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first month we put on this route only 7 vehicles. In the second month, January, we put on the road 20 vehicles, which means that the number is progressing.

Shri Liladhar Kotoki: May I know whether the strength was proposed to be at least 100 and it was proposed to be completed by the end of March? If so, has that strength been achieved?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No, it was not intended to be completed by the end of March. We have already acquired 50 trucks. In the course of the ensuing year we propose to acquire another 50 trucks, depending on the exigencies of the traffic.

भी विभूति भिश्व : सरकार ने प्रासाम को बंगाल से लिंक करने के लिए सीधे बंगाल से ग्रासाम तक सिलीगुड़ी होकर एक रूट बनाया है ग्रीर एक ग्रासाम से बिहार होकर सिलीगुड़ी तक रूट बनाया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इन दोनों रूटस पर कितने ट्रक्स ग्रीर सामान ढोने की बसें रखी गई है।

श्री राज बहादर : यह प्रश्न दूसरा है।

श्री विभूति मिश्रः यह इसी से सम्बन्धित है। सरकार ने दो रूट्म बनाए हैं: एक बिहार होकर बंगाल से आसाम जाने का ग्रौर दूसरा सीधा बंगाल से आसाम जाने का। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इन दोनों रूट्म पर क्या प्रबन्ध किया गया है।

भ्रध्यक्ष महोदयः इस सवाल का जवाब इस वक्त मिनिस्टर साहव के पास नहीं है ।

श्वी राज ब**ादुर**ः अगर श्राप इजाजत देंतो में जवाब दे सकता हूं। मुझे इस मैं कोई ऐतराब नहीं है।

सवाल यह है कि हम को कलकता से आसाम तक माल ले जाना है। बहुत सा माल ऐसा भी है जो सिलीगुड़ी से यह ट्रक रेलवे से लेते है और आगे ले जाते है। धब हम कोशिश करते है कि जहां से माल हम को मिल जाता है. वहां से ही ले जाते हैं ग्रौर लम्बे रूट से नहीं ले जाते है।

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether it is a fact that the trucks plying to Assam by that route are stopped at Jagignope for want of a bridge over Brahmaputra and they are not able to proceed further? If so, what steps are Government taking to remove this bottleneck, especially at the time of the emergency?

Shri Raj Bahadur: At Jogigopa, whenever occasion or need arises, whenever it is necessary, we try to strengthen the arrangement for ferrying and that we do by asking the Joint steamer companies or other river services to place their trucks at our disposal.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if it is a fact that private commercial undertakings are also allowed to ply their fleet simultaneously with this organisation and if so, may I know whether the Government have ascertained the extent of competition that this organisation might have to face?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We think and our experience is that there is enough traffic for the existing private operators and for the new organisation. There should be no apprehension on that score. Even if there was any apprehension, we have to appreciate the fact that we propose to stabilise this organisation with a view to ensure that in any odd moment of emergency or of any other eventuality taking place, there is a line of communication alternative to the railways to stand in good stead for our requirements,

Consumers Co-operative Societies

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*781. { Shri Shree Narayan Das: Shri Inder J. Malhotra:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) the present position with regard to the setting up of Consumers Cooperative Societies in various parts of the country under the new scheme recently adopted by Government; (b) the nature of participation of the Central Government in the scheme; and

(c) the extent to which the scheme has proved popular?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Seventy two wholesalejcentral cooperative stores and 848 primary stores|branches have been organised under the new scheme upto 25-3-1963.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

The entire amount of financial assistance as per pattern indicated below will be borne by the centre to enable the state governments to implement the scheme.

Wholesale stores	Maximum scale		
(i) Share capital con- tribution.	Rs. 1 lakh on a mathematic ching basis with the subacribed shares capital.		
(ii) Clean credit ac- commodation.	Rs. 2 lakhs.		
(iii) Loans and grants for godowns and purchase of trucks and equipment.	Rs. 1 lakh (25 percent subsidy and 75 loan).		
(iv) Subsidy for ma- nagerial expenses and rent.	Rs. 1,000* spread over a period 3 to 5 years.		
Primary Stores.			
(i) Share capital	Rs. 2,500 on mat-		

(ii) Subsidy for managerial expenses a period of 3 to 5 and rent. 5 years.

