

Work-load of Rural House-wives

1729. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 475 on the 19th March, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the details of the scheme to ease the work-load of rural house-wives in the country have since been worked out by the Food and Agriculture Organisation; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

U. K. Employment Vouchers

1730. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vouchers issued by the British Department of Labour and Employment were stolen from Post Offices and sold to persons who were unable to secure them;

(b) whether any investigation has been made into the matter; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts & Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Two complaints have been recently received, one against a Class IV official alleging that he pinches letters containing voucher forms of British Employment and selling them to public, and the second complaint, which is an anonymous one, alleges that a postman pinches immigration forms from mails addressed to U.K. High Commission.

(b) Both the complaints are under investigation.

(c) The result of investigation is not yet known.

Rice Purchased from U.S.A.

1731. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Shri Pottekkatt:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the price of rice purchased from the U.S.A. under the P.L 480 agreement; and

(b) whether it is higher than the prevailing rates in India?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The prices of American bagged rice purchased in June, 1963 ranged from about Rs 60 to Rs. 69 per quintal.

(b) Yes.

Contract Labour in Railways

1732. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey about the present working conditions of contract labour employed in Railways has been made; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). In 1959 the Labour Bureau had made a survey of working conditions of contract labour in certain selected industries including Railways. The report of this survey has been published under the name "Contract Labour", copies of which publication are available in the Parliament Library.