

rationing scheme is not available in West Bengal;

(b) whether they are aware that there is a consequent rise in price of rice in open market; and

(c) whether the Central Government propose to make any allotment of cheaper rice for West Bengal?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No Sir. In the districts, the cheaper imported Burma rice is still being distributed but in Calcutta American fine rice and indigenous varieties rice are being distributed at higher prices.

(b) There has been no wide fluctuations in the market prices of rice in West Bengal recently.

(c) Major part of the supply of rice to West Bengal from central reserve is already in the form of cheap coarse rice.

Anti-Sea Erosion Works in Kerala

*197. **Shri Kodiyan:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government have submitted any proposal to the Central Government to extend the anti-sea erosion works now being carried on in certain selected places on the coast of Kerala to other affected areas along the coast line;

(b) if so, the nature of the proposal; and

(c) the extent of financial aid sought for by the State Government in this connection?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 84].

Kotla and Ganguwal Plants of Bhakra Nangul Project

*198. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the date when the additional units at Kotla and Ganguwal Electric Plants will be completed and power will be produced?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): The additional units at Kotla and Ganguwal Power Stations are expected to be commissioned in 1960-61.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

*199. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1559-A on the 6th September, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations in the report submitted by the Committee on Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been considered so far as the Government of India is concerned; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The recommendations made in the report submitted by the Committee on Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are still under the consideration of the Government of India.

Manufacture of Paper

*200. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2342 on the 18th May, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the exploratory scheme for paper manufacture from jute sticks worked out by the Indian Central Jute Committee has yielded any results;