

(a) whether Government are aware of the closure of the Ganganagar (Rajasthan) Sugar Factory; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give an idea of the economic loss sustained by the agriculturists who had grown sugar-cane over thousands of acres?

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

(b) *Gur* prices being high no loss is expected to be sustained by the sugar-cane growers of Shri Ganganagar Factory area. They have made suitable arrangements for manufacturing *gur*.

NEW RAILWAY LINES IN BIKANER DIVISION

295. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the length of new railway lines proposed to be constructed with the advent of Sadul Canal (Bakra Dam Project) in the Bikaner Division?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): No proposals for new railway lines in connection with the Sadul Canal have been referred to, or considered by, the Ministry of Railways so far.

STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY RATIONED AREAS

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

(a) the off-take of each kind of cereals from the ration shops in the statutory and non-statutory rationed areas in each State during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(b) out of the each kind of cereals referred to in part (a) above, what quantity was State-product, what quantity was imported from other States and what quantity was imported from foreign countries;

(c) the off-take of each kind of cereals from the fair price shops in each State during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952; and

(d) out of each kind of cereals referred to in part (c) above, what quantity was State-product, what quantity was imported from other States and what quantity was imported from foreign countries?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 30.]

(b) and (d). Details of issues from Government godowns according to the classification called for are not available.

TRAIN SERVICE BETWEEN MADHUBANI AND RAJNAGAR STATIONS

297. **Shri Anirudha Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that train services between Madhubani and Rajnagar stations in the Sakri-Jaynagar section of the N.E. Railway remain suspended in rainy season whenever there is heavy flood in the River Kamala?

(b) If so, how many times and for how many days the train services remained suspended during the year 1952?

(c) Do Government contemplate to take any steps for restoration of regular train services in rainy season in the said section of the N.E. Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, due to the presence of a causeway between Madhubani and Rajnagar on the Sakri-Jainagar branch.

(b) Through running of trains on this section was suspended three times during the following periods in 1952:—

	No. of days
12-7-52 to 21-7-52 .	10 (Trains ran for a short period on 20-7-52).
8-9-52 to 13-9-52 .	6
16-9-52 to 4-10-52 .	19
	35

(c) It will be feasible to run regular train services on this section during rainy season only by raising the railway embankment. The Bihar Government who were approached in this connection are, however, not agreeable to the proposal as the present arrangement is beneficial for silting of the low lying areas into which flood water, gets access.

BARSI LIGHT RAILWAY

298. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Barsi Light Railway has been purchased by the Government of India;