

vigour and within the course of three years we hope to complete the road development programme in those border areas.

Shri Bade: The hon. Minister has said that they had got a long range of three years, but since the ceasefire agreement and the Tashkent declaration, what amount has the Central Government released for the Rajasthan Government?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I do not have this information readily now with me.

श्री गुलशन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो सीमावर्ती इलाके राजस्थान और पंजाब के एक दूसरे के साथ जुड़े हुए हैं उनमें एक इलाके से दूसरे इलाके आने जाने के लिये जो सड़क जोड़नी चाहिये उसके बारे में क्या सरकार ने कभी कुछ सोचा है।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Yes, Sir. The peripheral roads connecting other States also with Rajasthan are being taken up for development.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Taking into account the importance of the construction of border roads in the aftermath of our conflict with Pakistan, also in other States, may I know whether Government has got a comprehensive picture of all the borders, including the eastern side, which is more than 1,450 miles?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Yes, Sir. The Government have got a comprehensive picture of the border road development programme and that is being taken up in a phased manner.

Shri M. R. Krishna: In order to complete this programme of border road development expeditiously, may I know whether the Government is going to create any other new agency or is it going to depend upon the old agency which has been entrusted with this responsibility?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The road construction work is executed through the agency of the State Public Works Departments, but since they have their own works full in their hands, the Government has been thinking of having a separate division under its control for the execution of this road development programme.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether this Ministry continues to be blissfully unaware of the fact and the findings of the Defence Ministry that the largest single hindering factor in our defence system in Rajasthan was the lack of roads and communications in the recent conflict with Pakistan and, if that is so, and in spite of that fact, may I know whether it is not a fact that the allocation for road development in border areas in Rajasthan has been sharply slashed to the great detriment and jeopardy of security and preparedness in these areas?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: This is not a fact, Sir.

Pakistani Crew of River Steam Navigation Co.

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*537. **Shri Bagri:**

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri Kishen Pattayak:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 709 on the 7th December, 1965, regarding the Pakistani crew of the River Steam Navigation Company and state:

(a) whether the information has since been received from the West Bengal Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Aviation (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes.

(b) 334 Pakistani employees of the Calcutta Port Commissioners were interned and 161 are still untraced.

श्री बागड़ी : इस वक्त जो अनट्रेसड हैं और जिनको ट्रस किया है इस सब कार्रवाई का नतीजा क्या निकला है वह बतलाने की कृपा करें।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Those people who has been traced have been repatriated to Pakistan.

श्री बागड़ी : इस बारे में मजीद जानकारी हासिल करने के बाद और एन्वयारी करने के बाद जो कुसूरवार निकलेंगे उनके खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई होगी।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I am sorry I could not follow.

Mr. Speaker: On further enquiry, if the same offence is committed what would be the action taken against them?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: After. . .

Shri Speaker: For the same offence, the same action; what else?

श्री मधु लियये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप हमेशा सदन की प्रतिष्ठा की बात करते हैं। क्या जिस ढंग से मंत्री महोदय प्रश्नों के जवाब दे रहे हैं उससे वह सदन की प्रतिष्ठा बढ़ा रहे हैं। एक प्रश्न से हम लोग इस बात को देख रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री रामसेवक यादव।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : श्री मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया कि कुछ लोग पकड़े गये थे और कुछ लोग लापता हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो लोग लापत हैं वह अब भी क्या हिन्दुस्तान की सीमा के अन्दर हैं या पाकिस्तान चले गये हैं। अगर यहाँ हैं तो उनके बारे में क्या जानकारी है। वहाँ छिपे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि उनका पता नहीं है तब उनको यह जानकारी क्या होगी।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : वह हिन्दुस्तान में ही हैं या पाकिस्तान चले गये हैं। आखिर कोई रिपोर्ट तो होगी मंत्री महोदय के पास।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The West Bengal Government are now making efforts to trace those personnel who have not been traced. They have got mixed up with the general population. That has been the difficulty. It is very difficult to identify them, but efforts are now continuously being made to trace them and to see that they are repatriated to Pakistan.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार यह बतला सकती है कि इस वक्त कितने प्रतिशत पाकिस्तानी उन कम्पनियों से भाग गये हैं और सरकार उनके साथ किस तरह से डील कर रही है।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: As for the total number of persons who are interned in this connection, they are about 5000. Most of them have been repatriated. A section of them are now in West Bengal as well as in Assam whom we have not traced so far. Efforts are being made to trace them and repatriate them. 80 per cent of them have been repatriated.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : जैसा मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया जो लापता है वह यहाँ के नागरिकों के साथ मिल गये हैं और उनका पता लगाना बहुत मुश्किल है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार के पास कोई ऐसा अनुमानित आंकड़ा है कि जो लापता हैं उनकी संख्या कितनी है और वह किन किन प्रदेशों में हैं?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो उन्होंने बतलाया।

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I have already mentioned that they are about 161 so far as West Bengal is concerned and about 300 and odd so far as Assam is concerned.

Agricultural Production

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- *538. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state the steps taken to ensure that the recent offer of 15 million tonnes of food-grains through PL 480 by U.S.A. does not create complacency in the States in regard to 'Grow More Food Drive' and to prevent diversion of funds from agriculture in the States/Union Territories?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): Government have had no information to indicate any complacency on the part of any State in regard to agricultural production as a result of the availability so far this year of 4.5 million tonnes of foodgrains under PL 480. On the contrary, the State Governments have responded actively to call for organising special drives for increased food production. There is, therefore, no danger of diversion of funds meant for agricultural production. Moreover, under existing procedure, Central assistance to any State is reduced proportionately in the event of any such diversion.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know how far Government agree with the latest unofficial estimate that the food production of this year would be near about 80 million tonnes as against 78 million tonnes estimated sometime ago, and in the light of this, may I know if the government is going to review the import position and reduce the import on account of these better prospects?

The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri C. Subramaniam): The official estimate is still round about 76 to 77 million tonnes. Even if it is taken as 80 million tonnes, it is only a marginal improvement and there is still a big gap to be filled.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Is it a fact that while we continue to import food-grains, at least some 8 million tonnes of last year's record crop of 88 million tonnes are still in the hands of the hoarders and may I know under what circumstances these grains are not taken out and what steps the government have taken so that further hoarding is not done next year also?

Shri C. Subramaniam: That is why we have a system of procurement in all the States for the purpose of getting under government control as much as possible. It is only on this basis that we are introducing statutory rationing also in other areas so that there may not be any temptation for people to hoard and obtain higher prices from people who have got a higher purchasing power.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: While we are happy to note that the State Governments are very much aware of this, may I know, as a result of their awareness plus the increased expenditure that is going to be incurred on agriculture, what will be the approximate estimated increase in food production in the current year and in the next one year plan?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I am sure, hon. Members are aware, when this crisis came over us, we took a special drive for bringing land under additional crop. We planned to have at least 3.5 million acres under additional crops of various sorts and allotted quotas for the States. The present estimate is that instead of 3.5 million acres it will be 4 million acres achievement. As far as the next year, 1966-67, is concerned, we