

there is hardly any arrangement for restaurants, for platform covers or waiting rooms and the third class compartments are far worse than on other lines?

Shri Alagesan: Sir, as far as passenger amenities are concerned, on way-side stations between Sealdah and Ranaghat, platform covers and passengers waiting sheds are already available. Drinking water and latrines etc. are also there. The way-side stations between Ranaghat and Bongaon are not however provided with platform covers. Waiting sheds and drinking water facilities are available. If the hon. Member has any particular suggestions they will be considered.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not true that quite a number of trains are detained at those stations for near about 2 hours as these stations are treated as terminus stations within the territory of India, for changing trains engines and examining passports etc.?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have that information, Sir. I cannot say whether it is correct or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Members are all interested in getting information on various matters. If they can write to the Ministers and if still they are not able to get sufficient information then they may put down those questions. Generally questions may be put on the floor of the House. No hon. Minister can be expected to carry all the details in his memory.

Shri A. C. Guha: I have already written to the Minister on this point. I have not got any reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You must write sufficiently early.

ALLOCATIONS OF RICE EXPORT QUOTA FROM BURMA

*240. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what were the allocations of rice export quota from Burma to India in the first, second, third and fourth quarters in 1952 (quarter-wise);

(b) whether all the allocations have been received by India; and

(c) what were the corresponding allocations and receipts in those quarters in the years 1948 and 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) The allocations of export quotas of rice from Burma are not made quarterly.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether these allocations are made half-yearly?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Beginning from 1948-49, the allocations were made by the International Food Council and they were half-yearly allocations.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister said the other day that negotiations were going on for the purchase of Burma rice on a barter basis. May I know which are the goods that are proposed to be exchanged?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): We do not know yet.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I wanted to know the amount quarter-wise. Can the hon. Minister give it at least year-wise?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, Sir. In 1948 and 1949 the allocations were made by the International Emergency Food Council. In 1948, 5,77,638 tons were allotted to India. In 1949, 4,03,411 tons were allotted. For 1950 and 1951 no allocations were done by that body. We made purchases directly. In 1950, we purchased 2,80,000 tons. In 1951, we purchased 2,40,000 tons. From 1952 onwards, we entered into an agreement with Burma for four years, according to which we were allocated 3,50,000 tons of rice last year.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Has this allocation been made through the F.A.O. or direct by the Burma Government to the India Government?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There is no International Rice Organisation or Market now, and we get it directly from Burma.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Has any part of the national debt against Burma been adjusted when importing rice from Burma?

Shri Kidwai: That is a separate question.

WHEAT RUSTS

*241. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the kinds of wheat rusts that occur in India?

(b) What is the damage done to the crops during the last five years?

(c) How far our research institutes have been successful in devising methods for controlling this pest?