

(b) what has been the total yearly transaction through the cheque system in each of these places since its introduction ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) :

(a) No. The system has not yet been introduced in any Post Office.

(i), (ii) and (b) Do not arise.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE AT COCHIN PORT

93. SHRI M. MANJURAN: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Administrative Officer at the Port of Cochin interfered in the disposal of any industrial dispute;

(b) whether he was appointed by any Tribunal as arbitrator in any such dispute;

(c) whether Government have received any complaint regarding his activities in connection with such a dispute; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : (a) In the interests of the smooth working of the port, the Administrative Officer offered his good offices as mediator in a dispute between head-load labour, represented by the Cochin Thuraimugha Thozhilali Union, and their employers, South India Corporation, Cochin Port and brought about an agreement.

(b) No.

(c) Shortly following the agreement, complaints were received by Government from workers who were not members of the Cochin Thuraimugha Thozhilali Union that a number of workers previously working on a casual basis for the South India Corporation had been discharged and others were taken.

(d) The Chief Labour Commissioner has since investigated into the

matter and brought about a settlement by conciliation.

DISMISSAL OF STAFF FROM POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

94. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the members of the staff of Posts and Telegraphs Department that were removed from service during 1951-52 for behaving discourteously to the public; and

(b) how many of them have been reinstated ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Two Packers; named Shri R. Subramaniam and Shri Nabi Kishore Singh serving in Nagpur General Post Office and Imphal Post Office respectively.

(b) One.

CARS MAINTAINED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE IN THE CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

95. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cars maintained by all Departments in the Central Secretariat at Government expense;

(b) what was the expenditure incurred on them during 1951-52; and

(c) what was the cost at which they were purchased ?

THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : (a) (i) Secretariat—37.

(ii) Attached and subordinate offices—23.

(b) (i) Secretariat—Rs. 1,81,409.

(ii) Attached and subordinate offices—Rs. 72,604.

(c) (i) Secretariat—Rs. 3,94,422.

(ii) Attached and subordinate offices—Rs. 1,78,777.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include information in respect of staff cars maintained by the Parliament Secretariat.

#### STOCKS OF WHEAT AND RICE IN INDIA

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

(a) what are the present stocks of rice and wheat in India; and

(b) which Asian countries can supply those two articles of food stuff to India, and in what quantities ?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI) : (a) On 12th July 1952, the latest date for which data are available, the total Government stocks of rice and wheat amounted to 1,047,000 tons and 1,847,000 tons respectively.

(b) Iraq, Turkey, Syria, Pakistan and Russia have been exporters of wheat and Burma, Thailand, Indo-China, Nepal, Pakistan and China of rice. It is impossible to say what quantities can be sold to India as that would depend on the exportable surplus in these countries at any particular time, their commitments to other countries, our own requirements and prices.

#### IMPROVEMENT IN CATTLE BREED

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

(a) what steps have Government taken to improve the breed of cattle in the country; and

(b) whether they have imported any bulls or cows from outside; and if so, how many, and at what cost ?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMED KIDWAI) : (a) The measures taken by Government in connection with livestock improvement are :

1. Research relating to the breeding of pedigree stock, prevention and treatment of contagious animal diseases, preparation of vaccines and sera, artificial insemination, animal nutrition and dairying, is being conducted at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, and Mukteswar, and the Indian Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore. The results of research are made known to the public and to the State Governments from time to time.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is financing several schemes of research for improvement of livestock in the country. Reports of the Council containing details of the work undertaken and results obtained are available in the Library of the House.

A comprehensive Key Village Scheme for bringing about speedy improvement of the cattle wealth of the country has been drawn up. The Scheme is included in the National Plan. A sum of Rs. 8.82 lakhs was sanctioned during 1951-52 and 94 Key Farm Centres were sanctioned as a forerunner to the All-India Scheme. Out of these, 55 are reported to have been actually started, and the rest are in the process of being started. These Centres will be merged in the All-India Key Village Scheme proposed to be started from the current year.

(b) The following statement gives the required information regarding imports since 1948 :

1948	No. of cattle imported	Total cost Rs.
From Pakistan.	147 Tharparkar cows 3 Tharparkar bulls	1,04,910
From Afghanistan	16 cows 2 bulls 9 calves	7,625