

A statement showing the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Central and State Governments is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 38.]

NON-PAYMENT OF SALARIES TO RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

***264. Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of cases of non-payment of salaries and allowances to the Railway employees;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from the Railwaymen's Unions complaining against the procedure for the payment of the earned dues of the Railway employees; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to expedite the payment of these dues?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). The Minister has referred in his budget speech to the existence of these complaints and the setting up of a Committee of Directors of the Railway Board to investigate them. This Committee is making the investigation.

IMPORT OF RAILWAY COACHES

***265. Shri N. M. Lingam:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether orders have been placed by Government with a German firm for metre gauge railway coaches for use on the N. E. Railway?

(b) If so, what is the value of the orders?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) £ 1,750,000 F.O.B.

NORTH BIHAR SUGAR FACTORIES

***266. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Bihar Sugar Factories are faced with a critical situation as a result of the accumulation of old stock of sugar;

(b) if so, what are the circumstances which have led to this situation; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps, if any, have so far been taken by Government to ease the situation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) There is some accumulation of sugar stocks with North Bihar factories as is also the case with other factories in Uttar Pradesh and South Bihar.

(b) The main reasons for accumulation of stocks are larger carry-over from the previous season, low off-take during October and November 1952 and increased production during the current season.

(c) Sugar movement has been stepped up. Sugar factories are also being allowed freely to store their surplus stocks in outside godowns.

RAILWAY COACHES (FANS)

***267. Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coaches of each class in different Railways;

(b) the number of Class III coaches so far fitted with fans in each Railway; and

(c) whether the fans so fitted are indigenous?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The information in respect of number of seats provided in various classes on each Railway is contained in Statement No. 10 of Volume II of the Railway Board's Report for 1951-52, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House.

(b) Central Railway	= 273	} Upto
Eastern "	= 326	
Northern "	= 133	
North Eastern Rly.	= 94	
Southern Railway	= 364	
Western "	= 476	

(c) Both indigenous and imported.

RANCHI MENTAL HOSPITAL

***268. Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the annual recurring expenditure on the Ranchi Inter-State Mental Hospital;

(b) the amount contributed annually by each of the States concerned; and

(c) the amount of contribution, if any, by the Central Government?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Rs. 8,30,000 approximately.

(b) The estimated amounts of contribution payable by the States concerned during 1952-53 are as follows:

	Rs.
(1) West Bengal	4,27,647
(2) Uttar Pradesh	73,371
(3) Bihar	1,04,816
(4) Orissa	12,578
(5) Madhya Pradesh	20,963
(6) Assam	12,578
(7) Delhi	10,482
(8) Other States	8,385
TOTAL	6,70,820

The actual amount of contribution from each State is finally adjusted on the basis of the actual number of patients treated at the Hospital.

(c) No contribution is made by the Central Government.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL

***269. Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of rice, wheat and other foodgrains have been supplied to the Government of West Bengal to feed the people of Calcutta and the industrial area under the arrangement agreed to by the Minister with the West Bengal Government;

(b) what quantities out of the foodgrains have been allocated for the Fair Price shops and the Ration shops respectively; and

(c) whether the cost of such food-stuffs would be borne entirely by the Government of West Bengal or any subsidy would be given by the Government of India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Under the agreement with the West Bengal Government, Centre has to supply 1,00,000 tons of rice for the rationing in Calcutta Industrial area, and upto 50,000 tons for supply through economic price shops. (It is presumed that

the reference in the question is to economic price shops.) Against this, 20,730 tons of rice have been allotted since 1st January 1953. As regards wheat, Centre would meet West Bengal's entire requirements. Since 1-1-1953, 80,000 tons of wheat have been allotted.

(c) The cost will be borne entirely by the Government of West Bengal. The question of subsidising the sale of foodgrains has not so far been decided.

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO MADRAS

***270. Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains imported into India during the year 1952-53 and from which countries;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains asked for by Madras State; and

(c) the quantity so far supplied?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Figures for the complete financial year 1952-53 will be available only in April, 1953. A statement is, however, placed on the Table of the House showing the quantities of foodgrains imported from each country during the 10 months from April, 1952 to January, 1953.

(b) The Basic Plan is worked on the basis of the calendar year. For 1953, Madras have asked for 825,000 tons of foodgrains.

(c) 106,000 tons of foodgrains were allotted to Madras during January and February, 1953.

STATEMENT

Foodgrains imported from each country during April, 1952 to January, 1953.

Country	Quantity in '000 tons
U.S.A.	1,268.3
Australia	178.9
Canada	458.6
China	167.3
Burma	285.3
Pakistan	19.7
Thailand	162.3
TOTAL	2,540.4