

we are trying to progress the construction as best as we can. We have sanctioned the estimates. The progress is going on. In regard to the other activities, the question may be addressed to the concerned Ministry."

Shri Daji: In view of the strategic importance of this road, may I know the nature of the difficulties that you have met with, and the steps that you have taken so that the difficulties are not repeated and the road is completed soon?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I might explain the whole position to the House. So far as this particular road is concerned, up to Jirighat it is in fairly motorable condition. From Jirighat to Imphal it is in jeepable condition, but the gradients are too unsatisfactory and there are curves and steep gradients. So, a new alignment has been chosen, and we are proceeding now with the new alignment. The construction work is going on in that new alignment.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I would like to know how much of the construction work has been done on the new alignment and how long will it take to finish it.

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as my impression goes, works for a length of 110½ miles have been sanctioned, and they are in various stages of construction. As you know, the road cannot be completed all at once. We have taken section by section and the work is proceeding on the sections out of the total of 150 miles.

Site for Upper Sileru Project

*509. { **Shri Yallamanda Reddy:**
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the award of Shri C. M. Trivedi for locating the site for Upper Sileru Project (Power);

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri Alagesan): (a). No; Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

(c). The matter is still under examination.

Shri Yallamanda Reddy: May I know whether this work will be begun pending the report of Mr. Trivedi?

Shri Alagesan: The two Chief Ministers have asked Mr. Trivedi to give his opinion in the matter and we are awaiting his suggestions.

Shri Yallamanda Reddy: How long will it take to get his report?

Shri Alagesan: The two Governments, or rather, the respective Chief Engineers, have submitted their reports and the CWPC is having it under study. They have also made some suggestions, and the whole thing will be placed before Mr. Trivedi who will then give his final opinion.

Area under Sugarcane Cultivation

*510. **Shri K. N. Pande:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total area under cultivation for cane during the years 1960-61 and 1961-62; and

(b) whether there has been any increase in yield of cane per acre in 1961-62 as compared to 1960-61?

The Minister for Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a). Total area under sugarcane crop during 1960-61 was placed at 5,734 thousand acres. Corresponding figure for 1961-62 has not yet become available.

(b). This is not known at this stage.

Shri K. N. Pande: May I know whether any step is being taken to bring the yield in northern India on

a level with the yield in the southern parts of the country?

Shri S. K. Patil: The steps have to be taken by the farmers themselves. So far as our assistance is concerned, it will be given to them.

Shri K. N. Pande: What steps are the Government taking to encourage the cultivators to increase their yield of cane per acre?

Shri S. K. Patil: It is a long story. It cannot be explained in the Question Hour. I think when the budget discussion takes place we shall give the full range of it.

डा० गोविन्द दास अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि १९६०-६१ में कितनी जमीन पर गन्ना बोया जाता था। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह भूमि बढ़ती जा रही है या उतनी ही है और अगर बढ़ती जा रही है तो क्या यह गेहूँ और चावल की भूमि है या नई भूमि नोड़ी जा रही है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : पिछले बरस में वह बढ़ गई है। इस की चर्चा तो सदन में हो गई है एक बार। मैं मानता हूँ करीब एक मिलियन यानी दस लाख जितनी बढ़ गई है। लेकिन वह बढ़नी नहीं चाहिये। अगर बढ़नी है तो इस का मतलब यह है कि गेहूँ और दूसरे जो खाद्यन्न हैं, उन के अन्तर्गत जो भूमि है, वह कौश क्राप में चली गई है जो कि देश के लिये नुकसान वाली बात है।

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know whether the Government have made any attempt to advise the farmers before the sowing season whether the farmers should increase the area under sugarcane crop or decrease it?

