

CAST IRON M. G. SLEEPERS

*1249. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravathi supplied Cast Iron M. G. Sleepers to the Southern Railway in 1952-53;

(b) whether the factory has offered to supply M. G. Sleepers during 1953-54 also;

(c) whether the Railway Board has accepted the offer; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SUGAR PRICES

*1210. Shri M. L. Agrawal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the prevailing prices of (i) crystal sugar, (ii) *khandsari* sugar, and (iii) *gur*?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Two statements, one showing the daily average prices of *Gur* and *Khandsari* during the month of December, 1953 at Hapur, and the other showing the daily average prices of sugar at the various markets of India, are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 32.]

RAILWAY ACCIDENT BETWEEN
BHEEMALGONDEE AND KUKRAKHAPA

*1211. Shri Eswara Reddi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the causes of the accident on the 6th October, 1953 between Bheemalgondee and Kukrakhapa on the Narrow Gauge Section of the Eastern Railway;

(b) whether any enquiry has been held by the Inspector of Railways; and

(c) if so, what are his findings?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) An enquiry was held by a Committee of Junior Administrative Officers of the Railway; their finding is that the derailment was caused by fracture of outer rail.

(b) No, as this is not an accident into which an enquiry by the Government Inspector of Railways is obligatory according to rules.

(c) Does not arise.

TAPIOCA

*1212. Prof. Mathew: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the answer given to a supplementary question by Shri D. C. Sharma arising out of the reply given to starred question No. 1878 asked on the 6th May, 1953 and state whether Government have come to any decision regarding the offer of a million tons of tapioca flour by the All-Kerala Agricultural Development Association?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The offer of the All Kerala Agricultural Development Association was considered in consultation with the Travancore-Cochin Government. That Government have expressed doubts about the feasibility of exporting a million tons of this quantity from Travancore-Cochin and also their misgivings about allowing any large scale exports which would affect the food position in the State. In view of this, it is not proposed to accept the offer of the Association.

KANGRA VALLEY RAILWAY

*1213. Shri Hem Raj: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state by what date the construction of the dismantled Kangra Valley Railway will be completed?

(b) Have any representations been received by Government for the opening of new stations on this section?

(c) If so, have Government considered the desirability of opening stations at Ladhiara, Sullah and Saliana?