

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The hon Member's geography is not very strong. The answer to that question can only be 'yes'. May I, however, say this? I have said that we have expressed our concern about military action there. But, the legal and constitutional position there, in regard to Muscat and Oman, is somewhat complicated and I do not think I am in a position even to define it exactly although I have taken some trouble to read old papers about it.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** May I know if we have any consular or other representative in the area of Oman and Muscat and if so, whether we have got any direct information from that source on what is happening?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No, Sir. We have no one in Oman. I am not at the moment quite clear whether we have anyone in Muscat. But, we have no information from there.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know if there is any information from our High Commissioner's office in London or from the Arab League or from our ambassador at Cairo?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Prime Minister has said that all the information he has is from the newspapers. Shall we go on asking whether he has received any report from Cairo or America or Canada?

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Foodgrains in Railway Godowns

\*936. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government are aware that some merchants of Bhagalpur (Bihar) are not taking delivery of large quantities of foodgrains from the Railway godown at Bhagalpur Station and have created scarcity condition in the Bhagalpur market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to combat this tendency?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No.  
(b) Does not arise.

##### Inland Fishery Research

\*939. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Sanganna:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Inland Fisheries Research Station, Calcutta, deals with fish and fisheries of the Ganga and the Mahanadi basins;

(b) if so, whether research on edible fish of ponds, lakes and reservoirs, in the Gangetic delta areas, has so far been neglected;

(c) whether there is any proposal to take up the matter in the near future; and

(d) if so, whether problems of water pollution and their effect on fish will also be studied?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The study on water pollution problems has already been initiated.

##### Central India Rivers Commission (Floods)

\*942. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central India Rivers Commission (Floods) met at Mysore on the 24th July, 1957 to discuss flood protection schemes in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bombay; and

(b) if so, whether the Mahanadi River System in Orissa was one of them?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Esthal):** (a) Yes, Sir.