

and 1952-53 till the 30th November, 1953; and

(b) the stock of sugar lying with the mills on the 30th November, 1953?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The total off-take of sugar for internal consumption during each of the years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53, was as under:—

(figures in lakh tons)

1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
10.79	11.63	16.56

(b) The stock of sugar lying with the mills at the close of 30th November, 1953, amounted to 1.36 lakhs tons.

SUGAR-CANE

688. Shri Sinhasan Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of sugar-cane supplied to the mills in 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The quantity of sugar-cane crushed by the sugar factories during the years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 was as follows:—

(figures in lakh tons)

1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
109.7	154.9	131.7

TUBE-WELLS

689. Shri S. C. Singhal: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number of contracts that have been given by the Ministry for the construction of tube-wells during the last three years and what are the names of the firms to whom contracts were given?

(b) How many of them were Indian and how many non-Indian firms?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) No contract has been given to any firm by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. During the period in question nine contracts were, however, awarded by the Governments of U.P., Bihar, Punjab,

PEPSU and Bombay to the following firms.

- (i) M/s. Associated Tubewells Ltd.—4 contracts.
- (ii) M/s. Harold T. Smith Inc.—3 contracts.
- (iii) M/s. German Water Development Corporation—I contract.
- (iv) M/s. National Tubewells Ltd.—1 contract.

(b) First three are non-Indians and the fourth is Indian.

INSPECTOR OF POST OFFICES

690. Shri Muniswamy: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the failed candidates in the examination held in 1952 or 1953 for promotion to Inspector of Post Offices in the Hyderabad Sub-Circle were declared to have passed by lowering the qualifying marks?

(b) If so, what were the reasons?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) Selection is made on Circle basis and there was shortage of qualified Inspectors of Post Offices in Hyderabad. Sufficient candidates did not qualify under the regular standard. The shortage has, therefore, been made up in this manner.

RAILWAY THEFTS

691. Pandit S. C. Mishra: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many cases of thefts have occurred between Mokamah and Kiul Junctions of the Eastern Railway from January to November, 1953?

(b) Does it compare favourably or unfavourably with the average for the same distance in other sections of the Eastern Railway?

(c) Have the watch and ward staff of this section been increased and what other steps have been taken to check the thefts?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 36 cases of running train thefts have occurred between Mokamah and Kiul Junctions of the Eastern Railway from January to November, 1953.

(b) It compares unfavourably with the average for the same distance in other sections of the Eastern Railway.

(c) Watch and Ward staff have not been increased but combined, patrols by Watch and Ward detective, Government Railway Police and Railway Protection Force have been introduced in the affected area and pickets have been posted at Tal, a station between Mokamah and Kiul, to pass trains through that station. With a view to guarding against boarding of trains by criminals, occasional joint raids are also being conducted.

JAMALPUR LOCOMOTIVE WORKSHOP

692. Pandit S. C. Mishra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of locomotives that have been assembled so far at the locomotive workshop at Jamalpur;

(b) what is the main business of the workshop now since the establishment of the Chittaranjan;

(c) the amount spent as remunerations per month in this workshop (i) for labour and (ii) for other staff;

(d) whether any amount has been spent on bonus or gratuity to sick labourers during the first ten months of 1953; and

(e) if so, what is the amount?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No locomotives are assembled in the locomotive workshops at Jamalpur Between 1885-1923, however, 214 Broad Gauge locomotives were manufactured there.

(b) Main business of this workshop now is to give periodical overhaul to locomotives and it was so even before the establishment of Chittaranjan Locomotive Building Works.

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(c) Labour:

	Rs.
Salary	6,78,594
Dearness Allowance	4,34,870

Other classes :

Salary	1,03,444
Dearness Allowance	21,436

This is based on the average figures for the first 10 months of the year 1953, i.e., January 1953 to October 1953.

(d) There is no procedure of paying any bonus or gratuity to sick labourers on the Railways. Only hospital leave salary is paid to the workmen, who are injured on duty and who remain on the sick list as a consequence of that.

(e) The total amount paid to the sick labourers on account of the Item (d) above, during the first 10 months of the year 1953, i.e., January 1953 to October 1953, was Rs. 14,171/4/-.

ROAD-RAIL BRIDGE NEAR MAHE

693. Shri N. P. Bamodaran: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to convert the railway bridge near the French Indian Settlement Mahe into a combined road-rail bridge and to divert the west coast road to steer clear of Mahe?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, at what stage does the proposal stand at present?

(c) Is there any proposal to provide a level-crossing at Peringadi near Mahe on the Kallai Chokli road and if so, whether any decision has been taken?

(d) Have Government received any report from the Government of Madras regarding the above two proposals?

(e) If so, are Government in a position to state the recommendations of the State Government?

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

(b) Work is in progress.

(c) The work of providing a level-crossing at Peringadi is also in progress.