

# HOUSE RENT ALLOWANCE TO RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

\*33. SHRI B. RATH : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government for the grant of house rent allowance to the Railway employees in towns, where the population has gone up above one lakh according to 1951 census ; and

(b) if so, in how many towns such grants have been given and since when ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS & TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) No. The question is under the active consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI B. RATH : How long has it been under the active consideration of Government ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Not very long.

SHRI B. RATH : Is it not a fact that in April 1951 the census figures were in the hands of Government ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Of course, provisional figures were in the hands of Government.

SHRI B. RATH : Is it not a fact that the Pay Commission's recommendation has been in the hands of Government for the last three years ? The Pay Commission's recommendation about the grant of house rent allowance in cities where the population exceeds one lakh was made in the year 1949, and is it not a fact that that recommendation has been with the Government for the last three years ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The reclassification of cities on the basis of the 1951 census is under the active consideration of Government.

SHRI B. RATH : Is it not a fact that the Pay Commission made a recommendation that in cities where the population goes over one lakh, house rent allowance should be granted, and if after April 1951.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order, order. That question has already been put and answered.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I can give the assurance that the question will be decided at a very early date.

SHRI B. GUPTA : Will the hon. Minister define the categories of consideration ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

## WHEAT FROM THE U.S.A.

\*34. SHRI B. RATH : Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some stocks of wheat received from the United States of America have been found unsuitable for human consumption ;

(b) if so, the total quantity of wheat thus found unsuitable ; and

(c) what use such stocks have been put to ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI M.V. KRISHNAPPA) : (a), (b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

## STATEMENT

The production of foodgrains in 1950 and 1951 was poor on account of failure of crops and a loan agreement was negotiated with the United States of America under which we were entitled to purchase foodgrains in U.S.A. We got a loan of 190 million dollars (American) for the purchase of grain. In accordance with the usual practice of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the purchasing of the grain was entrusted to the India Supply Mission at Washington. Ten different grades of wheat totalling 1.9 million tons approximately were purchased from the loan money by our Mission.