

State Railway portion, in respect of which tenders were invited prior to the introduction of the licensing system referred to in (a) above.

BOWRINGPET-ONGOLE RAILWAY LINE

*692. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rayalaseema Development Board has recommended for laying out a Railway line between Bowringpet and Ongole via Madanapalli, Rayachoti and Cuddapah; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) No recommendation from the Rayalaseema Development Board for laying out the railway line in question has been received by the Railway Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

MOTOR TRANSPORT TAXATION ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*693. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy**: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Motor Transport Taxation Enquiry Committee has submitted its Report to the Government of India; and

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the recommendation that uniform rate of taxation should be introduced throughout India?

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

(b) While the Central Government, by virtue of Entry No. 35 in List III, is concerned with the principles on which taxes on mechanically propelled vehicles are to be levied, the power to tax mechanically propelled vehicles vests with the State Governments, vide entry No. 57 in List II. Consideration of the recommendation of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee's report regarding uniformity in motor vehicle taxation, therefore, requires negotiations with the State Governments, and the matter is under correspondence with them.

BALANCED DIET

*694. **Shri U. S. Dube**: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Government have prepared any schedule or schedules of balanced diet, and if so, what steps have been taken to popularise them among the people?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): Yes. A schedule of balanced diet representing the daily requirements of an adult for the maintenance of good health was prepared in 1944 by a Special Committee of the Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research formerly known as Indian Research Fund Association. This schedule as well as other useful information has been incorporated in the Government of India Publication Health Bulletin No. 23, 'The Nutritive value of Indian Foods and the Planning of Satisfactory Diets' Fourth Edition, 1951. Copies of the book are made available at a concessional rate of 8 annas per copy. Information regarding balanced diets is also propagated from time to time by Health Departments of States through lectures and exhibitions. The real difficulty is not so much lack of knowledge as the prevailing poverty and shortage of essential items of food like milk and fruit.

PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

*695. **Col. Zaidi**: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how the increase in the production of foodgrains is determined; and

(b) whether the technique of random sampling is sufficiently developed and takes into consideration every relevant item?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Presumably the hon. Member is referring to the increase under the Grow More Food Campaign. A note on the subject is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 5.]

(b) The reliability of random sampling technique is by now well established. Nevertheless, there is still scope for improvement in the method and continued research is necessary. Efforts in this direction are already being made by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

RICE CONTENT IN RATION IN MADRAS, TRAVANCORE-COCHIN AND MYSORE

*696. **Shri C. R. Iyyanni**: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the rice content in the ration allowed per capita in Travancore-Cochin?

(b) What is the rice content in the ration allowed per capita in Madras?

(c) How much deficit there is in rice in the States of Travancore-

Cochin, Madras and Mysore if 6 oz. rice is to be given *per capita*?

(d) What is the percentage of deficit in each of these States?

(e) What is the loss sustained by the above mentioned States in respect of rice ration in the year 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The rice content in the ration in Travancore Cochin is 6 oz. per adult per day.

(b) The rice content in the ration of rice-eaters, mixed eaters and millet-eaters in Madras is 7 ozs. and 4 ozs. and 3 ozs. per adult per day respectively.

(c) If 6 oz. ration of rice were given *per capita* the deficits in these States will be—

Travancore-Cochin	218,000 tons.
Madras	16,000 tons.
Mysore	371,000 tons.

(d) Again on assumption of 6 oz. rice ration *per capita* per day, the deficits in these States work out at 38.5, 0.5, 64.0 per cent. respectively.

(e) The net estimated loss incurred by the Travancore-Cochin Government in selling imported rice below its economic cost is Rs. 215.5 lakhs.

Regarding Madras and Mysore, information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

PRICES OF RICE IN DIAMOND HARBOUR

*697. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the average price of rice in each of the Police Stations of the Diamond Harbour sub-division of 24 Parganas and also in non-rationed areas of Police Station Bishnupur, Mahashtala, Budge Budge and Metra Bruz of Sadar Sub-division of 24 Parganas?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The wholesale open market price of rice in these areas is reported to be Rs. 43 per maund. Actual price in each of the Police Stations mentioned by the hon. Member is not available with us.

ALLOTMENT OF FOODGRAINS TO MADRAS

*698. **Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many tons of foodgrains have been allotted to Madras State for 1952-53;

(b) how many tons of foodgrains have been so far sent to Madras State from this year's allotment; and

(c) the quantity of rice and wheat separately?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The allocation of foodgrains under Basic Plan is made on the basis of the calendar year. The ceiling import quota of foodgrains fixed for Madras for 1952 is 6.87 lakh tons.

(b) and (c). For the period January to June 337,200 tons of foodgrains have been allotted to Madras consisting of 105.2 thousand tons of rice, 74.8 thousand tons of wheat and 157.2 thousand tons other grains.

ALLOCATIONS OF WAGONS

130. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Indian Collieries Owners' Association made a grievance against the present system of allocation of wagons for transport of lower grades of coal for domestic purposes?

(b) If so, what is the system of allocations?

(c) Are priorities for transport of higher grades of coal frequently given?

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

(b) For the purpose of allocation of coal, industries have been classed under different groups in order of importance or priority. Allocations are sanctioned about the middle of each month for the succeeding month, taking into account the estimated output of coal, the demands of the consumers and the number of wagons required per day for moving the coal. For each industry, there is a sponsoring authority either Central or Provincial and it is the responsibility of the sponsoring authority to ensure that the demands of the various units within a particular group are collected and placed on the Coal Commissioner sufficiently in advance to enable him to formulate the allocation proposals for