

MANGANESE MINES

174. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Manganese Mines working in the State of Orissa;

(b) the number of labourers employed in each mine;

(c) the rate of minimum wages paid to the labourers;

(d) the amenities provided to the labourers at the mines; and

(e) what safeguards have been provided to vouchsafe that wages are paid properly to the labourers?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) to (e). The Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

FAKIRAGRAM RAILWAY STATION

175. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any waiting rooms 1st, 2nd or 3rd class in the Fakiragram Railway Station of Assam Rail Link;

(b) whether that is the Railway station from where the new link-line begins from the old;

(c) whether passengers to and from Dhubri, the Headquarter station of the District of Goalpore and other stations to the west of Fakiragram have to wait for trains of the Assam link-line in that station; and

(d) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, are Government considering the desirability of constructing waiting rooms to remove the difficulties?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, there is an upper class waiting room and a third class waiting hall.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) In view of the answer to (a) this question does not arise.

COTTON

176. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how much acreage 268 PSD

of irrigated land is at present under cotton cultivation in Madhya Pradesh?

(b) What varieties of cotton have been sown there?

(c) Have these varieties been included in the list of long staple cotton?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) only 139 acres in 1950-51.

(b) Irrigated acreage under cotton being very negligible, information is not available.

(c) Does not arise.

ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES (TEMPORARY POWERS) ACT

177. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the powers delegated to various State Governments under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 were withdrawn during 1952;

(b) to what extent restrictions on inter-State movements of agricultural commodities have been allowed to continue; and

(c) whether the working of these restrictions have been reviewed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Two statements giving the required information are laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 10]

(c) Yes.

FOOD POSITION IN DISTRESSED AREAS OF BIHAR

178. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest food position in those areas of Bihar which were under the distress of floods and drought some months back;

(b) the extent to which the food situations have improved or deteriorated; and

(c) whether transplantations or re-transplantations of paddy plants took place in those areas and what is the prospect of paddy crop in Bihar?