

Shri Shah nawas Khan: There was a slight point of difference. The labour representatives thought that after five years, the scheme should be reviewed and if the people wanted to opt for provident fund, they should be given the opportunity to change their option after five years. That we have to consider.

Shri Mohiuddin: What would be the additional cost to the railways as a result of the introduction of this new scheme for pension and provident fund?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: We are introducing this scheme more as a measure of social security scheme than from any other point of view and the effect, I might say, is not going to be very much.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: If those who are already in service want to opt for the pension scheme, will there be any arrangement for them also?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: They will be given the option.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: If they opt for the pension scheme, will there be any reduction in their emoluments, because they will have the benefit of both the schemes?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: There will be no reduction in emoluments, but they can have either the pension or the provident fund.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: If they opt for the pension scheme, will the amount that they have already contributed to the provident fund be forfeited?

Shri Shah nawas Khan: They cannot have it bothways.

Mr. Speaker: Have the details of the scheme been worked out?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The scheme is under the consideration of the Government. My colleague has been discussing this matter with me and the matter is now

before the Home Ministry. The point mentioned by my hon. friend opposite would certainly operate if a person has a large accumulation in the provident fund; very naturally he might not opt for the pension scheme. But it may be more attractive for the people who have just started. The cost of the scheme itself might be not negligible and it has to be worked out. But my colleague has taken the decision that the scheme should be placed before the railway employees and if they agree to it, it should be implemented. The details are now being worked and proposals will be placed before the Government for their approval. There will be an integrated scheme before long.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether in the case of an employee who opts for the pension scheme, he will be given the benefit of his own contribution to the provident fund and in calculating the pension, the number of years of his past service will be taken into consideration?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As I have said just now, these are matters of detail. Maybe in certain cases where the accumulation in the provident fund is reasonably high, the employee may not like to opt for the pension scheme. But these are matters of detail, for which no answer can be given at this stage, until the entire picture is placed before the House.

Indian Airlines Corporation

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*1192. { **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a bomb exploded in a van of the Indian Airlines Corporation when the van was on its way to Delhi from Srinagar; and

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under investigation by the State Police authorities.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether this bomb explosion occurred in spite of the fact that round-the-clock patrolling was going on by the police?

Shri Humayun Kabir: As I said, the matter is under investigation by the Jammu and Kashmir Government, who are primarily concerned and they have taken every possible measure. We cannot add anything more to what they have informed us.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether other bomb explosions have also occurred about 10 days previous to this occurrence?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The whole matter is under investigation.

Mr. Speaker: Including the first

Ammonium Sulphate

*1193. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what are the States to which no quantity of ammonium sulphate was supplied during the year 1955-56; and

(b) the reason therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Only Rajasthan during the calendar year 1955.

(b) There was no demand from the State as it had a large carry over stocks of Sulphate of Ammonia of the previous year.

Shri Morarka: May I know what steps Government are taking to popularise the use of this fertiliser in the country?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Both the Central and State Governments are popularising this by way of propa-

ganda and publicity, by improvement in the distribution arrangements, granting short-term loans, fixation of uniform rates and various other measures. In Rajasthan, the farmers do not require much of fertilisers, because they have manure like the cattle manure and sheep manure. In Rajasthan villages, they have more cattle and cattle manure is cheap. The second thing is that the fertiliser is used generally where there is assured water-supply and mostly for the paddy crop. In Rajasthan, there is very little of paddy crop. In other States, the consumption of fertiliser has gone up by 200 per cent. compared with the beginning of the first Five Year Plan. In six years, the consumption of fertiliser has gone up by 200 per cent. because of intensive campaign and more credit facilities.

Shri Morarka: In view of the fact that more and more land in Rajasthan is now coming under irrigation, may I know what special agency the Government is setting up for popularising the use of this fertiliser there?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I do not follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: What are the special steps that are being taken to familiarise the people with the use of fertilisers in the irrigated areas of Rajasthan?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I have already stated that the steps taken are publicity and propaganda, giving them short-term loans and various other measures like making fertilisers cheaper. In some cases, it is distributed free of charge also.

Shri Morarka: May I know what is the agency employed by the Government of India in distributing this fertiliser in Rajasthan and in other States?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It differs from State to State. It is entirely the responsibility of the State Government. In some States, it is done by the co-operatives, in some States by the trade and some other agencies.