

(b) The locomotives ordered by the Government of India from Messrs. Krauss Maffei in 1951 with the price of each is as follows:—

50 YP Class Metre Gauge	@ £ 17,850/-fob
15 ZE Class Narrow Gauge	@ £ 14,180/-fob
15 ZB Class Narrow Gauge	@ £ 11,215/-fob
5 ZF Class Narrow Gauge	@ £ 10,358/-fob.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, but arrangements will be made for the hon. Member to see a copy of the contract should he so desire.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL

*370. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how much quantity of foodgrains has the Government of West Bengal demanded from the Government of India for the year 1952;

(b) whether any quantity has already been allotted to the State; and

(c) what quantity of rice is going to be supplied to West Bengal during the year, 1952?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The Government of West Bengal declared a deficit of 8.55 lakh tons of foodgrains for 1952 in February, 1952.

(b) Upto May, 3.51 lakh tons of foodgrains have been actually allotted to West Bengal.

(c) This cannot be definitely stated at present.

MANGALORE-HASSAN RAILWAY LINE

*371. **Shri B. Shiva Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received urging Government to undertake the construction of the Mangalore-Hassan Railway; and

(b) whether there is any prospect of such construction being undertaken in the near future?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) The project was considered by the Central Board of Transport in January 1950 and it was decided that it should be held over for the present. The proposal can be considered only after the Central Board of Transport has approved of it.

MAJOR PORT

*372. **Shri B. Shiva Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been reached in regard to the construction of a major port on the west coast between Bombay and Cochin; and

(b) if not, when such a decision is likely to be reached?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of certain inadequacies in the report in regard to Malpe and the prevailing financial stringency, consideration of the question of the need for, and the siting of, a major port on the coast between Mormugao and Cochin has been deferred for the present. The question of undertaking a more thorough examination of the economic and engineering aspects of the project will be considered when the financial position improves. In the meantime, the Government of Madras have been advised to consider the possibility of improving the minor port of Mangalore. To this end, model experiments are being carried out in the Research Station at Poona.

ALL-INDIA WOMEN'S FOOD COUNCIL

*373. **Shrimati A. Kale:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the total amount spent by Government so far for subsidising the activities of the All India Women's Food Council?

(b) How far has it helped to solve the cereal shortage in the country?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The amounts spent by the Government on the activities of the All-India Women's Food Council are as below:—

1950-51	Rs. 68,714-7-9
1951-52	.. 1,49,522-8-0
1952-53 (from 1st April, 1952 to 21st May, 1952)	.. 22,916-5-6

Rs. 2,41,153-5-3

(b) The Cafeterias organised are proving very popular and every meal taken there would mean consequent saving of cereals.

LOCUSTS

*374. **Shri J. N. Hazarika**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Helicopters to help fight locusts have been purchased and if so at what cost;

(b) whether the States have so far agreed to bear any unforeseen costs to fight the locusts on the lines recommended by the expert committee; and

(c) whether anti-locust organizations have since been set up and equipped in various States to meet any emergency?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) No.

(b) West Bengal, Coorg, Delhi and Bhopal have accepted liability for their shares of the cost of the co-ordinated Locust Scheme for 1952-53 recommended by the Expert Locust Committee in March, 1952. Madras and Madhya Bharat have not agreed to contribute their shares. The other States are still considering the matter.

(c) Anti-Locust Organisations already exist in almost all the States; they are being further strengthened on the recommendations of the above referred Expert Committee and Inter-State Anti-Locust Conference which met in March, 1952.

POST OFFICES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

*375. **Sofi Mohd. Akbar**: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of Post and Telegraph offices in different parts of Jammu and Kashmir State?

(b) How many of these have been opened during the last four years, indicating the names of places where they were opened?

(c) How many more, if any, Post and Telegraph offices are proposed to be opened in the State during the year 1952-53?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). I lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the information. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 33]

(c) No Post and Telegraph Offices are due to be opened.

RICE (REQUIREMENTS)

*376. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty**: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the total All-India requirements of rice on the consumption basis of 16 oz. per capita per day?

(b) Are special efforts being made to secure rice from countries like China, Thailand, Burma and the Far East to cover our production deficit and fulfil the demands of our rice-eating States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) It is only a portion of our population which is predominantly rice eating and therefore calculation of requirements at 16 oz. of rice per head for the whole population would be misleading. What the hon. Member perhaps would like to know is the amount of rice required if the rice eaters got 16 ounces per head and the mixed rice-wheat-millets eaters got the same proportion of rice on a total cereal ration of 16 oz. per head as they are used to at present. The figure would be 28 million tons.

(b) Yes.

अन्नाव-माषो गज रेलवे-लाइन

*३७७. श्री वी० डी० त्रिपाठी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या अन्नाव-माषोगंज-वालामऊ रेलवे लाइन के निर्माण का काम हाथ में ले लिया गया है या नहीं ?

(ख) यदि निर्माण का काम पहले ही शुरू हो चुका है, तो इस में कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

(ग) यदि शुरू नहीं हुआ है, तो इसने कब शुरू होने की संभावना है, और

(घ) कथित निर्माण के पूरा होने में कितना समय लगेगा और इसके कब पूरे होने की आशा है ?