

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The required information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha when received.

(b) A quantity of 37 tons of iron and steel was allotted to Manipur Administration for the year 1958-59 for agricultural purposes.

Agreement with U.S.S.R.

*2174. **Shri Rami Reddy:** Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any barter agreement has been concluded between the National Agricultural Marketing Federation Ltd., and the Soviet Union;

(b) if so, the main terms of the agreement;

(c) whether any exports from and imports into India have taken place so far under the agreement; and

(d) the value of such imports and export?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 106].

Barauni Thermal Power Plant

*2180. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 298 on the 20th August, 1958 and state the present position with regard to the scheme for a Thermal Power Plant at Barauni (Bihar)?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): Tenders for the generating plant and equipment for the Barauni Thermal Power Station have been received by the Bihar State Electricity Board and arrangements are being made for placing orders for the requisite plant and equipment.

Ad Hoc Railway Tribunal

*2181. { **Shri D. V. Rao:**
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2590 on the 1st April, 1959, and state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in finalising the examination of the findings of the 'Ad Hoc' Tribunal which went into the grievances of Railwaymen;

(b) when the report was submitted to the Railway Board; and

(c) when a final decision on the findings will be arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). The Report was received by Government on 15-10-1958. The recommendations in the Report are receiving consideration and Government hope to come to an early decision on them.

Air-Parcel Service to China

*2184. **Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the frequency of the recently inaugurated Air-Parcel Service between India and China; and

(b) whether other Asian States en route are also served?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) There is no direct Air service between India and the People's Republic of China. With effect from 15th March, 1959 facilities have been provided for sending air parcels through Burma. This service is available up to Burma daily. Facilities already exist for sending unregistered and registered air mail correspondence through Hong Kong on all days except Tuesdays when they are sent through Rangoon.

(b) Does not arise.