The cost of a whole time Joint Registrar and his nucleus staff for each state will also be borne by the central government.

(c) The response from the public is quite encouraging.

I must beg your pardon. In the statement laid, instead of Rs. 10,000 in item (iv), Rs. 1000 is typed. It is a

typographical mistake. I pray it may be corrected.

Shri Tyagi: It should be Rs. 10,000.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the hon. Deputy Minister is in a position to give any figure state-wise for these co-operatives?

Shri B. S. Murthy; Yes, Sir.

	Wholesale	Primary
Andhra	1	20
Assam .	3	61
Bihar	2	80-
Gujarat .	. 7	89
Jammu and Kashmir	4 3 7 2	ģ
Kerala	. 2	25
Madhya Pradesh	3	55
Madras	10	70
Maharashtra	14	50
Mysore		93
Orissa .		2
Punjab .	23	We have
- ,-	5	not got
		figures
		for
		primary
		stores
Rajasthan	4	75
U. P	5	123
West Bengal	4 5 3	62
Tripura	i	We have
		not got
		at present
		the fig-
		res for
		primary
		stores
Delhi .	1	34
Manipur.	We have no	ot got any
-	figures	

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know what is the nature of the participation that the various States have expressed so far?

Shri B. S. Murthy: It is a Central scheme. We have already laid down certain principles which the `State Governments have to take up and work them up.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधवः जो कन्ज्यूमर्ज खटोर्ज खोले जा रहे हैं, चूंकि उनको प्रईवट श्रोनर्ज के माथ काप्पीटीकान करना है, इस लिए क्या उनकी महायता देने की गवर्नमट की कोई योजना है, ताकि उनको नकमान न हो?

^{*}The figure Rs. 1,000/- was subsequently corrected by the Deputy Minister to read as Rs. 10,000/--Ed.

Shri B. S. Murthy: All these things have been taken into consideration. I think the working. If the consumer cooperatives will not land anybody in loss.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: May I know whether the existing consumer cooperatives are yielding profits?

Shri B. S. Murthy: It is our desire and hope.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the distribution of scarcity goods and imported scarcity goods have also been entrusted to these cooperatives and whether the supply of various items direct from the mills has also been arranged?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The main feature of these consumer co-operatives is that the goods required by the common man are made available in the stores, wholesale as well as primary stores.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is there any arrangement by which it will be possible to see that all these stores are properly fed with the goods they require on as low a price as possible and what is that organisation?

Shri B. S. Murthy: All arrangements are being made to see that the supply channels are always kept.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I wanted to know the organisation, if any. Or is it only Government officers and the Secretary who is going to do that?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The hon. Member knows many things about these supply channels and the Central organisation. The whole thing is now being entrusted to the State Governments.

Mr. Speaker: Now, he has the right to question and not to answer. Therefore, he wants to know it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: In all humility, I am answering him.

Shri Warlor: May I know whether these co-operatives are actually new ones or they are conversion of the old ones, and if they are new ones, their special nature as compared to the old ones?

Shri B. S. Murthy: There are certain old ones, but most of them are new.

Shri Balkrishnan: In the report of the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation, for the year 1962-63 it has been stated that the majority of the stores were not functioning properly. So, I want to know whether Government have made any enquiry as to why the majority of the stores were not functioning well.

Shri B. S. Murthy: An enquiry was made, and steps were taken to rectify wherever there were any defects in the societies. and they are being revitalised.

Shri Balkrishnan: What was the reason for their defective functioning?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The hon. Member knows that the societies are worked by men. and if we do not get good material in the men, naturally, the societies cannot function well.

Ships for Movement of Coal

*782. Shri P. C. Borooah: Shri Raghunath Singh: *782. Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Shri Subodh Hansda: Shri Surendra Pal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Transport and** Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Singh Committee has recommended for the movement of coal to acquire 12 more vessels which can ply in a draft not exceeding 22 feet and rejected the idea of acquiring liberty ships which require a draft of 27 feet; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?