

Committee. It will be shortly examined by the Government of India. Similar work is also intended to be undertaken at the Cigar and Cheroot Tobacco Research Station, Vedaasandur.

PRICE OF SUGAR AND GUR

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

(a) whether in the year 1952-53 the price of gur was relatively higher than in the year 1951-52; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (a) and (b). In 1952-53 season, up to January 1953, the prices of gur were lower than those which prevailed in the corresponding period in 1951-52 season, but from February onwards the prices were of course higher. This was mainly due to the fall in production of gur from 32-40 lakh tons in 1951-52 to 28.77 lakh tons in 1952-53.

GODOWNS FOR STORAGE OF FOOD GRAINS

281. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of godowns for storing foodgrains in each State—

(i) constructed; and

(ii) taken on lease

by the Government of India?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (i) Total godown accommodation either constructed or purchased by the Government of India for storage of foodgrains up to the end of this year amounts to 202.8 thousand tons.

(ii) Total godown accommodation taken on lease by the Government of India during the current year amounted to 840.7 thousand tons.

State-wise break-up of the storage accommodation is indicated in the attached statement. [See Appendix VI, Annexure No. 149.]

WORKING OF THE SUGAR FACTORIES

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

(a) whether it is a fact that less number of sugar factories worked in the year 1952-53 than in the year 1951-52; if so, why; and

(b) whether the factories which did not work in the year 1952-53 have started working in the year 1953-54?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KIDWAI): (a) Yes, mainly due to inadequate supply of cane in the areas of the factories concerned.

(b) Out of 6 factories that worked in 1951-52 but not in 1952-53, only one factory is reported to be working during 1953-54.

DIESEL RAIL CARS RUN BY THE INDIAN RAILWAYS

283. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Diesel Rail Cars which are at present being run by the Indian Railways;

(b) the places between which they are running; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to extend the system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, Annexure No. 150.]