

the Government of Rajasthan from the Centre; and

(b) for how long this claim is pending consideration and what steps are being taken to get it settled?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). A claim of Rs. 23.14 lakhs was received from Rajasthan Government in July, 1957. After examination a payment of Rs. 18.84 lakhs has been made in February, 1958 after realising the claim of the Centre against Rajasthan State amounting to Rs. 61,000. The claim for the balance of Rs. 3.69 lakhs has been rejected as being not due from the Centre.

#### Steel Foundry, Chittaranjan

\*486. { Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 850 on the 6th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the contract for the setting up of the Steel Foundry at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works has since been finalised;

(b) if so, the name of the firm to which the contract has been given; and

(c) when the work on this will commence?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Inland Water System in Orissa

\*487. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee of experts under the Chairmanship of Mr. Gokhale has investigated the Inland Water Transport system in Orissa in January, 1958; and

(b) whether any report has been submitted to Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

#### Rajasthan Desert

{ Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
\*488. { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri Vajpayee:  
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in regard to the reclamation and control of Rajasthan Desert;

(b) the amount of money spent so far on this project; and

(c) which are the foreign institutions helping in this project?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 14.]

(b) The Central expenditure from October 1952 upto January 1958 has been Rs. 18.45 lakhs on schemes executed by the Desert Afforestation and Soil Conservation Station, Jodhpur. Besides this a sum of Rs 55.48 lakhs has been spent by the States from 1953-54 upto end of December 1957 on schemes executed by them.

(c) The Food and Agriculture Organisation and the U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission.

#### Coconut Research Station, Orissa

\*489. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government shares any expenditure for the Coconut Research Station, which has been established in that State; and

(b) if so, how much and for what schemes?