

forwarded to the State Government. May I know what is the nature of the report, whether it contains a specific recommendation as to the preference to be given to any of the schemes submitted by the Poona Research Station?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question is one of costs, the cost of developing the Thangasseri port or Ashtamudi lake inlet. These are the two alternative sites. They pertain to the construction of jetties and other facilities for the harbour.

Shri N. B. Muniswamy: May I know whether Government have received any proposal regarding the renovation of the Lighthouse at Thangasseri because it is out-moded?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is a completely different question

Shri Kodiyar: In view of the fact that a large number of workers at this port are rendered unemployed during most parts of the year due to the seasonal character of the port and also in view of the fact that this matter has been pending for the last two or three years, may I know whether Government will expedite it in coming to a decision?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I need hardly assure the hon Member that we shall waste no time whatsoever in the consideration of any recommendations that are made to us by the State Government in this behalf. But the hon Member might be knowing that under the Norwegian aid scheme, there is a proposal to develop a fishing industry in this Ashtamudi lake.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Question No 1063, Shri Sadhan Gupta.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I suggest that question No. 1092 may also be taken up with this, as it relates to the same matter? It is about decomposed rice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Minister agreeable?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Question No. 1092 has nothing to do with this.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I have to submit that this matter was raised in an adjournment motion and it is because the Ministry do not want to reply that they are not agreeable to take it up along with question No. 1063.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When the Question Hour is over, he might point that out and then I will see if I can allow him to ask that question. But it cannot be joined with question No. 1063 if the Minister is not prepared to answer both together.

Rice in Government Godown in Calcutta

*1063. **Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of rain on the 2nd June, 1959 about 3,000 maunds of rice were spoiled at the Central Government's Jinjrapol Godown, No. 4, Shed, at Hide Road, Calcutta;

(b) whether the said Godown has been recently repaired;

(c) if so, when;

(d) whether last year 1,000 maunds of rice were spoiled under similar circumstances, and

(e) if so, the reasons as to why no proper repairs have been made since then?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) As a result of sudden shower about 100 maunds of rice and not 3000 maunds were really damaged before the valley gutters which had been opened up that day for minor repairs undertaken every year before the monsoon could be closed.

(b) and (c) Repairs were in progress when it started raining suddenly, and were completed within a week thereafter

(d) and (e). Last year about 350 maunds and not 1000 maunds were damaged. The defect noticed at the time was repaired immediately.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know why when last year so much rice had been destroyed by rains, repairs of a character as would render this kind of thing impossible in future were not undertaken?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Repairs were undertaken and the defect that was noticed last year was rectified, immediately

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Is it not a fact that even before the 2nd June there were rains in Calcutta, particularly on 21st May when there was a very heavy thunder-storm? Between that date and the 2nd June, was any attempt made to repair the godown so that the foodgrains might be saved?

Shri A. M. Thomas: This was not the same defect as was noticed in the previous year. This is a godown of 32,000-ton capacity—the Jmjiapole godown—where there are about as many as 6 sheds. It is perhaps the best among our storage godowns. But sometimes some defects are noticed, and with the approach of monsoon, repairs are also being undertaken. In this particular case, on 2nd June, repairs were undertaken, but on that very same day, unfortunately there was a heavy shower and the six gutters overflowed and there was this damage.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that there had been much damage caused to rice in many godowns in Calcutta, specially the Matia Buri godown, and whether this decomposed rice had been mixed with good rice and distributed in West Bengal?

Shri A. M. Thomas: No, Sir. There has not been any mixing up. In fact, the technical assistant examined the stocks before they were distributed among the fair price shops.

I may add for the information of the House that very very large quantities are being stored and there is a heavy turnover also. Out of about 5 lakh tons stored in these godowns,

only about 350 maunds were damaged. That is not a large quantity.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What has happened to this rotten rice?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That will be disposed of as cattle and poultry feed. It will never be issued for human consumption.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that most of the rice distributed through fair price shops in Calcutta, particularly grade I and grade II rice, sold at 43 nP and 47 nP, is not edible, largely due to this type of damage which is caused?

Shri A. M. Thomas: So far as we are concerned, our information is that this allegation is absolutely baseless.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether it was not a fact that just before the repairs were undertaken there was a meteorological forecast of stormy weather and rains in Calcutta?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, the CPWD does the repairs. It might be because of the forecast, that on 2nd June itself, this was undertaken.

Shri Keshava: May I know if the ration shop-keepers refuse to receive the rice if it is not satisfactory, and they test it before they take it?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The hon. Member is correct.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the repairs took seven days to be completed, am I to understand that the damage was caused by the sudden shower on the 2nd of June or that it was a longstanding damage?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister knows what he has said just now. Therefore, why should he be reminded of it? A straight question should be put to him, instead of reminding him that such and such thing has been said.

Shri Hem Barua: As the repairs took seven days to be completed, am I to understand that the damage was

caused by the sudden shower of rain or was it a longstanding damage that ought to have been repaired much earlier?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Of course, the monsoon starts in the beginning of June. The repairs were undertaken by the CPWD on the 2nd June. I do not think there has been any wilful neglect at all.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The hon. Minister has said that 100 maunds of decomposed rice will be issued as poultry and cattle feed. Are these being sold in the open market? What safeguards are taken to see that this rice does not get mixed up with other rice?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That quantity is still with us pending disposal.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Why does he not bring it to Delhi?

Central Seed Potato Control Board

*1064. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Shri Pahadia:

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

(a) whether the Tuber Crop Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recommended the setting up of a Central Seed Potato Control Board; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government to the said suggestion?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) The suggestion is being examined.

Shri Raghunath Singh: U.P. is the largest potato growing State. May I know whether the Board is going to be set up there?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: As U.P. is the biggest State, it is also the biggest potato growing State. This Board is generally meant to grow seed potato; and seed potato is generally grown in high altitudes. It is too early to say whether the Board will be in U.P. or elsewhere. Anyhow, it

is being examined and there is yet no talk of a Development Board of that type for potato.

श्री पद्म रेव : क्या कारण है जब कि अच्छे बीजों की मांग की जा रही है तो जैसे कि टी बोर्ड और काफी बोर्ड बना हुआ है आगुधो के बीजों का भी एक जल्दी से जल्दी बोर्ड क्यों नहीं बनाया जा रहा है और इसके बनाने में विलम्ब क्यों किया जा रहा है ?

श्री मो० बें० कृष्णप्पा : जी हां यह मांग बहुत दिन से है। यह मांग अभी पिछले माल बर्कर्स काफेंस में पेश की गई है और वह गवर्नमेंट के विचारधीन है और हम बहुत जल्दी से जल्दी यह बोर्ड बनाना चाहते हैं।

श्री सरजू पांडे : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बोर्ड के बनने में कितना वक़्त लगेगा और कब तक यह बोर्ड बन जायेगा ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा है कि जल्दी से जल्दी बन जायेगा अब इससे घाय जो समझिये।

बी० सी० जी० के टीके

*१०६५. श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १७ अमेरिकन डाक्टरों ने "ब्रिटिश मेडिकल जर्नल" में एक वक्तव्य दिया है कि क्षयरोग का निरोध करने में बी० सी० जी० का टीका प्रभावकारी नहीं है ;

(ख) भारत सरकार बी० सी० जी० टीको पर अब तक के प्रयोग के पश्चात् किस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंची है ; और

(ग) भारत में अब तक कुल कितने व्यक्तियों को बी० सी० जी० के टीके लगाए जा चुके हैं ?