

(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;

(b) if so, the amount of compensation paid to the company and the basis of the compilation of compensation;

(c) the total number of Railwaymen employed on this line and the present rates of wages of the different categories of these Railwaymen; and

(d) how soon the wages of the Railwaymen working on the Barsi Light Railway will be adjusted on the basis of Central Pay Commission scales?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesau):** (a) Not yet, but notice of Government's intention to purchase the line with effect from 1st January 1954, has been served on the Barsi Light Railway Company.

(b) Compensation representing the purchase price is payable on 1st January 1954 and is to be equal to the capital expenditure incurred by the Company prior to that date as provided in the contract.

(c) The total number of staff is 2,007. A statement showing their present scales of pay is attached. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 21].

(d) Does not arise at present, but the intention is that the staff will be brought on to appropriate C. P. C. scales, based on their qualifications, experience and the duties and responsibilities expected of them, from the date their services are taken over by Government.

#### LABOUR WELFARE FUNDS

**299. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments have been asked by the Central Government to issue instructions to all employees' organisations and/or industrial undertakings in their respective jurisdictions to constitute Labour Welfare Funds on a voluntary basis;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) how the Welfare Funds will be administered?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) Yes, except the Governments of Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b) 30th October, 1952.

(c) The model scheme which has been recommended to State Governments for adoption with such local modifications as may be considered necessary provides that there should be a Welfare Fund Committee. It is to consist of representatives of employers and workers engaged in the undertaking for the administration of the Fund.

#### COAL MINES AND MICA MINES LABOUR WELFARE FUNDS

**300. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the closing balance at the end of the last two financial years of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund and the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund;

(b) the revenues these two Funds have got during the financial year 1952-53; and

(c) the likely closing balance at the end of the financial year 1952-53?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** The closing balances were as follows:—

Year	Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund	Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund
	Rs.	Rs.
(a) 1950-51	2,43,61,000	75,57,000
1951-52	2,79,27,000	1,07,46,000
	Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund	Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund
(b) Revenues during the year 1952-53 (Estimates)	Rs. 1,10,64,000	Rs. 30,00,000
	Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund	Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund
(c) Closing balance at the end of 1952-53 (Estimates)	Rs. 2,99,91,000	Rs. 1,24,32,000

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR DRINKING WATER ON RAILWAYS

**301. Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small railway stations where arrangements for drinking water on platforms for the travelling public (i) in waiting halls, and (ii) running trains exist (1) throughout the year, (2) part of the year;