

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 Venkatasubbalah:** 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