

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the hon. Minister has received any representation from the West Bengal seed users that the seed potato that is available in the country takes more time than the seed that is brought from Rangoon?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They wanted seed potato from Burma. We examined the matter and it was felt that because of the tight foreign exchange situation, we must make use of the indigenous seed potato as far as possible.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): We consulted our experts and we were advised that the contention of the potato seed merchants of West Bengal was not correct. Indian seed was good as the Burmese seed.

Shrimati Da Palchoudhuri: Considering the fact that the time for planting potato in West Bengal is practically over immediately after Diwali, now that this potato is going to be sent to West Bengal, is there any plan to conserve it by cold storage methods, so that it may be possible to plant it with effect?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Whatever potato we send after the sowing period is meant for table purposes.

Third Class Passengers' Amenities Committee

+

*1169. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 951 on the 17th August, 1957 regarding the Third Class Passengers' Amenities Committee and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report of the Committee;

(b) if so, how many of the recommendations therein have been implemented; and

(c) how many are yet to be implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Committee have made 15 major recommendations. These have been accepted by the Board and orders have been issued to Railways to implement them.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how many minor recommendations have been made?

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): In answer to a supplementary to S.Q. No. 1167 about the allotment of money in the Second Five Year Plan I said that the amount is Rs. 11 crores. But the correct amount is Rs. 7 crores. I want that correction to be made.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

Theft in Lucknow Mail

S. N. Q. No. 5. Shrimati Da Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American lady who was travelling by the 30 Down Lucknow Mail from Delhi to Lucknow in a Ladies' reserved compartment all alone, on the night of November, 23, 1957, was robbed of her money and a few other belongings, and was also severely beaten and injured;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the lady passenger reported the matter to Railway authorities at Kafurpur Railway Station, on the Northern Railway;

(c) if so, the details of the action taken so far in the matter; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in future to ensure safety of unescorted women passengers?