

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

IMPORTED FOODGRAINS

*673. { Shri Jhunjhunwala:
Pandit M. B. Bhaigava:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the F.O.B. price per maund of the different foodgrains from each country imported in 1951;

(b) the average retail price per maund at which the different imported foodgrains were sold to the public; and

(c) the average loss per maund of foodgrains incurred by the Central Government and the State Governments in distributing imported foodgrains?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) It is not in the public interest to disclose the information asked for just at present.

(b) A statement showing the issue prices of imported foodgrains in various States during 1951 is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 4.]

(c) The weighted average subsidy per maund incurred by the Central Government during 1951 on the sale of imported foodgrains in subsidised areas works out approximately as follows:—

Wheat	...	Rs. 4/8/0 per md.
Rice coarse	...	Rs. 7/3/6 per md.
Milo	...	Rs. 5/3/9 per md.

The information regarding the loss incurred by the State Governments is not available.

APPOINTMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES IN THE SERVICES OF THE UNION

*674. **Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what orders have been issued by the Government of India to ensure the appointment of members of Scheduled Castes to services and posts under them in the proportion prescribed for the Scheduled Castes;

(b) the source, if any, to know the number of posts of all cadres to which members of Scheduled Castes are appointed, during a period of six months as against the total number of posts filled during the same period; and

(c) the number of posts of all cadres filled by the Union Public Service Commission the Special Recruitment

Board and other recruiting authorities, separately in each case, since the 26th January, 1950, the number reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the number of posts to which Scheduled Caste persons were actually appointed; in case the number of posts filled by Scheduled Castes persons was less than the number reserved for them, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) The orders in this regard are contained in our Supplementary Instructions No. 42/21/49-NGS dated 28th January, 1952, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. P.27/52.]

The substance of these orders has also been given in paragraph 15 of the Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs for 1951-52 copies of which have been circulated to Members of Parliament.

(b) There is no single source at present from which the desired information can be readily obtained. However, the various Ministries and Departments have been asked under our Supplementary Instructions to submit annual communal returns. When these are received, it will be possible to find out the number of Scheduled Castes candidates appointed in the course of a year as against the total number of posts filled during the same period.

(c) This information is not readily available. It is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

FREQUENCY OF AIR SERVICES (REDUCTION)

*675. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state when the reduction in the frequency of services announced recently by the various Indian air companies as a result of the world shortage of aviation fuel is likely to be restored?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The restrictions imposed will be lifted on the 12th June, 1952.

MADURAI-KARAIKUDI RAILWAY LINE

*676. **Shri Kakkan:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Government of India have spent money to survey the lands for a new Railway line from Madurai to Karaikudi via Melur?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, when will that

Railway line be opened from Madurai to Karaikudi via Melur?

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

(b) There is no proposal to open the line now, as the project was dropped in 1935 in view of the Madras Government's opinion that the construction of this line would duplicate the existing road system. The project has not been recommended by the Madras Government in their post-War reconstruction programme and has, therefore, not been considered again.

LAMPHAL PAT

***677. Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government granted permission for throwing open to cultivation the Lamphal Pat in Imphal town and if so, when?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that Lamphal Pat is the only grazing ground for the majority of the cattle of Imphal town?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). A portion of the Lamphal Pat adjoining Imphal town was thrown open for cultivation in April 1951 as part of the Grow More Food Campaign. Even after setting a portion of the area for cultivation, adequate grazing facilities are available for the cattle of the area.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE

***678. Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether the Criminal Procedure Code has been introduced in Manipur?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): The Criminal Procedure Code has not yet been extended to Manipur. A proposal for the extension of the Criminal Procedure Code to Manipur with suitable modifications is under consideration.

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND ANDAMANS

***679. Bishop Richardson:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what steps are being taken to improve the facilities for communications between the mainland of India and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

(b) What steps are being taken to give adequate medical aid to the people of the islands?

(c) What steps are being taken to prevent foreigners from poaching around the coasts of the islands?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Until the middle of 1950 there was only one vessel, namely s.s. *Maharaja*, for transporting passengers and cargo to and from the Islands. From June 1950, the Government of India chartered another vessel—s.s. *Bharatkhand* for the India-Andaman service. The possibilities of establishing a regular air service between the mainland and Port Blair are under consideration.

(b) The arrangements already made by Government to provide medical aid in the Islands are not inadequate. For a population of about 31 thousand, there are 364 beds in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the Islands. Government are proposing to make provision for more beds at Mayabunder. The appointment of an additional Medical Officer in the Nicobar group is also under consideration.

(c) All possible steps are being taken by Government in the matter.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AT TIS HAZARI

***680. Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a Telephone Exchange Plant for Tis Hazari Delhi Exchange has been purchased?

(b) If so, what has been its cost and when has it been purchased?

(c) Is it a fact that the working of this Exchange has been delayed due to the defective machinery?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 25 lakhs. In November, 1950.

(c) No.

QUARTERS FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

***681. Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any standard plan for building quarters for the III and IV grade employees of the Railways; and

(b) what percentage of the employees of N. E. Railway still remain unprovided with quarters and how long will it take to provide each employee with a quarter?