

fic recommendations have been made by the Government of Bihar during the current year.

(b) Does not arise.

FOREIGN LAND TENURE EXPERT

*888. **Shri Mohana Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign land tenure expert recently visited India;

(b) if so, who he is, which country he belongs to, through which agency he toured the country, what is his experience of land tenure in India or in other countries and what was the expenditure incurred by the Government of India on his account;

(c) what was the purpose of his visit;

(d) which parts of India he visited; and

(e) whether he submitted any Report or made any recommendations to the Central Government or State Governments or any of their departments and if so, what was the nature of his report or recommendations?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): (a) to (e). Dr. Kenneth H. Parsons, Professor of Agricultural Economics, in the University of Wisconsin, U.S.A., and Mr. W. Ladejinsky, Agricultural Attaché to the U. S. Embassy at Tokyo recently visited India on a short study tour under the auspices of the T.C.A. with the object of studying the land tenure problems in this country. The Government of India have not incurred any expenditure on their account. Dr. Parsons is an expert on land tenure problems and was one of the organisers of the World Land Tenure Conference held in the U.S.A. in October, 1951. Mr. Ladejinsky has made a special study of agrarian problems in the countries of the Far East e.g., Philippines, China, Korea, etc., and was actively connected with land reforms measures in Japan. Dr. Parsons visited Uttar Pradesh, P.E.P.S.U., Bombay and Madras and has submitted a report to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Planning Commission. A summary of his report is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 25.]

Information about Mr. Ladejinsky's reports will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

SHELLAC

*890. **Shri Jagan:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the current rates of shellac?

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(b) What were the rates in the corresponding period last year?

(c) Is it a fact that the shellac market has been adversely affected by the activities of speculators?

(d) Is it also a fact that on account of the shellac market having been adversely affected, cultivators and producers have suffered heavy loss?

(e) Have the shellac producers made any representation to the Government of India about this?

(f) If so, what are the findings of Government and what steps have so far been taken in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): (a) The average monthly price of T. N. Shellac at Calcutta during October, 1952 was Rs. 71 per maund.

(b) Rs. 159 per maund.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

(f) The matter is under consideration, in consultation with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Indian Lac Cess Committee.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

*891. **Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cut in the imports of foodgrains has been made in the year 1952; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the cut?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reason for the cut is an overall satisfactory food position in the Country.

RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

*892. **Shri Krlabha Chandra:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint Railway Advisory Committees in every region and to appoint Members of Parliament thereon;

(b) whether Local Advisory Committees exist at present in which Members of State Legislature are represented; and

(c) whether Members of Parliament are permitted to inspect Railway workshops, Railway Stations and other Railway Institutions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Government have decided to establish Railway Users' Consultative Committees on a regional basis in place of the existing Advisory Committees. The answer to the second part of the question is in the negative.

(b) Yes.

(c) Arrangements are usually made for Members of Parliament to be shown round railway workshops, etc. when a request is received from them by the authorities concerned.

FOOD POSITION

*893. Shri Basappa: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the present stock of food grains in India;

(b) the position as regards supplies of food grains from foreign countries;

(c) the procurement of food grains so far in those State Governments where there is control; and

(d) whether any new contracts for import of food grains have been entered into after May, 1952 and if so, with whom and for what quantities?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) 21.81 lakh tons on 15th November 1952.

(b) From 1st January to the 31st October, 1952 about 37.24 lakh tons of foodgrains have been imported from abroad and during the remaining two months of the year viz., November and December, about 1.6 lakh tons are expected to arrive.

(c) 31.73 lakh tons upto 15th November 1952.

(d) Yes. A statement showing the details is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The contracts made for import of foodgrains with Foreign countries from 1st June, 1952 to the end of October, 1952

Name of Country	Commodity	Quantity in long tons
(1) Australia	Wheat and flour	50,000 tons (12,500 tons of this will be in the form of flour)
(2) Argentina	Wheat	Quantity cannot be disclosed
(3) Canada	Wheat	300,000 tons
(4) U. S. A.	Wheat	95,000 tons
"	Milo	57,000 tons
(5) Burma	Rice	50,000 tons
(6) China	Rice	40,230 tons
(7) Pakistan	Rice	37,700 tons

METRE GAUGE RAILWAY LINES

*894. Shri Basappa: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals to connect the metre gauge lines running between Bangalore and Mysore, or between Bangalore and Poona with broad gauge lines; and

(b) if so, when Government will take up these works?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shabuwaz Khan): (a) and (b). The Metre gauge lines running between Bangalore and Mysore and Bangalore and Poona are already connected with broad gauge lines.

EXPORT OF RICE FROM MANIPUR

*895. Shri L. J. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have statistics firstly of the procure-

ment of rice by the Manipur Government in the year 1952, secondly tonnage of rice exported through Supply Office after procurement and thirdly the tonnage of rice exported by private individuals by permits, by making collection from local markets?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, do Government propose to maintain such statistics in future?

(c) Is it a fact that rice was indiscriminately exported by Government after the Manipur Government began seizing rice on account of scarcity?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what steps have Government contemplated against those officials who were responsible for such export?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.