

nisation upto the 30th March, 1953 during the season 1952-53 is as follows:

Name of State	Area of 'kans' infested land	Area of jungle land (ploughed)
Uttar Pradesh	16,800 acres	†8,254
Madhya Pradesh	23,900 "	
Madhya Bharat	40,500 "	
Bhopal	13,500 "	
TOTAL	91,700 acres	8,254 acres

†In addition, 7,621 acres have been tree-felled and 13,264 acres made ready for plowing.

- (B) Yes. 30 heavy tractors have already been ordered and are likely to be received in 1953-54.

RAILWAY LINES FOR BIHAR

1007. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes for construction of new railway lines or for the restoration of dismantled lines or for extension of the existing ones, both approved and pending execution in Bihar; and

(b) the total cost likely to be incurred thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Madhepura Murliganj construction and the Bhagalpur-Mandar Hill restoration are the only two approved works and both these are in progress. No other new lines, restoration of dismantled lines or extension of existing lines has yet been approved in Bihar.

(b) The total cost likely to be incurred is Rs. 32.15 lakhs on the Madhepura-Murliganj construction and Rs. 81 lakhs on the Bhagalpur-Mandar Hill restoration.

QUARTERS FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

1008. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of quarters estimated to be required for the Railway employees in India at the end of the year 1953;

(b) the total number of quarters available at present;

(c) the total number expected to be completed during the year 1953-54; and

(d) what is the contemplated provision for the rest?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Complete information on the four points raised is not readily available and is being collected. It will be laid on the Table of the House and communicated to the hon. Member as soon as it is available.

DRAPRIM—ANTI-MALARIA DRUG

1009. Sardar A. S. Saigal: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the test that has been made with regard to the Anti-Malaria Drug "Draprime" which has achieved tremendous result at the New York Research Laboratory?

(b) Is it a fact that by the same medicine "Draprime" malaria infected African village was completely cleared of the disease?

(c) Do Government propose to examine the medicine and try it in those places where malaria is in violent form, specially in the Chhattisgarh Tract of Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) It has been reported in scientific papers that 209 men, women and children were placed on suppressive prophylactic "Daraprime" treatment for one entire malaria season under medical supervision in the Belgian Congo. The dosage administered was 25-mg. once weekly per adult. At the end of the season infection in the community was extremely low as compared to those in neighbouring villages.

(c) Intensive laboratory trials of the drug were initiated in 1951 and large scale field trials were undertaken in 1952 and are still in progress in certain States. The Madhya Pradesh Government have been requested by the Malaria Institute of India to undertake trials of the drug and the matter is under the consideration of the State Government. No special request was made by the Malaria Institute of India for conducting trials in the Chhattisgarh tract and the selection of the venue has been left to the discretion of the Madhya Pradesh Government.

PRODUCTION OF BETEL-NUTS

1010. Shri H. S. Prasad: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the production of betel-nuts in India is sufficient to meet the internal demand?

(b) If not, what are the countries from where betel-nuts are imported into India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) No.

(b) Betel-nuts are imported into India from Ceylon, Strait Settlements, Malaya and East Pakistan.

ASSISTANCE TO BIHAR FOR IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1011. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Central assistance to the State of Bihar in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 for the improvement of Agriculture; and

(b) the item on which the amount was spent year-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 51.]

PROCUREMENT OF RICE IN ORISSA

1012. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice procured in the State of Orissa during the current year and how it compares with the last year;

(b) what is the system of procurement; and

(c) the rate of procurement?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Procurement of rice during the current year upto 15-3-1953, the latest date for which figures are available, amounted to 1,37,630 tons compared with 67,949 tons during the corresponding period in 1952.

(b) Procurement of rice in Orissa is done on the monopoly system through procurement agents appointed by the Orissa Government.

(c) The procurement prices of rice approved for 1953 are Rs. 15-9-0, Rs. 12-4-0 and Rs. 11-6-6 per maund for superfine, fine and coarse rice respectively.

SCARCITY CONDITIONS IN MANIPUR

1013. Shri L. J. Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (c) of starred question No. 903 asked on the 3rd December 1952 regarding Scarcity conditions in Manipur and state:

(a) whether 1402 maunds of rice imported from Assam Government stocks, which were lying unsold there in the State godown have now been sold;

(b) if so, at what rate;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to sell the said rice at a reduced rate and what are the reasons for delay in disposing of this rice;

(d) whether it is a fact that rice is deteriorating; and

(e) the estimated amount of loss caused by non-disposal or disposal at the reduced rate of the said Assam rice?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (d). Out of the rice imported from Assam, there are only 520 maunds left unsold. The rest of the quantity was sold at the subsidised rate of Rs. 15 per maund. The balance of 520 maunds is quite fit for human consumption and is being returned to Assam.

(e) Does not arise.

TABULATORS

1014. Dr. Amin: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how much amount will be allocated to each State out of the provision of Rs. 1,50,000 on account of mechanical aid for vital statistics to Part A States?

(b) What is the cost of running a mechanical aid for the tabulation of vital statistics?

(c) Have the Central Government inquired whether any mechanical tabulators are employed by Part A States for the maintenance of statistics other than health?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The question of allocation of the amount will be considered by Government in the light of requirements of each Part A State during the year.

(b) The cost of running mechanical tabulators will depend on the volume of work done in respect of vital statistics in each State.

(c) As far as the Government of India are aware the State Governments do not possess mechanical tabulators for maintenance of statistics other than health.

HEALTH CENTRE AT NAJARGARH

1015. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state: