

vation of 1,000 derelict tanks and other irrigation projects in the district of Purulia under the Purulia Development Scheme Project; and

(b) the latest position with regard to this wheat and the reclamation of tanks and other irrigation projects in Purulia for which this wheat was meant?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir. The shipment under Title II of P.L. 480 was received and cleared by the Regional Director on behalf of the Government of West Bengal.

(b) As Purulia is mainly a rice-eating area, the arrangement was that the Government of West Bengal would issue an equivalent quantity of rice from their stocks to labourers engaged in reclamation of derelict tanks as wages in kind in lieu of the wheat received from U.S.A. The Government of West Bengal are issuing rice accordingly in the ratio of 3 (wheat): 2 (rice). So far, a quantity of 654 tonnes of rice has been issued as wages to labourers. 15 derelict tanks have been renovated; 80 other schemes are in hand and of these 30 are nearing completion.

खेती के औजार

६७३. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय किसानों के बैलों की हालत को देखते हुये खेतों को वे आसानी से जोत सकें इसके लिये सरकार ने कौन-कौन से सस्ते दाम वाले औजारों का निर्माण कराया है ; और

(ख) उनकी कीमत कितनी है और उनकी उपलब्धि किसानों को आसानी से कहाँ से हो सकती है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में राख्य-मंत्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : (क) उत्तर प्रदेश, राजस्थान, मद्रास तथा पंजाब में सरकारी कारखानों द्वारा बनाये गये सस्ते औजारों की सूचियां सभा पटल पर रखी जाती हैं। [पुस्तकालय में रखी गईं देखिये संख्या LT-1573/63

औजार तथा उनके नमूने तैयार करते यउन सम क्षेत्रों के बैलों की भार ढान की शक्ति को भी ध्यान में रखा जाता है।

(ख) इन औजारों के मूल्य की सूचियां सभा पटल पर रखी जाती ह। [पुस्तकालय में रखी गईं, देखिये संख्या LT-1573/63

ये औजार खण्ड मुख्य कार्यालय या सीधे कारखानों अथवा उनके एजेंटों-से मिल सकते हैं।

Telegraph Offices in Rajasthan

974. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state whether there are still a few Tehsil Headquarters in Rajasthan which have no telegraph offices?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): Yes, 12 Tehsil Headquarters. Sanctions have been issued for providing telegraph facilities at 9 of them.

Agriculture Production in Madhya Pradesh

975. **Shri R. S. Pandey:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level team of Government officials recently visited Bhopal and discussed the agriculture plan of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the main points discussed and decision taken at the Conference?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) A Central Team comprising the representatives of the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Community Development and Co-

operation and the Planning Commission visited Madhya Pradesh from 1st to 5th June, 1963 to review the agricultural production programmes for 1963-64 in consultation with the State Government. The Team also visited selected areas from the village to district level in the Haisen district from 1st to 3rd June, 1963. This was followed by discussions at technical and officials levels as also at Minister's level at Bhopal.

(b) A statement highlighting the important findings and suggestions of the Central Team which visited Madhya Pradesh is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1574[63].

Hybrid Jowar

976. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hybrid Jowar has been developed in Agriculture College of Nagpur; and

(b) if so, whether experiment has proved to be a success?

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

(b) Results of the preliminary trials of summer 1963, are reported to be encouraging, 50 to 60 per cent higher yield having been obtained from the hybrids as compared to the local varieties of jowar.

Allahabad Passenger and Sealdah Express

977. Shri D. D. Puri: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that of late two important trains on the Northern Railway, namely 351-Up Ambala-Allahabad Passenger and 51-Down Sealdah-Pathankot Express via Lucknow are almost perpetually running late by several hours thus causing inconvenience to the travelling public;

(b) if so, the reasons for their late running; and

(c) the steps taken by the administration to ensure running of these trains to scheduled timings?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). There has been some setback in the punctuality performance of 351-Up Allahabad-Ambala Passenger and 51-Up Sealdah-Pathankot Express due to the following unavoidable causes:

(i) Heavy incidence of alarm chain pulling due to marriage and summer rush of traffic.

(ii) Loading/unloading of fresh fruit and other perishable traffic during the season.

(iii) Imposition of a large number of engineering restrictions due to heavy rains, particularly on the newly laid track.

(iv) Signal and control failures due to the impact of first monsoon on the new engineering and signalling installations.

(c) The need for punctual running of these trains is receiving the close and constant attention of the Railway Administrations. Periodical punctuality drives have been launched to improve performance of these trains. Now that the fresh fruit, marriage and summer rush season is almost over, the punctuality of these trains is expected to improve.

Apart from the punctuality drives the measures proposed include provision of tokenless block instrument on the saturated single line Bareilly-Moradabad section, doubling of Varanasi-Zafarabad and Moradabad-Saharanpur sections, and breaking up of 351-UP/352-Dn Allahabad-Ambala Passengers into two separate services, one between Allahabad and Saharanpur and the other between Saharanpur and Ambala with effect from 1st October, 1963.