

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 25].

Transporting of Farrakka Barrage Material

1116. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in transporting Farrakka barrage material to Farrakka;

(b) why decision to allow the project to book goods for Farrakka was delayed; and

(c) how much tonnage of goods has been booked and transported up till now?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):

(a) and (b). Farrakka station is not open for booking of goods traffic, nor are there facilities such as goods shed, sidings etc. for handling such traffic.

In a meeting held in May 1961 between Eastern Railway and the Project authorities a request was made for the provision of a siding. The Project authorities were advised to send a formal application for consideration by the Railway. The authorities again approached the Eastern Railway only in October 1961 asking for immediate assistance in handling traffic by using one of the high level slip lines, which is meant for Railway's own use. This was examined by the Eastern Railway and was agreed to as a special case in February 1962.

(c) Upto 9-5-62, 66 wagons have been handed over to Project authorities at Farrakka.

Imphal-Tamenglong Road

1117. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Imphal-Tamenglong Road was declared open about a year ago;

(b) upto what stage the road has been completed;

(c) the total fund allocated for this road; and

(d) the amount spent so far?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of the total length of 74 miles, the first 49 miles from Kangpokpi are motorable and the rest jeepable. Further improvement is in progress.

(c) An allocation of Rs. 61 lakhs for the Third Plan period is under the consideration of the Manipur Administration.

(d) First Plan—Rs. 26.12 lakhs.

Second Plan—Rs. 34.78 lakhs.

Year 1961-62—Rs. 11.31 lakhs.

Total: Rs. 72.21 lakhs.

Nagarjunasagar Project

1118. Shri Yallamanda Reddy: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned the work of Second Tunnel at Right Canal of Nagarjunasagar Project;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The Second Tunnel of the Nagarjunasagar Right Bank Canal is included in the Project sanctioned in September, 1960.

(c) Does not arise.

Halt at Singarayakonda Station

1119. Shri Yallamanda Reddy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to halt Delhi-Madras Janata at Singarayakonda Station in view of the

importance that it connects three Taluks in Nellore District;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). Prior to 1-4-59, Nos. 17Dn|18Up Madras-Delhi Janata Express used to stop at Singarayakonda. As the average long distance traffic per day dealt with at this station by these trains during the period October to December 1958 was negligible, stoppages were withdrawn with effect from 1-4-59. There is no justification to restore halts of these trains at Singarayakonda.

Vamsadhara Project

1120. Shri Yallamanda Reddy: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the site for Vamsadhara Project;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Vamsadhara Project is under examination in the Central Water and Power Commission.

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

Production of Khandsari and Gur

1121. Shri K. N. Pande: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the production of Khandsari and Gur during the season 1961-62; and

(b) how the prices of Khandsari and Gur compare with the prices of these commodities in previous years i.e. 1959-60 and 1960-61?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Since the season 1961-62 is still

on, it is not possible to give the production of gur and khandsari during this season.

(b) Prices of Khandsari and Gur prevailing during the week ending 15th April in Hapur market for the seasons 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 are given below:—

Season	Average price per maund (Rupees)	
	Khandsari	Gur
1959-60	33.63	16.00
1960-61	33.75	16.00
1961-62	33.00	17.75

Price of Wheat

1122. Shri K. N. Pande: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how the market reacted to fixation of price of Wheat per Maund by Government; and

(b) whether it is going to encourage the sowing of wheat and increase the area under wheat cultivation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) It is too early to assess market reactions to the announcement of the Government of India in March, 1962 of the minimum support price of Rs. 13 per maund for wheat. There has been no undue rise or fall in the market prices of wheat since the announcement of minimum price.

(b) The sowings of the next wheat crop will commence during September-October, 1962. The minimum price for wheat has been fixed to assure the cultivator of a reasonable return for his produce, so that he may have the necessary incentive to put in greater effort to produce more.