

(c) whether the purchased rails are not of the usual specifications?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY):

(a) The Steel Purchasing Mission visited U.K. and some other Continental countries only.

A statement is laid on the Table of the House showing the particulars asked for.

(b) The bulk of the quantity purchased has been despatched to sites

of works and the balance is expected to be utilized shortly.

About 20,000 tons are lying in transit depots of railways awaiting despatch to site of works.

Rails are generally stored only in the open; no deterioration has been noticed.

(c) No; they are of the usual specifications.

STATEMENT

Category of Rails	Quantity ordered	Average rate per ton (C&F)	Quantity received during the period	Remarks
			December, 1957 to January, 1959	
	Tons	Rs.	Tons	
Rails 90 R	2,27,000	747	1,93,055	} Shipment of rails commenced in October, 1957 and the first consignment arrived in Indian in December, 1957.
Rails 75 R	27,000	796	15,000	
Rails 60 R	30,000	841	25,000	
Rails 50 R	22,000	876	18,000	
	3,06,000		2,51,055	

RAILWAY PLATFORMS AT KARAKBEL AND BOHANI

*309. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct platforms at Karakbel and Bohani stations on Itarsi-Allahabad Section on the Central Railway; and

(b) if so what is the length of time in which this construction will be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN):

(a) Rail level platforms already exist at Bohani and Karakbel stations.

(b) Does not arise.

ELECTRIC INSTALLATION IN LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE, NEW DELHI

*318. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state whether it is a fact that electric installation in the Linen Room at the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, has been done departmentally? If so, will be please state:

(a) when the work was completed; and

(b) what is the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): This work has been done by the work-charged staff of the Central Public Works Department attached to the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi.

(a) December, 1958.

(b) 575:37 nP.

CONFERENCE OF FOOD MINISTERS

*319. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of the Food Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Mysore and Kerala and the Minister of Food and Agriculture of the Government of India was held at Delhi on the 7th February, 1959; and

(b) if so, what were the subjects discussed at the conference and what were the decisions taken?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Food Supply position in the Southern Zone was generally reviewed and it was decided that:

(i) the Kerala Government should continue to purchase rice in Andhra

as at present and in case any difficulty was experienced, appropriate directives will be issued to millers or traders;

(ii) maximum controlled prices for rice and paddy should be properly enforced by the State Governments concerned; and

(iii) maximum controlled prices for rice and paddy may also be declared for Kerala.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RAILWAY STATIONS ON KAZIPET-VIJAYAWADA LINE

*320. SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request was received by Government during 1958 for the construction of new railway stations on the Kazipet-Vijayawada line; and

(b) if so, which are the places where these stations have been proposed for construction and what action has been taken on the request?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY):
(a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Particulars of requests received during Calendar year 1958 for construction of new stations

Action taken

1. A station between Khammameth and Papa apalli railway stations to serve Kamanchikalu and surrounding villages.

A crossing station at a distance of 4.92 miles from Khammameth and 4.07 miles from Papatapalli stations is being provided. It has been decided to provide passenger booking facilities at this station as an amenity to the travelling public.

2. Near village Palamchervoottanda at mile 222 between Nekonda and Chintalapalli stations.

A crossing station at mile 220.49 is being provided. The question of opening it for passenger traffic is being examined.

3. Between Vijayawada and Rayanapad stations.

The proposal is under investigation.