

the Manager of the Western Railway Zone; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the amount proposed to be spent?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes; the work has been provided in the Budget for 1953-54.

(b) Yes. Detailed plans and estimate are, however, still awaited from the Western Railway.

(c) Of the anticipated cost of Rs. 10 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs is proposed to be spent during 1953-54.

UNSERVICEABLE WAGONS

365. Shri G. D. Somani: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that many old unserviceable wagons are lying idle in the various Railway Workshops?

(b) Is it a fact that most of these old goods wagons have gone below the minimum standards required under the Railway regulations?

(c) What is the total number of such goods wagons on each Railway and since what period are they lying idle?

(d) What efforts are being made by the Railways to dispose them off and what is the total estimated value of such rolling stocks?

(e) What is the approximate average scrap value realised in the past from each goods wagon of a Metre Gauge and a Broad Gauge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The information is being collected from Railways and a reply will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

UNSERVICEABLE LOCOMOTIVES

366. Shri G. D. Somani: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some unserviceable locomotives of Metre Gauge are waiting to be scrapped and if so, what is the total number and what is the scrap value expected to be realised of each such locomotive?

(b) Is it a fact that in the past old unserviceable locomotives have been sold on their dead weight value of scrap?

(c) Do the Railways insist that before selling, such wagons and locomotives must be broken into pieces, so that no possible use may be made in the country for internal use either in factories or mines?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. There are 54 condemned Metre Gauge locos, which it is intended to break up in the near future. The approximate scrap value is expected to be about Rs. 5,000 each, after all useful parts have been reclaimed.

(b) Yes. But after reclaiming all useful parts.

(c) No. Some locos and wagons, no longer fit for railway use have been sold to private parties.

TERMINAL CHARGES

367. Shri G. D. Somani: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what are the total earnings from Terminal Charges annually in each year since the Terminal Charges were standardized and what were the earnings from Terminal Charges in the last three years preceding the standardisation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Terminal charges are included in the total freight rates and as such, the compilation of this information is not easily practicable and will also involve a considerable amount of labour and expenditure.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL

368. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantities of rice supplied to West Bengal during the year 1952 for meeting its rationing commitments as well as for sale from the fair price shops;

(b) the total quantity of wheat supplied during the year 1952 for the rationed areas;

(c) the total quantity of rice and wheat supplied for gratuitous relief and for sale at a concession rate in the distressed areas; and

(d) the quantities supplied from the imported rice and from the indigenous sources and the respective prices thereof?

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