

(b) the mileage of roads to be completed at the end of 1952-53 and to be constructed in 1953-54; and

(c) when the construction of the bridges at Alwaye and at Edacochin (Aroor) will be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) About 244 miles of existing roads in Travancore-Cochin come under the present provisional National Highway system. There will be no change in this mileage at the end of the Plan period.

(b) About 10 miles are expected to be improved by the end of 1952-53 and about 40 miles in 1953-54.

(c) By about 1955-56.

PRODUCTION COST OF WHEAT AND RICE

749. Shri Achuthan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost of production per measure or weight of wheat as well as paddy during the last five years in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Bharat and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the average cost of production per weight or measure of cotton as well as sugar-cane during the last five years in the States mentioned above; and

(c) the reasons for the variations, if any?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The required data are not available.

(c) Does not arise.

RICE SUPPLIED TO TRAVANCORE-COCHIN

750. Shri Achuthan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the procurement price of paddy in all the States in India (State-wise) in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 and the quantity procured from each State (measure to be uniform in all States) during those years;

(b) what quantity was supplied to Travancore-Cochin State during those years out of this inland purchase; and

(c) the pool price of imported rice alone during those years and what quantity, out of this imported rice was supplied to Travancore-Cochin during the said years?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) A statement showing procurement prices is placed

on the Table of the Houses. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 54.]

The procurement figures are collected on the basis of the calendar year and a statement showing rice procurement in various States during 1951, 1952 and 1953 (up-to-date) is also placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Indigenous rice supplies to Travancore-Cochin are as under:—

	(’000 tons)
1951	Nil
1952	61
1953 (upto 15-3-53)	16.6

(c) A statement showing the pool prices of imported rice during the period is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 64.]

The following quantities of imported rice were supplied to Travancore-Cochin:—

	(’000 tons)
1951	270
1952	250
1953 (upto 15/3)	23.8

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANIZATION

751. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total unculturable area reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organisation in the year 1952-53;

(b) if so, where; and

(c) the total expenses incurred by Government in reclamation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The Central Tractor Organisation does not undertake reclamation of unculturable land. It has carried out reclamation operation in the 'Kans' infested areas both fallow and cropped, in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and Bhopal. The area of such Kans-infested land reclaimed by the Organisation during the season 1952-53, up to the end of February, 1953, is about 51,000 acres. In addition, 11,200 acres of jungle land in the Nainital Tarai of U.P. have been cleared and made ready for ploughing during this period. Out of this area of 11,200 acres, 3,900 acres have also been ploughed. The entire area can, broadly speaking, be considered as 'uncultivated' but 'culturable' land.

(c) The total expenditure incurred on reclamation operations by the Central Tractor Organisation from its inception in 1946 up to 31-3-1952 is Rs. 4,12,63,045.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

752. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of casualties (injured or dead) in industrial accidents during the last two years (year-wise) in India; and

(b) the number of workers remaining absent from their duties due to such accidents on an average per day and the loss in production annually?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Information available in respect of accidents in factories during 1950 and 1951 in Part A States and the States of Ajmer, Coorg, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands is as follows:

	Number of accidents in factories	
	Fatal	Non-fatal
1950	496	1,44,836
1951	360	1,09,974

The figures for 1951 do not include those for West Bengal as they are not yet available.

(b) In the case of non-fatal accidents in which the injured workers returned to work later, the average number of persons absent from duty per day in 1950 was 2,525 in the Part A States (except Bihar and Orissa) and the States of Ajmer, Coorg, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The corresponding figure for 1951 was 2,298 in the Part A States (except West Bengal) and the States of Ajmer, Coorg, Delhi and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

No information is available regarding loss in production. The time-loss on account of accidents, however, comes to 0.11 per cent in 1950 and 0.13 per cent in 1951.

GUINEA WORM

753. Shri Bheekha Bhai: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the disease named 'Guinea Worm'?

(b) In what parts of the country has this disease spread?

(c) What are the causes of this disease?

(d) Has any research been made to investigate into the causes of this disease?

(e) Have any doctors specialised in this disease?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) The disease is prevalent in the States of Bombay, Madras, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Hyderabad and Coorg.

(c) The disease is caused by a worm which is long, thin and of milky white colour. It lives beneath the skin anywhere in the body but commonly on the leg of the patient. A blister develops on the leg or foot where the worm is lodged and when it bursts, a red ulcer is formed through which the worm can be seen. When the affected part comes in contact with water, the worm, which is packed with embryos, passes the embryos into water. These embryos are subsequently taken up by small insects known as cyclops when they are present in water. Man is infected by drinking the water containing such infected cyclops.

(d) Yes. Many researches have been made on several aspects of this disease in many parts of the world and in India. Recently in Rajasthan, researches were undertaken under a grant from the Indian Council of Medical Research on the evaluation of new remedies in the treatment of this disease.

(e) Qualified doctors are familiar with the principles of prevention and treatment required for this disease.