

authorities to purchase their requirements of small nature from the small scale and cottage industries; and

(b) if so, what is the value of the articles purchased by the Railways from these industries in each of the last four years?

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

(a) No specific instructions have been issued so far.

(b) 1953-54 .. No separate record maintained.

1954-55 .. Rs. 1.33 Crores.

1955-56 .. Rs. 3.19 Crores.

1956-57 Being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

AMOUNT DUE ON ACCOUNT OF PURCHASE OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS

982. SHR. M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount due on the 31st March, 1957 from the State Governments on account of the purchase of chemical fertilizers; and

(b) whether any private firms also owed any money to Government on this account and if so, how much each firm had to pay on that date?

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

(a) Rs. 4,77,74,852, which is approximately 23 per cent. of the total debits raised.

(b) No, Sir; as the cost of the fertilisers is always recovered from private firms in advance of supply.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL, MADRAS, MYSORE AND KERALA

983. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains supplied to West Bengal, Madras, Mysore and Kerala from 1st April, 1957; and

(b) what was the quantity of foodgrains asked for by each of these States?

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

(a) The following table indicates supplies during the period 1st April to 24th August, 1957.

| | Rice | Wheat |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------|
| | (In '000 tons) | |
| West Bengal | 52.1 | 217.1 |
| Madras | 28.4 | 18.7 |
| Mysore | 16.7 | 8.8 |
| Kerala | 116.9 | 1.4 |

(b) After decontrol yearly demand for foodgrains are not submitted by the State Governments, but their requirements are assessed from time to time in consultation with them, and are met consistent with total availability and requirements of other consuming areas.

984. [Postponed to the 11th September, 1957.]

NIGHT AIR SERVICE

985. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any night air service was extended in the year 1956-57 and so far in 1957-58; and if so, where; and

(b) whether any night air service was discontinued during the same period; and if so, where?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) and (b). No night air service has been extended or discontinued during 1956-57 or after 1st April, 1957.