

Shri Shah nawas Khan: Because that was very readily available at the time.

Smuggling of Paddy

*876. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly two hundred wagons of paddy have been smuggled to Kerala from Belgaum and other districts during the last month; and

(b) if so, action taken by Government in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). There is no restriction on the movement of paddy from Mysore State to Kerala except from certain border areas of Mysore State, and the question of taking any action in regard to such movement does not, therefore, arise.

Shri Assar: May I know what action the Kerala Government have taken against those who have brought or smuggled rice?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Why should the Kerala Government take any action?

Mr. Speaker: Kerala Government is able to take care of itself.

Shri Punnoose: May I know what is the quantity of paddy or rice imported from that area into Kerala State?

Shri A. M. Thomas: From the statistics in our possession it is learnt that from the Hubli Division of Mysore 131 wagons have moved to Kerala in December, 1958.

Shri V. Eacharan: When the Southern Zone is a surplus area and there is free movement of rice, may I know how the movement of paddy or rice from this area is considered as smuggling?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is not considered as smuggling.

Central Tractor Organisation

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*880. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Tractor Organisation has been entrusted with the job of reclamation in Dandakaranya area;

(b) if so, whether new tractors have been ordered;

(c) if so, whether they have been supplied;

(d) the name of the suppliers; and

(e) the rate at which supplied?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No, except that one unit of tractors worked in Pharasgaon (Madhya Pradesh) in the operational year 1957-58.

(b) No.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the Central Tractor Organisation is being closed? If so, may I know what will be done with those tractors? Will they be sent to some other units of rehabilitation under the Dandakaranya scheme?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No decision has yet been taken about the closing of the Central Tractor Organisation. But, unfortunately, the number of tractors available is dwindling and we are gradually approaching the end.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether 150 employees of this organisation were retrenched; and, if so, whether they are being provided with alternative jobs?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is going from one thing to another. Hon. Member smells labour everywhere!