

ulation. The average number of persons tuberculin tested in these States is about 1,00,000 per month. The total number of persons B.C.G. vaccinated in these States up to 31st October, 1952, is 4,40,982 and it is hoped that all these persons have been benefited.

**NARLA ROAD AND KANDEL ROAD STATION
(BOOKING FACILITIES)**

334. Shri B. N. S. Deo: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation regarding the opening of Passenger and Goods Booking Office at Narla Road and Kandel Road Stations on the Raipur-Vizianagaram section of the Eastern Railway; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what action Government have taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Representations have been received regarding the opening of Narla Road for passenger and goods traffic but none has been received in respect of Kandel Road.

(b) Investigations in respect of Narla Road revealed that the proposal was not financially justified and it was, therefore, dropped. Although no specific representation was received in respect of Kandel Road, the proposal to open it for passenger and goods traffic is at present under investigation.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

335. Shri B. N. Kureel: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the annual expenditure incurred on the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): There are two organisations viz., Directorate of Economics and Statistics and Statistical Section of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture which respectively deal with (a) compilation analysis and publication of Agro-economic Intelligence and Statistics, and (b) statistical research, evolution of improved techniques of collection of data, assessment of the Crow More Food Campaign, post-graduate training of students in agricultural and animal husbandry statistics and provision of

consultative and advisory services research workers in agriculture and animal husbandry working in the States and Institutes of Research. The annual expenditure during 1951-52 of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics of which the main work is economic rather than statistical was Rs. 5.15 lakhs and that of the Statistical Section of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which specialises in statistical work was Rs. 1.15 lakhs.

RAILWAY LINES

336. Shri N. L. Joshi: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state which railway lines are still maintained under private hands?

(b) What is the cost of these lines?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The required information is given in the attached statement. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 31.]

JUTE PRODUCTION

337. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many acres of paddy-growing lands in West Bengal were converted into jute-growing lands during the period from January, 1949 to March 1952?

(b) What quantity of additional jute has been grown as a result of this conversion?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) In the absence of exhaustive field to field surveys of land it is not possible to arrive at any firm estimate of the extent of land that was diverted from paddy to jute in these two years. On the basis, however, of available data it is roughly estimated that in West Bengal the maximum amount of net diversion of land from paddy to jute that may have taken place during these two years is likely to be of the order of 2.25 lakh acres. The actual diversion is, in fact, likely to be appreciably less as the above estimate is based on the extreme assumption that all the addition to the acreage under jute was at the expense of paddy and not by way of utilizing fallow or waste lands nor due to double-cropping.

(b) 5 to 6 lakh bales of 400 lbs each. This is, however, subject to the same limitations as pointed out in reply to part (a) of the question.