

Haldia-Kharagpur Line

- *505. { Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shrimati Renu Chakra-
vartty:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Transport and Communications has submitted any proposal for a Railway line to link Haldia with Kharagpur:

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and

(c) the attitude of the Ministry of Railways to the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The line is yet to be surveyed.

(c) This line is not included in the "Draft outline for the Third Plan" and the Planning Commission has been advised that additional allocation to the Railway Plan will be necessary if the line is to be constructed.

Family Planning

*506. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) what is the attitude of W.H.O. towards family planning; and

(b) whether W.H.O. is taking any steps in the matter and giving any assistance?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). As far as the Government of India are aware, W.H.O. is not yet associated with action in the field of family planning.

Locust Invasion

- { Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shrimati Renu Chakra-
vartty:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:
Shri Supakar:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
*507. { Shri Assar:
Shri Goray:
Shri Viswanatha Reddy:
Shri Jinachandran:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Damani:
Shri Achar:
Shri P. R. Patel:
Dr. Samantsinhar:
Shri Subiman Ghose:
Shri N. M. Deb:
Shri Kodyan:
Shrimati Laxmi Bai:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 172 on the 5th August, 1960 and state:

(a) the extent of damage caused to foodgrain crops in the country by recent invasions of Locusts;

(b) the names of States affected; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such damage in future?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). The final estimates in regard to the damage caused by the locusts to foodgrain crops in the country are still awaited from the respective State Governments. The States affected by the locust swarms are Punjab, Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujerat, Maharashtra, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Orissa.

(c) As already mentioned in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha in reply to Starred Question No. 172 answered on 5th August, 1960, the entry of locust swarms into India cannot be prevented but suitable meas-