

(d) The value of imports of telecommunication equipment in each of the five years ending 31st March, 1952 is as under:—

Years	Rupees
1947-48	13,32,083
1948-49	56,51,473
1949-50	24,06,900
1950-51	14,09,449
1951-52	23,46,283

With the establishment of the Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. and the cable factory supplemented by the production of the three departmental workshops it is expected that most of the requirements of the country for telephone and telegraph apparatus and machinery will be met by them. However, certain essential raw materials and recently developed technical apparatus will continue to be imported.

Kharij Crops

21. **Shri Bahmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the prospects of Kharij crops in all States this year?

(b) Which is the State where Kharij crop is best?

(c) How far has locust swarm affected that?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): (a) and (b). The over-all position of the Kharij crop of 1952 is fairly satisfactory. The south-west monsoon was normal except in southern States of Hyderabad, Madras, Mysore, Travancore-Cochin and parts of Bombay. But there has been more than normal rainfall in these areas since the end of September as a result of which crops which were withering have revived to some extent. The extent of this saving is however yet to be assessed.

(c) Slight damage to crops was reported from Rajasthan, PEPSU and Punjab.

MOBILE POST OFFICES

22. **Shri Bahmiki:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the places where night Mobile Post Offices have been introduced?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Delhi, Madras, Nagpur, and Kanpur.

FISH LIFE

23. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientific knowledge of fish life is being investigated at any fishery centre in India; and

(b) if so, where it is being done?

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

(b) The Central Fishery Research Stations at Barrackpore and Mandapam and their sub-stations are carrying out investigations on various fishery problems of fresh water, estuarine and marine fisheries on an all-India basis. The various fishery research stations of State Governments of Madras, Travancore-Cochin, Bombay, Saurashtra, Orissa, West Bengal and U.P. confine their investigations to fishery problems of local importance.

The Fishery Research Station and sub-stations are located at the following places:—

(1) *Central:* Barrackpore, Cuttack, Mandapam, Narakkal, Calicut and Karwar.

(2) *Madras State:* Madras, Mettur, Dowleshwaram, Hospet, Tuticorin, Krusadi, West Hill and Ennore.

(3) *Travancore-Cochin State:* Trivandrum and Kayamkulam.

(4) *Bombay State:* Bombay.

(5) *Saurashtra State:* Sikka.

(6) *Orissa State:* Cuttack.

(7) *West Bengal State:* Calcutta.

(8) *U. P. State:* Lucknow.

FOOD GIFTS FROM RUSSIA

24. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All-Union Central Council of the Soviet Trade Unions have sent some food gifts to India for distribution among the famine-stricken people; and

(b) if so, what has been the total quantity of these food gifts?

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

(b) 10,000 tons of wheat, 5,000 tons of rice and 500,000 tins of condensed milk. The gift also included Rs, 255,000 in cash.