

(ii) Provision of Special Parcel vans by passenger trains on sections on which the volume of traffic in paddy seedlings called for such additional transport;

(iii) Concession rate of 1/4th the tariff rate with full terminals.

No specific requests for facilities for the transport of paddy seedlings to other flood affected areas were received by Government.

RAILWAY COACHES

*190. Pandit S. C. Mishra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the new design of metre-gauge third class coaches is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, whether any help of foreign experts is also sought in this matter;

(c) whether these coaches are to be manufactured in India; and

(d) if so, to which firm the Contract has been given for their manufacture?

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

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) No contract has yet been placed but it is likely to be placed with Hindustan Aircraft Ltd.

RAILWAY FREIGHT

*195. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal before Government to fix the maximum limit in mileage for purposes of freight; and

(b) if so, what is the proposed limit?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, Sir, Maxima rates per maund have, however, been already prescribed for goods traffic chargeable at class rates and for coal.

(b) Does not arise.

TUBE-WELLS

*198. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 362 on the 20th August, 1953 and state whether Government have examined the financial implications of the scheme for sinking tube-wells on either side of the Bikaner Canal near Ferozepur Headworks to augment supplies of water when ordinarily the supply of water in the river is less during the summer months?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): No, Sir. The Government of Rajasthan have not so far shown keenness to proceed with the proposal.

JUTE AND SUGARCANE PRODUCTION

*199. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of production of jute and sugarcane will be achieved in time as specified in the Five Year Plan; and

(b) if not, the main reasons therefor?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) That is the expectation.

(b) Does not arise

INTERNATIONAL RICE COMMISSION

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India participated in the meetings of the