

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) Siavcrgrey	<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.