Shri S. K. Patil: Mere advice is of no use, because the farmer knows his interest best. I am thinking of having some kind of legislation in the near future where the whole range of agricultural production has got to be taken into account and some kind of pattern for various cash crops and

food crops has got to be determined. But that is a matter which is very complex and difficult and I think very often it has been referred to on the floor of the House.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : क्या इस बात पर विचार करना ठीक नहीं होगा कि चीनी जो हम बाहर भेजते हैं और गेहूँ मंगाने हैं जो गन्ने की बूवाई कुछ कम कर के उस की जगह पर गेहूँ बोया जाये और गेहूँ बोने को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाये ? क्या यह अच्छा रहेगा या नहीं ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : यह बात तो ठीक है लेकिन किसान कैसे करेगा। किसान तो मानता है कि गन्ने में उस को ज्यादा लाभ मिलता है। किसान पर ऐसा कोई निर्बंध नहीं है कि वह गन्ना कम करे और गेहूँ बोये।

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को मालूम है कि इस साल उत्तर प्रदेश में बहुत सागरा गन्ना पड़ा हुआ है और मिल वाले उस को ले नहीं रहे हैं। क्या ऐसी कोई शिकायतें आप के पास भी आई हैं या नहीं आई हैं ?

Shri S. K. Patil: It has nothing to do with this question.

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री : माननीय खाद्य मंत्री जी ने अभी बताया है कि किसान गन्ना बोने के लिये ज्यादा उत्सुक हैं अपेक्षाकृत गेहूँ बोने के क्योंकि उन्हें इस में अधिक लाभ है। क्योंकि हमारे देश में गेहूँ का अभाव है और बाहर से गेहूँ का आयात करना पड़ता है, इसलिये क्या हम ऐसी स्थिति पैदा नहीं कर सकते कि किसान गेहूँ बोने की ओर अधिक अप्रसर हों।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह उन्होंने ने कहा है कि वह कोई लैजिस्लेशन लाना चाहते हैं।

श्री स० का० पाटिल : इस का दूसरा इलाज सबसिडी वगैरह देना है गेहूँ के लिये। लेकिन यह चीज आवश्यक नहीं है। इस का कारण यह है कि इस बरस करीब १ करोड़ १० लाख टन जितना गेहूँ हो गया है। मैं समझता हूँ

हमारे लिये यह काफी है। लेकिन दो चार बरस तक हमें देखना चाहिये कि इसी लेवेल पर हम रहते हैं या नहीं। अगर इस लेवल पर हम रहे तो वह चीज पैदा नहीं होगी कि बाहर से गेहूं मंगाना पड़े।

Shri Maheswar Naik: Apart from increasing sugar-cane cultivation, may I know what attempts the Government are making to improve the quality of the sugarcane?

Shri S. K. Patil: The quality of sugarcane is being continuously bettered, because we have got research stations everywhere and I think every day research is going on for the last so many years. Some of the strains that we have developed in India are supposed to compare favourably with the best strains anywhere in the world.

Import of Double Decker Buses by DTU

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*511. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 Shrimati Maimoona Sultan.

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

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Undertaking propose to import 20 more double-decker buses and has asked the Union Government to allocate finances for the same;

(b) whether the proposal has been considered; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport & Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a), (b) and (c). The Delhi Transport Undertaking propose to import 20 double-decker buses and have approached the Central Government for grant of necessary import licence. No request for financial assistance for this specific purpose has so far been made by the Undertaking.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what is standing in the way of getting these buses quickly?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This has to be examined by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports for granting the necessary licence and he is doing that.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कुछ लोग साउथ इंडिया जा रहे हैं दो सौ बसों को खरीदने के लिये ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : लोगों को जाने दीजिये, उन से क्या मतलब है ?

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इन के डिपार्टमेंट के और दूसरे लोग जा रहे हैं। यह आज के अखबार में आया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप ने कहा था कि लोग जा रहे हैं।

श्री राज बहादुर : जो प्रश्न किया गया है वह केवल इन बीस डबल डैकर बेसिम के बारे में है।

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the total amount of foreign exchange required for this importation of 20 double-decker buses?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The price of each one of these is Rs. 41,000. I cannot exactly give the foreign exchange content.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that the fleet of buses with the DTU at present is wholly inadequate for the needs of Delhi and if so, has any final and correct assessment of the position been made by the Minister with regard to this?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The assessment has to be made by the DTU. It will not be correct to say that it is wholly inadequate. It is meeting the requirements, but I would not say it is adequate. Steps are being taken to see that the fleet is properly strengthened with a view to meet the requirements. Hence this provision of double-deckers.