

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Is it a fact that a special delegation of the P&T Board was deputed for this purpose and if so, was the Indian diplomatic mission on the spot not able to negotiate this transaction?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Yes; a delegation was sent and it was at the instance of the World Bank and our embassy there.

**Shri A. V. Raghavan:** May I know whether there is any proposal to utilise any portion of this amount for providing direct telephone and telegraph facilities between Trivandrum and Kozhikode?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a different question.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** By what time would the first instalment be arriving in India and what would be the amount of the first instalment?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** This is for the import of material. Specifications are being worked out, and as soon as they have been worked out, world tenders will have to be invited. After the world tenders are invited, the materials will be imported and payment will be made by the IDA.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** May I know what special projects are going to be taken up with the credit of the IDA?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is not for any one project. It is for the general increase of the telecommunication facilities in the country.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. There is much noise. I cannot carry on the proceedings in this manner. Either I should stop or hon. Members should. Shri Pottekkatt.

**Shri Pottekkatt:** May I know whether any amount will be set apart for telegraph and telephone communications in Kerala?

**Mr. Speaker:** That does not arise. Next question.

### Crop Insurance

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\*284. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**  
**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:**  
**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:**

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

(a) the progress that has so far been made in giving a start to Crop Insurance; and

(b) whether along with Crop Insurance Cattle Insurance will also be introduced?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) In pursuance of the assurance given to Parliament in 1947 a scheme of crop insurance was formulated and circulated to various State Governments for adoption. The State Governments did not however find it possible to implement the scheme owing to financial stringency.

The Government of Punjab has, however, made a provision for implementing a pilot scheme for crop insurance during the Third Plan period. The work is likely to start in 1963-64, after legislation for this purpose is undertaken as the scheme is to be implemented on compulsory basis.

Further continuance of this scheme in Punjab or its adoption by other States will depend on the result achieved in connection with this pilot scheme.

(b) No.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether the Government have examined the feasibility of such insurance and, if so, what are the measures?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Yes; we have examined the feasibility and we think that it is quite feasible to be introduced, and therefore, we have advised the State Governments to undertake it if they so desire.

**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** During the last session, the hon. Minister had stated in reply to a previous question that statistics are being collected as far as this scheme is concerned. May I know to what extent progress has been made as far as the collection of statistics is concerned?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Now, the Bill is ready and we have asked the Punjab Government to send their officers for consultation. But, in the meantime, as hon. Members know, this emergency has arisen and we are awaiting the arrival of the Punjab Government's officers here.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** A pilot scheme is being tried in Punjab. What is the extent of that pilot scheme?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Six centres, one each in six districts, are going to be taken according to this scheme after the Bill is enacted into law.

**Shri D. D. Puri:** What is the quantum of Central assistance for this pilot scheme in the Punjab?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Actually, that will have to be determined, but this is going to be a centrally-sponsored scheme.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know whether the Punjab Government is meeting all the expenditure now for this scheme?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** This is a Central scheme.

**श्री प्रकाशबोर शास्त्री :** फसलों या पशुओं की बीमा कराने सम्बन्धी योजनाओं को जिनका कि किसानों के जीवन से सीधा सम्बन्ध है अन्तिम रूप देने से पहले क्या किसानों के भी मुख्य प्रतिनिधियों से कुछ परामर्श किया गया है ?

**डा० राम सुभगसिंह :** वस्तुतः हम लोग समझते हैं कि संसद के सदस्य और विधान सभाओं के सदस्य लोग किसानों का काफी प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं लेकिन यदि जरूरत

सम्बन्धी जाएगी तो हम और लोगों से भी राय ले लेंगे ।

**Shri Jaswant Mehta:** As the Minister has stated that the States are not prepared to accept the scheme due to financial stringency, why is the Central Government not taking up the scheme?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** We have not dropped it. We have approached the State Governments to undertake this scheme and the Punjab Government is the first State which has come forward. Others are also welcome.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इसमें नैचुरल क्लैमिटी के लिये भी कोई प्राविजन है ?

**डा० राम सुभग सिंह :** जी हाँ इसमें प्राकृतिक प्रकोपों के लिये काफी व्यवस्था है । इसमें बहुत सारी व्यवस्थाएँ हैं ।

#### Production of Electric Locomotives

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{ **Shri Maheswar Naik:**  
\*286. { **Shri Bishamchander Seth:**  
      { **Shri P. C. Borooh:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been signed by the Government of India with eight foreign concerns known as Group for production of electric locomotives in India;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines of the agreement; and

(c) what type of assistance will be given by the eight representatives of foreign concerns?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 64].

**Shri Maheswar Naik:** May I know whether Heavy Electricals, Bhopal are going to manufacture electric loco-