

(b) As already stated above the wheat obtained from Argentine was against barter deals.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) We are supplying 40,000 metric tons of jute goods against wheat to be delivered during the first half of 1953. It is regretted that it will not be in the public interest to disclose the quantity of wheat or its calculated price.

EDIBLE OILS

202. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total output of edible oils in India during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951;

(b) the total consumption of these oils in the country during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951;

(c) the total export of edible oils from the country during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951; and

(d) the total output of Ghani edible oils in the country during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (c). A statement showing the available information is placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The required information is not available.

STATEMENT

Estimated Production and Consumption of Edible Oils in the country and their Exports outside the country during 1949, 1950 and 1951.

	(Thousand tons)		
	1949	1950	1951
Production .	1148	1310	1327
Consumption .	1164	1208	1228
Exports .	32	38	81

NOTES:—(i) Edible oils are groundnut oil, sesamum oil, linseed oil, rape and mustard oil and coconut oil. Minor edible oils such as kardi, niger, etc., have not been taken into account since the required data in case of these oils are not available.

(ii) The consumption represents estimated requirements. During 1949 the excess of consumption and exports

over the production is assumed to have been met from the carry-over from the previous year. Besides, consumption of coconut oil is estimated as the sum of production from the indigenous and imported supplies of coconuts and copra and quantities of coconut oil imported from abroad.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

203. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the National Highways situated in the Gujarat District of Bombay State;

(b) the length of each of the National Highways situated in the Gujarat District of Bombay State and the names of the places through which they pass;

(c) the year in which they were constructed, the amount of expenditure incurred after the construction of each of them, the amount of money to be spent after the repairs of each of them during the current year and the source from which this money is to come; and

(d) whether there are any proposals for constructing new National Highways or extending the old ones in Bombay State and if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) By 'Gujarat District' the hon. Member is presumably referring to the areas in the Bombay State in which Gujarati is mainly spoken. Two National Highways, namely, National Highway No. 8 (Delhi-Ahmedabad-Bombay) and National Highway No. 8-A (Ahmedabad-Kandla) pass through these areas.

(b) National Highway No. 8 connects Bombay, Navasari, Surat, Baroda Ahmedabad and Himmatnagar. Its length in Gujarati areas is approximately 310 miles.

National Highway No. 8-A connects Ahmedabad and Bagodra. Its length in Gujarati areas is about 40 miles.

(c) Portions of the National Highways are old existing roads whose date and cost of construction are not known. Expenditure figures are not maintained district-wise but the construction of missing links and bridges on the length of National Highway No. 8 in Bombay State was commenced in 1949-50 and the amount of expenditure incurred on them by the Centre upto 1951-52 was about Rs. 4.5 lakhs. Funds earmarked for

these works in 1952-53 are 45-60 lakhs. The approximate annual maintenance expenditure incurred on this highway after Government of India accepted responsibility for National Highways has been of the order of Rs. 12.0 lakhs. No Central moneys have so far been spent on National Highway No. 8-A as this road is just being declared a National Highway.

(d) The current five-year plan provides for construction of missing bridges and building surfaced roads in gaps in National Highway No. 8 and 8-A in Bombay State.

MEDICINES (GIFTS)

204. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries which have sent medicines to India as gifts in the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52; and

(b) the total values of gift medicines received from these countries?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) During these years gifts were received by the Central and State Governments from Australia, Belgium, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Information regarding gifts received directly by private charitable institutions is not available.

(b) The total values of gift medicines cannot be stated as they are not generally indicated by the donors.

CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES

205. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many claims for damages were made in 1951 and how many have so far been made in 1952 from each one of the Railways?

(b) How many claims have so far been disposed of and what is the amount allowed to the claimants?

(c) How many claims have been rejected?

(d) How many claimants went to the court of law and with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): A statement showing the information asked for is attached. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 44]

LOCUSTS (DAMAGE)

206. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of the damage to the crops caused by the locusts this year;

(b) the principal areas where crops had been damaged;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains damaged; and

(d) the comparative figures for the last year?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (c). Reports so far received from State Governments indicate that about 56 tons of foodgrains have been damaged in U.P. Rajasthan Government has reported slight damage but figures of the actual damage have not yet been received.

(b) Certain parts of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Alwar, Bharatpur and Ganganagar districts of Rajasthan and some of the western districts of U. P.

(d) 1949—nil, 1950—about 20,000 tons and 1951—about 14,400.

VANA MAHOTSAVA

207. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of plants planted each year since "the Vana Mahotsava" movement was launched;

(b) the number out of these plants still surviving;

(c) the expenditure incurred each year;

(d) whether there is any plan according to which the kind of trees to be planted are selected;

(e) how the quality and quantity of particular species to be planted are checked; and

(f) to what extent the 'Vana Mahotsava' movement has succeeded?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). I place on the Table of the House a Statement showing the number of trees planted during 1950 and 1951 Vana Mahotsavas. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 45.] The survivals are available only in respect of 1950 and are being collected for 1951.

(c) Expenditure incurred during the first and second years amounted