

considered to be the best. From the price point of view they were the cheapest. From the delivery point of view, they were the quickest. As a matter of fact, their delivery starts from August next, which no other tenderer could offer. Also, their performances was considered to be the best.

The question had been put as to whether they were to be tested in the Indian climatic conditions. As I had stated in my reply, Pakistan had been using these locomotives for a number of years and those vehicles have run for millions of miles. Officers were sent there and they found that the performance of these locomotives were quite satisfactory in the Indian conditions. After taking these factors into consideration, it was thought that this was the best course.

**Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Is it not a fact that the Member (Transport), Railway Board, raised very serious objections to the placing of this order? May I know what were the reasons given?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** My information here in the file is something contrary to what the lady Member has said.

#### Sugarcane crop in North Bihar

S.N.Q. No. 6. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Kushwaqt Rai:**  
**Shri Mohan Swarup:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that sugarcane crop is still standing over a very large area in north Bihar;

(b) whether the Government of India have received representations from the cultivators or their associations inviting the attention of Government towards their difficulties in this connection;

(c) the time upto which the sugar mills in north Bihar will continue to work;

(d) the quantity of sugarcane purchased so far by the mills in that area and the approximate quantity still standing in the fields;

(e) whether any decisions have been taken by Government to meet the situation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

साथ उपमंत्री (श्री मो० वें कुशवाप्पा):

(क) से (ख) एक विवरण सभा की देखित कर रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ३३]

**Mr. Speaker:** The question has been put in English. Let him read the English answer.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** (a) to (f). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 33.]

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** A short notice question should be answered on the floor of the House here and not in the form of a statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps it is a long statement.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I will read it out.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the hon. Deputy Minister state whether all these 17 lakhs maunds of sugarcane lie with the three mills that will continue to work or elsewhere?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Our information is that the Bihar Government has taken all possible measures to divert the surplus cane to the deficit areas and they feel that by this time all the cane in Bihar has been crushed. There is no apprehension on the part of the Bihar Government that the cane will be surplus and that the canegrowers will be affected by it.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know whether the Government is

aware of the position whether it is within the capacity of these three mills that continue to work to crush all the 17 lakhs maunds of cane that remain?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** It is a very commendable performance, because all the mills in Bihar would be closed before the end of May. In fact, in U.P. many mills will be running in June. So far as the 17 lakhs maunds are concerned, that is the figure relating to 7th May and not today.

**Shri Pataniandi:** Sir, when there is sugar-cane available, why are they closing the factories? Why should not the Government insist on their keeping the factories open?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** All the cane would have been exhausted by that time.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Railway Accidents

\*289. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of serious Railway accidents which occurred from 1st October, 1956 to 31st March, 1957?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** Six.

##### Talcher-Rourkella Railway Line

\*305. **Shri P. G. Deb:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the proposed railway line from Talcher to Rourkella via Bar-kote be constructed; and

(b) whether it will be completed in the Second Five Year Plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). Only the portion Rourkella to Patasai is going to be constructed during the Second Five Year Plan.

#### Anchal Department of Travancore-Cochin

\*306. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1150 on 13th December, 1956 and state whether the matter regarding the sanction of pay and allowances, on the Central Government scales for 1950-51, to the former employees of the Anchal Department of the former Cochin and Travancore State has been reconsidered and decision taken thereon?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** The matter has since been re-examined but the Government have not been able to discover any ground for a revision of the decision already taken in this behalf.

#### Posts and Telegraphs Circle, Kerala

\*307. **Shri Kodyan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand for the constitution of a separate Posts and Telegraphs Circle for the new Kerala State and

(b) if so, what is the attitude of the Government of India towards it?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes.

(b) At present no proposal for the reorganisation of Post & Telegraph Circles is under consideration of the Government.

#### Railway Fares on Fatehpur-Churu Line

\*308. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fares for all the classes on the new Fatehpur-Churu Line are much higher than those on other lines in the same area; and