

rates of demurrage charges are levied by the various Zones of the Railways?

(b) What has been the percentage rise as between the charge 10 years ago and now?

(c) What are the criteria under which such rates are fixed?

(d) Who fixes them and under what provision of law?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Demurrage is levied at a uniform rate on all railways, except at a few stations on the North Eastern Railway where the rates are higher.

(b) (i) No increase on the Northern, Central, Western and Southern Railways.

(ii) An increase ranging from 33½ per cent. to 50 per cent. on the Eastern Railway.

(iii) An increase ranging from 50 per cent. to 200 per cent. at only 16 stations of the North Eastern Railway.

(c) Rates for demurrage are fixed so as to procure prompt release of wagons, and to act as a deterrent against the use of wagons as warehouses.

(d) The ceiling rates are laid down by the Railway Board in exercise of powers conferred on them under clauses (f) and (g) of sub-section (1) of Section 47 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890.

The Railways are authorised to exceed ceiling rates in emergencies.

#### RAILWAY STATION AT NAIGAON

\*1219. **Shrimati Jayashri:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway authorities gave an assurance in 1950, that the demand by the inhabitants of the 14 villages around Naigaon in Bassein Taluka for opening of a new station between Bhayandu

and Bassein Road (Western Railway), would be met as early as possible; and

(b) if so, when the work will be undertaken?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) The Government of Bombay and the Secretary, Naigaon Railway Station Committee were advised in 1950 that efforts would be made to provide for a station at Naigaon in the programme for 1952-53, but no assurance as such was given.

The work could not, however, be included in the Works Programme for 1952-53, or in subsequent years on financial considerations.

(b) It has been decided to place the proposal before the Passenger Amenities Sub-Committee of the Western Railway Users' Consultative Committee for their consideration with a view to its inclusion in the Works Programme of 1955-56.

#### LEMON GRASS OIL AND SANDALWOOD OIL

\*1220. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report from the Agricultural Marketing Adviser with regard to the feasibility of quality control on lemon grass oil and sandalwood oil;

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure quality control on export of these commodities?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) and (c). Yes.

(b) (i) To set up a control laboratory at Cochin for analysing check-samples of essential oils.

(ii) To fix label charges @ Rs. 2/8/- and Rs. 12/8/- per 100 lbs. on the export of lemon-grass and sandalwood