

above the building and no other suitable rented building could be secured for locating the office. Efforts, however, continue to be made to secure a suitable rented building for re-opening the office.

#### Fruit Production in Punjab

2847. { Shri Daljit Singh:  
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of the scheme chalked out for the development of fruit production in Punjab for the year 1958-59; and

(b) the amount of assistance to be given in this regard?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The scheme for the development of fruit production is in progress in the Punjab since 1957-58. Long term loans @ Rs. 300/- per acre and short term loans @ Rs. 15/- per acre are to be given to fruit growers for planting of new orchards and for rejuvenating old orchards, respectively.

50 per cent. of the expenditure on additional staff for implementing the scheme and for giving technical advice to fruit growers is to be borne by the Centre.

(b) The Working Group of the Planning Commission have allocated a sum of Rs. 9.00 lakhs as long-term loan and Rs. 0.70 lakhs as subsidy for 1958-59. A sum of Rs. 3.00 lakhs has also been allocated as short-term loan for all the States.

The exact amounts of loan and subsidy will be known on receipt of detailed proposals for 1958-59 from Punjab Government.

#### Quarters for Railway Employees

2848. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many quarters for Railway employees are proposed to be constructed on the Northern Railway during 1958-59; and

(b) the amount sanctioned to be spent on this scheme on this Railway for the year 1958-59?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 2586.

(b) Rs. 70 lakhs approximately.

#### Railway Accident between Lasur and Ellora Stations

2849. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was an accident between Lasur and Ellora Stations to No. 808 Up Goods train on the 8th March, 1958;

(b) if so, the causes thereof; and

(c) the total loss and damages to Railway property?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) At about 03.50 hours on 8th March, 1958 while No. 808 Up Goods train was on run between Lasur and Ellora Road Stations, 18th wagon from the Engine derailed at mile 54/7-8. This in turn led to the subsequent derailment and capsizing of 15 other vehicles on the train.

(b) The derailment of the 18th wagon was due to the shifting of sugar crusher roller loaded in the wagon, which had not been properly secured.

(c) Rs. 92,850.

#### Soil Erosion in States

2850. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) which of the States are mostly affected by soil erosion;

(b) which of them have completed their legislation on the subject; and

(c) the grant proposed by the Centre to the States for soil conservation during 1958-59, State-wise?

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