

(c) at what stage is the implementation of those recommendations?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The report is still under examination

(b) The main recommendations are contained in the Report, copies of which have been placed in the Library of Lok Sabha

(c) Pending examination of the Report, the Central Railway Administration has been asked to take advantage of the Report and take action on such of the recommendations as are readily acceptable

#### Departmental Catering on Railways

\*191. { Shri H. C. Mathur:  
Shri D. V. Rao

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Departmental catering has resulted in loss to the Railway administration, and

(b) if so, the extent of loss incurred so far and what accounts for it?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The provisional figures for 1956-57 which are available indicate that there has been loss on departmental catering on the Southern, South Eastern, Eastern and Northern Railways, and profit on the other Railways

(b) The accounts have not been audited and finalized but the estimated loss on all Railways taken together during 1956-57, is about 12 lakhs

The main reasons for the loss are sale of better quality of edibles compared to catering by contractors, maintenance of better service and incidence of higher overhead and establishment charges on account of payment to the staff of Central Pay Commission scales of pay, gratuity and contribution to provident fund and application of liberal leave rules

#### Requisitioning Foodgrains Stocks

\*192. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:  
Shri Keshava:  
Shri H. C. Mathur:  
Shri Supakar:  
Shri E. J. Rao:  
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:  
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:  
Shri Sinhasan Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether any State Governments have used the power conferred upon them by the recent notification of the Union Government empowering the State Governments to require any stockist to sell his stocks at the average prices of the past three months

(b) if so, how many State Governments have used that power and

(c) with what result?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Not, so far

(b) and (c) Do not arise

#### Afforestation in Rajasthan

\*193. Shri M D Mathur Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the progress of the scheme of afforestation carried out by the Government of India to stop the growth of desert in Rajasthan,

(b) the cost of such scheme, and

(c) how much has been spent so far for the purpose?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No 54]