

KALAGARH-KASHIPUR RAILWAY LINE

*1288. **Shri Bhakta Darshan**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new railway line was proposed to be constructed between Kalagarh in Garhwal and Kashipur in Nainital District (U.P.) several years ago;

(b) if so, when it was surveyed;

(c) what was its total length and the estimated expenditure on it;

(d) whether any intermediate stations were proposed on the line, and if so, at which places; and

(e) what were the reasons for dropping the proposal?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) It was last surveyed in 1946.

(c) The alignment surveyed was 31.41 miles long and the line was at that time estimated to cost Rs. 42.50 lakhs.

(d) The intermediate stations proposed were Thakurdwara, Jaspur, Rehar and Afzalgarh.

(e) Apart from the line not being expected to be remunerative, it was considered that the needs of the area could be more economically met by road transport.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF CHILD-WELFARE

*1289. **Shrimati Jayashri**: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Child-Welfare is receiving any assistance from Government; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to do so?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) Government have not received any request for financial assistance from the Indian Council of Child Welfare but if they are approached in the matter, the request will be duly considered.

FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, DEHRA DUN

*1290. **Shri Hem Raj**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what experiments have been made by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun on the different varieties of woods found in different parts of India;

127 PSD.

(b) if so, what wood industries has it found suitable to be adopted as cottage industries for commercial purposes; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any plan to encourage those industries in the States in which those woods are found?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Forest Research Institute was founded in the year 1906. All its experiments and achievements have been described in its Annual Reports. Annual Reports up-to-date will be found in the Library of the House. The last Report—Report of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture for 1951-52 has already been circulated. Further, I am placing on the Table of the House a Brochure giving a record of its past achievement. [Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-55/52].

(b) The Institute considers the following industries as suitable for adoption as cottage industries for commercial purposes:

Manufacture of tea-chests, battery-separators, and pencil slats; manufacture of camphor, tamarind seed powder, and paper from Sabai grass.

(c) Yes. All the States have been advised on the possibilities of developing these industries. Assistance is rendered in the supply of timber, casein, and other raw materials at reasonable prices to these industries in the States. The Central Advisory Board on Forest Utilisation, in which the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce, and Industry are represented, along with others, helps the Government's developing the forest industries in different States.

BARTER AGREEMENT

*1292. **Shri M. Islamuddin**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the kind, quantity and value of the foodgrains imported from abroad in 1951 on barter agreement;

(b) what Indian commodities were exchanged with them; and

(c) whether there is any such barter agreement for the year 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Following quantities of foodgrains were