

की तथा इस का बिहार की भूमि पर कोई विपरीत प्रभाव नहीं पडा ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटिल) (क) से (ग) अपेक्षित जानकारी का विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है ।  
[वैश्व परिशिष्ट ३, अङ्क संख्या १०६]

#### Harnessing of Assam Rivers

\*714. Shri Liladhar Kataki: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to harness the rivers of Assam, which have irrigation and power generating potentialities,

(b) if so the steps taken so far, and

(c) which of these rivers Government propose to harness and the progress, if any, so far made?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S K Patil): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) (i) Preliminary investigations on Dihing, Barak and Kopilli rivers have been completed. Detailed investigations at a Dam site selected on Kopilli are in progress. In addition, preliminary investigations on Borpam and Killing tributaries of the Kopilli are in progress and those on Tirap, Namphuk and Namchuk tributaries of the Burhi Dihang and Subansiri will be started shortly. Besides collection of hydrological and other allied data in the Brahmaputra basin is also under progress.

(ii) Studies about the possibilities of power development on different rivers in Assam based on topographical maps are under way and are expected to be completed shortly.

(c) Decision in these cases can be taken only after the investigations and studies are completed.

#### Petrol Tank Wagons

\*715. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the total number of tank wagons for the transportation of petrol, in India,

(b) whether any representation has been received from oil dealers for more tank wagons, and

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The total number of petrol tank wagons in service on 20-5-1957, is

Broad gauge	1,699
Metre gauge	1,060
Total	2,759

(b) No

(c) Does not arise

#### Food situation in Tripura

\*716. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that at present Tripura is facing a great food shortage, and a large number of people are facing starvation,

(b) whether it is a fact that rice is rarely available in the rural areas even at the payment of high price e.g. Rs 30 to Rs 40 per maund, and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken so far to meet the demand of the people of Tripura?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). In order to meet the shortage of rice in Tripura, the Government of India have arranged to despatch 20,000 tons of rice from outside. This rice is now being distributed through about 90 fair price shops at the rate of Rs 18

per maund. The Tripura administration are confident that with this supply, they will be able to meet the requirements. There has been no starvation in any part of the State and although in certain parts the prices of rice in the open market have risen, the distribution of rice through fair price shops is having a salutary effect on prices.

#### Crop Estimation

\*717. **Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any prescribed system of crop estimation under which there is annual crop estimation for the country, State and District-wise,

(b) if so, the estimates for the years 1953-54 to 1956-57 for the State of UP with particular reference to the Eastern Districts of that State and for Bihar, Bombay and Punjab and Madhya Pradesh States, and

(c) the agency employed for this crop estimation?

**The Minister of Food & Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes. The State Governments follow prescribed procedure for annual estimation of crop acreages and output at different levels. The All-India crop estimates are based on the estimates framed by the States.

(b) A statement giving the available estimates is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 107].

(c) The agency employed is generally the revenue agency of the State Governments assisted by technical staff of trained statisticians.

#### Medical College at Kurnool

\*718. **Shri Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have sought financial aid from the Central Government to

start a Medical College at Kurnool from July, 1957,

(b) the amount of financial aid asked for by the State Government; and

(c) if so, the amount given by the Central Government?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) Rs 25 lakhs during the Second Five Year Plan period.

(c) No amount has been sanctioned for the purpose.

#### Construction of Railway Lines

\*719. **Shri M. C. Jain:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether Labour and Construction Co-operative Societies are given any concession or preference as against individual contractors in the matter of allotment of earth-work in the construction of Railway lines, and

(b) if so, the details of the concessions?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No concession or preference is given to recognised Labour and Construction Societies in the matter of allotment of earth-work in Construction of Railway lines.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Provision of Chairs in First Class Compartments

\*720. **Shri Mahendra Pratap:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that first class compartments on trains have not yet been provided with chairs for the convenience of short journey travellers?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** Yes. Only one 1st class coach, half of which has