

Is it due to higher price of sugarcane or some other reason?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I think one of the major causes of the higher cost of sugar production is the guaranteed price of sugarcane.

**Shri Jadhav:** What is the *per capita* consumption of sugar in India?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** How does this question arise out of export of sugar?

**Mr. Speaker:** He does not want that there should be any export. If there is export, the price will go up here. It is a legitimate question; the hon. Member has the right to ask the question. He says that the internal price ought not to go up. If the hon. Minister is willing, he might answer.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I require notice.

**Shri Tyagi:** The cost price quoted by the Ministry is £ 53 per ton. May I know if the price has been examined by the Tariff Commission or it is only the Sugar producers' Association who have given this cost price?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The cost price of sugar is very carefully worked out on the basis of the price of sugarcane, the cost of manufacture and other expenses.

**Shri Tyagi:** Was the Tariff Commission taken into consultation?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The Tariff Commission did make some recommendations. Schedules for working out cost of production have been drawn up by some expert Committees. There was Negi Committee in 1951 and then Gopal Krishnan's Committee.

#### Aerodrome in Kozhikode

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\*865. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
**Shri Warlor:**  
**Shri Kunhan:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 45 on 15th May, 1957 and state:

(a) whether a detailed survey has since been conducted to construct a

civil aerodrome at Kozhikode, Kerala State; and

(b) if so, at what stage it is now?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) and (b). Owing to paucity of funds there has been no progress towards the establishment of an aerodrome at Kozhikode.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** May I know whether a survey will be undertaken or whether it is proposed to be dropped under the Second Five Year Plan?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I cannot hold out much hope, but I would also not like to drop it at this stage.

#### Supply of Railway Wagons

\*866. **Shri Naldurgker:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Merchants' Association at Banaras recently made a representation to the Railway Board for supply of 50 wagons daily for booking foodgrains to the scarcity areas of East Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

(b) if so, what action was taken thereon;

(c) how many wagons, loaded with foodgrains move daily from Banaras and Varanasi stations to the above scarcity areas;

(d) whether it is a fact that owing to the shortage of wagons at Banaras and Varanasi stations on the Eastern Railway sufficient foodgrains cannot be supplied to the scarcity areas;

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the speedy carriage of foodgrains booked to the above area; and

(f) whether it is proposed to make arrangements for running special goods trains to meet the situation?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) No; not direct. But an attached extract from the Statesman dated 17-2-58 has been seen only recently. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 128.]

(b) The position has been examined.

(c) An average of a little over 3 wagons daily during January and February 1958 (up to 21-2-1958).

(d) No.

(e) Large quantities of imported foodgrains have been moving to these areas on programmes drawn up by the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Besides this, every possible assistance is being given to foodgrains movements on North Eastern Railway both on Government and Trade account.

(f) This is not necessary in view of answer to part (e).

**Shri Naldurgker:** May I know how much quantity of foodgrains has been booked from Varanasi and Banaras stations to the scarcity areas of Bihar?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I could not give the exact quantity that has been booked from all over India to the place. But if he wants to know the quantity booked from Banaras Cantt and Varanasi, it was 167 wagons during the month of January and up to 21st February.

#### Shortage of Railway Wagons

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\*867 { **Shri Ram Krishan:**  
       **Shri Sanganna:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in press 80 thousand maunds of sugarcane is fast drying up in the yards of Bilthara Road and Kidihdapur railway stations in Banaras district for want of railway wagons; and

(b) if not, what is the actual position at these Stations?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) No; on 24-2-58 there was no cane lying at Bilthara Road and only 22 wagon loads of cane were lying at Kidihdapur.

(b) During the period from 12-2-58 to 24-2-58, 99 wagons were loaded with sugar-cane at Bilthara Road and 76 at Kidihdapur. From 25-2-58, to 3-3-58, 66 and 105 wagons were loaded at these two stations respectively.

**Shri Ram Krishan:** May I know what steps are being taken to increase the number of wagons at those places?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** There is no necessity for increasing the number of wagons. If there is any necessity, of course the sugarcane will be cleared. Certain accumulation took place because pilot trains did not run on a number of days, but the defect has been remedied, and cane is flowing smoothly to the mills.

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** In view of the difficulty in getting sufficient number of wagons for transport of sugarcane during the crushing season, may I know whether any proposal is under consideration for manufacturing more wagons in co-operation with the sugar mill owners so that sugar mills will not have any difficulty in getting supply of sugarcane?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** I do not agree with the presumption at all, because I find that for these two stations we have been supplying every day the number of wagons required by the trade. It was only on four days consecutively that due to congestion Bhatni yard wagons were not supplied. But a larger number of wagons were supplied on the following day. There was no case made that there was shortage of wagons.

**Shri Bishwanath Roy:** I want to know not only about that particular station but all the stations wherefrom sugarcane is supplied.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Nothing has come to our notice to say that there has been any large accumulation of sugarcane that has not been moved by the railways.