

(b) Rs. 11,000 (approximately).

(c) Yes; wherever possible.

AIRLINES (PASSENGERS)

997. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of passengers carried by India's internal and international airlines in the year 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): 410,196 and 24,284 passengers were carried on India's domestic and international airlines respectively.

ALL INDIA T.B. CONFERENCE

998. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what are the conclusions and recommendations of the All India T. B. Conference held at Mysore from the 2nd February, 1953?

(b) What are their proposals regarding the B.C.G. vaccination Scheme and the new drug for the treatment of T.B.?

(c) Are any of the Indian firms or pharmacies able to produce the new drug of the standard required?

(d) If so, which are such firms or pharmacies, and what quantity can they produce annually?

(e) Have steps been taken to produce the drug at Government level?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 49.]

(c) and (d). So far as Government are aware the following firms have schemes for the production of Isonicotinic Acid Hydrazide and the approximate quantities which they are likely to produce annually are as follows:

(i) Messrs. Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda. ... 3,000 lbs.

(ii) Messrs. Albert David Limited, Calcutta. ... 3,300 lbs.

(iii) Messrs. Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works Limited, Calcutta. ... 1,500 lbs.

(e) Government have no proposal for the manufacture of this drug.

FERTILISERS (PRODUCTION)

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

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers produced in the country during the year 1952 and the value thereof;

(b) the total quantity of fertilizers imported during the year 1952 and the total cost on that account;

(c) the allotments made to different State Governments during the year 1952; and

(d) the opening stock for the year 1953?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) At present only two chemical fertilizers are produced in the country, viz. Superphosphate and Ammonium Sulphate. 2,66,932 tons of these fertilizers valued at Rs. 8.71 crores, were produced in the country during the calendar year 1952.

(b) 2,34,952 tons costing Rs. 9.04 crores.

(c) A statement showing the allocations of sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate made to State Governments and other interests during 1952 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 50.]

(d) The opening stock of sulphate of ammonia with the Central Government as on 1-1-53 was of the order of 13,000 tons. The stock with the State Governments was 1,30,000 tons. Since superphosphate is no longer distributed through Government, the opening stock of this fertiliser is not known.

TAMPERING WITH RAILWAY LINES

1000. Shri Balakrishnan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) in how many places fish-plates were removed on the Southern Railway in the years 1951-52;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have announced that a reward of Rupees 250 would be given to informers about the culprits; and

(c) if so, how many cases were booked?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The information is being collected and will be furnished as soon as it is available.

DEAD LETTER OFFICE

**1001. { Shri Bahadur Singh:
Sardar Hukam Singh:**

(a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what was the number of parcels received in the Dead Letter Office as unclaimed due to the addresses of the senders and addressees having become faint and illegible during the year 1952?

(b) Could any of these be delivered to the senders or the addressees after opening by the Dead Letter Office?

(c) What happened to the rest?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No separate record is kept of Parcels with faint or illegible addresses. 12,890 parcels were however received by the Dead Letter Offices during 1952.

(b) Yes, Sir. 10,249.

(c) They were treated as 'dead' and disposed of under the departmental rules i.e., they were held in deposit or sold by auction or destroyed according to the nature of the contents.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

1002. { **Shri Bahadur Singh:**
Sardar Hukam Singh:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what is the number of Telephone Exchanges in India on the 31st January, 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): 762, including private exchanges and licensed Telephone systems.

MINIMUM WAGES ACT (STONE INDUSTRY)

1003. **Shri Jajwara:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the Minimum Wages Act is applied to Stone Industry?

(b) Is it in force in Pakur and Rajmahal Stone Quarries in the Santhal Parganas, Bihar?

(c) Do the labour of stone quarries enjoy the same benefit of maternity, bonus, etc. as the labour in other fields?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, is applicable to employment in stone breaking or stone crushing only.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, assuming, the reference is to the maternity benefit and bonus provided for in the Mines Maternity Benefit Act, 1941.

IMPORTED FOODGRAINS (WASTAGE)

1004. **Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of imported foodgrains lying in stock with Government on the 31st December, 1952;

(b) the total quantity and value of foodgrains wasted or spoiled due to

bad storage at ports or due to any other reasons during the year 1952; and

(c) the total quantity and value of foodgrains wasted during transit in India during the same period?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The total quantity of imported foodgrains in the Central Government storage on the 31st December 1952 was 4,13,670 tons valued at Rs. 2,402 lakhs.

(b) Total quantity of foodgrains lost in storage through deterioration and dryage at ports during the year 1952 is 448 tons valued at about Rs. 2.5 lakhs. This figure is for the period January to October 1952.

(c) Total quantity estimated to have been lost or damaged in transit by rail during the year 1952 was 2491 tons valued at Rs. 9.8 lakhs. Information regarding loss during transit by road is not available.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES FOR DARBHANGA DISTRICT

1005. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar have made some recommendations for opening telegraph offices in some parts of the Darbhanga District; and

(b) if so, what are the names of places and the reactions of the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The Bihar Government had asked for the terms for opening telegraph offices at Loukaha and Loukhi and these have been communicated to them.

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

1006. **Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land reclaimed State-wise by the Central Tractor Organisation in 1952-53; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of tractors in the Central Tractor Organization during the year 1953-54?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The total area reclaimed by the Central Tractor Orga-