

of arecanuts (Betsinuts) into India for the last three years are as follows:

|                                  | Quantity |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| (In lakh maunds of 82-2[7 lbs.]) |          |
| 1955                             | .. 10.56 |
| 1956                             | .. 11.28 |
| 1957                             | .. 8.67  |
| 1958 (6 months<br>Jan.-June)     | .. 2.98  |

#### Kosi Embankments

2943. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar, Kosi Project Department has sent any proposal for the expansion of both eastern and western embankments further than they were in the original projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure required to give effect to such a proposal;

(d) whether the Central Government have considered the proposal; and

(e) if so, with what result?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) So far, no such proposal has been received from the Government of Bihar. The State Government have, however, reported that a suggestion for extension of the embankments is being examined by them.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

#### Elgin Bridge

2944. **Shri Ram Garib:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have received representations from 'The United Provinces Oil Millers' Association, Kanpur' and others regarding the Elgin Bridge;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no other adequate arrangement for crossing the river for vehi-

cular traffic between Chowka Ghat and Gogra Ghat; and

(c) if so, steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) A representation from the United Provinces Oil Millers' Association, Kanpur, only was received recently.

(b) and (c). The Chowka Ghat-Gogra Ghat route forms part of a State Road and as such the provision of necessary facilities for road traffic for crossing the river Gogra on this route is primarily the concern of the Uttar Pradesh Government.

#### Outflow of Water in Samastipur-Darbhanga Branch of N.E. Railway

2945. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the outflow of water through different bridges and outlets in the Samastipur-Darbhanga branch of North Eastern Railway is not sufficient and as a result of this, it takes much longer time for the flood water to flow from the western side of the railway line to the eastern leading to the damage of crops during rainy season;

(b) whether any investigation as to the necessity and desirability of providing more outlets for water in this line has been made;

(c) if so, with what results;

(d) whether there has been any consultation with the State authorities either in this connection or in connection with general question of providing more outlets for flow of water on the railway lines; and

(e) if so, with what result?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) No, Sir. The outflow of water through different bridges and outlets on samastipur-Darbhanga branch is sufficient and the