

Overbridge in Itarsi

1045. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan to build an overbridge at the level-crossing in Itarsi, Central Railway has registered any progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The scheme for a Road overbridge in place of the existing level crossing at Mile 463/12-13 in Itarsi—Bhopal section was tentatively proposed by the State Government for execution during 1965-64. The actual location of the Bridge has not yet been settled by the State Government who will also have to furnish complete details of the scheme to enable the Railway to finalise the plans and estimates.

(c) Does not arise.

Deviraj Cotton

1046. Shri Firodia: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Central Cotton Committee had concluded that the bulk of Deviraj Cotton was only suitable for the production of 30 counts and it could not take the pace of imported long staple cotton; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the quality?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Spinning tests carried out in the Technological Laboratory of the Indian Central Cotton Committee on samples of Deviraj Cotton collected from 22 places in Gujarat and Maharashtra States have given spinning values varying between 32 and 50 Highest. Standard Warp Counts. The question as to how for this cotton can replace imported

cottons of equivalent staple length is currently under examination.'

(b) Bringing about improvement in the quality of Indian Cottons is a continuous process. At present, three schemes financed by the Indian Central Cotton Committee are functioning in different parts of the country for evolving cottons even superior to Deviraj.

Fishing Harbours

1047. Shri Imbichibava: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fishing harbours in the First, Second and Third Five Year Plans earmarked for each State:

(b) the number out of them already completed; and

(c) the reasons for not starting the work of such a fishing harbour at Ponani in Kerala State?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The number of fishing harbours to be developed in each State during the Second and Third Five Year Plans is indicated below. No such scheme were included in the First Five Year Plan:

State	II Plan	III Plan
1. Gujarat . . .	1	9
2. Maharashtra . . .	1	1
3. Mysore . . .	2	5
4. Kerala . . .	1	6
5. Madras . . .	2	4
6. Andhra Pradesh	2
7. Orissa	6
8. West Bengal	2

During the Second Five Year Plan, none of the Fishing Harbours could be completed and all of them have been included in the programme under the Third Five Year Plan.

(b) Three of them have already been completed, viz., Veraval (Gujarat), Cuddalore (Madras) and Neendakara (Kerala).

(c) Ponani, which has been included in the Third Five Year Plan, was visited by an F.A.O. Expert in 1961.