

### Sinking of Boats

**1686. Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of boat sinking in inland waterways transport in Indian rivers have been reported during the last four months; and

(b) the number of passengers who lost their lives?

**The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). The required information has been called for from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of Sabha as soon as it is received.

### Scarcity of Drinking Water in Andhra Pradesh

**1687. Shri Venkatasubbajah:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large scale drinking water scarcity is prevailing in most of the villages of Alur, Pattikonda and Dronachalam Taluks of Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any representations have been made by the people of this area to extend National Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Scheme; and

(c) if so, what Government propose to do in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Dr. D. S. Raju):** (a) Scarcity of drinking water is being experienced in a number of villages of Alur and Dronachalam taluks and in some of the villages of Pattikonda taluk of Kurnool District.

(b) The President, Alur Panchayat Samiti and the Secretary, Zilla Parishad, Kurnool, have made representations to the State Government in the matter.

(c) Pattikonda Taluk of Kurnool is already covered under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme and water supply schemes for

67 villages out of 97 villages have been completed. The work in the remaining villages is in progress. In so far as Alur and Dronachalam Taluks are concerned, the State Government have reported that the Zilla Parishad and the Panchayat Samiti concerned would have to consider the question of supplying water to individual villages under the Local Development Works programme. In the meantime, the Revenue Department and the Zilla Parishad are making efforts to supply drinking water to the villages as a temporary measure.

### Harinagar Sugar Factory

**1688. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a panel of three persons was appointed by Government to make enquiry against Harinagar sugar factory located in the district of Champaran (Bihar);

(b) if so, what are the charges against the management of the Harinagar Sugar Factory;

(c) who made the charges;

(d) Government's reaction to the report of panel of enquiry; and

(e) the substance of the panel's report?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri Thomas):** (a) to (c). Yes Sir. This enquiry has been ordered as in the opinion of the Central Government, the undertaking is being managed in a manner highly detrimental to public interest.

(d) and (e). The Panel has yet to undertake the enquiry and submit its report.

### Railway Line in Malabar Area of Kerala State

**1689. Shri Koya:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway lines started in Malabar area of Kerala State since independence;

(b) whether Government propose to start any new railway line in that area; and

(c) whether any survey of the expenditure and income of starting a new railway line connecting Malatooor of the Shormur-Nilambur Railway and Feroke of the Madras-Mangalore Railway has been made?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a). Information about railway lines is not compiled State or region-wise but Railway-wise. However, out of the new lines constructed on the Southern Railway since independence, two lines were constructed in Kerala State of which one lies in the Malabar area.

(b). No.

(c). No.

#### Fire in Reserve Forests of Tripura

1690. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of fire accidents that took place in the plantations and reserve forests of Tripura during 1960-61 and 1961-62;

(b) the losses suffered due to fire;

(c) the steps taken to protect the plantations and reserve forests from such accidents; and

(d) whether those steps are adequate?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):

	1960-61	1961-62
(a) Plantations	3	15
Reserved Forests	17	30
TOTAL .	20	45

(b) Rs. 2 lakhs approximately.

(c) Fire lines are cut around all plantations as a measure of protection. The Reserved Forest area is patrolled by Forest Guards. Special Fire Watchers are also employed where necessary. The plantations are looked after by Watchers.

(d) Yes, under normal conditions.

#### Tribal Jhumias of Damchara (Tripura)

1691. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribal jhumias of Damchara are prevented from cutting jhum as the whole of jhumable areas have been declared as within the Reserve Forest; and

(b) if so, what steps are taken to provide alternative occupation to the jhumias of Damchara where hardly any low land for plough cultivation is available?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). It is not proposed to constitute the entire Jhumable area of Damchara as Reserve Forest. The jhumias of the locality may cut jhum in the areas not included in the Reserved Forest and in the adjacent jhumable areas. They have also been offered settlement as forest villagers on condition that they abide by forest rules.

#### Jhumias in Tripura

1692. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases instituted against the Jhumias of Mongrai Muray, Tripura on the allegation of cutting jungles in the Longtrai ranges in 1960 and 1961;

(b) what occupations have been provided to these jhumias, after the areas where they have been residing for generations, were declared under forest reserve; and