

(b) If so, at what periods such attempts were made by Government?

(c) If not, have Government explored the possibilities of this method?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Aerial operations against locusts are possible with particular types of aircraft. There are, however, limitations to such operations on account of the limited range of flight of aircraft suitable for the purpose and their limited insecticides carrying capacity.

(b) Aerial operations were undertaken in 1951 and 1952 with the assistance of planes and personnel loaned by U. S. Government. They are in progress at present also.

(c) Does not arise.

LOCAL TRAINS BETWEEN TEZPUR AND RANGAPARA

***707. Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were local trains running from Tezpur to Rangapara before Government took over the T.B. Railway;

(b) if so, how many;

(c) whether some of these trains have been stopped;

(d) if so, how many;

(e) whether there is a demand for the restoration of some of these trains; and

(f) whether Government propose to restore any of these trains?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) When the Tezpur-Balipara Railway was worked as narrow gauge first by the Company and then by the Government, the train services each way were as follows:

On Saturday—Two trains between Tezpur and Balipara.

On Sundays—A total of five trains viz., two between Tezpur and Balipara, two between Tezpur and Rangapara North and one between Tezpur and Bindukuri.

On other five days of the week—A total of three trains viz., two between Tezpur and Balipara and one train between Tezpur and Rangapara North.

(c) and (d). From 30th April 1953 with the conversion of the Tezpur-Rangapara North section into Metre gauge connecting with the rest of the North Eastern Railway, on Sundays there is now a reduction of two trains each way viz., one between Tezpur and Rangapara North and one between Tezpur and Bindukuri

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

ALLOTMENT OF WELLS

***708. Shri Ram Dass:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells allotted to each of the three States of Punjab, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh under the Supplementary Operational Agreement signed between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America on the 20th April, 1953; and

(b) the period within which each State has to complete the construction of the allotted wells?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Under Supplemental Agreement to Operational Agreement No. 6 as subsequently amended on 25th June 1953, 650 tubewells, have been allotted to four States as follows:

U.P.	280
Bihar	75
Punjab	160
Pepsu	135

(b) The whole project is scheduled to be completed by June, 1956.