

SHORT TERM EMERGENCY MEASURES FOR SOLUTION OF FOOD PROBLEM

*244. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take short term emergency measures for the solution of the food problem in order to make the country independent of import; and

(b) if so, what are those measures?

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

(a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House showing the short-term measures taken by the Government to solve the food problem and to minimize the dependence of the country on imports. [See Appendix XXII, Annexure No. 25.]

MALARIA ERADICATION PROGRAMME

*245. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state the progress so far made in respect of the Malaria Eradication Programme in India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XXII, Annexure No. 26.]

UNJUSTIFIED ALARM CHAIN PULLING

*246. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money so far realised as penalty during the year 1958 as a result of unjustified alarm chain pulling in trains; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken to educate the people against this practice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Rs. 1,600 have been realised as penalty from January to June, 1958.

(b) Yes. Steps have been taken to educate the public by means of post-

ers, hand bills, press publicity and announcements on loud speakers at stations where they have been installed.

MAIN POST OFFICE AT KARIMGANJ

*247. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime back the main post office at Karimganj, District Cachar (Assam) was shifted to the Central Land Custom Buildings;

(b) whether there was any proposal for the construction of a building for this post office;

(c) whether there exists public grievance that the main post office cannot function properly for want of space and proper housing; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. K. PATIL): (a) Yes, temporarily due to the border incidents.

(b) No.

(c) and (d). The present Land Custom Building where the post office has been shifted has no proper counters and shaded place for the public attending the office. Action is being taken to provide them. An extra-departmental branch office has also been sanctioned at Karimganj town for facility of the public residing in that area. When the border position improves, it is proposed to shift the post office back to its original location.

IRREGULAR RUNNING OF TRAINS BETWEEN LUMDING AND BADARPUR IN THE HILL SECTION LINE OF NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAY

*248. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trains between Lumding and Badarpur in the Hill Section line of the