

(c) If so, what is the budget provision for its execution during the year 1953-54?

(d) What is the agency likely to be used for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No detailed estimate for the construction of a Dry Dock at Visakhapatnam has yet been drawn up, but it is expected that the new Dry Dock would not cost less than Rs. 1 crore.

(b) No.

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

Shri K. C. Sodhia: What additional advantages are to be derived from the construction of this dock?

Shri Alagesan: Now ships have to be sent to Calcutta for dry docking from Visakhapatnam and this dry dock will give a lot of facilities.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the reasons for not approving this plan?

Shri Alagesan: There is no plan, Sir.

FOOD STOCKS IN BOMBAY DOCKS

*430. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains unloaded in the Bombay Docks in the months of May, June and July, 1953;

(b) whether it is a fact that large quantities of food grains have accumulated in the Docks;

(c) whether it is a fact that this accumulation is due to the fact that various State Governments have failed to lift the quota allotted to them; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) The quantity of foodgrains unloaded in the Bombay Docks during the months of May, June and July 1953 was 1,07,255, 70,415 and 1,04,578 tons respectively.

(b) There was no large accumulation in the Docks during the period May to July 1953.

(c) In view of the reply to Part (b) of the Question this does not arise.

(d) This does not arise.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know, Sir, whether some of the State Governments refused to lift their quota because the quality of the grain was not good?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is not true.

Shrimati Jayashri: May I know whether there was any wastage due to heavy monsoon?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Due to monsoons there will always be a nominal wastage in the docks. This year there was no extraordinary wastage on account of the monsoon rains because we took proper action and removed the grains in proper time.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the Bihar Government refused to lift their quota?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Bombay docks have nothing to do with the Bihar Government.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: No, Sir. Rains came and the Bihar Government who were given permission refused to lift their quota. I want to know whether the Bihar Government refused?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Only Bombay, Mysore and Hyderabad Governments are allotted from the Bombay docks and the Bihar Government get their allotment from the Calcutta docks. So the question of Bihar Government refusing or not refusing does not arise here.

Shri K. K. Basu: What is the percentage of wastage to the total quantity of foodstuffs available?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): It has not been admitted that there has been any extraordinary wastage.

Shri K. K. Basu: What is the percentage of wastage in this particular transaction?

Shri Kidwai: There was no wastage in this particular transaction.

WEATHER BULLETINS

*434. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of Weather Bulletins broadcast for farmers during the six months ending June, 1953?

(b) In how many cases, if any, the check reports had contradicted the forecasts?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) 905.

(b) Out of 140 bulletins recently checked in a sample verification, 60 per cent. were found correct; 33 per cent. partially correct and the remaining 7 per cent. wrong.

Shri Barman: Are these bulletins issued by the Delhi Observatory for the whole of India or are there regional stations responsible for the separate regions?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: There are regional offices as well. They pass on their observations to the Central office; from the Central office they are passed on to the All-India Radio and broadcast from a large number of stations.

Shri Barman: Which are the regional stations in whose cases the discrepancies have been noted?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Sir, it is very difficult to say; I have not got that information now.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether there were any serious complaints by newspapers that mostly the forecast is going wrong?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has given the figures.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Well, Sir, that is not correct. Where the forecasts

are of a general nature and cover a larger area, the incidence of their not coming true is rather large. On the whole, in such cases the percentage of messages not coming true is 10.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: In view of the fact that the weather broadcasts published in newspapers hardly reach the people of the villages, do the Government have any proposal under consideration for a large-scale distribution of receiving sets so that farmers may get the broadcasts in time and derive real benefit?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Well, Sir, as I have said, these forecasts are broadcast by 22 radio stations in 17 different languages. But, still I know that this does not cover all the rural areas. If any farmer is interested, we send this information directly to him by telegram on payment of Rs. 12/- per month. We also seek the co-operation of the State Governments in broadcasting these messages.

कलकत्ते की हड़ताल

*435. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह:** (क) क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि १५ जुलाई, १९५३ को कलकत्ते में जो ट्रामवे विरोधी प्रदर्शन हुए उनके कारण रेलवे को कितनी हानि हुई?

(ख) क्या रेलवे के डब्बों में आग लगा दी गयी थी?

(ग) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या क्या है?

(घ) रेलवे यातायात को ठप्प करने के लिये क्या हड़तालियों ने कोई प्रयास किया था?

(ङ) क्या कोई रेलगाड़ी रोकी गयी थी?

(च) हड़ताल के कारण कितनी ट्रेनें रोक ली गयीं, जयवा वे उस दिन विलम्ब से चलीं?