

This General Body while viewing with grave concern the inordinate delay caused despite the various measures taken by the Executive Committee of the Union in getting it redressed by way of correspondence at Conférence etc., impresses upon the authorities concerned the necessity of redressing the above cited grievances within a period of one month hereof failing which this General Body is constrained to authorise the Executive Committee of the Union to call another General Body meeting to decide for ballot for strike as the last hope to get Government's decision on the issues above enumerated.

\*Necessary orders have since been issued in respect of items 1, 2 and 9.

#### PAPER FROM CANE BAGASSE

\*113. SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun has perfected a process for the manufacture of paper from cane bagasse;

(b) if so, what are the details of the process;

(c) whether the process has been tried under manufacturing conditions; and if so, what are the results; and

(d) what steps Government are taking for the full utilisation of this process in the paper industry?

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

(b) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(b) Briefly stated, the process consists of treating bagasse in a rod (or a roller) mill and then screening it with a view to separate the fibres from the pith. Thereafter it is digested with caustic soda solution at

153°—162C. for 5 to 6 hours. The pulp is then processed in the usual manner and after bleaching is mixed with about 30 per cent. of bamboo pulp. Titanium dioxide and china clay are used as "fillers".

(c) Yes; this was done on the paper making machine of Shree Gopal Paper Mills, Ltd., Jagadhri and the paper produced at the mills was used for printing a *dak* edition of "The Statesman" dated July 22, 1953, on its high rotary press. The paper was found to be of a very good quality.

(d) Now that the paper produced on the pilot plant scale has been found to be satisfactory at the experiment carried out last month as referred to in answer to (c), Government are now considering how best to expand the utilisation of bagasse for the manufacture of paper.

#### DISPOSAL OF SUGAR FROM THE MILLS

\*114. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bihar branch of the Indian Sugar Mills Association has urged upon Government the need for making arrangements for the speedy disposal of the stocks of sugar lying with the mills of North Bihar; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

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

(b) In addition to the monthly wagon quota, a special quota of 780 wagons was allowed to North Bihar factories in June-July 1953 for speedy movement of sugar.

#### SPECIAL PROVISION IN THE FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS

\*115. SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: