

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement I find that several steps have been suggested to State Governments to make up the deficiency. May I know if the Central Ministry has any agency to ascertain how many of these steps have been implemented, and what is the result of that implementation?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Sure. We have decided at the Agricultural Ministers' Conference in Srinagar to have an all-out drive to increase green manure and rural and urban composts. I have gone round and last week I met the representatives of four States. All the steps have been taken, the money has been given. We intend to go to each State and check up the figures once in three months, so that we keep up the production of these rural and urban composts as well as green manure.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is it a fact that over half a million tons of cattle dung is now used in India as fuel, and if so, have Government any specific scheme to conserve this valuable fertiliser for purposes of agriculture instead of being allowed to be burnt as fuel?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That could be done by propoganda which we have taken up, and partially by supplying coal. In Northern India generally cow dung is used for fuel. It is because there is lack of fuel and coal they use it. We are now having propoganda to see that this very precious thing is not used as fuel.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the Government has examined and come to a conclusion with regard to the recommendations of the Asoka Mehta Committee on the subject, and if so what are its decisions?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It was placed on the Table only yesterday, and I took two hours this morning to read the whole thing, and I have not yet come to that portion where they

have made recommendations in regard to this.

Shri Heda: In any case, the production of fertilisers has not become less. Then, how is it that the areas where these fertilisers were available last year and the year before are deprived now? Because of the lack of proper distribution, the commodity has gone into the black market and everybody has to purchase at much higher prices.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The talk of black market is partly due to two factors. One is, there is this year a shortfall of three lakh tons, taking into account the carry-over, local production and the imports. The black market is partly due to this shortfall. There is also an increasing demand by agriculturists because they are taking more and more to the use of fertilisers.

Dismissal of Indian Seamen

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*286. { **Shri Bameshwar Tanti:**
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Turner Morrison and Co. (Private) Ltd, a firm of British shipping agents in Bombay have discharged more than 100 Indian seamen before the expiry of terms of agreement and have taken in their places Pakistani seamen;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the Indian seamen were discharged from vessel in New York and some at Behrein; and

(c) whether the Government have enquired about this discrimination meted out to Indian seamen?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes Sir. The firm did so on instructions from their principals M/s Rethmnis and Kulukundis & Co. Ltd., London, a Greek firm who are the owners of the ships

on which the discharged seamen were employed.

(b) Yes.

(c) There has been discrimination to the extent that there has been a premature discharge of Indian seamen followed by recruitment of non-Indians.

श्री रामेश्वर टांडिया : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट ने उन के बारे में क्या किया है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : उन्होंने शिकायत की है कि इनके साथ जो मुहायदा था उसको कूल ध्वज वक्त तोड़ा गया है। उससे जो इनका नकसान हुआ है उसके बारे में मास्टर आफ शिपिंग देखभाल कर रहे हैं।

श्री रामेश्वर टांडिया : क्या इस फर्म को ऐसा कुछ लिखा गया है कि आयन्दा यह ऐसा नहीं करेगी क्योंकि यह हिन्दुस्तान में रजिस्टर्ड प्राइवेट लिमिटेड फर्म है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : यह यहाँ की फर्म नहीं है, यह तो एक ग्रीक फर्म है और बाकया यह है कि उनको अस्तित्वार है कि कहां से अपने सीमिन एम्प्लाय करें और कहां से न करें। इस फर्म ने पिछले चार पांच साल से घायद सन् १९५४ से ही यहाँ से सीमिन एम्प्लाय करना शुरू किया है।

Shri Bimal Ghose: Have they found out the reasons for which the seamen were discharged, and satisfied themselves that they are sufficiently good reasons?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Greek owners have alleged that the Indian seamen were difficult and they were showing indiscipline, and on these allegations they have been discharged by the Greek owners. On the other hand, the seamen have complained that there was ill-treatment, there was no enough of consideration and sympathy for them. So, there are counter charges and allegations. At

any rate, they were discharged by the Greek at outside ports, before the expiration of their term of employment.

Viscounts for L.A.C.

*287. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Badha Raman:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

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

(a) when all the Viscount aircrafts for which orders were placed by the Indian Airlines Corporation will be received;

(b) on which service routes the Viscounts which have been received have been put into operation;

(c) to what extent it is anticipated that the introduction of Viscounts will economise expenditure; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to make any changes in the present fares after these Viscounts have been put into operation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) By about middle of 1958.

(b) Delhi|Calcutta|Delhi and Calcutta|Rangoon|Calcutta.

(c) It is yet too early to assess the financial results as Viscount services were introduced only on the 10th October, 1957.

(d) There is no proposal for any change in fares on account of the introduction of the Viscounts.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is it not a fact that wherever Viscounts are operating in other parts of the world they have always been revenue-yielding and better flying aircraft? In the light of that do Government anticipate that the past record will be broken for a change?