

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

*919. **Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made at the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works for the manufacture of locomotives and Railway compartments upto February, 1953;

(b) whether any locomotives or compartments manufactured in that factory are working now; and

(c) if so, what is their number?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Chittaranjan Locomotive Works produced 54 engines up to the end of February 1953. No coaches are manufactured at these works.

(b) Yes, as far as engines are concerned.

(c) 49 engines.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

*923. **Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many National and International Conferences have been held in India since 1950, to discuss the problems of Agriculture?

(b) What were the main subjects discussed?

(c) Were any discussions or proposals considered in those Conferences to introduce the Crop Insurance Scheme?

(d) If not, do Government propose to introduce such scheme in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GROW MORE FOOD ENQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

*925. **Shri Lakshman Singh Charak:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what action Government have taken on the Grow More Food Enquiry Committee Report submitted in 1951?

(b) What recommendations made by the Committee have been accepted by Government?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The main recommendations of the G.M.F. En-4 PSD.

quiry Committee were, setting up of an Extension Organisation, an Advisory Council at the Centre, evaluation of results, special financial aid for minor irrigation schemes and provision of short-term credit facilities for seeds and fertilisers. The Government of India have accepted these recommendations. A beginning in the setting up of the extension organisation is being made from 1953-54 and the training of village workers is already being undertaken by the State Governments. An annual provision of Rs. 10 crores for special minor irrigation schemes was made this year and is being continued for the next three years. The evaluation organisation is being strengthened and special committees to review and make proposals for the development of seed multiplication and manuring are being set up. Provision for Rs. 8 crores for short-term loans to farmers has been made for 1953-54 and the Reserve Bank is taking steps to expand rural credit through Co-operative organisations. Other recommendations which need action by the State Governments have been taken up with them.

FOOD SCARCITY IN MYSORE

*926. **Shri N. Rachiah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of area affected by the famine in Mysore and the names of districts and Taluks where acute conditions of famine prevailed;

(b) the extent of damage thus caused;

(c) the primary reasons of famine; and

(d) the nature of assistance rendered by the Central Government?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Famine in the technical sense is not prevailing in any part of Mysore. Scarcity conditions are, however, existing in the areas affected by draught, a list of which is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 34].

(b) Exact figures regarding extent of damage have not been compiled.

(c) Unprecedented failure of rains during the year and consequent failure of crops and scarcity of drinking water and fodder have led to the present scarcity.

(d) The Government of India have offered a loan of Rs. 13 lakhs for scarcity relief during this year. The question of further assistance is under consideration.