

**Looting of Steel Billets near Asansol**

\*905. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel billets have been looted from wagons near Asansol on the 14th October, 1960 or nearabout that time;

(b) if so, what is the value of the steel billets looted;

(c) whether some Railway Police Force men have been arrested along with others; and

(d) how much worth of steel billets have been looted or stolen in 1959 and in 1960 in Asansol Division, Eastern Railway?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) and (b). There was a case of theft from two open wagons at Hirapur Exchange Yard in which 104 pieces of steel billets valued at approximately Rs. 5,000 were removed and carried away on a truck on the night of 13th|14th October, 1960. They were later recovered by the police on 14th October, 1960.

(c) Yes, Sir. Three Rakshaks of the Railway Protection Force along with three other Railway employees and one outsider have so far been arrested.

(d) This is the only case of theft of steel billets in Asansol Division during 1959 and 1960.

**Cow-Dung Gas Plant**

\*906. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the potentialities of the latest development in the design and manufacture of cow-dung gas plants have been scientifically examined with a view to conserving cow-dung manure in the country; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to subsidise its installation in the country by cultivators desiring to do so or in any other way help the wide propagation of the plant?

**The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) Yes.

(b) No subsidy but loans preferably in kind like steel etc. are given. It is proposed to conduct a short training course in installation and working of the Cow-Dung Gas Plant, at the I.A.R.I. for the benefit of supervisors and mechanics employed in State Agriculture Workshops.

**Major and Medium Irrigation and Power Projects in Madhya Pradesh**

1773. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the names of major and medium irrigation and power projects which are proposed to be executed in Madhya Pradesh by the end of the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the estimated expenditure thereon and the extent of Union Government's help for these projects?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 43.]

(b) The estimated expenditure on these schemes during the Second Plan period is Rs. 56.68 crores. As regards Central assistance, the Government of India have given loans to the Government of Madhya Pradesh amounting to Rs. 41.655 crores during the Second Plan period till the end of 1959-60 under the following heads:—

	Rs. crores
1. Programme of Permanent Improvement of Scarcity Arcas . . . . .	00·215
2. Expansion of Power facilities . . . . .	00·400
3. Chambal . . . . .	21·000
*4. Miscellaneous Development Loans . . . . .	20·040
TOTAL . . . . .	41·655

\*Schemes financed from these loans include, among other, irrigation and power schemes as well.