

I have stated, this will be reviewed by the Department and if we find that it is working satisfactorily and if other State Governments want it to be extended to other States, we shall consider it.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मनीआर्डरों के कमीशन का रेट घटाया जा रहा है यह बहुत प्रसन्नता की बात है लेकिन क्या विभाग ने इस तरह की हिदायतें दी हैं कि इन मनीआर्डरों के पहुंचने में, वितरण करने में शीघ्रता की जाय क्योंकि ऐसी शिकायतें पहुंचती रहती हैं कि महीनों तक यह मनीआर्डर नहीं पहुंचते हैं और उनका पैमेंट नहीं होता है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो ग्राम मनी-आर्डरों के लिये एक शिकायत की चीज हो गयी ।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : यह जो मनी-आर्डरों का रेट घटाया जा रहा है तो क्या शिक्षकों को जो वेतन दिया जाता है उस में से वह मनीआर्डर की फीस काट कर तब वेतन भेजा जाता है या सरकार अपनी ओर से मनीआर्डर्स करती थी और अपना पैसा बचाने के लिये यह स्कीम लागू की गयी है ?

Shri Bhagavati: No, there is no question of reducing the money order commissions. This scheme is somewhat different. The State Government prepares all the money order slips and they deposit the entire amount which they have to pay to their teachers as salaries in the head post office and the money order slips are given to the head post office. From the head post office these slips are sent to the branch post office for payment. There is reduction in work in the post office and so it has been found possible by the Department to reduce the commission to one per cent instead of 1½ per cent as applicable in ordinary cases.

Aid from F.A.O.

***589. Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nation has promised to give substantial aid to India to feed the hungry in this country under its "Freedom from Hunger" programme; and

(b) if so, the quantum of aid and the form in which it is likely to be received?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) As a coordinating agency the Food and Agriculture Organisation does not promise or provide any assistance. It only undertakes to sponsor worthwhile projects and to induce interested Governments/private institutions in providing assistance for them. India has so far submitted nine such projects, of which one has already been accepted and two are in the process of being accepted.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

1. Establishment of a feed mixing plant at Anand. The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief has undertaken to supply the plant estimated to cost \$302,500.

2. Sheep production in India. Need for productive Breeds: The New-Zealand Freedom From Hunger Campaign Committee has offered to provide 690 ewes and 80 rams costing \$20,000. The offer is under consideration.

3. Production of protein rich food through poultry development. The Australian Freedom From Hunger Campaign Committee has offered to supply equipment costing \$130,000. The offer is under consideration.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: From the statement it appears that there is a consortium of countries helping us under the scheme of the FAO. May I know which single country has made the biggest contribution to this scheme?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: So far, it is the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief which has contributed \$302,500 which is going to be utilised at the Anand food mixing plant.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Are we only receiving help under this scheme or do we also make contributions to it and if latter be the case, what is the quantum of our promised help?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The food mixing plant at Anand will cost about Rs. 30 lakhs out of which about \$302,500 have been provided by the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief and the rest will be met by the Anand co-operative farm.

Dr. Colaco: The then hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture, Shri S. K. Patil, told the House the other day that there is a serious and ever dangerous deficiency of proteins in the food of the common people of the country. That also is hunger more or less—

Mr. Speaker: He must come to the question.

Dr. Colaco: The question is, what steps are the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Ministry of Health, in joint action with the international organisation—the FAO—taking to meet this serious deficiency?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We on our own are trying to step up protein production programme in the shape of poultry production, milk and piggery production, etc. Our National Campaign Committee has received offers from the various Freedom from Hunger Campaign Committees through the FAO, and some of these programmes also relate to the establishment of poultry and piggery production projects.

Shri R. S. Pandey: May I know what are those things which have been promised to be given to us for help?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That is in the Statement.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is the Ministry aware that national committees have been formed in most countries and non-official organisations have been very closely associated with them, so much so that many of these national committees are entirely organised and controlled by private organisations, and may I also know what efforts the Government of India is making to get the private organisations to participate in this great and important work?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Here also, we have by now virtually associated all important private organisations including universities, etc., and on our governing body there are more than a dozen Indian organisations represented, and we recently held a meeting here, which was very largely attended by the representatives of private organisations. Virtually decisions are taken by those representatives.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Are there reservations on the part of the Government in accepting the two proposals that have been mentioned in the statement and, if there are, what are they?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, there is no reservation. Our National Committee has accepted these two projects and they have been sent to our Economic Affairs Committee for scrutiny, and after we get them finalised from there, we will go ahead.

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि तमाम प्राइवेट आर्गनाइजेशन्स के जरिये यह रुपया खर्च किया जायगा। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन प्राइ-

वेट आर्गनाइजेशन में से कुछ का नाम बताया जा सकता है।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : उस में विमेन्ज आर्गनाइजेशन, यूनिवर्सिटी आर्गनाइजेशन, चेम्बर्स आफ कामर्स, इकानोमिक आर्गनाइजेशन और सोशल आर्गनाइजेशन, भारत सेवक समाज वगैरह, हैं। पोलिटिकल आर्गनाइजेशन उस में नहीं हैं।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether the Government are contemplating to formulate schemes putting special stress on famine-affected zones to get assistance from the FAO?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We do not seek assistance under this Freedom from Hunger Campaign committee. But whatever assistance they offer us, we try to utilise that quantum of assistance on suitable projects. While determining the projects, we do take into consideration the needs of our different tracts. The famine tracts will naturally be covered.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: Since the programme of Freedom from Hunger Campaign is applicable all over the world, may I know if our country is also making contributions to projects to be taken up in other countries as the latter are contributing to schemes being taken up in this country?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We will also do it. But this is a recent innovation. So, we have not given any material help to any other country. But we shall do it.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Is it proposed to extend the Freedom from Hunger Campaign to areas which are suffering chronically from famines and if so, may I know whether it is expected that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign would be launched in the chronically famine-affected areas in almost every part of India?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Member might appreciate that there is no big amount at the disposal of this particular Freedom from Hunger Campaign committee. It gets Rs. 20,000 as Government assistance and some money has been raised. So, it can work only on certain selected projects, with the assistance from other campaign committees. But on behalf of the Ministry, we shall concentrate on our chronically famine-affected areas.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I request that, if the House agrees, Starred Question No. 597 on Pak-China Air Agreement may be taken up, because it is important.

Mr. Speaker: Ordinarily I would not disturb the sequence, but...

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: If nobody objects, it can be taken up.

Mr. Speaker: Does the House desire that?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: All right. I will call Question No. 597.

Pak China Air Agreement

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 Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
 Shri Maheswar Naik:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
 Shri Sivamurthi Swamy:
 Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the conclusion of an air pact between Pakistan and China;

(b) whether in view of the existing agreement between India and Pakistan, the Government of Pakistan consulted or informed the Government of India before signing the pact or has since transmitted a copy of