

the Central Government for Community Development schemes has been utilised; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) and (b) Information has been called from State Governments and will be laid on the Table as soon as it is received. From replies received so far from certain States, the position appears to be that the Central grants have been fully utilised, but a portion of the Central loans will have remained unutilised. The precise reasons can be indicated after replies from all States, have been received

Desert Control

*677. Shri J. R. Mehta: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the type of trees which have by experience proved to be best fitted for afforestation to check the spread of the desert on the Rajasthan-Pakistan border?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No 81]

Price of Rice

*678. Shri R. C. Majhi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the price fixed for purchasing common rice in Orissa is much less than the other neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the reason therefor,

(c) the price of rice fixed in Andhra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, and

(d) whether it is a fact that restrictions have been imposed on movement of rice from Orissa to outside by the Central Government?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha showing the prices that the Government of India have agreed to pay for rice and paddy that they are taking over from stockists. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 82.] These prices were agreed upon after discus-

sion with the Orissa Government and the millers and after taking into account the current market prices and also the average of the prices prevailing in Orissa prior to 6th June, 1957, at which the Government could requisition stocks under the Essential Commodities Act

No stocks of rice have so far been taken over in Madhya Pradesh or Andhra

(d) Yes, Sir.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में मिट्टी का बटाव

*६७९ श्री पद्म बेन : क्या यह सच तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में विशेषकर चम्बल में भूमि का बटाव बड़ा तजी क माय हो रहा है जिससे प्रतिवर्ष सैकड़ों परिवार निर्वासित हो रहे हैं, और

(ख) सरकार ने इस को रोकने के लिये क्या उपाय किये हैं और इस विषय में अब तक क्या सफलता प्राप्त हुई है और आगे काल क्या योजना है ?

साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री श्री अ० प्र० जैन:

(क) जा हा, परन्तु इतनी अधिक नहीं जितना कि मंत्रर महोदय न बतलाई है।

(ख) हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन न भू सरक्षण की सात योजनाये जिनका सम्बन्ध प्राय. वनी स है, चम्बा मणिल में कार्यान्वित करने को लगे ली है। परिणाम क्यासमय उपलब्ध हो जायगे। भोजुवा कार्यक्रम को साल-व-माल आगे बढ़ान वा विचार है।

Production of Cereals

*680. Shri Radhamohan Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the shortage of cereals in the Union, any steps have been taken to develop and produce substitutes for foodstuffs;

(b) if so, what are they and what steps have been taken to step up their production; and

(c) whether the Ministry of Food has taken any steps to develop fisheries in deficit areas and induce people to take to it as an alternative to cereals?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. F. Jain): (a) and (b) The requirements of cereals in the Union are being met by supplementing supplies through imports. Steps, however, are being taken for the development and increased production of protective foods such as fruits, vegetables, dairy and animal products etc., under the Second Five Year Plan so as to correct the unbalanced character of diet of the people. Various schemes have been drawn up for this purpose which are being implemented by the State Governments.

(c) The Central Government gives assistance for fishery development schemes in the shape of loans and grants. It is, however, for the State Governments to develop fisheries in their respective deficit areas and induce the people to take to fish as an alternative to cereals.

Rice for Kerala

*681. Shri Maniyangadan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice supplied by the Central Government to the Kerala State during each month from January, 1957,

(b) the quantity of rice supplied during the corresponding period in 1956,

(c) whether the State Government has procured rice from any other State in India during this period and if so, the quantity thereof;

(d) whether any rice stored in the godowns at Cochin has been diverted by the Central Government to any other part of India after April, 1957; and

(e) whether any steps are being taken to increase the number of depots in Kerala for storing food-grains?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. F. Jain): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No 83]

(c) No, Sir

(d) A small quantity of American raw rice not required in Cochin is being sent out to other areas

(e) In addition to five depots that are functioning for a long time in Kerala, an additional Depot at Cannanore has been opened. The State Government are proposing to start sub-depots in each district.

Pakala-Dharmavaram Railway Track

*682. Shri Viswanatha Reddy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) when the re-laying of the track between Pakala and Dharmavaram in Southern Railway will be completed, and

(b) the original time schedule for the completion of this work, and the main factors which prevented the completion as per schedule?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The work of relaying of track between Pakala and Dharmavaram is expected to be completed in 1959.

(b) The work was scheduled to be carried out in three stages:

Stage I—60 miles—in 1953—55

Stage II—30 miles—in 1954—56

Stage III—51½ miles—in 1956—58.

Stage I has been completed. Only ballasting is being done now. Stage II is in hand and will be completed by October 1957. Stage III will then be taken in hand.

It has not been possible to adhere strictly to the schedule due to paucity of track materials.