

(b) Is there any proposal to establish Post Offices there and if so, by what time?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Has this target been reached in any part of the country?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Not yet, Sir. There are many States in which it has not been reached.

IMPORT AND PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

*249. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains imported in 1951-52;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains procured in 1951-52;

(c) whether any target for additional food production was fixed for 1951-52 and if so, what was the target; and

(d) whether the target fixed was reached?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) From 1st April 1951 to 31st March 1952 5.24 million tons of foodgrains were imported into India.

(b) During 1951 a total quantity of 3,770 thousand tons of foodgrains was procured in India. During 1952 up to 26-4-52 the quantity procured amounted to 1927 thousand tons.

(c) Yes Sir, the target of additional production of foodgrains in 1951-52 over the production in 1950-51 has been fixed at 14 lakh tons.

(d) It is not possible at this stage to state what the results for 1951-52 will be. Production targets are fixed for the agricultural year and that year will close at the end of June, 1952.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the Government are procuring foodgrains from all the States, and if so, whether the procurement is on the same basis from all the States?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Mr. Speaker: Question Hour is over. I will now call short notice questions. In respect of this, I may state that I received from six different hon. 55 PSD

Members notices of questions on the same subject. I have admitted that one which I am just now calling, it being wider in scope, and probably it will cover all the supplementaries that can be raised on the other questions. Of course, the other hon. Members who have tabled short-notice questions which have been disallowed will get an opportunity of putting supplementaries over the main question which I have allowed.

Short Notice Question and Answer

RAILWAY COLLISION NEAR BIKANER

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the statement of the Prime Minister made in the House on the 20th May, 1952 regarding the train accident near Bikaner and state if he is now in a position to make a further statement on the subject?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): Yes. I am in a position to give the following further information:—

(i) The latest position in respect of the dead and injured is as follows:

(a) Dead—45.

(b) Injured—67.

(c) Still in hospital on 24-5-52—47.

(d) Lists are placed on the Table of the House showing the names and addresses of the dead and the injured. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 6.]

(ii) Through communication was restored at about 11-30 A.M. on 20-5-1952.

(iii) The following passenger carrying train services were affected as a result of the accident:—

19-5-1952: Passengers of 24 Down of 18-5-1952, which was involved in the collision, were transhipped at the site of accident and brought to Bikaner by the Relief Train next morning.

19-5-1952: 23 Up—Cancelled.

19-5-52: 6 Down—Transhipped.

19-5-52: 5 Up—Transhipped.

19-5-52: 24 Down—Combined at Palana and transhipped at the site of accident.

20-5-1952: 6 Down—Combined at Palana and transhipped at the site of accident.

20-5-1952: 23 Up—Cancelled.

(iv) The Government Inspector of Railways, Bambay, commenced his