

(b) if so, by whom; and

(c) the steps taken to protect crops from being damaged or eaten up by locusts?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes

(b) By the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

(c) The Government of India's Locust Warning Organisation operating in the desert area is already vigilant and the concerned State authorities also have been alerted

Vanaspati

***322. Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of *Vanaspati* in the current year is falling as compared to production for the corresponding period of last year;

(b) if so, by how much and the reasons for the same,

(c) whether its export has also suffered due to this shortage in production, and

(d) the steps taken to encourage the export of *Vanaspati*?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) There are

(b) and (c) Do not arise

(d) While Commercial representatives abroad have endeavoured to promote the export of *Vanaspati*, Government have released substantial quantities for exports and have refrained from levying any export duty

Indigenous System of Medicine

***323. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) the precise functions of the Adviser on Indigenous Systems of Medicine, and

(b) what new medicines have been invented and what changes have been

introduced in the old system within the last two years?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No 98.]

Electrification of Railways

***324. Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the names of firms from whom offers of expert advice and assistance have been received in connection with the electrification scheme of Indian Railways,

(b) the names of firms whose advice has been accepted, and

(c) the terms and conditions on which they have agreed to do the job?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c) Global tenders for the appointment of Technical Associates for railway electrification projects were opened in London on 29th June, 1957 and are still under scrutiny by the Railway Mission abroad. It is premature therefore to give the names of the firms and the terms and conditions on which they will agree to do the job

Community Projects and N.E.S. Areas

***325. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have prepared any scheme for co-ordinating the welfare services for women and children in the community project and National Extension Service areas;

(b) if so, the nature of that scheme, and

(c) when that scheme will be introduced?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Yes,

Sir. In C.D. Blocks commencing 1957-58 onwards.

(b) The scheme formulated aims at Co-ordination of the programme for women and children in C.D. blocks with those sponsored by the Central Social Welfare Board. The Welfare Extension Project of the Central Social Welfare Board is to be made co-terminous with the community development block. The co-ordinated programme and activities in this project relates to the welfare of women and children, particularly maternity and child care, health and social education, arts and crafts, cultural and recreational activities for women and children. The co-ordinated programme will be implemented through the Project Implementation Committee at district level as approved by the Block Advisory Committee. During 1957-58, the number of C.D. blocks for co-ordinated programme will be 200, of which hundred each will be of April and October series.

(c) The scheme has been introduced with effect from 1st April, 1957.

Purchase of Rice

*224. { Shri Mahanty:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Kasliwal:

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

(a) the total quantity of rice which Government propose to requisition from the State of Orissa;

(b) the rate at which the stock is proposed to be purchased;

(c) the stock Government propose to buy from other States; and

(d) the rate of purchase?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). Government are at present purchasing the surplus stocks of rice/paddy that is being offered by the millers and

stockists in Orissa at the following prices:—

	Common	Fine	Super fine
Rice F.O.R. despatching station bagged	Rs. 17-4	17-12	18-12
Paddy F.O.R. despatching station bagged.	Rs. 9-4	9-10	10-2

(c) and (d). The intention is to purchase the entire surplus of acceptable quality.

The Government of India have not so far started making similar purchases in any other State.

Central Advisory Council on Fisheries

204. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to para 10 of the proceedings of the All India Fisheries Conference, 1956 and state:

(a) whether in conformity with the desire of the Minister as expressed therein steps have been taken to set up a Central Advisory Council on fisheries, and

(b) if not, why not?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A proposal to set up a Central Fisheries Advisory Board consisting of representatives of the Central Government, State Government, Fishermen's Co-operatives and Fishing Industry is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority.

205. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state why the layout of Government sponsored colony of Kirtinagar has not been approved by the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): The layout plan of