

Cashew Cultivation

161. **Shri Valayudhan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps Government have taken for the development of cashew cultivation in the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State as envisaged in the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A scheme for cashew afforestation designed to cover 20,000 acres of forest land and costing about Rs. 32.5 lakhs has been undertaken. Another scheme for raising of nurseries which is likely to cost about Rs. 2.5 lakhs during the plan period has also been sanctioned for the production and distribution of quality planting material.

It has also been decided to grant loans @ Rs. 150/- per acre to private landholders and lessees of Government lands engaged in cashew cultivation.

Roads in Punjab

162. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government spent any sum during the First Five Year Plan period through the State Government of Punjab for road development works in the Hoshiarpur sub-division (Punjab);

(b) if so, the length of new roads constructed; and

(c) how many bridges were built on those new roads?

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

(b) and (c). About 26 miles of National Highway were constructed in the Hoshiarpur District with culverts and bridges wherever necessary. In addition, work is in progress over a total length of about six miles of village roads.

Regional Forest Research Station

163. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to establish a Regional Forest Research Station in the Punjab during the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): No, Sir.

Train Derailments

164. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train derailment accidents on the Northern Railway that occurred during 1956 so far;

(b) the number of such accidents relating to the passenger trains and goods trains respectively; and

(c) the total loss of lives and property and also damage to the Railway equipment caused by these accidents?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). 142 train derailments during the period from 1-1-56 to 31-10-56. *viz.*;

Passenger train derailments	20
Goods train derailments	114
Other derailments	8

TOTAL 142

(c) 2 persons were killed.

The approximate cost of damage to Railway property due to the train derailments which occurred during the year 1956 (upto September) was Rs. 1,67,612/-

(The figure for the month of October is not yet ready.)

Theft of Electric Lighting Equipment

165. **Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thefts detected on North-Eastern Railway regarding the equipment for electric lighting from below the carriages;

(b) the number prosecuted, and punished, and the number acquitted; and

(c) whether it is generally possible for people other than Railway employees to come and take away from the equipment attached to the carriages?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Separate figures relating to the number of thefts detected regarding the equipment for electric lighting from below the carriages are not available.

(b)	Prosecuted	Punished	Acquitted
1954-55	15	5	10
1955-56	17	8	2*

*Under trial: 7.

(c) Yes.

Foreign Tourists

166. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited Delhi during 1955; and

(b) the facilities that were provided to them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 14,972 foreign tourists entered India through Airports and Land Customs Stations under the jurisdiction of the Central Excise Collectorate, New Delhi, during 1955.

Separate statistics of foreign tourists who actually visited Delhi are not available.

(b) No special facilities have been provided for foreign tourists visiting Delhi except facilities of a general nature which are usually provided by the Regional Tourist Office, New Delhi. The facilities afforded by that Office include:

- (i) supply of information in regard to places worth seeing;
- (ii) advice on the cost and availability of accommodation, transport and trained guides; and
- (iii) supply of tourist literature in various Indian languages and in some foreign languages;
- (iv) Issue of Kashmir Permits; and
- (v) Assistance in getting admission to Parliament Sessions.

Women Doctors

167. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of women doctors employed in India in Government Service at present so far?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Indian Lac Cess Committee

168. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken so far by the Indian Lac Cess Committee to acquaint the general public with Lac and shellac; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) The Indian Lac Research Institute at Namkuni, Ranchi, a research institution maintained by the Indian Lac Cess Committee has published about 300 books and pamphlets, both of scientific and popular nature, on lac and shellac in English and Hindi as also in some other Indian languages such as Bengali, Oriya, Urdu and Malayalam.

(ii) Articles of popular nature are published in daily and weekly newspapers from time to time. Recently to mark its Silver Jubilee in September, 1956, the Committee brought out a Souvenir Publication—a very comprehensive book on lac and shellac, giving useful articles surveying the lac trade and industry for the last 25 years, statistical data and an exhaustive Directory of lac trade. Shellac supplements

were brought out in important newspapers during the Silver Jubilee such as *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Calcutta, 'Aj' (Hindi), Banaras, *Journal of Industry and Trade*, Delhi, and *Udyog Vyapar Patrika*, Delhi.

(iii) The Committee participates in most of the important exhibitions. As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations, an Exhibition on Lac and Lac Products has already been held at Ranchi. The exhibition would also move to Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Patna and a place (to be fixed later) in Madhya Pradesh.

(iv) The results of research obtained at the Indian Lac Research Institute are disseminated with a view to their adoption by appropriate interests.

(v) The Committee is running two schemes for propagating improved methods of cultivation and utilisation of lac. Shellac Utilisation Officer has been appointed under the Committee for propagating the uses of shellac and also maintaining liaison with industrialists for increasing the consumption of Lac in the country. The schemes relating to the cultivation of lac are being looked after by the Special Officer for Lac Cultivation who has been entrusted with the duty of exploring the possibilities of increasing cultivation of lac.

(vi) A film entitled "Lacs from Lac" was produced by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Production of a coloured film on shellac is also under consideration.

दिल्ली सुधार प्रत्यास

१६९. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) झण्डेवाला के पास की भूमि का सुधार करने के लिये दिल्ली सुधार प्रत्यास को कितनी राशि खर्च करनी पड़ी ;

(ख) उपरोक्त स्थान पर बेचे गये प्लाटों का प्रति वर्ग गज दाम क्या था ; और

(ग) यह भूमि किन किन शर्तों और निबन्धनों पर बेची गई है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (राजकुमारी अमृतकौर) :

(क) ५,४९,१७३ रु०

(ख) (१) व्यापार संस्थाओं के लिये ठंडे गोदामों की जगह १६ रु० ५ आ० प्रति गज (८०,००० रु० प्रति एकड़)।

(२) छापेखानों के लिये जगहें ३० रु० प्रति गज।