

is generally given are for water-supply scheme, for disposal of sewage and for staff quarters.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, whether the Board has powers to borrow from the open market?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Considering that Government lends them the money they need, I do not think they have any need to do so.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, whether the Board has set up adequate sinking funds to repay the loans?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: We have already received back over Rs. 34 lakhs of the loans.

PROF. G. RANGA: In view of the fact that these schemes are to serve public utility purposes and not productive or commercial concerns, is it the policy of the Government to charge anything more than a nominal rate of interest?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I do not think the Government charges anything more than a nominal rate of interest.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Is it not the policy of the Government to give similar loans to other towns in this country?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KJ^ilR: Sir, the national water-supply scheme is being thought of along those lines.

*203. [The questioner (Dr. R. B. Gour) was absent. For answer vide col. 1568 infra.]

DAMAGB TO JUTE CROPS DUE TO FLOODS IN ASSAM

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

(a) the extent of damage caused to the jute crop by the recent floods in upper Assam; and

(b) how the damage has affected India's jute export programme"

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (a) the extent of damage to jute crop in Assam caused by the recent floods is not yet fully known. However, according to preliminary reports it is estimated that about 36 per cent, of the jute area has suffered damage. Separate estimate of damage for Upper Assam is not available.

(b) Export of raw jute from India is not permitted. Regarding the effect of floods on the export of jute goods, this will be known only after the jute crop is harvested and the country's total jute production is estimated.

*205. [The questioner (Shri V. P. Rao) was absent. Foransioer vide col. 1569 infra.]

VISIT OF INDIAN RAILWAYS' DELEGATION TO U. S. S. R.

*206. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation on behalf of the Indian Railways has visited the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics this year; and

(b) if so, what was the purpose of this visit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER TOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes.

(b) The delegation visited the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on an invitation from the Minister for Railways, U.S.S.R., to acquaint themselves with the achievements of the railways of the Soviet Union.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Have they submitted any report to the Government?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Their formal report is still awaited.

SHRI NAIWYAINJJAS UALIA: Are there any prospects of obtaining any machinery from Russia?

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the Railways?

SHRI NARAYANDAS DAGA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I did not follow the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He asked, "Are there any prospects of obtaining any machinery from Russia?" and since he put it generally I made it relevant by saying 'for the Railways'.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That question does not arise.

PRODUCTION OF B.C.G. AT GUINDY

*207. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of B.C.G. which is prepared in the B.C.G. Laboratory at Guindy, Madras;

(b) how much B.C.G. is consumed in India;

(c) how much B.C.G. is exported to other countries; and

(d) what was the expenditure incurred on and income received from the B.C.G. Laboratory in the year 1953-54?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) 18,32,705 ccs. of B.C.G. vaccine worth Rs. 1,92,367/2/6 were manufactured in the B.C.G. Laboratory, Guindy, during 1953-54.

(b) 14,05,620 ccs. were consumed in India during 1953-54.

(c) 4,27,085 ccs. of B.C.G. were supplied to other countries during the year 1953-54.

(d) The expenditure incurred on the B.C.G. Vaccine Laboratory during

1953-54 was Rs. 1,01,028/3/2 and the income was Rs. 72,724/7/3, excluding Rs. 27,045 worth of equipment and stores received from the UNICEF.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: [How much did we receive from foreign countries for having sent our B.C.G. to them?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I am afraid I have not got the figures as to how much we charged them. I have got the figures here as to how much we sent them. I could let the hon. Member have the figures if he would like to have them.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the installed capacity of the laboratory at Guindy?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Till I know it produces as much as we need at the moment at home and we can also supply to our neighbouring countries. ^

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In view of the great need for B.C.G. vaccine in this country on account of the widespread incidence of T.B. all over, the requirement must be more. That is why I want to know the installed capacity of the machine—whether it can go up to 50 lakh ccs.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I am afraid I could not tell him that from what information I have here.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Which are the countries which imported B.C.G.?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Ceylon, Burma, Malaya and Thailand. We exported to these countries.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY THE I.A.C. TO INTEGRATE VARIOUS AIRLINES

*208. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations made by the three committees appointed by the Indian Airlines Corporation to make recommendations