

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know the number of employees who were thrown out of employment on account of the integration of States?

Dr. Katju: Integration into which States? Part C States or Part B States?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: All the States.

Dr. Katju: All the States. I am repeating for the third time that so far as Part A States and Part B States are concerned I do not know, so far as Part C States are concerned I shall let you know.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether it is not the responsibility of the Ministry of States to look into the cases of persons who were employed in Part B States?

Mr. Speaker: He may raise that point when the Budget Demands come up. We are not here to argue.

FOOD PRODUCTION

*512. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the target of additional food production fixed for the year, 1952?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Attention of the hon. Minister is drawn to my answer in Parliament to Part (c) of Starred Question No. 237 by Shri S. N. Das on the 28th May 1952.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Are any additional efforts proposed to be made for effecting this additional food production?

Shri Kidwai: Some proposals are under consideration, but it will be premature to say that any decision has been taken.

Shri C. N. P. Sinha: May I know what will be the additional target of Bihar and how the Government proposes to meet the food requirements of Bihar?

Shri Kidwai: I have not got any separate figures state-wise.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is this estimate also subject to the usual disappointments of the Government?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

RADIO TELEPHONE LINK WITH AFGHANISTAN

*513. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Govern-

ment propose to link India with Afghanistan by radio telephone?

(b) If so, to which station in India Kabul would be connected?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, when additional equipment becomes available both in India and Afghanistan.

(b) This will be decided in consultation with the Government of Afghanistan after the necessary equipment has been installed and tests carried out.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know when these additional equipments are expected to be received?

Shri Raj Bahadur: According to the statement made by the hon. Minister of Communications in Afghanistan, it is expected that they will be able to get this equipment within a period of 18 months.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS FROM CHINA OR RUSSIA

*514. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any offer of foodgrains from China or Russia on barter basis or on any other basis; and

(b) if so, what was the response given by the Government of India to this offer?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) We have this year received an offer of 1,00,000 metric tons of rice on cash basis from China. No offer has been received from Russia.

(b) We deeply appreciated the offer of China and have entered into a contract with the Chinese Government to purchase the rice.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government of U.S.S.R. offered any rice on a barter basis?

Mr. Speaker: I think this question has been put several times previously.

Shri Kidwai: Sir, I have said that no offer was made by Russia.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether Government have refused imports of rice from China and Russia in preference to wheat from America?

Mr. Speaker: All these aspects have been raised before. Of course I cannot remember whether it was put by the same hon. Member or not, but these questions have been put before.