

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?