

be implemented by the Bank itself and not by the Administration.

Sinking of a Barge at Semariaghat

637. Shri Bihuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2069 on the 22nd September, 1955 regarding sinking of a Railway Barge at Semariaghat and state:

(a) whether the Barge referred to in the question was examined prior to the accident and whether it had the fitness certificate valid for that date;

(b) if not, why not; and

(c) the loading capacity of that Barge and what was the load on the day of accident?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Loading capacity seventeen wagons equal to 350 tons. The actual load on the day of the accident was seventeen wagons equal to 300 tons approximately, the consignments being sugar, jute and molasses.

Sugar Factories

638. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many sugar factories have given bonus to cane supplying agriculturists; and

(b) what factories from Bombay State have given bonus to the cane supplying agriculturists?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) It is presumed that by the term 'bonus', the hon. Member has in mind the additional payment, over and above the statutory minimum price of sugarcane, that is made by the factories when extra profit is earned by them.

8 factories paid about Rs. 45 lakhs for the 1952-53 season. About Rs. 87.44

lakhs were paid by 38 factories for the 1953-54 season. About Rs. 41 lakhs were paid by 7 factories for the 1954-55 season. The figures for 1955-56 are being worked out.

(b) In Bombay, almost all factories own sugarcane farms and they purchase only about 20 per cent. of their requirements from the cultivators. The State Government, in consultation with the industry and with the concurrence of the Central Government, decided that the Bombay factories should make payment for the cane purchased by them for the cultivators at a uniform increased rate in lieu of the linking of price of cane to that of sugar. The prices paid to the cultivators in that State since 1954-55 are as follows:

Season	No. of mills worked	Minimum Price paid/statutory price per ton.	
		Price fixed by Bombay Government.	
		Rs.	Rs.
1954-55	14	39 ² / ₁	43/-
1955-56	15	do	44/-
1956-57	16	do	45/-
1957-58	19	do	46/-

Water Logging at Dharmshala

639. Shri Yadav: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some complaints have been received by the Railway authorities regarding water logging at the Railway-crossing bridge at Dharmshala Bazar in Gorakhpur; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

The Deputy-Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that some complaints have been received by the Railway Administration regarding water logging at the Railway road underbridge crossing at Dharmshala Bazar in Gorakhpur.

(b) Two electrically driven pumping sets each of 20,000 gallons capacity per hour have been installed to pump out the water during the monsoon when rain water accumulates under the bridge.