

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the actual quantity of this lost timber; and

(c) the loss of royalty to Government in case royalty on such lost timber is not realized from the lessee?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN):

(a) to (c): The extent of loss of timber, if any, is not yet available as physical verification has not yet been completed.

The question of charging royalty on the quantity of timber reported lost or missing in terms of the North Andamans Agreement of Licence executed by the Lessee is already under consideration of the Government.

DAMAGE CAUSED TO THE RAILWAY PROPERTY BY THE STUDENTS OF NELLORE

***39. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the students of Nellore caused considerable damage to the railway property on the 26th September, 1958; and

(b) if so, what is the extent of the damage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY):
(a) Yes, on the 26th October 1958.

(b) Damage caused to railway property is as follows:—

(i) Indicators, Slots and Signalling Gear were damaged in the North and South Cabins at Nellore;

(ii) Signal and Telephone wires were cut;

(iii) Bridge Stump Slides were pulled away;

(iv) Signal lamps were damaged;

(v) A few consignments in the Goods shed were set on fire.

RAILWAY CATERING AND VENDING LICENCES

***40. DR. R. B. GOUR:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued instructions to the railway administration to give preference to co-operative societies of vendors for railway catering and vending licences; and

(b) if so, what progress has so far been made on different railways in this connection?

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

(a) Directions have been issued on 11-9-58, that on each Railway, at one or two stations, as and when vacancies arise, as an experimental measure catering or vending contracts should be entrusted to registered cooperative societies, which should consist mostly of the actual workers.

(b) So far no fresh contracts to Co-operative Societies have been let out since the directions were issued. But the societies previously holding contracts continue to function.

NEW INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT

***41. DR. A SUBBA RAO:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new International Sugar Agreement is being discussed at present;

(b) if so, the names of the countries participating in the discussion;

(c) what are the provisions in the new agreement;

(d) in what way the past agreement affected India; and

(e) how the new agreement will affect India?

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

(b) A list of the countries which participated in the International Sugar Conference held at Geneva in September-October 1958 is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) There is no material change in the basic provisions of the Agreement designed to ensure supplies of sugar to importing countries and markets for exporting countries at equitable prices. The export quotas have, however, been revised and India has now been offered a basic quota of 1.0 lakh metric tons and a special reserve quota of 50,000 metric tons (raw value) for export during each of the 3 years 1959, 1960 and 1961.

(d) The export quota offered at the time of the last Agreement in 1956 was very small, i.e., 50 thousand tons only, and India did not join the Agreement. It did not therefore affect India.

(e) The matter is under consideration.

List of Countries represented at the U.N. Sugar Conference held at Geneva in September-October 1958

1. Australia
2. Belgium-Luxembourg
3. Brazil
4. Canada
5. Ceylon
6. Chile
7. China
8. Costa Rica
9. Cuba
10. Czechoslovakia
11. Denmark
12. Dominican Republic
13. Finland
14. France
15. Germany Federal Republic)

16. Ghana
17. Guatemala
18. Haiti
19. Hungary
20. India
21. Indonesia
22. Ireland
23. Israel
24. Italy
25. Japan
26. Malaya
27. Mexico
28. Netherlands
29. Nicaragua
30. Norway
31. Pakistan
32. Panama
33. Peru
34. Philippines
35. Poland
36. Portugal
37. Sweden
38. Tunisia
39. Union of South Africa
40. U.S.S.R.
41. U.K.
42. U.S.A.

OBSERVERS

43. El Salvador
44. Iran
45. Rumania
46. Saudi Arabia
47. Switzerland
48. Turkey
49. Venezuela
50. Yugoslavia
51. International Labour Organisation
52. International Monetary Fund.
53. Food and Agriculture Organisation
54. Interim Commission for the International Trade Organisation|G.A.T.T.