

(ii) Minimum age (Sea) Convention 1920 (No. 7) as revised by Minimum age (Sea) Convention (revised) 1936 (No. 58).

Convention (i) above has already been ratified by the Government of India.

The question of ratification of Convention (ii) above came up for consideration before the Indian Legislature at its session held in September 1921. The Legislature recommended its ratification subject to certain reservations, but, since the constitution of the I.L.O. did not permit of conditional ratification, this Convention could not be ratified by the Government of India. Action was, however, taken to amend the Indian Merchant Shipping Act in 1931 by the insertion of a new provision, viz. section 37B, to give effect to the Convention subject to the reservations referred to.

CATTLE AND LIVESTOCK INSURANCE SCHEME

802. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cattle and Livestock Insurance Scheme has been introduced in any State of India;

(b) if so, in which State it has been introduced; and

(c) whether the Government of India propose to introduce this Scheme in other States as well?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A pilot scheme has been introduced in PEPSU.

(c) State Governments are being consulted as to whether they will share in the cost of a more comprehensive scheme covering more States.

SUGAR EXPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

803. Shri S. N. Das: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Sugar Export Advisory Committee have recommended that two lakh tons of sugar should be exported below the marginal cost of production and the loss so sustained could be made up by raising the internal price of sugar?

(b) If so, have Government considered the recommendation and come to any decision?

(c) What is the present position of stock with the mills?

(d) What is the total quantity of sugar that has so far been exported?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The stock of sugar with the factories on 22nd October 1952 was about 5½ lakh tons.

(d) 18,803 tons sugar has been released for export upto 28th October, 1952, but the quantity actually exported upto end of August was reported to be 4,961 tons.

PRIMITIVE METHOD (CULTIVATION)

804. Shri M. R. Krishna: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total acreage of land that is still being cultivated by the primitive methods?

(b) What is the total acreage of land that is being cultivated by the modern scientific methods?

(c) What steps are being taken to educate the farmer in the modern methods of farming?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). It is not possible to collect the information required as no precise definition of what constitutes 'primitive methods' and what constitutes 'modern scientific methods' can be laid down for the use of those who may be put on making a census of this kind.

(c) The field staff of the Agriculture Departments in the States carry on propaganda for improved methods of farming through demonstrations, supply of improved seed and supply of agricultural information. Some States also run agricultural schools for farmers' children.

WATTLE TREES

805. Shri Balakrishnan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wood of different wattle trees from Palni hills, Madras State, are well-suited for the manufacture of paper; and

(b) if so, whether steps have been taken for the manufacture of paper?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) Laboratory and pilot plant experiments carried out at the Forest Research Institute and Colleges, Dehra Dun, have indicated that the wood of the green and black wattle is a promising raw material for the manufacture of writing and printing papers of good quality.

Experiments on the production of mechanical pulp from wattle wood suitable for the manufacture of newsprint are in progress at the Forest Research Institute. Meanwhile the results of the experimental work already done have been brought to the notice of the paper industry.

TRAINED WORKERS FROM INDUSTRIAL CENTRES

806. Shri Sivamurthi Swami: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the actual number of workers trained from the Industrial Training Centres under the Central Government and the number of such workers employed in Government service since 1948?

(b) What is the reason for not utilizing the services of more trained candidates from the Industrial Centres established by the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) 41,692 persons have successfully completed training from the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres of the Ministry of Labour during the period April 1945—October, 1952. Information as to the number of these trainees employed in Government service is not available, as there is no machinery at present to follow up the careers of individual ex-trainees.

(b) Government of India do utilize the services of their trained men but not all Ministries have recognised their qualifications. Steps are being taken to remove these difficulties.

RAILWAY WAGONS LYING NEAR KANCHRAPARA

807. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of wagons are lying on the railway track near Kanchrapara (West Bengal) since 4 or 5 years; and

(b) if so, (i) their number; (ii) the reason therefor; (iii) whether any attempt was made to repair and utilise any or all of these wagons and if so what result?

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

(b) (i) About 700.

(ii) These wagons belong to the E.B. (Pakistan) Railway. They are unfit for further use. E.B. Railway's concurrence is required before they are condemned and disposed

of. They have agreed to condemnation of 891 wagons and their agreement with regard to the rest is awaited.

(iii) Does not arise.

ATROPINE

808. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether a circular was sent to the State Governments suggesting economy in the use of Atropine in Government Hospitals as there was difficulty in importing it owing to "shortage of shipping space"?

(b) Where is this imported from?

(c) What is the quantity imported last year and the value in rupees?

(d) What is the shipping space it occupied last year?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) It is a fact that instructions were issued in 1942 suggesting economy in the use of Atropine but the reason was shortage of supplies and not shortage of shipping space. These instructions have recently been cancelled in view of improvement in the supply position.

(b) to (d). The information is not available as no separate statistics are maintained in respect of Atropine.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MADRAS

809. Shri Viswanatha Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of Madras has made a request for immediate financial assistance to meet the scarcity conditions in that State, and if so, what decision has Government taken on that request?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Yes. The Central Government have offered to the Madras Government a grant of 50 per cent. for gratuitous relief and a loan of 50 per cent. for other relief expenditure.

EASTERN RAILWAY ROUTE CHARTS

810. Shri Lokenath Mishra: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the Eastern Railway Route Charts, published along with the Railway Time Table dated the 15th May, 1952, and the Time Table next thereafter and state whether there is any omission in the later Route Chart of railways projected or under construction lying within the State of Orissa?

(b) If so, what are those railways omitted and why have they been omitted?