

SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI: Yes. They are not importing. They have produced more than they require.

SHRI B. GUPTA: May I know if the West Bengal Government made any request to the Central Government for supplying rice at a lower cost?

SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI: How can they? The procurement price of common rice both in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh is less than the procurement price in West Bengal. They cannot be responsible for the transport cost, which the West Bengal Government has to pay. They cannot expect the Orissa Government or the Madhya Pradesh Government to pay.

SHRI B. GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if it was not pointed out to the Central Government that the rationed rice at Calcutta was selling at a price which was beyond the reach of the average consumer?

SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI: I note the hon. Member and other friends saying that.

#### UNDER-CHARGES IN THE *ex-G*- I. P. RAILWAY

\*160. SHRI S. MAHANTY (ON BEHALF OF SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO) : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to Annexure B (page 219) to the Appropriation Accpunts of Railways in India for 1950-51, Part II, and state the reasons for the high percentage of under-charges to earnings on the *ex-G.I.P.* Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : These under-charges were detected chiefly under coaching earnings during the course of check of warrants and credit notes, against the Civil and Military Departments. Heavy under-charges on Military traffic were generally due to explosives having been

booked by stations at lower rates than actually applicable.

#### IMPORT OF SUGAR

\*161. SHRI S. MAHANTY: (ON BEHALF OF SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO) : Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of sugar imported so far against the budget provision made for that purpose for the year 1953-54;

(b) the recoveries so far made from the sale of the imported sugar against the estimated recoveries for the year; and

(c) whether any unsold stock of the imported sugar will be carried forward to the next year?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a), (b) and (c). The accounts relating to the import of sugar during 1953-54 have not yet been finalised. On the basis of the latest estimates available, the total cost of imported sugar works out to Rs. 17 • 23 crores as against the budget provision of Rs. 17'17 crores. Out of the total sale proceeds of about Rs. 20-1 crores, Rs. 19-06 crores have already been realised. No unsold stock of imported sugar is likely to be carried forward to the next year.

#### IMPORT OF AIRCRAFT

\*169. SHRI S. MAHANTY (ON BEHALF OF SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO) : Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the value of civil aircraft and spare parts of such aircraft imported from abroad in each year from 1948-49 to 1952-53?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): A statement showing the total value of imports of aircraft and spare parts made during the year 1948-49 to 1952-53 is laid on the Table of the House Separate figures of aircraft and parts intended only for civil use are not available.