

waiting room for Upper and Inter Class passengers at the Harishchandrapur Railway Station on the Kathar-Singbad line;

(b) if so, whether the construction has been taken in hand; and

(c) how long it will take to complete this work?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

TRAINS ON KATIHAR-SINGOBAD SECTION

790. Shri S. M. Ghose: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the trains running on the Katihar-Singobad line do not run to time and that they do not have any inter and upper class compartments for the last few months;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to improve the position;

(c) whether any concessional return tickets would be issued on this line in connection with the Ramkeli Mela; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Concessional return tickets were issued at 1½ single journey fares from stations within a radius of 50 miles from Malda Court in connection with Ramkeli Mela in June, 1954.

(d) Does not arise.

SUGARCANE PRODUCTION

791. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have launched a campaign

to step up sugarcane production in Northern India;

(b) if so, the nature of the campaign; and

(c) the target fixed for production?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshumkh): (a) Yes.

(b) A campaign was launched by the Government of India for increasing the yield of sugarcane per acre in Northern India by applying fertilisers to the standing sugarcane crops during the monsoon period in an area of 2.2 lakh acres in the following States:

Uttar Pradesh	. 1,00,000	Acres.
Bihar	. 1,00,000	"
Punjab	. 20,000	"

23,100 maunds of ammonium sulphate have been made available for free distribution to selected cane growers in these States for demonstration purposes as under:

Uttar Pradesh	. 8,000	maunds.
Bihar	. 9,600	"
Punjab	. 5,500	"

2,100 maunds of fertilisers have also been supplied free to Madhya Bharat for demonstration purposes. 2.5 lakh maunds of fertilisers have been made available to the States of U.P., Punjab and Bihar on deferred payment basis.

Adequate publicity has been given to the campaign by issue of about a lakh copies of the pamphlets prepared in vernacular indicating clearly the methods of applying fertilisers to the crop and thereby increasing production of sugarcane.

(c) No target has been fixed. The additional yield on account of use of fertiliser to the standing crop is expected to average between 15 and 20 per cent.