

(d) if so, the number of such incidents;

(e) whether Government have investigated into the cases of the late and irregular running of trains; and

(f) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) About 40 complaints were received during the past six months.

(c) Yes.

(d) 12 incidents during the past six months.

(e) Yes.

(f) The following steps have been taken to improve late running of trains on the Howrah and Sealdah Divisions:—

(i) Close and constant watch on the running of trains with a view to prevent avoidable delays.

(ii) Disconnection of alarm chain apparatus in all suburban trains except in ladies compartments.

(iii) Provision of increased accommodation in trains to prevent overcrowding and consequent late running.

(iv) Adjustment of timings of trains.

(v) Adjustment of rake links where necessary to provide wider margin between the arrival and departure of trains at the starting and terminal points to avoid late start to trains.

(vi) Increasing the strength of engines.

(vii) Action taken against theft of fittings which was a source of conflict between passengers and staff causing detention to trains.

As a result, the punctuality of suburban trains has improved, viz. on the Howrah Division the percentage of trains not losing time was 80 per cent. for the first twenty days of July, 1953

against 67 per cent. in June, 1953 and on the Sealdah Division it was 88 per cent. for the July period against 86 per cent. for June.

#### SUGAR

**68. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state at what rate the Government of India give sugar to the Jammu and Kashmir State authorities?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** No allotment has so far been made to the Kashmir Government out of the reserve stocks with factories from 1952-53 season's production to be delivered by them according to the instructions of Government at a fixed price of Rs. 27/- per maund. But the Jammu and Kashmir Government have been purchasing sugar directly from factories out of their free sale quotas at prices mutually agreed upon.

#### MARINE FISHERY TRAINING SCHOOL

**69. Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any Marine Fishery Training School exists in India?

(b) If not, from which sources is the technical personnel recruited?

(c) What is the total technical staff employed in Marine Fishery Stations under the Fishery Department of India?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) No.

(b) From amongst students who have worked on fish in Universities and Research Institutions in India; those who had undergone training in the Marine Fisheries Training Course Mandapam till 1950 and from amongst those who have had Marine Fishery Training in Institutions and Universities abroad.

(c) Fortysix.