

ably gone down in the country and it is going down every year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is not so; in fact the scheme is to improve the breed and thereby increase the milk yield in the country and we are going ahead with the scheme. I am sure the production of milk has not gone down; on the other hand, it is bound to go up.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know the powers of these boards to implement its own schemes and programmes.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They will have the powers which I have stated in my reply and they will have statutory powers to implement their schemes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the fact that certain States have an extraordinarily low per capita consumption of milk and milk products—in States like Kerala and Madras it is less than 2 ozs. per day as against 16 ozs. in Punjab—may I know whether in order to encourage milk boards in such States with such low per capita consumption of milk, the Government of India will make any special financial grants to such States?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: All these factors have been taken into consideration when the schemes have been formulated. For example, it starts with 16 ozs. in Punjab and goes down to 2 ozs. in Kerala. The capacity of each State to spend the money, the available dairy tract in the region, etc. have been taken into consideration when we formulated the scheme.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether the increase in the production of milk in the country is keeping pace with the increase of the number of people in the country?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is not so. We have to admit that we are not keeping pace with the increase in population and the Plan envisages that more and more milk is provided for the people in the country.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: In view of the fact that milk, eggs and fish are more or less in the same category because they supply animal proteins does the Government of India have any co-ordinated scheme, so that they encourage the production of one or the other in different parts of the country to supply sufficient proteins to the people?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, Sir; the hon. Member is quite correct in saying that milk, eggs and fish supply the necessary animal protein to the human body. As Dr. Nayar has stated, if the people of Kerala are getting only 2 ozs. of milk compared with 16 ozs. in Punjab, the Kerala people getting more fish which the Punjab people have been deprived of.

Assam Rail Link

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*323. { **Shri Barman:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hanada:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for the alternate Assam Rail Link has been completed so far;

(b) whether in addition to the route suggested by the Stabilisation Committee, any other route survey has been taken up; and

(c) the nature of the recommendation made by the administration?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No Sir. Survey is in progress.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Barman: May I know whether it is a fact that though recommended by the Stabilisation Committee, the Government have issued no instruction to the Chief Engineer in charge to survey that part of the alignment that is from Belakoba to Domohani?

Shri Shah nawaz Khan: I have just stated that the survey is actually in progress.

Shri Barman: My question is whether Government have advised the Chief Engineer in charge not to survey from Belakoba to Domohani? Is it a fact?

Shri Shah nawaz Khan: It is not a fact.

Shri Barman: In view of the statement made on the 17th February this session by Shri Raj Bahadur, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications that in 1951 a plan was finalised for a bridge over Torsa five miles down the present N. H. alignment No. 31 and in 1953 the entire plan had to be abandoned, is it a fact that the Railway Ministry is going to commit the same mistake?

Shri Shah nawaz Khan: I am afraid the hon. Member is anticipating the result of the survey. Let the survey be completed and with the necessary date and statistics that will be collected, we will arrive at a decision.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if, with a view to having an effective service on the Assam link, the proposal of constructing a bridge across the Brahmaputra at Maniharighat would be considered and if so, when the construction work is going to begin?

Shri Shah nawaz Khan: The hon. Member knows that recently we have taken a decision to put a bridge between Pandu and Amingaon over the Brahmaputra.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member says the other proposal is better. It is a suggestion for action. The question is put in the form of eliciting an answer. The answer is that they have decided to construct a bridge between Pandu and some other place. Each question is important.

Shri Barman: May I ask another supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Barman: In part (b) of the question, I had asked:

“whether in addition to the route suggested by the Stabilisation Committee any other route survey has been taken up;”.

I want to know whether the route recommended by the Stabilisation Committee only is going to be surveyed or any alternative route is also going to be surveyed as was asked for by the Bengal and Assam Members in their representations.

Shri Shah nawaz Khan: Previously, quite independent of the recommendations of the Stabilisation Committee, certain surveys were carried out. One of them was from Mal to Binagudi, and a number of other surveys were also carried out from Dattagudi and Ramsahi towards Alipur Duar. As a result of the recommendations of the Stabilisation Committee, a fresh survey is going to be carried out.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order. My name is also there on the question. Of course, I am not envying Shri Barman, but while he was allowed to ask as many as four supplementaries, I was allowed only one and brushed aside. I should be allowed to ask another supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The name of the hon. Member who tabled it first is normally given preference; the others are added on; I need not add, but I have added them on. Hon. Members will also know that it is not one Member only that ought to exhaust all the questions. If the other hon. Member has already asked this question, the same question need not be repeated. We cannot exhaust any subject-matter in a question. I shall allow Shri Hem Barua to ask two supplementaries on another question. There must be some amount of adjustment.