

**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 वातायत 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?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) High priority has been given for the movement of foodgrains and fodder to famine affected areas including Rayalaseema.

(b) No complaint regarding any relief work having been hampered due to lack of adequate supply of wagons for movement of foodgrains and fodder appears to have been received.

#### COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE CONDITIONS OF BACKWARD CLASSES

**\*536. Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply to S. Q. 527 asked on 11th August 1950 and state:

(a) whether a Commission under Article 340 of the Constitution has since been appointed;

(b) if so, the names of the personnel; and

(c) the terms of reference?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) to (c). I invite the hon. Member's attention to the speech that I made in the House on the 21st May, 1952.

#### I.A.S. TRAINING SCHOOL

**\*537. Prof. Agarwal:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether there is any scheme of shifting the existing Indian Administrative Service Training School to a better location and surroundings?

(b) What are the subjects taught in this School?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) As will be seen from the Statement laid on the Table, the syllabus covers a wide range of subjects. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 28.]

#### MOVEMENT OF WAGONS

**\*538. Shri Raghuramaiah:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation from the Chamber of Commerce, Trichur, regarding the slow movement of wagons in the Southern Railway?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take to accelerate the movement of wagons in the Southern Railway?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) Yes, but the points mentioned therein were apparently based on incomplete appre-

ciation of the methods of Railway operation. A detailed reply to the representation has been sent.

(b) No special action, particularly on the Southern Railway, is called for, but the ways and means of improving the efficiency of operation towards better utilization of stock and expediting movement, etc., etc., are continually under review of the various Railway administrations and the Railway Board.

#### WHEAT FROM RUSSIA

**\*539. Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and the C. and F. value of wheat imported by India from Russia in the year 1951;

(b) the average landed cost of Russian wheat in India;

(c) whether the landed cost of Russian wheat is higher than the price of wheat imported from other sources including U.S.A., Argentina and Australia; and

(d) if so, the reasons for importing high priced wheat from Russia?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) and (b). The quantity imported from Russia in 1951 was one lakh metric tons. This was obtained on barter for tea, shellac, tobacco and jute to be supplied by us and the cost therefore depends on the prices at which we have obtained the commodities to be supplied by us. We have still to supply some of the tobacco and the accounts have not yet been adjusted to enable a precise calculation of the cost to be made.

(c) and (d). When settling the barter terms, we estimated that the cost of the wheat would not be unreasonable bearing in mind the cost from possible alternative sources.

#### VIJAPUR-KHERALU RAILWAY LINE

**\*540. Shri S. G. Parikh:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government propose to connect Vijapur to Kheralu via Ladol by a railway line?

(b) Are Government aware that former Baroda State had applied to the Railway Board for construction of this Railway line and some preliminary earth work on this line has also been done?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** (a) Government had under consideration the pro-