

mail trains has been introduced on all Railways;

(b) whether any cases have been reported of its emergency use; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) As an experimental measure, push button safety device has been provided in Ladies' compartments in 12 selected Mail and Express trains over 6 Railway systems. In the remaining two Railways, namely, North-east Frontier and Southern, trials have not been undertaken at present as travel conditions are comparatively safe.

(b) and (c). While there have been a few inadvertent operations, no instance of its use by any lady in distress has so far come to notice.

Drinking Water Scarcity in Tripura

1718. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn towards the scarcity of drinking water throughout Tripura State at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that mode of the Tube-wells and Ring wells of Tripura State have not been working at present;

(c) if so, what are the causes for it; and

(d) what steps are being taken to supply drinking water to the water-scarcity areas of Tripura?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Dr. D. S. Raju): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) More wells are being provided under the Local Development Works Programme.

Upper Krishna Valley Project

1719. { **Shri R. G. Dubey:**
Shri S. B. Patil:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount is provided for starting the Upper Krishna Valley Project in Bijapur Distt. of Mysore State; and

(b) the work done so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a) The question of inclusion of the Upper Krishna Project in the Third Plan is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Disposal of Surplus Rice in Orissa

1720. Shri Mohammad Elias: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of surplus rice in Orissa this year;

(b) the arrangements made by Orissa Government to sell the surplus rice;

(c) whether Orissa Government have consulted the Central Government on this matter; and

(d) the decision that has been taken by Eastern Zonal Meeting held recently for settling the question of Orissa surplus rice?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) It is estimated that the surplus would be between 3 and 4 lakh tons of rice;

(b) and (c). No such arrangements are required to be made at Government level. Normal movements take care of this problem between surplus and deficit areas. The surplus Orissa rice can move freely to West Bengal in the Eastern Rice Zone.