

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for electrification of the Sealdah-Bongaon railway line on the Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, by what time the proposal is to be implemented?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Survey work has been completed. Other Civil Engineering works such as removal of infringements, respacing of track, etc. will be taken in hand shortly.

ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FRUIT CULTIVATION AND ORCHARDS

*216. SHRI D. V. PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has any scheme for providing assistance for development of fruit cultivation and orchards; if so,—

(a) what was the budget provision made in this respect for each year since the inception of this scheme; and

(b) how much was actually allocated and to which States?

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

(a) and (b). Yes, it is a scheme included in the 2nd Five Year Plan.

A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XXI, Annexure No. 25.]

CONSTRUCTION OF WAITING ROOMS AT DIPHU ETC. ON THE NORTH-EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

*217. SHRI J. B. HAGJER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether any proposals are under Government's consideration for the construction of waiting rooms at (i) Diphu (ii) Maibang and (iii) Lower-Haflong railway stations on the North-

East Frontier Railway during the Second Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): It is proposed to provide a waiting room at Diphu. Upper class passenger traffic offering at present at Maibang and Lower Haflong does not justify provision of waiting rooms.

SETTING UP OF A SUGAR MILL AT NOWGONG

*218. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether licence has been granted by Government for setting up a sugar mill at Nowgong; if so,—

(a) whether the proposed sugar mill is to be set up on a cooperative basis; and

(b) what progress has been made by the cooperative organisation in the setting up of the sugar mill?

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

(a) and (b). No, Sir. Do not arise.

OPENING OF KOKSARA CROSSING STATION FOR LOCAL BOOKING

*219. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for the opening of the Koksara Crossing Station between Chakulia and Dhalbhum Garh on the South-Eastern Railway for local booking of passengers and their luggage; and

(b) if so, what decision Government have taken thereon?

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

(a) Yes.

(b) It has been decided to open the station for local booking of passengers and their luggage.