Vegetable Oils

*680.{ Sardar Hukam Singh: Shri Bahadur Singh: Shri Kamath:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2434 asked on the 30th September, 1955 and state:

- (a) whether any suitable colour has finally been evolved for vanaspati; and
 - (b) if so, what is that ingredient?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No. Besides the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, researches on finding out a suitable dye for colouring vanaspati are also being carried on at the National Chemical Laboratory, Poona and the Central Drugs Research Institute, Lucknow, but without any success so far.

(b) Does not arise.

The Mines Act

*682. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2262 on the 27th September, 1955 and state:

- (a) whether Government have since taken any decision in regard to the appointment of a High Level Commission to enquire into the safety of workers in the coal mines;
- (b) if so, the nature of the decision arrived at; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to implement it?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) The question of formation of a Tripartite Committee is still under consideration. A decision will be taken after the comments of the State Governments, Mining Boards etc. on the draft regulations on coal and non-coal mines, which have already been circulated to them, are received.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Paper Manufacture

*683. Shri N. Rachiah: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Conference was convened in October, 1955 to consider as to how the Forest wealth of the country could be exploited for the manufacture of paper;
- (b) if so, whether Government propose to sponsor any pilot schemes for this purpose; and

(c) the probable places where the industry will be started?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Assam, Madras, Andhra, Bombay and Coorg.

Railway Catering

- *684. Shri Dabhi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1390 on the 2nd September, 1955 and state:
 - (a) whether the standard menu recommended by the Alagesan Committee has now been evolved on the basis of regional tastes and requirements with a view to satisfying the passengers in all parts of the country;
 - (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the delay; and
 - (c) when it will be evolved?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). The matter is still under consideration, the time taken being due to consideration of the matter by the various zonal railways in consultation with their Railway Users' Advisory Committees. Final decisions are expected to be taken shortly.

Fruit Preservation Industry

- *685. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the question of supplying liquid sugar (sugar in syrup form before being crystalised) to the fruit preservation industries in this country with a view to reducing the cost of canning of fruits and such other facilities, has been brought to the notice of Government; and
- (b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The question of supply of liquid sugar to the fruit preservation industry has not been brought to the notice of Governments. A proposal to grant rebate on sugar used by the Fruit Preservation Industry for production of fruit products for export is however under consideration of Government.