

and similar other organisations which were already in existence should be utilised for associating the public with the campaign.

(3) Appointment of suitable public workers in each group of villages to assist the Tehsildar and to serve as a link between the cultivators and the Government.

(4) Holding of crop competitions and distribution of prizes to the winners at village, taluk, district, State and All India levels.

(b) and (c). On the whole, sufficient efforts have not yet been made to rouse local initiative through these non-official committees.

The Grow More Food Committee's recommendations in this behalf have been commended to the State Governments for implementation.

TRAINING CENTRES

657. Shri Balwanth Simha Mehta: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many training centres for staff are running at present, and where they are located?

(b) What is the strength of trainees at each centre and what amount of money is spent on each?

(c) Do Government propose to start any training centre in Rajasthan, if so, when will it commence its work, what would be the strength of the trainees there, what is the estimated budget for it and where will it be located?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesaa): (a) There are 29 Railway Training Schools in all at present. These are located at Mysore, Madras, Basin Bridge, Perambur, Trichinopoly, Golden Rock, Saharanpur, Ghazlabad, Bhavnagar Para, Junagadh, Ajmer, Bikaner, Gorakhpur, Sini, Kharagpur, Chandausi, Sealdah, Kancharpara, Jamalpur, Badarpur, Gauhati, Bina, Bhusaval and Secunderabad.

(b) A statement showing the courses provided, the duration of the courses and the available capacity for each course at the various schools is attached. [Placed in Library. See No. P-103/52.] Information regarding the actual expenditure incurred on these schools is not readily available.

(c) It is not proposed to start any additional training school in Rajasthan at present. The Western Railway Administration are however

taking steps for permanently transferring the existing school at Ajmer by stages to Udaipur where training facilities will be provided for staff of all departments. A beginning of the Udaipur School will be made on 15th of this month with provision on a temporary basis for training 120 persons; at a time, which will ultimately be raised to 350. The estimated budget for this school is Rs 4,000/- per month excluding the initial cost of equipment.

ROLLING STOCK (IMPORT)

658. Shri Jasaul: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Starred Question No 604 asked on the 24th November, 1952, regarding orders placed for coaches and wagons with foreign countries and state:

(a) the names of the firms of Belgium, U.K. and Italy with whom the orders for wagons and coaches were placed and for what quantity and value;

(b) what is the paid up capital of these firms; and

(c) whether any advances have been paid against these orders and if so, how much and to which firms?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesaa): (a) and (c). A statement containing the information is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 31.]

(b) The information is not available.

OPERATIONAL AREA ALLOWANCE

659. Shri Charak: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jammu and Kashmir area has been declared an operational area for the purpose of granting operational allowance to Posts and Telegraphs employees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the employees of the Post and Telegraph Department in Jammu City have been excluded for grant of operational allowance; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, whether Government propose to reconsider their decision and include Jammu City employees also in that list?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The question is under the consideration of the Ministry of Finance.