

(c) Steps taken to prevent these losses include strengthening and reorganisation of watch and ward staff; patrolling of affected areas by Railway Protection Police; escorting by Railway Protection Police of wagons carrying valuable goods; close collaboration of the Government Railway Police and Watch and Ward Supervisory staff; extensive use of Ellis-patent locks; improved method of rivetting wagons by mechanical rivetters. Importance of proper packing and careful handling of packages stressed through periodical campaigns. As a result of these preventive measures, the menace has been partly contained. But a great deal still remains to be done. As mentioned in the last budget speech of the hon. Minister the Ministry of Home Affairs has deputed a senior official to make an on-the-spot survey of the position of thefts on Railways with a view to evolving further effective measures to eradicate the evil.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES

526. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what diseases have been declared by Government as constituting industrial diseases in the coal-fields;

(b) the number of workers who have died as a result of the attack of such diseases in the coal-fields during the year 1952; and

(c) whether it is in the contemplation of Government to declare T.B. as an industrial disease for coal-fields?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Silicosis and Pneumoconiosis.

(b) None as far as the Government are aware.

(c) No. T.B. is not regarded as an industrial disease connected with mining operations.

CULTIVATION ON RECLAIMED LANDS

527. **Shri C. R. Chowdary:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the production cost of foodgrains per ton on the lands reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organisation?

(b) How does it compare with the production cost of food grains per ton obtained in ordinary farming?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The State Governments concerned have been requested to furnish the required information which will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

RESEARCHES BY THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

528. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the main researches made so far by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Yearly accounts of the researches sponsored by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are published in the Annual Reports of the Council which are supplied to the Library of the Parliament. The Report for 1951-52 is under print and will become available for distribution after a few months while the Report for 1952-53 will be published early next year.

During the two years in question, the Council sponsored in conjunction with State Governments about 178 schemes on Agriculture. 135 schemes on Animal Husbandry. 5 Combined schemes on Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and 13 schemes on Statistics under the following broad headings:—

I—Agriculture—

A—Rice including breeding, seed multiplication, rice diseases, insect pests, manurial experiments on paddy lands, Usar land paddy, etc.

B—Wheat and Other Cereals, including wheat rust, wheat breeding, maize breeding, Mycological schemes, Barley improvement, Hybrid corn grains, Striga attack on Sorghum, Hy-legumes, etc.

C—Millet and Pulses including Pulse breeding, Small Millets, Gram Wilt disease, insect pests of stored grains, Striga attack on Sorghum, Hybrid Cumbu, Jowar and Bajra breeding, Gram Pests, etc.

D—Fruits — Horticulture. Orange cultivation. Mango Necrosis, San Jose Scale, Survey, Cytogenetics of Mango and Bananas. Control of orange diseases, Research on orange borers, Citrus Manurial trials, Insect pests of fruits and fruit trees, Banana research, Fruit culture, Fruit preservation, Mycological and Entomological investigations, Cashewnuts, Date Palm, etc.

E—Vegetables—Potato seed certification survey, Potato storage, Tuber crops, Research on Tomatoes, Tapioca and Sweet potato, Improvement of vegetables, etc.