

Reliable information about acreage of crops affected by locusts is not available.

(d) The loss of agricultural produce caused by locusts in India, as estimated by the various States concerned amounted to 20,400 tons in 1950; 14,350 tons in 1951; 19,150 tons in 1952 and 640 tons in 1953. In terms of cash value of losses can roughly be placed at 1.5 crore of rupees for the period 1950—54.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

26. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons from East Pakistan who have so far been employed through the Employment Exchanges;

(b) the number of such persons employed by each Ministry of the Government of India;

(c) the number of such persons who are at present on the waiting lists of the Exchanges; and

(d) what is the nature of preference shown to such persons in offering them appointments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI AMD ALI): (a) 39,595 up to June 1954.

(b) The information is not available.

(c) 48,395 on the 30th June 1954; of which 28,047 were displaced persons from East Pakistan.

(d) In the matter of submissions by the Exchanges against Central Government vacancies displaced persons from Eastern and Western Pakistan enjoy a certain degree of priority. A statement showing the priorities prescribed by the Central Government for different categories of employment-seekers is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 29.]

TUBEWELL PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

27. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Tubewell Projects Administration started functioning;

(b) the name of the place where its headquarters are located;

(c) what are the main functions of this Administration; and

(d) what is its constitution?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (a) November 1953.

(b) New Delhi.

(c) and (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 30.]

OPENING OF POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES

28. SHRI KISHORI RAM: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where—

(i) new post offices, and

(ii) new telegraph offices,

are to be opened in Bihar in the year 1954-55; and

(b) the expenditure to be incurred in establishing these post and telegraph offices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) (i) and (ii). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 31.]

(b) Rs. 2,85,000 (Rupees two lakhs and eighty-five thousand).

OPENING OF POST OFFICES

29. SHRI V. M. SURENDRA RAM: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where new post offices were opened in Madras State in the year 1953-54; and