

good quality supplied to the roller flour mills and is quite wholesome. The sale of this atta has afforded much needed relief to the population in the lower income group. The more fastidious section of the population with special preference for indigenous wheat and with a higher purchasing power is, however, purchasing atta made out of indigenous wheat which too is available in the market.

(c) Does not arise.

Poisonous Chemicals

*1106. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any work has been or is being done to determine the toxicity or hazard to people consequent on the large scale use of poisonous insecticides, weedicides, fungicides, pesticides and other agricultural chemicals;

(b) whether Government of India are keeping track of such work done in countries like U.K. and U.S.A.; and

(c) if so, how?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir. Some work has been done to determine the toxic residues of pesticides (insecticides and fungicides) on some fruits, vegetables and tea. Before allowing the import of a new pesticide into the country, its toxicity and the way it may affect public health is considered.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. It is done in the manner indicated below:

(i) through various reports and publications received from foreign government departments and scientific institutions;

(ii) by direct contact and discussions with scientific institutions and scientists of foreign countries; and

(iii) through the literature supplied by the manufacturers of pesticides.

Silt Deposits in Bombay Port

*1107. **Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the silt deposits in the Port of Bombay;

(b) what steps are being taken to remove the silt;

(c) the approximate expenditure that will have to be incurred for the same; and

(d) where the silt will be deposited after removal?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) There has been a progressive siltation in main harbour channel of Bombay Port. The depths in the channel at present are less by about 5 to 6 feet than those shown on the Admiralty Chart of 1921, and the depths now available in certain portions are 27 feet below chart datum.

(b) The Bombay Port Trust propose to undertake a large scale programme of dredging to improve the depths in the harbour channel to facilitate entry by dee-drafted vessels.

(c) About Rs. 8 crores.

(d) An area three miles west of Malabar Point has been tentatively selected as a suitable dumping ground for the silt deposits, but a final decision will be taken after the results of the proposed radio-active tracer experiments are available.

Nagarjuna Sagar Project

*1107-A. { **Shri D. V. Rao:**
 { **Shri Ramam:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh have

forwarded to the Centre a complete scheme of irrigation and hydro-electric development of Nagarjuna Sagar Project; and

(b) if so, whether it has been approved by the Planning Commission?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A joint project report on the Nagarjunasagar Project submitted by the Andhra and Hyderabad Governments in 1954 was a complete scheme for the development of irrigation and generation of hydro-electric power. It is as a result of a detailed consideration of this scheme that the present Nagarjunasagar Project, as sanctioned, was included in the Plan. No other scheme of irrigation and hydro-electric power development has been received by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति

*११०८. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री १ दिसम्बर, १९५८ के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या ६४२ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत के पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में खाद्य सम्बन्धी आत्मनिर्भरता प्राप्त करने के लिये जो 'दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति' नियुक्त की गयी है क्या उसके निर्देश पदों और कार्य विधि आदि का एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जायेगा;

(ख) उस समिति ने अपने कार्य में अब तक क्या प्रगति की है; और

(ग) उसे कब तक अपनी रिपोर्ट दे देने को कहा गया है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अ० प्र० जैन) : (क) और (ख). सूछी हुई जानकारी का एक विवरण सभा को टेबल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

समिति के निर्देश पद निम्न प्रकार हैं:—

(१) निम्न क्षेत्रों में खाद्य उत्पादन की कमी के प्रश्न पर अध्ययन करना:—

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश के चिनी और पुंगी क्षेत्र;

(ख) पंजाब की कुलू घाटी;

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी जिले;

(घ) बम्बई का रतनागिरि जिला;

(ङ) आसाम के पहाड़ी क्षेत्र; और

(च) त्रिपुरा और एन० ई० एफ० ए० के प्रदेश।

कार्य विधि

यह समिति अपनी कार्य विधि स्वयं निश्चित करेगी और जहाँ तक मुमकिन होगा वहाँ तक के क्षेत्रों को खेते जायेगी तथा खाद्य समस्या का परीक्षण व्योरे सहित करेगी।

अब तक की गई उन्नति

एक प्रश्न पत्र तैयार किया गया और २७ सितम्बर, १९५८ को सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारों को भेज दिया गया, इसमें परिवहन और खाद्य समस्याओं आदि के सम्बन्ध में ब्यौरे सहित जानकारी मांगी गई है। उत्तर अभी तक केवल बम्बई, त्रिपुरा और एन० ई० ए० ए० से प्राप्त हुए हैं। जवाब देने वाले राज्यों को लगातार स्मरण कराया जा रहा है। सम्बन्धित राज्यों के उत्तरों के प्राप्त होने पर, यह समिति उनकी समस्याओं के अध्ययन के लिये क्षेत्रों को देखने जायेगी।

(ग) जून १९५९ के अंत तक।

Colony for Residents of Jamuna Bazar Area

*1109. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question