

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa) :
(a) Yes.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 5].

WORLD EUCALYPTUS CONFERENCE

*2322. **Shri Amjad Ali :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is proposed to send any representative to F. A. O. sponsored World Eucalyptus Conference which will meet in Rome in October next ?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa) : The proposal to participate in this Conference is under consideration.

CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANKS

*2324. { **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha :**
Shri Asthana :

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to deofficialise the Central Co-operative Banks by giving opportunities to non-officials to become Chairman of Central Co-operative Banks ?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa) : Yes, Sir.

CEMENT CONCRETE SLEEPERS

*2325. **Shri B. S. Murthy :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the expert advice is in favour of cement concrete sleepers to replace the wooden and iron sleepers ; and

(b) the financial gains, if any, to be derived out of the project ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) A small quantity of M. G. Prestressed Concrete Sleepers have been ordered

to be manufactured and when ready would be laid on the track purely as an experimental measure.

(b) It is too early to say.

PLANT PROTECTION

*2327. **Shri Ibrahim :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount spent during 1955-56 by the Government for plant protection work ?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 6].

INDO-PAKISTAN RAILWAY TRAFFIC

*2329. **Shri K. P. Tripathi :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amount per annum that is paid to Pakistan on account of Railway traffic to and from Assam ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : On an average, Rs. 7.71 lakhs per month is payable to E. B. Railway (Pakistan) for its share of freight on traffic booked from India to India over E. B. Railway (Pakistan) during the period 1st May, 1955 to 31st March, 1956, which works out to a figure of Rs. 93 lakhs per annum.

MEDICAL INSPECTION IN MINES

*2331. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce any system of medical inspection in mines in India ; and

(b) whether Government also propose to set up a separate directorate to implement the same ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) : (a) Yes.

(b) Government have decided to set up a medical inspectorate under the Chief Inspector of Mines. An Inspector of Mines (Medical) has already been appointed.