

the catch, and also the processing, preservation and marketing of fish. This also includes training our men in mechanised boat fishing.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** From the statement, it is seen that the rupee expenditure on land, labour and material and other recurring costs are to be shared on a 50:50 basis between the Government of Kerala and the Government of India. In answer to a question on the 12th instant, the hon. Minister revealed that the monthly expenditure on petrol in this project is Rs. 4,000. May I know why, when the project is so small, with a few miles of radius, this amount is spent on petrol alone?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The hon. Member has tabled a series of questions for which we are giving replies. They relate to how much money has been spent on petrol, what are the pay bills etc. He will get all the details. If he feels that the amount of money that they are spending is more, then there is a committee to look after it. We will bring it to their notice and they will look into it.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** That is not the point. It has already been answered on the 12th—I have not a copy of the answer with me. It is stated that Rs. 4,000 is the monthly expenditure. As I submitted, the project area is very small and most of it is inaccessible by car. They are coastal villages. Why should an expenditure of Rs. 4,000 be incurred on petrol alone?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** There are nearly 25 Norwegian people. They have got a big hospital. They have got their wagons and I think they have 64 boats or so. In most cases, they have to make use of petrol for various vehicles.

**Shri Dasappa:** The hon. Deputy Minister has said that marketing is a necessary part of the whole scheme. How do they propose to transport this fish to the hinterland? Are they satisfied that there are adequate arrangements for refrigerated wagons etc. to transport them to the hinterland?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The transport problem has arisen just now, this year when they actually started catching fish in the high seas by mechanised boats. So they are thinking in terms of getting a refrigerated metre gauge wagon to transport fish from Quilon to the hinterland everyday.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Has any increase in catch been noticed on account of this project?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The main purpose of the scheme is to train fishermen in mechanised fishing and other mechanised operations coming under fisheries, such as catching, processing and other things. This project is able to catch nearly 105—105 tons in the course of four or five months.

**Shri V. P. Nayar and Shri Kodiyan rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is always asking questions on fishing.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** It is in our constituency. We may be allowed to ask a few more questions.

**Mr. Speaker:** Why did the hon. Member himself not table the question, leaving it to an hon. Member who does not even take fish? He will have many more opportunities of 'fishing'.

#### Foodgrains Enquiry Committee

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**Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
 \*329. { **Shri Vajpayee:**  
**Shri Supakar:**  
**Shri Sanganna:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 454 on the 25th November, 1957 and state whether recommendations of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee have been accepted?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** The recommendations are still under consideration.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Last time I think it was said that some recommendations had been accepted and some were in the course of being accepted. May I know how many recommendations have been accepted and how many are on the way to being accepted?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** There are some major recommendations such as the constitution of a Price Stabilisation Board, about which an answer has already been given; there is a recommendation concerning the establishment of a foodgrains stabilisation organisation. Then they have recommended the necessity for having a reserve stock. We have accepted that in principle. Our idea is to build up a buffer stock of a million tons each of wheat and rice, although it may not be immediately possible to have a reserve stock of a million tons of rice. Then there are several regulatory measures recommended by the Committee. It would be a sort of *via media* between complete control and free trade. They relate to licensing of trade, which we have adopted, and running of fair price shops, cordons, zones etc. Our present policy generally follows the lines suggested by the Committee. They have recommended internal procurement. We are adopting that. They have also suggested certain improvements in the working of fair price shops, such as the introduction of modified ration scheme, identity cards etc. We have adopted that. Then they have recommended encouragement of...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Minister wants to show that the Ministry is alert with respect to all these matters.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Yes.

**Mr. Speaker:** When the hon. Member asked, how many recommendations have been accepted, I would have been immensely satisfied if the hon. Minister had said, say, 'four' and kept quiet. If it was asked, what were all the recommendations he could have made a statement.

**Shri Ranga:** May I know whether Government have begun to make any inquiries into the cost of cultivation and also the remunerative level of prices? Has at least a pilot inquiry been conducted in different States?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** This question has often been answered on the floor of the House. An answer has just now been given by my senior colleague regarding studies conducted under certain pilot schemes. Apart from that, the House knows that the Foodgrains Inquiry Committee has recommended the price for the current season, and we have given due regard to that recommendation. We have also taken the basis of procurement prices in 1952-53 and the prices prevailing in the last two or three years. It is not a question of ignoring the cost of production. We have also taken...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I think there was a debate on this Report.

**An Hon. Member:** Yes (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members will kindly hear me. The recommendations contained in a Report may be many, and the time available to us would not be enough to ask questions on them. If any hon. Member wants to elicit further facts in regard to a particular recommendation he is interested in, let him table a question separately, and not by way of a supplementary here. The hon. Minister need not answer such questions. Generally, if the hon. Minister says, 'All the recommendations have been accepted', I am satisfied. It is very wrong on the part of hon. Members to prevent the hon. Members who have tabled the question from asking questions. There is a tendency for hon. Members to take the help of some question tabled by some other hon. Member and then go on asking questions, without giving an opportunity to the others who have taken the trouble to table questions. Hereafter, I am not going to allow more than two supplementaries to a question. I find that there is a growing tendency to elbow out those hon. Members who

have taken the trouble to table questions here. Here one question is tabled by one hon. Member. That is his child. But another hon. Member takes it away.

**Shri Supakar:** May I know if a short-term method to meet the distress in scarcity areas has been adopted on the basis of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee report; and, if so, what actual steps have been taken?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** The Foodgrains Enquiry Committee did not make any recommendation about the situation arising of that kind. But, I may inform the hon. Member that we have taken every possible step, viz., we have supplied foodgrains in sufficient quantity from the Central stocks; we have also sanctioned some money for the development of minor irrigation and intensive labour work with a view to provide purchasing power to the people.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know what is the financial help given to the Orissa State according to the recommendation of the Committee?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** This Committee has not made any recommendation about giving financial aid to Orissa. But, of course, the team appointed by the Planning Commission visited the place and gave them some money for putting up minor irrigation works.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know by what time the proposal to have this Financial Stabilisation Board will be implemented?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** That is under inter-departmental examination and has reached quite an advanced stage.

#### Rail Link to Tripura



\*330. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**  
**Shri Vajpayee:**  
**Shri Dasaratha Deb:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of

India and Pakistan who met in Delhi in December, 1957, agreed to the construction of a railway line to Tripura through East Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether the plan for the construction of this line has been prepared; and

(c) when will the preliminary survey of the proposed line be undertaken?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) The meeting between the Indian and Pakistan representatives was held at Karachi in December, 1957 and it was agreed that the joint preliminary survey by Indian and Pakistan Railway Officials should be undertaken with a view to constructing railway sidings into Tripura.

(b) No Sir;

(c) Arrangements for the preliminary survey to be carried out jointly with the E. B. Railway (Pakistan) (authorities) have been made and the same is expected to be completed shortly.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Vajpayee, Shri Dasaratha Deb.

Before I give an opportunity to other Members, those hon. Members who have tabled the questions may get up and put questions.

**Shri Vajpayee:** I got up at the time of the former question. My name was there and not in this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member will kindly look into it. His name is also there in question No. 330.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** May I know whether the Government is aware that the East Pakistan Railway, formerly known as the Assam Bengal Railway passes through the Union Territory of Tripura near Agartala airport; and, if so, whether the Government will consider the construction of a railway siding from that point when the matter is taken up?