

**Mr. Speaker:** They are processing rice mills; I do not know about the sugar mills.

**Shri Raghubir Sahai:** I would like to know whether it is the policy of Government to entrust this kind of work or any other only to co-operatives, even when they are not working on sure and sound lines, and have not become popular?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** It is not the policy to entrust these co-operative processing units only to the co-operatives, but as far as possible, encouragement will be given to the co-operatives

#### Foodgrains in Rajasthan

\*926. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) what kind and quantity of foodgrains are being moved out of Rajasthan during 1959 and

(b) what system has been evolved for the regulation of this movement?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) and (b). The export of wheat from Rajasthan is prohibited but there is no restriction on the movement of other foodgrains out of the State. As statistics of movements of foodgrains on trade account are not available, it is not possible to indicate what quantities of foodgrains have been exported from Rajasthan

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know what lessons Government have learnt from the indiscriminate movement of foodgrains last year, and what regulatory measures they propose to adopt now?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I have already stated that there is no restriction except restriction with regard to the movement of wheat. As far as movement of wheat is concerned, Rajasthan is cordoned off into a separate zone; with regard to the other things, I cannot state anything definitely at present.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the procurement prices of foodgrains which are moved out of Rajasthan, and how this free movement has affected the market prices as against the procurement prices?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** The market prices have not been affected in Rajasthan. The prices in Rajasthan are low.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Is the hon. Minister aware that the market price of gram is Rs. 13 per maund, whereas the procurement price is Rs. 10 per maund, and this leads directly to corruption and harassment, and if so, have Government taken any steps in this behalf?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** It is true that the procurement prices are generally lower than the market prices, but that cannot be helped.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** When the procurement prices are lower than . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I am not going to allow a discussion on this subject in the form of questions. The hon. Member wants to instruct the hon. Minister

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I know the position . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** If he knows the position, he should keep quiet. The question hour is only for eliciting information. If the hon. Member knows the position, then there was no justification for asking a question.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I know the position regarding the prices but I want to know whether Government are taking any steps, and if so, what they are. I do not know what Government are doing.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** As far as gram is concerned, there is absolutely no restriction.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to suggest that there ought to be no export or movement of foodgrains from that area. The hon.

Minister differs from him. These matters cannot be settled here during Question Hour. If the hon. Member feels that certain foodgrains ought not to be moved out of Rajasthan, he may table a Resolution or raise a discussion.

**Shri Damani:** May I know what quantity of foodgrains was exported from Rajasthan to other zones, and at the same time, what quantity was imported into Rajasthan from other zones?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I have already said that statistics regarding the movement of foodgrains from Rajasthan are not available

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I make a humble submission? This question was asked last year and the hon. Minister said that he did not know. They do not care to know. I have obtained the figures from the railway. A sum of Rs 1 crore has been spent unnecessarily on the cross movement of foodgrains alone. It has been wasted. This is a waste which goes to raise the prices. Either they have never cared to know or they do not want to supply the information.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there statistics regarding inter-State movement of foodgrains regarding this?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Yes, it is true that my hon. friend was a vehement critic of our policy with regard to Rajasthan. He said that Rajasthan should have been cordoned off and that export from Rajasthan should not have been allowed. But in his latest speech three days ago he said that there should be entirely free zones and only Bombay and Calcutta should be cordoned off.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I never want that Rajasthan should not keep pace with other States.

**Shri Nagi Eddy:** This concerns movement of foodgrains; it does not concern the opinion of the Member. The question can be answered.

**Mr. Speaker:** He does not have statistics.

**Shri Nagi Eddy:** He must get them.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** The Food Ministry is responsible for supply of foodgrains in the whole of India—procuring them from surplus areas and supplying them to deficit areas. Is it not the elementary duty of the Food Ministry to keep these statistics and supply them to the House whenever any Member wants the information? Is it fair that they should lack information on a vital point?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** The fact is this. There is movement by rail and there is movement by road. With some difficulty, we can get statistics about movement by rail. As regards movement by road, statistics are not easily available. We do not think that it is so important a matter, that statistics of movement of foodgrains from Rajasthan even on private account should be obtained, because there is absolutely no restriction on movement of foodgrains from Rajasthan except in the case of wheat.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur** rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister pleads absolute inability to give the statistics. Foodgrains are moved in lorries and carts to other areas. Does the hon. Member want that at each station there must be a control post?

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** No. I could collect the information. Movement is only through the railways.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then the hon. Member may collect it. He cannot pursue it in this manner and take away the time of the House. The hon. Minister says that except in the case of movement by rail, in other cases it is impossible to collect statistics. They do not have it and it is not possible to have unless you restrict movement or control movement. Nobody was in favour of controls in this House some time ago. It is a different matter altogether. Statistics of movement by

rail alone are not enough. It may also go by lorries and carts. There is no point in pursuing this further.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** You have misunderstood me. It is only through the rails; my figures relate to movement only through the rails. A sum of Rs. 1 crore has been spent. I have not asked about movement. I only want to know if the procurement prices are fixed in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture at the Centre, and what effect the movement has on the procurement prices. Do they keep an eye on it?

**Mr. Speaker:** Statistics of movement by rail are not a sufficient indication one way or the other. That is what the hon. Minister feels. One should also have statistics of movement by road, which are impossible to collect. That is what I understood the hon. Minister to say.

Some Hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** Anyway, inasmuch as a number of hon. Members on all sides of the House are anxious to know about it and to avoid soaring of prices on account of movement in and out, the hon. Minister will try to gather, year to year, statistics of movement of foodgrains by rail etc from that State so much so that they may get rid of any difficulty or any impression about rise in prices on account of the movement.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** Let us have a discussion on it for at least one hour.

**Mr. Speaker:** This cannot be taken advantage of to have a discussion on it.

#### Savan Chupra Section

\*27. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 677 on the 1st December, 1950, and state the progress made in the decision to replace the existing worn out track of the Savan Chupra Section v'a Mashrak of the North Eastern Railway?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** The loop Savan Chupra via Mashrak comprises of two sections viz., Chupra to Thawe—64.75 miles and (ii) Thawa to Savan—18.5 miles. The work of complete Track Renewal over Thawe to Chupra Section has been started and over 5 miles have already been relaid. As regards Thawe-Savan Section, also, relaying has been sanctioned and work will soon be taken in hand.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I enquire whether there is any phased programme for the completion of the relaying of the line there?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** It is in two sections. Over one section, as I said, the rails are worn-out and sleepers are bad. The track is not fit for high speed. We are renewing this track. We have got enough materials for five miles. As regards the other section, the Thawe-Chupra section, we have already re-laid five miles. It is expected that the work will be completed by 1960-61.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I enquire if in view of the great hardship that the people there are being put to, Government would consider it desirable to complete the work at an early date in the interest of increased speed of movement over that line?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** We are well aware of it. The speed is only 25 miles now, and if the track is renewed, the speed will be raised to 45 miles. We are trying to get the materials and we shall try to complete the work by the target date.

#### Inter-State Waters Dispute between Madras and Kerala

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\*28. { **Shri N. R. MuniSwamy:**  
**Shri Subbiah Ambalam:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 732 on the 27th February, 1950 and state:

(a) whether the agreement has since been finalised regarding the sharing