

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I have said, no check is done by the railways as such. We have under the Red tariff certain instructions which material can be consigned with which material in the wagon or which material of the fire-works cannot be sent in the same wagon. There are detailed instructions. But individual items are not checked by the railways.

Shri Dasappa: Examination showed that in certain packages the contents were full but they were loose, while in the case of certain packages the original crating was broken. Are any precautions taken to see that when these goods are received they are properly packed and the covering also is safe.

Mr. Speaker: There is a two-hour discussion on this subject. If hon. Members go on taking away the time of the House like this I will cut off these two hours. Hon. Members must co-operate with me. I have always been indulgent. Whenever I find that some time has to be given, I have always provided it. I am not going to allow the hon. Member.

Shri Dasappa: I do not want an answer; but it will help the discussion.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members must try to get through the work.

Comet

*1671. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a comet was seen in various places in India in the evening of Tuesday, the 20th August, 1957?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): Yes, Sir.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या इस विषय में कोई साइंटिफिक एन्क्वायरी हुई ?

श्री हुमायूँ कबीर : कामेट को २० अगस्त से २५ अगस्त तक दिल्ली में देखा गया और दूसरी जगहों में भी देखा गया और प्राबन्धवशात किया गया ।

Some hon. Members: The answer may be given in English as well.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I said that the comet was observed in Delhi between the 20th August and 25th August; in India as a whole it was observed for about three weeks starting from the 20th August. At different observatories observations have been taken.

श्री भूपेन्द्र वर्मा : क्या गवर्नमेंट के विशेषज्ञों ने इस बात पर विचार किया है कि चूंकि यह धूमके या पुच्छल तारा पश्चिम दिशा में उदय हुआ और वही प्रस्त भी हो गया, इस लिये भारत पर इसका बुरा प्रभाव नहीं पड़ेगा, बल्कि भारत के पश्चिम के देशों पर पड़ेगा ?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I shall leave the answer to that question to the ingenuity and imagination of the hon. Member himself.

Several hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: If hon. Members have noticed it at various places, why do they ask the Minister?

हिमाचल प्रदेश में आलू की फसल

*१६७३. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात का पता है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश की आलू की फसल, जो कि वहां की प्रमुख नकदी की फसल है, निकट भविष्य में तैयार होने वाली है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि आलू के निर्यात में किसानों को कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है ;

(ग) किसानों को इस संबंध में सहायता देने के लिये क्या सरकार द्वारा कोई कार्यवाही की जा रही है ; और

(घ) यदि हा, तो तो वह क्या है ?

कृषि उपसंधी (श्री मो० बें० कृष्णप्पा) : सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ५, अनुसूच्य संख्या ३८]

श्री पद्म देव : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो सहूलियतें कोफ़ापरेटिव सोसायटीज और कृषकों को पहले दी हुई थीं, क्या वे इस साल भी चालू रहेंगी ?

ज्ञात तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री डॉ० प्र० जैन) : प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह साफ़ तौर पर बताया गया है कि क्या क्या सहूलियतें दी जा रही हैं।

Shri Y. S. Parmar: May I know whether the Mahasu District Co-operative Federation which exported the potatoes suffered heavy losses in 1954-55 due to lack of proper arrangement?

Shri A. P. Jain: It is the accounts of the cooperative society which will show whether they have suffered loss or gain. I do not know anything about it.

Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks

*1674. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has evolved any scheme to remove caste and communal differences in working the various Blocks under its administration; and

(b) if not, what steps are being taken towards the objective?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) It has not been possible to evolve any special scheme such as can eradicate this virus of ancient origin.

(b) The long-term remedy is being worked out through common education on a mass scale for all children regardless of caste and communal considerations. Remedies on the economic

plane, which will bring about the mixing of people across caste and communal barriers, can only be provided through development of industry and technology which already is taking place slowly yet steadily. In regard to housing, village industries and other allied matters, emphasis is being laid on help in increasing measures to the under-privileged section of the community. Short-term remedies are being offered through participation in common or community activities including recreation and social education, and promotion of the secular principles enjoined by the Constitution.

Shri B. S. Murthy: There is half a minute more, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: In half a minute what can he do?

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: May I make a request? Question No. 1695, standing in my name, may be taken up today. I had originally given short notice to that question. It has been included in the usual list. As it is rather an urgent matter, I would request you to take it.

Shri Raghunath Singh: How can a question be allowed when supplementaries cannot be allowed?

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Minister is willing even during the official hour, I have no objection.

Shri B. S. Murthy: In case the hon. Minister is willing, I may be allowed one minute.

Mr. Speaker: From this angle I see that 12 o'clock has been reached. How can I be corrected by saying that there is half a minute and so on?

Is the hon. Minister willing to answer this question? I must have a yes or no.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): If it is your ruling, Sir, we will be prepared to do it. Otherwise...

Mr. Speaker: There is no ruling of mine. The first hour is dedicated to