

(iv) Indian Embassies in foreign countries have been requested to use Indian Fruit Products wherever possible in order to popularise them.

(v) Indian fruits and tinned fruit products are displayed in almost all the fairs and exhibitions in foreign countries where India participates. The Cashew and Pepper Promotion Council has taken special steps to find out new markets for Indian Cashewnuts by sending a delegation to most of the European countries.

It is too early to assess the extent to which these have succeeded in stepping up export of fruits and fruit products.]

चीन के इम्पीरियल चावल पर भारत में परीक्षण

७७. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार को चीन में उगाये जाने वाले इम्पीरियल चावल को भारत मंगा कर उस पर परीक्षण करने के लिये कोई सुझाव प्राप्त हुआ है; यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस सुझाव पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

TJ-[EXPERIMENTS ON CHINESE IMPERIAL RICE IN INDIA

77. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government have received any proposal for importing Imperial Rice grown in China for purposes of experiments in India; if so, what action has been taken by Government on the proposal?]

खद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री ए० पी० जैन) : ऐसा कोई सुझाव नहीं मिला है।

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): No such proposal has been received.]

fEnglish translation.

CONSTRUCTION OF A TUNNEL UNDER THE BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER

78. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration for the construction of a tunnel under the Brahmaputra river near Gauhati; and if so, what are the details of that proposal;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether there is any other alternative scheme under consideration; if so, what is that scheme; and

(c) whether any foreign firm has been consulted in this matter; and if so, which is that firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The following proposals are under consideration:

(i) Constructing a road bridge over the Brahmaputra river, or a tunnel under the river bed, at Jogighopa or near Gauhati;

(ii) Constructing a rail-cum-road bridge at a suitable site.

The preliminary investigations carried out so far indicate that the tunnel project may not be a practical proposition on account of the high cost involved.

(c) The matter has not yet reached a stage to require consultation with any firm, foreign or Indian.

REDUCTION OF SURCHARGE ON THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS TRAVELLING IN DE LUXE AIR-CONDITIONED COACHES

79. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal under consideration for reducing the surcharge on third class

passengers travelling in de luxe air-conditioned coaches?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): No.

DEATH OF MONKEYS ON A LARGE SCALE IN AND AROUND PURANA QILA

80. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry has been instituted by Government into the death of monkeys on a large scale in and around Puxana Qila at Delhi towards the end of the month of March 1957; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the enquiry?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) Investigation regarding the death of monkeys near Purana Qila was made by the Health Department of Delhi Administration.

(b) Some truck loads of young monkeys in a sick and debilitated condition were released by some one in the Purana Qila area on the evening of 20th March 1957, just before the onset of hailstorm. A considerable number of young monkeys died during the night of the hailstorm and subsequent days in the forested area. The cause of death of these monkeys was the combined effect of sickness, physical trauma and starvation. In order to trace the culprits a complaint has been lodged with the police for an offence punishable under section 290 I.P.C. and the matter is under investigation.

BENEFITS GIVEN TO EMPLOYEES OF THE BARTPADA TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

81. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Baripada Telephone Exchange have

been given the benefits of the Central Pay Scales;

(b) if so, since when the benefits have been given; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, when they are likely to be given these benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes. Orders were issued on 2nd March 1957.

(b) 1st September 1954.

(c) Does not arise.

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE AT MUSSOORIE

82. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the decisions which were taken in the Development Commissioners' Conference which was held at Mussoorie recently?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. K. DEY): Copies of "Main Recommendations and Conclusions of the Conference" have been placed in the Parliament Library.

PRIZES FOR GROWERS OF LONG STAPLE COTTON

83. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to award prizes to growers of long staple cotton; and

(b) if so, what are the particulars of the prizes to be awarded and the conditions governing such awards?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) Prizes will be awarded by the Indian Central Cotton Committee in the manner indicated below:—