

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) The stocks of foodgrains with the Central Government on 6th February, 1954 amounted to 438,000 tons approximately.

(b) The accounts for 1953-54 have not yet been finalised and the precise actual cost of each grain in the Central Reserve Depots is not yet available. The present issue prices of foodgrains from Central Reserve Depots which are based on the approximate book values are, however, Rs. 30/8/- per md. for 'A' grade rice; Rs. 15/8/- per md. for wheat and Rs. 12/- per md. for milo.

**Shri Mohiuddin:** May I know, Sir, what percentage of the foodgrains has deteriorated and what quantity has been placed in what is called 'C' and 'D' grades?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I require notice for the question.

**Shri N. L. Joshi:** May I know whether the cost price is higher than the cost at which foodgrains are available in the country in the open market?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** The issue price of wheat is Rs. 15-8-0 a maund; the market quotations in U. P. and Punjab are in some places a little higher and in some places a little lower.

सेठ अचल सिंह: क्या मन्त्री महोदय  
बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस में कितना  
गेहूँ है और कितना चावल है ?

श्री किदवाई: सवाल में यी जवाब  
दिया गया है।

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

\*210. **Shri N. M. Lingam:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the mileage of National Highways with water-bound macadamised surface in India?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** 5,600 miles.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** May I know, Sir, the length of National Highways which have cement concrete surface and asphaltic surface?

**Shri Alagesan:** 4,150 miles are either concrete or black top surface.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** May I know, Sir, if it is the policy of the Government of India to upgrade the present macadamised surface into asphaltic surface or concrete surface?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** May I know if the rainfall of the localities and strategic considerations are taken into account in choosing the regions for cement concreting?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir, but I do not know about the strategic aspect of it. Certainly the other aspect is taken into consideration.

**Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah:** How many miles of national highways have been, or are proposed to be, taken up this year?

**Shri Alagesan:** The question covers the entire National Highway system. It is being done on a programmed basis and most of it will be completed before the Five Year Plan period is over.

#### ALL INDIA WOMEN'S FOOD COUNCIL

\*211. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All-India Women's Food Council at its third annual conference made a demand that this body be recognised as an autonomous body;

(b) the total amount of grant given by Government to this institution annually; and

(c) the grant now demanded by it?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):**  
(a) Yes.