

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, but only for sugarcane to be supplied to vacuum pan sugar factories.

(b) For all the sugar producing States in India.

(c) Yes. Since the prices of sugarcane are fixed after taking into consideration the extent and conditions of the cane crops concerned, the price of gur and other alternate crops, it has not been found feasible to fix the price of cane before the time of sowing. The price of cane this year too, has been fixed at the same time although an indication was given earlier, that a reduction will be affected.

(d) Reliable data of the cost of production of sugarcane in the various States are not available, but it does differ from State to State. Upto 1949-50 there used to be one all-India sugar price, but during the seasons 1950-51 and 1951-52 price of sugar was fixed on regional basis after accounting for the local differences in the cost of production of sugar.

(e) It is not possible to plan exactly that the production in a particular year should not exceed the requirements of that year, for while the acreage under sugarcane can be regulated, the yield depends on weather conditions and cannot be predicted a year in advance.

On the whole however sugarcane cultivation is getting stabilised and it is the constant endeavour of the Central Government to keep up the required production from as small an acreage as possible.

CENTRAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR LABOUR

***79. Shri N. F. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state how many sessions of the Central Advisory Committee for Labour have been held since January 1951 and at what places?

(b) What decisions were taken regarding "fair wages"?

(c) Who are the Members of the Committee?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the Central Advisory Council for Labour which was constituted in September, 1948. If so, no session of this Council was held after July, 1949.

(b) The Central Advisory Council was assisted in its study of the subject of fair wages by a tripartite com-

mittee which submitted practically unanimous report. A statement showing the recommendations of the Committee which were accepted by the Council is placed on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 14]

(c) A list, as in July 1949, is placed on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 15.]

RAILWAY TIME TABLE

***80. Shri Krishna Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that Railways used formerly to publish two editions of their Time Table, one of which was cheaper and brief?

(b) Is it a fact that publication of this cheaper edition has now been stopped?

(c) Is it in contemplation to revive this cheaper edition?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, so far as Time Table in English was concerned.

(b) and (c) Out of the six Railway Administrations, four, viz., Central, Northern, North-Eastern and Southern Railways, are publishing two editions of Time-Table in English. Of the remaining two Railways, Western Railway have only one edition in English priced four annas and the Eastern Railway have also one edition in English priced six annas. The Eastern Railway propose to publish a cheaper edition from 1st April 1953.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS BETWEEN KIDHD- PUR AND INDARA STATIONS

***81. Shri Raghbir Sahai:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many persons died in the Railway accident that took place between Kidhdpur and Indara stations of the North Eastern Railway on or about the 28th September, 1952?

(b) How many hours after the accident medical aid arrived at the scene of occurrence?

(c) What were the causes of the accident?

(d) Has the report of enquiry by the Inspector of Railways been received by Government and whether a copy thereof will be placed, on the Table of the House?

(e) What further steps do Government propose to take to prevent recurrence of cases of sabotage on the Indian Railways?

(f) What is the extent of the loss incurred by the Railway on account of this accident?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Three persons died in the accident to 71 Up Allahabad Express between Kidihdapur and Indara Jn. stations on 28th September, 1952.

(b) Immediately after the accident, First Aid to the injured was rendered by the guard of the train with the help of other passengers. The train was equipped with the First Aid Box. The Medical Relief Train from Mau Jn. arrived at the site of the accident 2 hours 45 minutes after the occurrence.

(c) and (d). The Government Inspector's Preliminary Report has been received. His provisional finding is that the accident was caused by the track having been tampered with by some person or persons unknown. The Ministry of Communications who publish the Govt. Inspector's reports on accidents will be asked to place on the Table of the House a copy of the Report when finalised.

(e) While Railways remain always vigilant and take all possible precautions, these saboteurs have to be dealt with by the police as this is primarily a question of law and order. The U.P. Government are being requested to investigate into this particular case.

(f) The approximate cost of damage to engine, rolling stock and permanent way is Rs. 84,100/-.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE FOR SITAMARHI

*82. **Shri D. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation from the people of Sitamarhi (Bihar) for the opening of a telephone exchange there?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken on that representation?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) As a first step, a Public Call Office will be opened before March, 1953, and next year efforts will be made, subject to availability of funds and equipment, to open a regular telephone exchange there.

TRAINING IN FISHING

*83. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any

steps have been taken to train Indian fisher-men in Scientific method of catching fishes?

(b) Where are these men trained and how many Centres have been established?

(c) Are men from India sent abroad to get training in modern scientific methods in fishing?

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

(b) On board the fishing vessels of the Deep Sea Fishing Station, Bombay, and only one Centre has been established.

(c) Yes. Seven persons were sent in 1947 to the Nautical School at Grimsby, England, for training in methods of fishing.

PRINTING PRESSES

*85. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to his reply to Starred Question No. 1588, asked on the 9th July, 1952 regarding Railway Printing Presses and state:

(a) whether the investigation to be conducted by Mr. J. W. H. Elvin has been taken in hand;

(b) if so, when his report is likely to be received; and

(c) the reasons for entrusting some portion of Printing work to Presses other than Railway Presses?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) A preliminary report on the Central Railway Printing Press at Bombay has been received.

(c) Lack of adequate facilities or capacity in the railway presses concerned.

EX-NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*86. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 843 asked on the 13th June 1952, and state:

(a) whether the Adjudicator's Award has since been implemented on the ex-N. S. Railway; and

(b) if not, the period by which the same is likely to be implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No. The Adjudicator's Award is still in the process of implementation on the ex-N.S. Railway section of the Central Railway.