

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know whether any time-limit has been fixed for completing the enquiry and, if so, what is the time-limit?

Shri L. B. Shastri: No time-limit has been fixed but these enquiries by the Railway Inspector generally finish within a month.

श्री धुलेकर : क्या मिनिस्टर महोदय बतलायेंगे कि जहां पर एक्सीडेंट हुआ उसके पास कोई गांव थे और उन गांवों से खाने पीने की चीजें पेत्रर इसके कि रिलीफ ट्रेन आई उनको मिली थी या नहीं ?

[**Shri Dhulekar:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether there were any villages nearabout the place of the accident; and whether or not the villagers supplied food etc. to the passengers before the relief train actually reached there?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: May I know whether the line clearance for the trains was given by block instrument or by morse?

Mr. Speaker: That again is a subject matter of enquiry. We will now proceed to the next business.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF LEMONGRASS OIL, ETC.

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

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was entrusted with the task of examining the possibilities of expanding and developing the production and export of lemongrass oil, cashew kernels, ginger, and cardamom;

(b) whether the Council has submitted any report; and

(c) if so, what are the main recommendations of the Council?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Council has appointed a sub-committee to examine the matter. It has not yet completed the examination of local conditions, though a good deal of preliminary work has been done.

INLAND WATERS (DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES)

*251. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have examined the possibilities of developing large scale fish farming in inland waters?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Yes. For this purpose the Government of India have been giving grants and loans to State Governments who are primarily responsible for the development of inland fisheries. These grants and loans are given, under the Grow More Food Campaign, in respect of schemes for (1) Survey of stocking areas, (2) Prospecting for fish seed, (3) Rearing and distribution of fish-seed and fingerlings, and (4) Stocking of fresh water areas.

BHAGALPUR-BAUNSI RAILWAY LINE

*252. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in the restoration of Bhagalpur Baunsi Railway line; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in the construction of Malipura Murliganj Railway line?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) According to the decision of the Central Board of Transport, the restoration of the Bhagalpur-Mandar Hill (Baunsi) line was programmed to be commenced during 1952-53. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has accordingly been provided in the Budget for 1952-53 for the commencement of work. It is expected to complete the work during 1953-54. There has, therefore, been no delay in taking up the restoration of the line.

(b) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the proposed construction of the Railway line from Dauram Madhepura to Murliganj on the North-Eastern Railway. In this case also there has been no delay in taking up the construction of the line as the Central Board of Transport approved of it only in their meeting held in July 1951, and consequently a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided for the work in the budget for 1952-53. In the meanwhile the Government of Bihar was last year authorised to take up the construction of the embankment for the proposed railway line as a famine relief measure and the Railway Administration was asked to give any assistance required by the Bihar

Government in this connection. It is expected to complete the work during 1953-54.

ADULTERATION OF FOODSTUFFS

*253. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether it was under the consideration of Government to introduce a Bill for stopping adulteration of food stuffs in India?

(b) If the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the reason for the delay and when do Government propose to introduce it?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) The delay is due to the need of consulting the various State Governments. It is proposed to introduce the Bill in the next session of the House.

GANGA-BRAHMAPUTRA WATER TRANSPORT BOARD

*254. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what would be the extent of jurisdiction of the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Transport Board in waters within Pakistan territory?

(b) Has any agreement been entered into with the Pakistan Government?

(c) What are the companies that will be supervised or regulated by this Board?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) The Board will have no jurisdiction in waters within Pakistan territory.

(b) No.

(c) The Board will not have to supervise or regulate any company, but will only co-ordinate the activities of the participating Governments in regard to the development of inland water transport.

ANDAMAN FORESTS

*255. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the species of rare wood that grow in the Andamans?

(b) What is the plan for regeneration and development of such rare wood?

(c) What is the total area of Andamans Forests and what portion has

been leased out to a private firm for exploitation?

(d) What was the difficulty in exploiting the forest departmentally?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The species of rare wood are as follows:—

Common Names	Botanical Names
(1) Podauk	<i>Pterocarpus dalbergoides</i>
(2) Sievcregrey	<i>Terminalia bialat</i>
(3) Marble wood	<i>Diospyros marmorata</i>
(4) Stein wood	<i>Murrayo exotica</i> .

(b) A working plan has been prepared for the Andamans which provides for exploitation of over-matured trees as well as regeneration of the exploited areas. The regeneration method consists of having seed bearers in a clear felled area for about 5 years. As soon as the ground is covered with new regeneration, the new seedlings are intensively tended, and the seed bearers are girdled to death.

(c) The total area is about 2,500 square miles. The area leased out for exploitation is 707 square miles.

(d) The main difficulty was lack of sufficient technical personnel and high initial capital expenditure.

FODDER SCARCITY IN STATES

*256. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what arrangements, if any, have been made by the Government of India for supplying fodder to the different famine stricken States?

(b) What concessions, if any, have been granted in the matter of speedy transportation and at lower rates to the different States?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Following arrangements have been made:—

(i) The export of fodder from deficit as well as surplus areas has been controlled.

(ii) Allocation of stocks from surplus to deficit areas was made in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

(iii) The deficit areas have been and are being assisted in procuring the stocks allocated to them.