly for the purchase of tractors and allied equipment.

UNIFORM RATES OF WAGES FOR INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

♦671. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government of India for

the fixation of uniform rates of wages for the labourers working in various industrial concerns, such as. cement, textiles, iron and steel?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (Sara ABID ALI): The Government of India have no such proposal under consideration.

IMPORT AND MANUFACTURE OF RAILWAY COACHES

- 135. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the number and type of passenger coaches imported from abroad in the pre-war years 1936-37 to 1938-39;
- (b) the installed capacity of Indian Railway Workshops, private firms, and Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., for the manufacture of passenger coaches per year;
- (c) whether the present manufacture of coaches in India is much below the installed capacity due to shortage of materials;
- (dl whether imports of passenger coaches in recent years are on the increase; and
- (e) whether it is easier to get foreign exchange for making payment for imported coaches than for making payments for materials to be imported for making coaches within the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. <u>Alage, san</u>): (a) Nil.

(b) Railway workshops—640 Bogies per annum.

Private firms—200 unfurnished steel coaches per annum.

This capacity, however, is interchangeable with manufacture of wagons.

Hindustan Aircraft Ltd.—150 furnished coach bodies per annum.