

(d) what is being done to put the catchment areas of river valley projects under proper afforestation to protect the costly dams and canals, and

(e) what percentage of the catchment areas has been afforested in the last two Five Year Plan periods and what is going to be done in the Third Five Year Plan period?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) 'Forest' being a State subject, the responsibility for implementing the National Forest Policy rests on the States. Its working is however, continuously under review by the Central Board of Forestry on which the States are represented at Minister's level.

The Central Government assist the States in the formulation of State Plans for the development of forests when such assistance is asked for. These plans are annually reviewed in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and appropriate recommendations are made to the State Governments.

(b) According to the available statistics, the area under forests went down from 2,77,232 Sq. miles in 1950-51 to 2,71,634 Sq. miles in 1955-56, i.e. by about 2%. This was primarily due to transfer of forest land to other Land Utilisation leads. Figures of area at the end of the 2nd Plan are not yet available.

(c) By the end of the Third Five Year Plan period an area of 8,39,000 acres is expected to be covered by new plantations. Information is, however, not available whether these plantations will be undertaken on the existing forest land or outside the forest areas.

(d) A special centrally sponsored programme for undertaking soil conservation measures in the catchments of the major river valley projects during the Third Five Year Plan has been approved at an estimated cost of about Rs. 11 crores. This provides for various types of works in the catchment areas including afforestation.

Besides this, the State Plans also contain a provision of Rs. 52 lakhs for such measures in such catchments. In order to ensure prompt implementation of this programme in projects covering more than one State, it has been suggested that the concerned States should set up inter-state Boards.

(c) Systematic attention began to be given to this problem only during the Second Plan period, when an area of 2.25 lakh acres was treated under Soil Conservation measures, including afforestation. During the Third Plan period, an area of 10 lakh acres is expected to be covered by such measures in the catchments of the various river valley projects.

#### **Movement of Coal on Sundays and Holidays**

**448. Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a fall in the movement of coal on Sundays and holidays;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that such a fall affects the overall movement of the coal; and

(c) if so, what measures Government propose to take to guarantee a normal movement of coal on off days?

#### **The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):**

(a) and (b). Loading of coal for movement by rail is comparatively less on Sundays/Holidays than on other days of the week. This drop in loading affects the overall movement of coal.

(c) The coal trade and Industry are being constantly persuaded to resort to coal loading on Sundays and Holidays on the same level as on week days.

#### **Incentives to Railway Employees**

**449.** { **Shri S. B. Das:**  
**Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri Basumatari:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government give any incentive to persons who submit paper for better designs, construction, maintenance and operation of steam locos and Electric locomotives;

(b) if so, what kind of incentives are given ;and

(c) the number of people given awards in the past in this respect?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Incentives are given in the following form:

- (i) Cash Rewards;
  - (ii) Advance Increments;
  - (iii) Preference for grant of study leave;
  - (iv) Commendation remarks recorded in the Service Files; and
  - (v) Scholarships to the children etc.
- (c) About 78 employees have been awarded from 1957 to the end of 1961.

#### Supply of Fertilizers

450. { Shri Kolla Venkaiah:  
Shrimati Laxmi Bai:  
Shri Karni Singhji:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Umanath:  
Shri M. N. Swamy:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quotas of Ammonium Sulphate and different other fertilizers advised by the Central Fertilizer Pool for distribution to various States by the Fertilizer Corporation of India in 1959-60, 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63;

(b) the quantities of different varieties of fertilizers distributed in different quarters of 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62;

(c) the basis for this distribution; and

(d) the quantities of different fertilizers demanded by various States during 1959-60, 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) and (b) Allocation of fertilisers from Sindri and Nangal factories of the Fertiliser Corporation of India and the quantity distributed by the Central Fertilizer Pool I in different years from this source are given in the statements laid on the Table of the House. Placed in Library. [See No. LT-309/62]

(c) Nitrogenous fertilizers are generally allotted on the basis of the demands received from different States and the available supply. Consideration is also given to carry-over stocks likely to be available with the States, the past off-take and special reasons such as drought conditions, damage to crops due to excessive rain-fall, capacity of the farmers to use fertilizers etc.

(d) The requisite information is Placed in Library. [See No. LT-309/62]

#### Power Supply cut in the States

451. { Shri Kolla Venkaiah:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaud  
Shri Umanath:  
Shri Subbaraman:  
Shri Muthiah:  
Shri Mohammad Elias:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the States that have introduced the Electric Power cut in the supply;

(b) the percentage of power cut in the supply in various States;

(c) whether the existing agricultural load is maintained in various States that have undertaken the cut;

(d) whether the Industrial power supply is maintained in the States who have resorted to cut; and