

के काम, उनकी योग्यता और अनुभव के बारे के संबंध, उपयुक्त समान पद दिलाने के विचार से धनेकों मन्त्रालय और उनसे सम्बन्धित व अधीनस्थ दफ्तरों को भेजे जा रहे हैं।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह कृषि विद्यालय जब कि दस वर्षों से बहुत अच्छी तरह और सफलतापूर्वक चल रहा था तो उसे बंद करने की क्या जरूरत पड़ी ?

डा० पं० शा० बेशमुख : इसके बारे में जो सब की एक राय हो गई थी कि इसे बंद कर दिया जाये। ऐस्टिमेट्स कमेटी की और युनिवर्सिटी ग्रांट्स कमिशन की दोनों की यही राय थी। इसके बारे में काफी विचार हुआ था और शुरू से ही सब लोग इसके चलाने के खिलाफ थे। साथ ही साथ सन् १९५० से दस नये एग्रीकलचरल कालिजेज हिन्दुस्तान में बने हुए हैं। और इसलिए इग की आवश्यकता बिलकुल नहीं रही।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी बताया कि कुछ कर्मचारियों को तो निश्चित तौर से स्थान दिया जा रहा है लेकिन कुछ के बारे में लिखा पढ़ी हो रही है, तो क्या गवर्नमेंट यह अपना कर्तव्य नहीं समझती है कि पिछले दस वर्षों से जिन लोगों की सेवाओं का उपयोग किया जा रहा है उनको स्थायी और निश्चित रूप से काम पर लगाया जाये और उनको नीकरी दिलाई जाये ?

डा० पं० शा० बेशमुख : गवर्नमेंट ऐसा करना अपना कर्तव्य समझती है और मैंने अपने जवाब में बतलाया है कि बाकी प्रभावित कर्मचारियों के नाम और उनकी क्वालिफिकेशंस व अनुभव के बारे के साथ धनेकों मंत्रालयों से लिखा पढ़ी हो रही है और यह कोशिश की जा रही है, कि उनको कुछ न कुछ अल्टरनेटिव एम्पलायमेंट मिले।

Shri Bose: May I know how many of these 36 who will be discharged are teachers and how many other staff?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am sorry I have not got the break-up.

Food Situation in Tripura

*2092. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of rice has gone up to Rs 32/33 per maund in Kamalasangar (Tripura);

(b) how many fair price shops have been opened in that area;

(c) the number of ration cards issued to the people of that area, excluding D.Ps. colonies;

(d) what steps are being taken to bring down the price of rice in that particular area; and

(e) the food position of Tripura?

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

(a) No; Sir. The current price of rice at Kamalasangar is reported to be about Rs. 30 per maund.

(b) to (d). A fair price shop is being opened at a suitable place in Kamalasangar area and family ration cards will be issued to all eligible families. The fair price shop will distribute wheat and rice at fixed prices.

(e) The overall food situation in Tripura is not unsatisfactory.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether the Government are aware that more than 800 persons have already applied for ration cards in the month of March and they have not yet received any card? May I also know whether the Government will make an enquiry into this matter to find out what are the reasons?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Kamalasangar is situated in the border area. I have already stated that a fair price shop is being opened. And, when that is opened the ration cards will be issued to persons of the locality. The whole of Tripura territory is covered by as many as 55 ration shops and rice is being distributed at the rate of Rs. 18 per md.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: My question was not answered. I wanted to know why the 800 persons who had applied for ration cards in the month of March have not yet received the cards.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The eligible persons will be given the ration cards with the opening of the ration shop.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether the Government is aware that recently the price of rice has gone up to Rs. 35—38 per md. in Agartala town itself; and, if so, what steps Government are going to take to give rice to the people?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Our information is that at Kamalasagar the price of rice had gone up to Rs. 30. In Agartala the price had gone up to Rs. 34. But, as I have stated in the House some time ago about 11½ ozs. of foodgrains per head are being distributed to fair price shops, so that there is no hardship.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I submit, Sir, that we wanted a discussion about the price of rice. Tomorrow is the last day. Will the hon. Minister make a statement? All of us are interested in the price of rice and if he makes a statement it will satisfy all.

Mr. Speaker: Every day it rises and goes down. There must be an end to all this.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: Is it a fact that when Government have increased the quota of rice and allowed other than controlled rice to be sold at Rs. 20/- per md. through a co-operative society in Sonamarah Division of Tripura, to cope with the situation arising out of high price, the price of rice in the open market has come down to Rs. 20/21 per md? If so, may I know whether Government have examined the matter with regard to the adoption of the same measures mentioned to bring down the high price of rice at different places in Tripura?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have already stated that rice is distributed through

fair price shops at Rs. 18/- per md.; wheat is sold at Rs. 16/- per md. I have not come across the case mentioned by the Hon. Member.

Railway Wagons fall into River Brahmaputra

*2093. **Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of loaded Railway wagons while being boarded on the wagon-carrying barge at Amingaon in N.E.F. Railway fell into river Brahmaputra on the night of the 13th April, 1958; and

(b) if so, how many wagons fell into the river?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Yes. Three wagons fell into the Brahmaputra.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: May I know the nature of goods these wagons were loaded with, what was the exact weight of these goods and the amount of loss sustained by the Railway?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: They contained 110 bags of sugar—each of the three wagons. The loss is estimated at Rs. 24,500. For weight, I want notice.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: May I know the circumstances that led to the accident and whether the responsibility could be fixed?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: An enquiry was held and we are awaiting the report.

Shri Narasimhan: What happened to the wagons?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: The wagons were retrieved but not the sugar which went into the Bay of Bengal.