

ing in the overseas trades. Government are, however rendering such assistance as is possible to enable the Shipping Companies to carry as a share of Government owned or Government controlled cargoes as possible.

#### AGRICULTURAL FARM, SULTANPUR

4074. **Shri S. K. Rasmi:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what expenditure has far been incurred on the Agricultural Farm at Sultanpur and how much more do Government propose to spend during 1953-54?

(b) How many families of landless labourers do Government propose to settle on the land and what facilities should be provided for the workers there?

(c) Did the land on which the farm being established belong to the State Government or has it been acquired from peasants and cultivators?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):**  
(a) The estimated expenditure from September 1953 when the Farm was set up to the 31st March 1954, is Rs. 5,52,900.

(b) 1,000 families. The facilities to be provided to them are (i) a subsidy to Rs. 500 to each family for construction of a hut, (ii) provision of schools and *panchayat-ghars*, dispensaries and drinking water wells and (iii) assistance in the promotion of cottage industries.

(c) A part of it belongs to evacuees from whom it has been acquired by the State Government. In order to consolidate the farm area some plots of land belonging to cultivators of the locality are being exchanged and newly acquired land very near their present plots is being allotted to them in lieu thereof.

#### INDIAN PLANTATION ACT

\*2081. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to call a tripartite conference to discuss the

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draft rules made under the Indian Plantation Act, 1951; and

(b) if so, when?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) Yes.

(b) The draft model rules have been circulated to the employers' and workers' organisations and their comments are expected to be received by the end of this month. After the draft rules have been re-examined in the light of those comments, a date for the tripartite conference will be fixed.

#### WAGES OF TEA GARDEN LABOURERS

448. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made by the tea garden labour organisations of Tripura for the convening of a Tripartite Conference for enhancing their rate of wages; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to convene such a conference?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) and (b). Representations have been received by the Government of Tripura from labour unions for revision of the minimum rates of wages of tea garden workers. The matter is receiving the attention of the State Government.

#### TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS

447. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide additional telephone connections in Patna; and

(b) if so, how many and when?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes.

(b) 80, by 31st May 1954.

#### MICA MINES LABOUR WELFARE

448. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:**  
(a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state how many sittings of the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Advisory Committee were held in 1952 and 1953 and at what places?

(b) What business did it transact?