

(a) whether any financial assistance was given by the Central Government to any of the hoteliers of Jammu & Kashmir State to put up new hotels for tourists in Jammu and Srinagar during 1962-63; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) & (b). The Central Government by itself does not render financial assistance to hoteliers. However, the Industrial Finance Corporation of India and State Financial Corporations provide loans for the construction of new hotels. As a matter of policy, the Industrial Finance Corporation refers the loan applications from hoteliers to the Department of Tourism for comments. No such reference regarding loan applications from hoteliers of J. & K. State was received by the Department of Tourism, from the Industrial Finance Corporation.

Purchase of Coal

986. Shri Himatsingka: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for a change in the procedure of coal purchase by the Indian Railways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Deferred Price Payable to Sugarcane Growers

**987. { Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Balkrishna Washnik:**

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

(a) whether any steps have been taken for fixing the deferred price payable to sugarcane growers by factories for cane supplied to them from 1958-59 to 1960-61;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the result of these steps?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir. An Authority called the Sugarcane (Additional) Price Fixation Authority has been constituted for the purpose.

(b) The verification of accounts of sugar factories located in Mysore, Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Kerala have since been taken up for the 1958-59 and 1959-60 seasons. The accounts of factories located in other States and the accounts for the remaining period of the factories located in the above-mentioned States will be taken up later.

(c) The accounts of the 12 factories have been checked for the 1958-59 and 1959-60 seasons so far. The results will be known only after the accounts of all the factories are completed and the Authority fixes the additional price.

Oil Pipelines Along Railway Bridges

988. Shri Ram Ratan Gupta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided that Oil Pipelines may be carried along Railway Bridges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). Yes Sir; subject to certain protective measures being complied with. It will not be in the public interest to indicate these details.

Foreign Capital in Indian Shipping

**989. { Shri Warrior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Makeswar Naik:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh offer of foreign capital participation in Indian Shipping has been received since the quantum of foreign capital in shipping industry was raised from 25 per cent. to 40 per cent. a few months back; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A few proposals have been received by the Government from certain parties for the formation of new shipping companies with participation of foreign capital upto 40 per cent. The proposals are, however, still in preliminary stages and until the details are finalised, it will be premature to give any indication of the same.

Food Dealers Associations

990. Shri D. D. Mantari: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Dealers Associations presented any memorandum to Government at their annual convention held in Delhi; and

(b) if so, action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) No, Sir. They only sent copies of a booklet containing the resolutions passed at the convention.

(b) Does not arise.

Afforestation

991. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the success of the afforestation schemes on an all-India basis;

(b) if so, the average ratio between the number of trees that are planted each year and those that survive more than a year; and

(c) how far afforestation has so far succeeded in (i) checking soil erosion, (ii) meeting the shortage of wood for fuel and other purposes and (iii)

saving foreign exchange on the import of fuel?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). No. Plantations are raised on the basis of acreage and not on the basis of the number of trees planted. Normally, casualities are replaced annually till the plantation is established.

In the case of "Vanamahotsava" plantations however information regarding trees planted and those surviving after one year is available upto 1959. Complete information for subsequent years is not yet available. Figures for three years are as under:—

Year	No. of trees planted	No. of trees survived
1957	4,36,02,907	2,11,86,643
1958	3,67,10,742	1,94,96,678
1959	4,86,30,289	2,86,52,013

(c) The time and labour involved in the collection of the information will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

All India Hill Development Seminar

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

(a) the recommendations made by the All India Hill Development Seminar held at Simla in April 1963 and accepted by Government;

(b) the machinery set up for their implementation; and

(c) whether any extra money will be allotted for such schemes which the State Governments are not in a position to undertake due to financial reasons?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) to (c). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1575/63].