

(c) The main recommendations are given below:—

- (i) Improvement in the design of Rail Motor car and better maintenance in certain respects.
- (ii) Provision of additional gate lodges for gatemen.
- (iii) The 'Train Staff and Ticket system' should be replaced by 'Absolute Block' system of working trains.
- (iv) Display, at stations, of special pictorial posters in different languages depicting the fire hazards of carriage by passengers of explosive and inflammable articles as luggage.
- (v) Replacement of mechanical control of signals by electrical control to eliminate certain risks likely to arise in the former case.
- (vi) Introduction of the 'Pilot Guard System' of working trains on a totally interrupted block section instead of the 'Proceed' certificate, and next train entering memo system.
- (vii) Expediting the provision of 'Automatic Vacuum Brake' equipment on all goods vehicles on the Metre Gauge.
- (viii) Railway Administrations should provide warning signals to road vehicles at the road approaches to all unmanned level crossings.
- (ix) Revision of instructions for ensuring greater safety of running trains when the work of oiling and cleaning fish-plates on the track is in progress.
- (x) Review of the question of patrolling certain sections of the North Eastern Railway, where cases of tampering with track had been frequent.
- (xi) Systematic drive to see the scotch blocks, safety chains

etc., are used according to rules to prevent vehicles, stabled at stations, from running away.

(d) Yes.

(e) Out of the eleven main recommendations enumerated above, 9 i.e. except items (viii) and (x) have been accepted. Items (i), (iii), (iv) and (xi) have already been implemented and the remaining are in the process of implementation.

SUGAR

324. Shri M. L. Agrawal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state (i) the quantities of sugar-cane crushed by the vacuum pan factories, (ii) the quantities of sugar manufactured, (iii) the prices of sugar-cane and sugar fixed by Government, (iv) percentage of recovery of sugar from sugar-cane and (v) market rates of sugar, during the year 1951-52 and 1952-53 in India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Two statements showing the required information are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 32.]

FERTILIZERS

325. Shri Rajagopala Rao: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what quantities of Ammonium Sulphate were imported into India and at what price during each of the six months commencing from 1st July, 1951 up-to-date on—

- (i) private account;
- (ii) Government account; and
- (iii) as free gift from Technical Aid Agreement?

(b) What is the quantity of Ammonium Sulphate produced in India during each of the six months commencing from 1st July, 1951 up-to-date?

(c) How much quantity of Ammonium Sulphate was produced during each half year from 1st July, 1951

up-to-date by (i) the Sindri Factory, (ii) the Travancore Factory, (iii) the Mysore Factory, and (iv) other producers?

(d) What was the country's consumption of Ammonium Sulphate during each half year from 1st July, 1951?

(e) What is the estimated consumption during the year 1953.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) (i) Import of sulphate of ammonia is not allowed on private account.

(ii) and (iii). 2 statements furnishing the requisite information are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 33.]

(b) and (c). A statement showing the production during the 4 six monthly periods from July, 1951 to June, 1953 is attached. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 33.]

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) About 5 lakh tons.

AMMONIUM SULPHATE

326. Shri Rajagopala Rao: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total quantity of Ammonium Sulphate estimated to be in stock in India on the 1st January, 1952, 1st July, 1952, 1st January, 1953, and 1st July, 1953 with—

- (i) the Sindri Factory,
- (ii) the State Governments, and
- (iii) other producers?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The information was called for from the respective sources. A statement furnishing information so far received is laid on the Table of the House. Further information will be supplied when received. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 34.]

THEFT OF COAL

327. Shri Ganpati Ram: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of railway coal has been stolen from the running wagons between the stations of Parsipur, Kapasethi and Banaras Cantonment;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made into the matter;

(c) whether stolen coal has been found anywhere;

(d) the number of persons arrested and actions taken against them; and

(e) whether Government had been informed of such thefts in that locality in the near past?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (e). Thefts of coal have been reported to be taking place in the area under reference, but not to the extent mentioned.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). In some of the recent surprise raids carried out by the Watch and Ward Staff specially deputed for the purpose about 25 offenders were caught red handed with stolen coal weighing about 100 maunds. All the accused were made over to the Police.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL

328. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains supplied to the Government of West Bengal by the Government of India since January, 1953 and what is the quantity of rice;

(b) the quantity demanded by the Government of West Bengal for the year 1953; and

(c) the prices charged for the different kinds of foodgrains?