

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether there was an incident of a plane after taking off was compelled to return to the aerodrome, because the gasoline which was filled up was mixed with water?

Shri Humayun Kabir: There were certain reports about planes having made forced landings and in every case the cause is investigated. If the hon. Member asks about any particular instance without giving notice, it is difficult to give an answer off-hand.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot enlarge the scope of the question. It relates only to a particular question.

Soil Conservation in Manipur

*189. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort is being made to control shifting cultivation and promote soil conservation and terrace cultivation in the hills of Manipur;

(b) what are the steps taken in this direction;

(c) what amount of money is being provided for 1957-58 to promote terrace cultivation; and

(d) what is the acreage of land brought under terrace cultivation up to date?

The Minister of Cooperation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) One Agricultural Officer (Soil Conservation) and staff have been appointed and demonstration plots have been laid down by the Forests and Agriculture Departments.

(c) Rs. 330,600/-.

(d) No survey has been made or records maintained by the State about the area brought under terrace from year to year.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether Government is aware that

the tribal population of Manipur practise shifting cultivation and Government has reserved forest lands in the hills as reserved areas in order to stop shifting cultivation which has deprived them of their proprietary lands; this has created a lot of discontent among them. If so, may I know whether Government has taken any steps?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is making a speech and not putting a question. What is it that he wants?

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I want to know whether Government is aware that as a result of government's reserving forest lands in the hills of Manipur as reserved areas, the tribal people have been deprived of their proprietary lands as a result of which there is a lot of discontent among them. What steps have Government taken to alleviate this?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Due notice of any hardship caused is taken and we try to do our best.

Shri P. K. Deo: What steps are being taken to rehabilitate those persons who are being displaced by means of restricting this shifting cultivation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I do not think there are any wholesale displacements of any persons. We are trying to improve their lot and increase their income from the kind of agriculture they are carrying on.

Gram Sevaks and Sevikas

*192. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme of competition on a national level is being proposed to adjudge best gram sevaks and sevikas;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the cost involved in the proposal?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the scheme is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. (See Appendix I, annexure No. 80j.

(c) The cost involved is Rs. 69,000/- per year; but for the year 1958-59 it amounts to Rs. 66,500/- as the gift of the motor cycle for that year will be made by the Prime Minister.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Gram sevaks and sevikas are more or less well versed in their respective mother tongue. If it is a question of test on a national level, as has been stated by the officers concerned, as well as M.Ps, what is the language in which they will be tested?

Shri S. K. Dey: If it happens to be the case of gram sevika who is tried out for the national award, certainly it should not be difficult to have some members associated with the test who will be familiar with the local dialect. Besides, it is not the dialect that will determine the award, but the actual work accomplished in the field.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The point is this....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that some other person who knows the language will be associated with it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I have an honest doubt. There are a number of States and a number of languages. Every State has sent two or three persons. There is a committee in the Centre. What is the criteria by which the ability of the gram sevaks and sevikas is tested?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's question is, when there are so many languages, are the gram sevaks expected to know one single language?

Shri S. K. Dey: There would be one person sent up by every State as

the person eligible for the national award. It should not be difficult for the committee which tests these 14 candidates to evolve criteria for dispassionate judgment.

Shri Thimmaiah: What is the difference in the nature of the work done by the gram sevaks and sevikas of the Community Development Blocks and the gram sevaks and sevikas of the Social Welfare Board? Is there not a duplication of the work?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members have got enough literature in the Parliament library. They may look into it.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement laid on the Table, we find exhaustive schemes for prize competition. May I know whether the competition took place during the year 1956-57 at the block level, district level, State level and national level and if so, how many were awarded prizes during that period?

Shri S. K. Dey: We have never had a competition of this kind before. This is the first time we are trying it out.

Shri Raghubir Sahai: Has it been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that the number of villages that are placed under the charge of a gram sevak or sevika is too large and unless the number of villages is reduced, the accomplishment of work cannot be substantial?

Shri S. K. Dey: We are very fully aware of the large size of the territory operated by a gram sevak or gram sevika. But in view of the expansion programme planned for the second Five Year Plan period, we have been forced to make a compromise in the jurisdiction of these workers. We hope that in the third Five Year Plan, we shall be able to make some adjustment.

Shrimati Manjula Devi: May I know whether the Government are aware that in some of the States, the gram sevaks of those areas are idle without any work and without absolutely any contact with the masses and whether Government are taking any steps in the matter?

Shri S. K. Dey: I am not aware of any such cases. If the hon. Member would very kindly let me know instances that have come to her notice, I will certainly take appropriate action.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में खाद्यान्न की कमी

*१६३. श्री पद्म रेव : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि फसल न होने के कारण हिमाचल प्रदेश में खाद्यान्नों की भारी कमी हो गई है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार का वहां अनाज की मस्ती दुकानों को खोलने की व्यवस्था करने का विचार है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि उपायमंत्र (श्री अ० म० बामस) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) मरने अनाज की दुकानें, उप-भोक्ता लांगो में खाद्यान्न वितरण करने के लिये, इस क्षेत्र में पहले से ही चालू हैं ।

श्री पद्म रेव : क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि हिमाचल में कुछ ऐसे इलाके भी हैं जहां आज दस साल की आजादी के पश्चात् भी लोग अनाज के साथ घास मिला कर खाते हैं और अपना गुजारा करते हैं ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अ० प्र० जैन) : हम को ऐसी किसी बात का पता नहीं है, आनरेबल मੈम्बर को पता होगा ।

श्री पद्म रेव : मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि हिमाचल में पांगी नामक एक स्थान है जहां लोग गेहूं के आटे के साथ या दूसरे आटे के साथ गेहूं का भूसा या जौ का भूसा और पाशाणभेद बूटी के पत्ते मिला कर खाते हैं । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार ऐसे इलाकों के लिये क्या कुछ करने जा रही है ?

श्री अ० प्र० जैन : हम को तो इस बात का पता नहीं है ।

Mr. Speaker: If the position is so bad as that, hon. Members may bring it to the notice of their own Government and this Government also. Straightaway this Government has no jurisdiction in this matter. They can only assist the local Government.

श्री पद्म रेव : इसी प्रश्न के सम्बन्ध में मैं एक और प्रश्न करना चाहता हूं ।

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is going on arguing in this matter with respect to which the hon. Minister has no knowledge.

श्री पद्म रेव : क्या मागतीय मंत्री जी को यह ज्ञात है कि हिमाचल में बहुत सारे इलाके ऐसे हैं जहां पर ६० रुपया मन चावल और ४० रुपया मन गेहूं मिल रहा है और ऐसा होने पर भी लोगों को मुश्किलता का सामना करना पड़ता है ?

श्री अ० प्र० जैन : आनरेबल मੈम्बर वहां पर मिनिस्टर रह चुके हैं । उस वक्त तो उन्होंने ने हमें कोई ऐसी खबर नहीं दी ।

श्री पद्म रेव : मैं बतलाना चाहता हूं कि कई बार दो गई है और कई बार कहा भी गया है ।

Shri Y. S. Parmar rose—

Mr. Speaker: We will hear the Chief Minister now.

Shri Y. S. Parmar: May I now whether it is a fact that 600 maunds of