

(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 उन्नाव-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 ?

UNNAO-MADHOGANJ RAILWAY LINE

[*377. Shri V. D. Tripathi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on Unnao-Madhoganj-Balamau Railway line has been taken in hand or not;

(b) if the construction work has already been started, how far it has progressed;

(c) if not, when it is likely to be started; and

(d) how much time would it take to complete the said construction and by what time it is expected to be completed?]

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

(b) Preliminary works, such as collection of permanent way material and arrangements for supply of girders, are in hand.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The restoration is expected to be completed during 1954.

इंदौर - उज्जैन रेलवे लाइन

*३७८. श्री एन० एल० जोशी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या इंदौर से उज्जैन तक एक बड़ी (ब्रॉड गेज) लाइन बिछाने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ?

INDORE-UJJAIN RAILWAY LINE

[*378. Shri N. L. Joshi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any scheme for constructing a broad gauge line from Indore to Ujjain is under the consideration of Government?]

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

RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER RIVER BONUM

*379. Dr. Natabar Pandey: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of the weakness of the railway bridge over river Bonum between Jharsuguda and Lapanga Stations (Jharsuguda Sambalpur) branch line in the Bengal Nagour

Railway the train is forced to stop at both ends of the bridge since the year 1931; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the reasons for not repairing the railway bridge?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) It is correct, that a 'dead stop' and '3 miles per hour' speed restrictions have been in force on the Bonum bridge for some years.

(b) The traffic on the branch, in which this bridge is situated, is very light and the restrictions referred to in (a) have not unduly interfered with the traffic. However, strengthening of this bridge, along with certain other bridges on this branch, has been decided upon and is expected to be completed within the next two years.

कम्पोस्ट-खाद-योजना

*३८०. डा० सयवादी : क्या खाद तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि कम्पोस्ट-खाद-योजना के सम्बन्ध में १९५०-५१ और १९५१-५२ वर्षों में भारत सरकार ने पंजाब सरकार को क्या सहायता दी है, और इसे किस प्रकार काम में लाया गया है ?

COMPOST MANURE SCHEME

[*380. Dr. Satyawadi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what aid the Government of India extended to the Punjab Government during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 in connection with the Compost Manure Scheme and how has it been utilized?]

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The Government of India sanctioned the following grants and loan to the Punjab Government for the development of compost production during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52.

Year	Grant	Loan
	Rs.	Rs.
1950-51	26,000	4,00,000
1951-52	14,000	Nil