

giving active attention to our storage programme

Shri Banga: In view of the recent experience of the Government in procuring rice from places like Tadapalligudam and Vijayawada, have the Government considered the advisability of constructing big enough godowns in such places as I have mentioned so that they can be sure of taking over the products whenever the need arises and keep them there?

Shri A. M. Thomas: These stocks which are being procured are for movement to deficit areas

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon Minister said that second priority was given to surplus areas. May I know to which area first priority is given?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The deficit areas

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain). May I add a word, Sir? First priority is being given to the port towns which receive imports and also to deficit areas. In the surplus areas, it is proposed to put up more of transit godowns.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon Minister has said that the first priority is given to ports for the construction of godowns. Are we going to continue import of foodgrains even in the course of the Third and Fourth Plans?

Shri A. P. Jain: For the time being, there is the programme of imports and so, we have to build godowns there for keeping them.

Shri Banga: Sir, I put one question but the answer was not satisfactory. In view of the difficulties that they themselves have come to experience in the recent past of having foodgrains in the surplus areas and yet not being able to take charge of them, have the Government considered the advisability, in consultation with the Warehousing Board, of constructing big enough godowns in surplus centres for storing their own produce in anticipation of the demand from consumer centres?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Even in the State of Andhra, we have got a programme of having a further storage capacity of 1,42,000 tons. We are also giving top priority for the construction of a godown in Hyderabad. It is not a question of ignoring surplus States altogether. But, when we are trying to have priorities, we have to give preference to areas just now mentioned by my senior colleague.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it not a fact that due to the unsuitability of several private godowns, the produce stored there is destroyed? May I know what steps are being taken to see that such places as Tadapalligudam and Kakina are provided with permanent and suitable godowns?

Mr Speaker: The hon Minister just now has said that there is provision for a lakh and odd tons being made in Andhra Pradesh and that the Andhra Government should also cooperate.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Transit godowns are different from permanent godowns. I am asking about permanent godowns.

Mr Speaker: Is there any separate provision for permanent godowns?

Shri A. P. Jain: There is no separate provision. The same godowns will be used for keeping foodgrains for a longer period as for a shorter period.

Gift Coupons Scheme

*1069 **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state—

(a) what progress has been made in regard to the Gift Coupons Scheme; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to make this scheme popular in the rural areas?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The scheme was introduced only on 1st July, 1957 and it is too early to assess its progress.

(b) The scheme is being given wide publicity both in the urban and the

rural areas. Government also propose to enlist the support of voluntary workers, welfare organisations, authorised agents, village panchayats etc. in making the scheme a success.

Shri Damani: May I know whether these coupons can be cashed or only exchanged for National Savings Certificates?

Shri Raj Bahadur: They are to be exchanged for National Savings Certificates.

Shri Damani: How much money has been spent in giving publicity to this scheme?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I may require separate notice for this.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: What are the main features of this scheme?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The coupons are in various denominations—Rs. 5, Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100 and Rs. 1,000. They carry interest from the date of issue in case the coupons are presented within three months. If they are presented after that date, then they carry interest from the date of tender.

इन्दौर उज्जैन रेल लाइन

*१०७०. श्री क० भे० सा०जीय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इन्दौर से उज्जैन तक बड़ी लाइन का निर्माण कार्य समाप्त हो चुका है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या सरकार का इस लाइन पर उज्जैन होते हुए इन्दौर-दिल्ली एक्सप्रेस चलाने का विचार है ?

रेल उ मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) :

(क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

श्री मानकभई अग्रवाल : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

इस लाइन पर गुड्स ट्रेकिंग तथा पैसेंजर ट्रेकिंग कब से शुरू हो जाएगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि इस साल के अन्त होने से पहले पहले यह लाइन खुल जाएगी ।

श्री रामलाल व्यास : क्या से जान सकता हूँ कि क्या उज्जैन से देवास तक की लाइन बन चुकी है और यदि बन चुकी है तो उज्जैन से देवास तक माल का तथा यात्रियों का इस लाइन से भ्राना जाना क्यों शुरू नहीं हुआ है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : किसी भी लाइन को खोलने से पहले उसका शुभायना गवर्नमेंट इंस्पेक्टर आफ रेलवेज द्वारा किया जाता है । जब वह यह सर्टिफाई कर देता है कि यह लाइन खोले जाने के काबिल है, तब उसको खोल दिया जाता है । अभी तो यह कार्रवाई जारी है और जैसे ही यह पूरी हो जाएगी, इस लाइन को खाल दिया जाएगा ।

श्री रामलाल व्यास : इस लाइन को पूरा करने के लिए कौन सी तारीख निर्धारित की गई थी और उस तारीख के बाद में कितना समय उसको पूरा करने में और लगेगा और जो देरी हो रही है, उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : मैं ने अभी अर्ज किया है कि यह लाइन इसी साल के अन्त होने से पहले पहले खोल दी जाएगी ।

श्री रामलाल व्यास : कब इस लाइन को पूरा होना था और देरी के क्या कारण हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : इसके पूरा होने में जरा ज्यादा वक्त लग गया है । लेकिन जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य को मालूम है कि लोहे की तथा ट्रेक मैटीरियल की बड़ी कमी रही है और इस वजह से थोड़ी देर लग गई है और इन देरी के लिए मुझे अफसोस है ।