

Destruction of Crops in Tripura

150. **Shri Dasapatha Deb:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that **Aus** crops in Tripura were destroyed by pests this year;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of loss; and

(c) what steps are being taken to meet the contingency that has arisen due to this damage?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) **Yes.**

(b) and (c). Necessary information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

Ryots of Tripura

151. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1963 on the 25th May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether any arrangement has since been made by which the jotedars can cut trees standing in jote lands with the prior permission of Revenue/Forest Authorities in Tripura;

(b) if not, what steps Government propose to take to provide facility to the jotedars for cutting their trees without duty, till the particular provision of the Tripura Land Revenue and Land Reforms Act 1960, which provides right to jotedars for cutting trees, is enforced?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The jotedars are being allowed to cut trees of unreserved species without payment of royalty. In the case of trees of reserved species, permission is given on realisation of royalty.

(b) The matter is still under examination.

Ring Road, Delhi

152. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the upto-date progress made in the construction of Ring Road in Delhi;

(b) the amount spent so far thereon?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The work on the construction of the Ring Road around Delhi is complete except the following items which are in progress:—

- (1) Approaches to the over bridges across the three railway lines viz., Delhi-Gurgaon, Delhi-Rohtak and Delhi-Karnal;
- (2) Construction of bridge across the Najafgarh drain; and
- (3) Strengthening the existing crust in certain sections.

(b) Rs. 120.55 lakhs upto the 30th June 1962, out of the total estimated cost of Rs. 168.2 lakhs.

Special Postage Stamps for W.H.O.

153. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue special postage stamps to further the W.H.O. drive against small-pox;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) what conditions are attached to take such an action?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) It is not proposed to bring out a special stamps but special cachets with appropriate