

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 288.21 lakhs in 1953-54 and Rs. 102.75 lakhs in 1954-55.

#### SOLAR ECLIPSE OBSERVATIONS

**96. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether scientists and meteorologists from various parts of the country gathered at Phalodi near Jodhpur on the 30th June 1954 for observations of the total Solar eclipse; and

(b) if so, what are the important results of the observations which are of astronomic importance?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Groups of observing parties from the Meteorological Observatories at Bombay, Poona, Kodaikanal and Delhi gathered at Phalodi to record special magnetic, ionospheric, atmospheric and limited solar observations during the total solar eclipse on the 30th June 1954.

(b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 59.]

#### TEA GARDENS

**97. Shri Lakshmidhar Jena:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the number of persons who have returned from Assam to Orissa so far as a result of closure of certain tea gardens during the years 1952, 1953 and 1954?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** According to the information available, 8480 persons including dependents were repatriated from Assam to Orissa during the period 1st September, 1951 to 30th June, 1952, 11,231 from 1st September, 1952 to 30th June, 1953 and 6,400 from 1st September, 1953 to 30th June, 1954.

Separate figures of labourers repatriated due to closure of tea-gardens are not available.

#### SWEEPERS ON THE EASTERN RAILWAY

**98. Shri Lakshmidhar Jena:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sweepers engaged on the Eastern Railway;

(b) the amount spent by the Railway towards the education of these sweepers and their children;

(c) the number of elementary schools maintained by the Railway giving the places where they are located;

(d) the names of places where these schools are located; and

(e) whether Government consider these arrangements as adequate?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) 9240.

(b) Children of all railway servants, including sweepers, can avail themselves of the facilities of Railway schools wherever these are available. The Railway Administration also provides evening classes for advancing adult literacy. No data is available regarding the amount specifically spent by the Railway Administration on the education of sweepers and their children, nor is it possible to collect it.

(c) and (d). 33: A list is attached herewith. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 60.]

(e) Education is a State responsibility but Railway Administrations are running railway schools to supplement the schools provided by State Governments and local institutions, in order to improve the educational facilities available to children of railway employees, particularly in large railway colonies.

#### फंसे हुए भारतीय जहाज

९९. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या परिषद्‌न मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५३-५४ में कितने भारतीय जहाज भारतीय तटों पर जमीन में फंसे गये;