

a limited number of lines and if the demand in that town was very high and an automatic exchange was not available, the demand could have been met by a manual exchange and when automatic exchange becomes available the manual exchange will be replaced by the automatic exchange. It is quite simple.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: What is the approximate cost involved in changing the systems now and then?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: I have not got the figures, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think we might well pass on to the next question.

#### EXTENSION OF RAILWAY LINE TO JAMMU

\*278. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 42 and its supplementaries in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the reconnaissance survey for the extension of the railway line to Jammu has been completed; and

(b) whether there is any likelihood of extending the railway line to Jammu during the Third Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Field work of the survey has been completed and the recess work is in hand.

(b) The project is not included in the Railway's programme of construction of new lines during the Third Five Year Plan as published by the Planning Commission.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: May I know if the work on the Madhopur-Kathua line is proceeding according to schedule and what percentage of the work has been completed so far?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The work is progressing fairly satisfactorily.

#### SPECIAL MEASURES TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

\*279. SHRI UMASHANKAR DIKSHIT: Will the Minister of Food AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the emergency created by the Chinese invasion on our northern borders, Government have decided to take any special measures for increasing food and other agricultural production in the country; and

(b) if so, what are those special measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture have advised the State Governments to grow green vegetables including onions and potatoes in the border areas of Assam, West Bengal and Bihar with the assistance of interest-free loans and small subsidies. A target of 14,500 acres has been suggested for this purpose.

The Government have also advised the State Governments to arrange for the production of short duration emergency crops like sweet potatoes, cheena, summer and Boro paddy, summer maize, Moong, etc. with the help of Community Development Staff. The State Governments have been further advised to procure the required quantity of seeds and planting material and promote the digging of 'Kutchha' wells in this connection, wherever possible.

It has been decided to step up the all-India Third Plan targets for minor irrigation and soil conservation programmes by 50 per cent.