

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.