

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). The Government of Rajasthan have issued instructions to all Collectors in the State on 13th January, 1964, that fodder from the fodder depots in the scarcity affected areas will be sold at the subsidised rate of Rs. 3 per maund. The subsidy i.e. the difference between the actual cost of fodder F.O.R. depot and the sale price of Rs. 3 will be met exclusively by the Government at the depots run by the Government and 50% by the Government and 50% by the charitable institutions where the latter are running the depots.

Railway Accidents

88. Shri D. D. Mantri: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any railway accidents in India during the period December 22, 1963 till today; and

(b) if so, the details of the same?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). There have been 111 accidents in the categories of collisions, derailments, fires in trains and trains running into road traffic at level crossings on the Indian Government Railways during the period from 22-12-1963 to 21-1-1964. The details of these accidents are given below:—

Category	No. of Accidents.
Collisions	5
Derailments	77
Fires in trains	15
Trains running into road traffic at level crossings.	14
TOTAL	111

Dangua Posi Railway Colony

89. Shri H. C. Soy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at Dangua Posi railway colony there does not exist daily marketing facilities; and

(b) if so, the steps to be taken in this respect?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Though there is no marketing facilities in Railway Colony, a bi-weekly market is held just outside the Railway Colony. The provision of a market at this station is under examination.

Agricultural Production

**90. { Shri H. C. Soy:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

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

(a) whether a conference was recently held for eastern region to boost up agricultural production in that region;

(b) if so, the decisions taken and the conclusions arrived at; and

(c) how they are going to be implemented?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a): Yes. The Conference was held at Calcutta on 23rd and 24th January, 1964.

(b) and (c). Important decisions arrived at in the Conference and the action proposed to be taken by the State Governments in the eastern region are as follow:-

(1) Need for administrative co-ordination at the State, District, Block and Village levels.

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The State Governments are proposing to entrust a senior officer with the powers and duties to look after the co-operation of concerned Departments in the State and would also be making suitable arrangements for co-ordination at District, Block and Village levels, with such modifications as are considered necessary according to local conditions.

(2) Implementation of intensive cultivation programme in this region particularly for rice and jute.

States agreed to take up such schemes and strengthen the staff to the extent possible. They have also agreed to make necessary arrangements for adequate supplies of fertilisers, pesticides, seeds etc.

(3) Adequate provision of credit for agricultural development particularly in the intensive cultivation districts.

Reserve Bank has agreed to take a liberal view in the matter subject to the condition that State Governments would make utmost efforts for revitalising the co-operative structure in the States especially the Central Co-operative Bank and Primary Co-operative Societies, on the lines indicated by them.

(4) Need for the provision of funds for utilisation of un-utilised irrigation potential.

To facilitate simultaneous action in the agricultural fields in regard to advance development action, along with the construction of irrigation projects, it has been suggested that adequate funds may be provided under a new head 'Area Programme for Irrigation Projects' under the major head "Agricultural Programmes". During the recent Annual Plan discussions for the year 1964-65, this requirement was kept in view and some outlays were recommended for different States to be revised as considered necessary by them in due course after detailed examination.

(5) Reduction of electricity rates at least to the level of 9 np per unit which is considered economical for agricultural purposes.

State Governments agreed to consider the matter.

Railway Lines in Maharashtra

91 Shri Lonikar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether (i) Sholapur-Bhir-Aurangabad, (ii) Latur Parli-Varijnath, (iii) Adilabad-Chanda railway lines have been recommended by the Government of Maharashtra for inclusion in the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government is aware of the public demand of Marathwada for conversion of Manmad Purna rail line to broad gauge; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the demands of this backward area and include the railway lines of this area in the Fourth Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The Maharashtra government had included these proposals in their recommendations for the construction of new lines during the Third Five Year Plan. Fresh proposals for new lines for the Fourth Plan have not so far been called for from the State Governments.

(b) Yes.

(c) The frame work for the Fourth Plan has still to fully crystallise, and, as such, it is too early to say anything in the matter.

12.00 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri B. N. Khardekar who passed away at Kolha-