

ments. It will be much more difficult to recruit them from the outside market.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या यह सही है कि बी० डी० ब्रोड० के मुकाबल में ओवर-सीयर्स की ज्यादा कमी है जिससे उन कम्प्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट एरियाज में काम बन्द हो गया है ?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I do not think that the hon. Member is correct in saying that the work has been completely stopped. The work is not going on as expected because of the shortage. As I have already stated, the State Governments are doing everything they could to see that technical officers are not only recruited and trained but are also posted as early as possible.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Shri P. K. Deo.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने ओवरसीयर्स के बारे में खाम तोर में पूछा है।

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have called Shri P. K. Deo.

Shri P. K. Deo: From the statement we find that there is an acute shortage of BDO's in Orissa and in NEFA, 24 in Orissa and 25 in NEFA. The hon. Deputy Minister has assured us that the State Government are taking steps not only to recruit but to train these persons. May I know what concrete steps are being taken in my State, namely Orissa, in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: Those are the concrete steps which have been taken.

Shri Warrior: May I know how many new training institutions have been started to fill up these deficiencies in regard to technical staff, and whether any State can supply its surplus staff for this purpose, and if so, whether this possibility has been looked into by the Ministry?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The number of gram sevak training centres has been

increased from 100 to 120, and we are today having 10 orientation training centres.

श्री बड़े : क्योंकि बी० डी० ब्रोड० की कमी है, इसलिए क्यों तहसीलदारों का बी० डी० ब्रो० नहीं बना दिया जाता है ?

Mr. Speaker: That is a suggestion for action.

Shri Bade: It is a very important point.

Shri B. S. Murthy: rose—

Mr. Speaker: When I have not allowed the question, why should the hon. Minister be so willing to answer it?

Shri Bade: It is a very important question. The hon. Minister knows the importance of it.

Mr. Speaker: If I have already disagreed with the hon. Member, I have disagreed, and the hon. Member should accept that.

Underground and Overhead Railways in Delhi

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- *1339. { **Shri P. K. Deo:**
Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Berwa:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:

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

(a) whether the Traffic Manager of Delhi Transport Undertaking has drawn up a scheme to provide underground railways 'medium strip system' and overhead railways to ensure free flow of traffic in Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has been submitted to Government for consideration; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Rise of Foodgrain Prices in Orissa

*1340. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the recent rise in prices of foodgrains particularly of rice in Orissa and acute shortage of supply at some places;

(b) whether the Central Government have ascertained facts regarding this abnormal situation; and

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shinde): (a) to (c). There has been some rise in prices of rice in Orissa and it has been ascertained from the State Government that in some parts of coastal districts of Cuttack, Balasore and Phulbani the market supplies have been somewhat short of the demand. The State Government are moving to these areas stocks of rice available with them in the surplus districts, and distribution of rice through retail shops in these areas of coastal districts is being liberalized.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it not a fact that rice sells at Rs. 2 per seer in these areas, and this is due to the fact that most of the rice and paddy is exported to West Bengal on account of the food zone, resulting in shortage of supply and increase in prices?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas): There has been some rise in the price of rice, to the extent of about Rs. 4 per maund as compared to what was existing towards the beginning of this year. But this rise is, to a certain extent, a corrective, because after the formation of the Zone and after the bumper crop in West Bengal, there has been a fall to an extent which we did not really want. In fact, the State Government

is rushing stocks to areas where prices are high. It has got about 15,000 odd tons of rice in its possession. Fair price shops have been opened in these areas and distribution is made.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it a fact that people want paddy but there is no stock of paddy with the State Government? If so, are the Government of India going to give them paddy?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is not correct. The stock of 15,423 tons includes paddy also.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: How much of it is paddy and how much rice and what is the shortage?

Shri A. M. Thomas: A substantial quantity is in paddy.

Cultivation of Sea-Island Cotton

*1341. **Shri Warrior:**
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to abandon all schemes to encourage cultivation of Sea-Island cotton; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Warrior: Is it a fact that the field staff engaged in Sea-Island cotton cultivation has been served with notice of discharge and the entire staff is now without job?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, it is not correct. In Kerala, the cultivation of Sea-Island cotton is not proving so successful. Therefore, it is planned to extend this scheme to other States where it can be successfully grown.

Shri Warrior: May I know whether Government have ascertained the