

is that no censure against the Lady Hardinge Medical College for the dismissal of anybody was made.

RAILWAY PORTERS LICENCE FEES

*997. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the income from the issue of licences to the porters on the Northern Railway during the current year; and

(b) the various objects on which this amount is being spent?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The licence fee realised from the licensed porters by the Northern Railway during the current year upto October was Rs. 64,703/-.

(b) This amount is being spent in meeting the cost of the supervisory organisation and uniforms supplied to the porters.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how many persons have paid the licensing fees?

Shri Alagesan: It has been introduced in five stations on the Northern Railway, and the number of licensed porters in all the stations comes to 1,635.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if warm uniforms are given to these porters?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether these porters are appointed by the contractors or by the railway authorities?

Shri Alagesan: They are not railway employees as such. They are licensed by the Railway.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no question of appointment.

Shri Boovaragasamy: May I know the conditions under which these licences are issued?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates to the income from the issue of licences. Conditions may come later. Next question.

GUR

*998. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of gur produced in India during 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 and its respective prices?

(b) Is it a fact that the price of gur this year is higher than in 1951 and 1952?

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

(a) The estimated production of gur in India during the years 1950-51, 1951-52, and 1952-53 was as follows:—

(Figures in lakh tons)

1950—51	1951—52	1952—53
32.54	32.40	28.77

A statement showing the monthly average prices of gur during the above-mentioned seasons in the markets of Hapur and Muzaffarnagar, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 68.]

(b) Yes. But the prices of gur have considerably declined during the last one month.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know the estimated production this year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The final figures for this year's production we cannot have just now.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that gur is not getting markets due to transport difficulty and hence the prices are going down?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is one of the reasons why prices go down generally.

Shri Thanu Pillai: Have the prices come down because of the ban on exports?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Sometimes that also contributes to bring down