

(c) the nature of efforts made to procure rice from Burma and elsewhere on rupee payment and the result thereof?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) and (b). It is not in the public interest to disclose the price at which rice has been purchased.

(c) Arrangements exist for payment of rice imported from U.S.A. and U.A.R. in Indian rupees. We do not have any arrangements for payment in rupees for covering import of rice from any other country, including Burma, nor does Burma seem to be interested in receiving payment for her rice exports in non-convertible Indian rupees.

#### Spray Irrigation

\*1126. { Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Murlī Mamohar:  
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shri Rajdeo Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start spray irrigation on an experimental basis to ensure maximum use of water;

(b) if so, the main reason therefor; and

(c) the approximate cost for irrigating one acre of land?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) A scheme for study of sprinkler irrigation has been initiated at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute with effect from the 26th December, 1963.

(b) The scheme has been initiated with a view to (i) gather data on sprinkler equipment and field operating conditions for working out adjustments in design, installation and operation; (ii) evaluate the saving in

water with supplemental irrigation system and its economics as compared to surface method of irrigation; and (iii) study the effect of sprinkler irrigation on the physical conditions of the soil and the growth and the yield of selected crops as compared to surface method of water application.

(c) As the Scheme has been started only recently it is too early to assess the cost of sprinkler irrigation at present.

#### Agricultural Production

\*1127. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been possible so far to use radio isotopes for increasing yield of agricultural produce and for other agricultural purposes in the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has been used so far; and

(c) what has been the result of such use?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT12750/64].

टूंडला जंक्शन के निकट मालगाड़ी का लटा जाना

\*११२८. { श्री कछवाय :  
श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :  
श्री शिकरे :  
श्री यु० सि० चौधरी :  
श्री श्रींकारलाल बेरवा :  
श्री यशपाल सिंह :

क्या रेलब मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि टूंडला जंक्शन से ६ किलोमीटर पूर्व सशस्त्र गुण्डों ने एक माल गाड़ी को रोक लिया था;