

Mr. Speaker: I think he is carrying on an argument.

Shri Kidwai: I have not got sufficient information about Ranaghat.

Mr. Speaker: I think it has been sufficiently discussed. We have taken about ten minutes for this one question.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

VISIT OF MR. NORRIS DODD

*525. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the places and projects visited by Mr. Norris Dodd in March, 1952?

(b) Has he submitted any report?

(c) What are his views regarding Agricultural development projects in India?

(d) What are the technical and monetary aids given to India by F.A.O. in 1952?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 26.]

(b) and (c). Mr. Dodd has not sent us any reports on his visits to various places and projects but he did send a letter in which he made the point that the development of our extension projects will go a long way to solve the problem of increasing production.

(d) The technical assistance under the Expanded Technical Assistance programme of the F.A.O. is limited to the (i) assignment of experts (ii) award of training fellowships and (iii) supply of equipment for demonstration purposes, and we obtained two veterinarians, one fishery expert and one farm machinery specialist from them in 1952.

CONSTRUCTION OF HYDERABAD-NAGPUR ROAD

*529. **Shri G. S. Bharati:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government propose to connect Hyderabad with Nagpur by a direct road connection?

(b) Do Government propose to undertake the construction of the Road, and if so, when?

(c) Do Government propose to incur expenditure on this road out of the Road Fund?

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

(b) Yes. The work has already commenced.

(c) Expenditure on this road is proposed from the capital grant voted by this House for the construction of National Highways and not from the Central Road Fund.

FACILITIES TO 3RD CLASS PASSENGERS

*530. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many trains still remain to be provided with the fans in 3rd class compartments and by which date they are likely to be so fitted;

(b) what other facilities were afforded to the 3rd class passengers during the year 1951-52; and

(c) what was the amount spent on these facilities?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) About 2000 carriages have yet to be fitted with fans in third class. It is not possible to give a definite date for completion of this work. Railways have been instructed to complete the work as soon as possible.

(b) For details of other facilities provided for third class passengers during the year 1951-52 a reference is invited to the pamphlet

"Towards Better Conditions of Travel"

circulated to all Members of the House.

(c) Approximately Rs. 3 crores was spent on passenger amenities during 1951-52. This was exclusive of a sum of about 3 crores being the cost of improved facilities provided in new rolling stock.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS FROM PAKISTAN

*531. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether rice or wheat or both had been imported into India from Pakistan during the financial year 1951-52?

(b) If so, what quantity of each was imported and at what price?

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

(b) Rice 176,317 tons;

Wheat 14,154 tons;

It will not be in the public interest to disclose just at present the price paid.

MERGER OF MANIPUR AND TRIPURA WITH ASSAM

***532. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether Manipur and Tripura are to be merged with the State of Assam;

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the approximate date when such an action is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government intend to democratise the Government in the States in deference to public opinion?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of Part C States Act provides for the constitution of a Council of Advisers for the purpose of assisting the Chief Commissioner in the discharge of his functions. The question of appointing such Council is under consideration.

केन नदी पर पुल

***५३३, श्री आर० एस० तिवारी :**

क्या वातायात मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केंद्रीय सरकार ने केन नदी पर पुल बनाने के लिये यदि धन का प्रावधान किया है तो कितना ;

(ख) पुल बनाने का कार्य कब आरम्भ होगा ; तथा

(ग) यह कार्य कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा ?

BRIDGE OVER RIVER KEN

[*533. Shri R. S. Tiwari: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money, if any, that has been provided by the Central Government for construction of a bridge across the Ken river;

(b) when the construction work is to start; and

(c) by what time would the construction work of this bridge be completed?]

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Rs. 11.65 lakhs have been set aside for a bridge over river Ken on the Satna-Nowgong Road in Vindhya Pradesh to which the hon. Member apparently refers.

(b) Work was commenced in February 1952.

(c) By about the end of 1953.

LOCOMOTIVES

***534. Shri Dhusiya:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many locomotive engines will be imported during the year 1952 and wherefrom?

(b) How many of them have reached India and what is the approximate time of arrival of the rest?

(c) How many of them are for broad gauge and how many for metre gauge?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) to (c). A statement showing the number of locomotives, together with their country of manufacture, received or expected to be received from abroad during the year 1952, separately for each gauge, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 27.]

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO RAYALASEEMA

***535. Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the special arrangements made for quick transport of foodgrains and fodder from surplus areas to famine-affected areas of Rayalaseema; and

(b) whether any complaints were received that due to lack of adequate supply of wagons the relief work is hampered and if so, what action has been taken so far?