

in fact, draws up the list. On the basis of that list, the work is in progress.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know why there is such a large disproportion between the number of stations on the main line, and the number of stations on the branch lines, whose platforms are going to be covered?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Because there is greater traffic on the main lines.

SUGAR

*558. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of sugar that has been imported upto the 30th of September, 1953?

(b) How are these stocks being distributed?

(c) Will it be sold all over the country at the imported rate of Re. -/12/- per seer?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 31.]

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know whether Government intend to import more than 2 lakhs of tons of sugar this year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes. We intend to import 2,35,000 tons, out of which we have already purchased nearly half the quota.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know whether for 1954, consumption will be higher than production?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The consumption in the country is increasing, and so we expect the figure for consumption to be greater than those of last year and the year before last.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether the States are at liberty to distribute the stocks allotted to them, and whether the co-operative organisations

can get their stocks directly from the Central Government?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There are three ways of doing the distribution. As soon as we get the imported sugar at the ports first preference is given to the States who come forward to take the responsibility of distributing the sugar. The second preference is given to co-operative societies, and lastly, we give it to the merchants.

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : ट्रान्स्पोर्ट चार्ज को ले कर हिन्दुस्तान में यह कितने में पड़ती है और कितने में बेची जाती है ?

श्री एम० वी० कृष्णप्पा : हिन्दुस्तान में बारह लाख टन पैदा होती है ।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : मैं ने पूछा था कि

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Kelappan.

Shri Kelappan: May I know whether Government are considering the question of importing raw sugar, so that the refineries there may have some work?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is a very important question. Refining is done in England and other places. But here, the merchants say that it is not profitable to import raw sugar and convert it into refined sugar.

U.N.I.C.E.F. AID

*559. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 44 asked on the 4th August, 1953 and state what has been the response of the UNICEF to the request for allocation of equipment and material worth Rs. 4,45,000 to the Government of India for the establishment of a Central Health Education Bureau?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): The matter is still under the consideration of the UNICEF.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether Government shall have to wait till this request is conceded to, or whether they are proceeding independently of that grant, to start the Bureau on a small scale?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: There is at present a revised scheme which is also under the consideration of the Ministry.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether this would be the grant for the complete equipment that we would require for the Bureau, from the UNICEF, or whether the Indian Government also will have to make some contribution towards the equipment etc.?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: As a matter of fact, we have got about Rs. 12.75 lakhs set apart for the purpose, in the Five Year Plan, and we are going to utilise that amount, according to the revised scheme, even if we are not going to get the UNICEF equipment and material.

B. C. G. VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

*560. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of persons who have been tuberculin tested and BCG vaccinated from May 1953 to October 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): The number of persons who have been tuberculin tested and B.C.G. vaccinated from the 1st May, 1953 to the 31st October, 1953 is as follows:

Tested	6,196,348
B.C.G. Vaccinated	1,879,303

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether all the States have participated in the campaign, or there are still some exceptions in our country?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: There is a list of the States that are already participating in the campaign, but there are some which have not yet taken part in it.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the number of teams that have been working for this purpose, during 1953?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: In each State, they have got the number of teams according to their needs, and I do not think I have got a break-up.

PALM-GUR INDUSTRY

*561. **Shri Radha Raman:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the areas where palm-gur industry is in operation?

(b) What is the annual output of palm-gur?

(c) Does palm-gur contain the same food value as gur from sugar-cane?

(d) Do Government propose to encourage this industry in view of the increasing demand for sugar?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):

(a) The palm-gur industry is in operation in the States of Ajmer, Bihar, Bombay, Bhopal, Hyderabad, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin, Uttar Pradesh, Vindhya Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) The exact figures of annual output are being collected and will be placed on the table of the House when received.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know the consumption of palm-gur state-wise?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I can give only rough figures. A rough estimate of the total production is about 50,000 tons in India, out of which about 2,500 tons are exported to Ceylon. The rest is consumed in India.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know for what purposes, palm-gur is being used in India?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is used for medicinal purposes, and it is also being used in place of jaggery.