

19th November 1952. This Board has not so far had to consider any air transport problems in relation to other forms of transport as no serious competition has yet developed.

**BIKANER INDUSTRIES CORPORATION,
GANGANAGAR**

383. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of sugarcane crushed in the Bikaner Industries Corporation, Ganganagar, during the year 1951-52;

(b) the quantity of sugarcane paid for in cash and the quantity of sugarcane paid in kind;

(c) the balance, if any, payable to the cultivators; and

(d) whether Government have received any complaints from the cultivators about the non-payment of their cane price by the management?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (d). The information is being collected.

PARLAKIMEDI LIGHT RAILWAY

384. Shri Sanganna: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amounts of income for each of the last five years on the Parlakimedi Light Railway in the Eastern Zone?

(b) What is the amount of expenditure for the same period?

(c) Is it a fact that most of the passengers travel on the trains of this Railway with the permission of the staff of the trains on payment of nominal charges?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what precautions have been taken to guard against such practice?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):

(a)—

1947-48	Rs. 3,65,532
1948-49	Rs. 3,27,095
1949-50	Rs. 3,17,572
1950-51	Rs. 3,03,699
1951-52	Rs. 3,73,649

(b) 1947-48	Rs. 3,13,276
1948-49	Rs. 3,87,423
1949-50	Rs. 5,43,237
1950-51	Rs. 7,37,521
1951-52	Rs. 7,83,900

(c) No. Records show that a total number of 6,167 passengers were detected by the Ticket Checking Staff travelling without or with irregular tickets on this Light Railway during the period September, 1951, to July, 1952 and an amount of Rs. 5,907/- representing the due railway charges was recovered.

(d) To guard against passengers travelling without tickets or with irregular tickets, one Travelling Ticket Examiner is booked with each train on the Parlakimedi Light Railway and occasional checks including surprise checks are also conducted by a Gazetted Officer.

PARLAKIMEDI LIGHT RAILWAY (LOCOMOTIVES)

385. Shri Sanganna: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that old engines and compartments constitute the trains running on the Parlakimedi Light Railway (ex-B. N. Railway) of the Eastern Zone?

(b) If so, what arrangements have been made by Government to replace them?

(c) Is it also a fact that the compartments are not provided with lighting arrangements?

(d) If so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The engines are all under 25 years of age and in fairly good condition. They have many years serviceable life in them. The coaches are, however, old and are due replacement.

(b) It is proposed to replace the stock as far as possible during the years 1953-54 and 1954-55.

(c) The coaches are provided with oil lamps. A lampman accompanies the trains during the night to re-light them when necessary.

(d) As arrangements are being made to replace the coaches soon the fitting of electric lights in this old stock is hardly worthwhile.

MINOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS

386. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating reduction of grants for the implementation of minor irrigation projects with effect from the next financial year;