

of Sunderbans area in West Bengal is being considered by Government; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to examine if the Farakka barrage construction will have any salutary effect in scouring these rivers?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether the answer to part (a) is referring to the research that is being carried on for the last so many years in the Poona Research Station and when the results of that research will be available? Will it be before the area gets logged up into a lake?

**Shri Hathi:** Experiments are being carried on. The West Bengal Government also have consulted a Dutch expert on the problem.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Are we to understand then that de-silting is going to be carried out in this area by overflowing which means the entire area is going to be depopulated?

**Shri Hathi:** I do not know which method is going to be adopted. That will depend upon which is most suitable.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** In view of the seriousness of the silting up and in view of the fact that this is the poorest area with only one crop and the whole area depends on 200 miles embankments on the maintenance of which we spent lakhs and lakhs of rupees, may I know whether interim arrangements for dredging operations will also be considered by the Government?

**Shri Hathi:** No. I think dredging operation would not be a feasible proposition and it would be also uneconomic to maintain the dredging operations. The only way or temporary way of doing this would be to allow the low areas of these tidal compartments in rotation for the tidal spill to

run into it and run back to flush out the channels.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether Government is seriously considering a proposal of removing the entire population of the area for over-flooding?

**Shri Hathi:** I do not think there is any such proposal.

**Shri S. G. Samanta:** Is it not a fact that some expert engineers were sent to this sea mouth in Sunderban area? If so, what are their reactions?

**Shri Hathi:** I have no information.

#### Decentralisation of Administration in States

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\*286. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** ॥  
**Shri Rami Reddy:**  
**Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand:**

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in giving effect to the scheme of decentralisation of administration in the various States;

(b) whether a uniform pattern of three-tier system is being adopted all over; and

(c) whether any observers have been sent to Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh to watch the working of the scheme?

**The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** (a) Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Assam, and Rajasthan have enacted the necessary legislation. In Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, statutory bodies have been set up at all the three levels, viz., village, block and district. In Assam, Madras and Mysore States the higher bodies are under various stages of formation. In Madhya Pradesh and Punjab, necessary Bills are before the Legislatures. Uttar Pradesh is also

drafting the necessary legislation in this regard which is expected to be introduced in the Vidhan Sabha during the ensuing session. Maharashtra, Gujarat and Bihar have appointed Committees to recommend suitable forms of Panchayati Raj.

(b) The principle of three-tier system has been incorporated in all the legislation on democratic decentralisation so far enacted and a large measure of uniformity obtains in other respects also. There are, however, some variations in details. For example, in Assam, the highest body of the three-tier structure is at the Sub-Divisional level instead of the District and in Mysore, the middle body is at the Taluq level instead of the Block.

(c) This Ministry has not sent any observer as such to watch the working of the scheme; but many officials as well as non-officials (belonging to different parties and organisations) have visited and continue to visit Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh to see how the scheme is working.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Referring to part (c).....

**Mr. Speaker:** We had a long discussion on this matter only recently.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I am asking only two questions which have not been covered by the discussion. What is the nature of the report which they have already received about the working in both these States?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** The reports are very encouraging.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** In view of the fact that this democratic decentralisation has released a lot of mass energy may I know whether any matching provision has been made to utilize the energy so that when the programmes are drawn up they do not get stuck up? Have we made any increased provision? Have we done anything there in addition to what we are doing elsewhere?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** The original idea of constituting the three tier system of democratic decentralisation was that it would release sufficient energy from the people so that provision already made will be fully utilized. That is being done.

**Shri Tangamani:** At what stage is the Bill in Kerala on Panchayat Raj and Zilla Parishads? Was it referred to the Select Committee?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** I want notice.

**Shri Raghbir Sahai:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the attitude of the district collectors as a rule is hardening up against the scheme of democratic decentralisation even though in some of the States it has not actually been introduced? If it is so, what steps are going to be taken by the Ministry to counteract this contingency?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** I do not think that as a rule every collector is opposed to democratic decentralisation. There may be some who are opposed to this. If many district collectors are opposed to this, naturally the State Governments will take good care to see that they do not stand in the way of Panchayat Raj being established.

**Shri Rami Reddy:** The primary object of democratic decentralisation is to entrust more and more powers with the people. In some States the Collector is the head of the institution. Are Government going to advise the State Governments that non-officials should be the chairmen of this institution?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Yes, Sir. Necessary advice is being given by the Ministry to State Governments to see that all responsibility is vested in non-official chairmen.

**Shri Venkatasubbaiah:** In order to assess the difficulties that come in the way of the working of democratic decentralisation, does the Government propose to convene a seminar of the various Panchayat Samiti Presidents and Zilla Parishad Chairmen in each

State under the auspices of the Ministry of Community Development so that all the difficulties can be discussed, they may come to a common pattern and co-ordination may be effected?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** In order to obviate such difficulties, all State Governments who have already implemented Panchayati raj are holding seminars. The hon. Member knows very well that in Andhra and in other States also, the Panchayat Samiti Chairmen and the Zilla Parishad members are being given an opportunity to discuss the difficulties and to find out solutions. Rajasthan had a tremendous programme before the introduction of democratic decentralisation.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**बम्बई के ट्रक मालिकों की हड़ताल**

\*२७२. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत अप्रैल, १९६० में बम्बई के ट्रक मालिकों की हड़ताल के कारण बम्बई गोदी में माल लाने ले जाने का कार्य ठप्प हो गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने माल लाने ले जाने के लिये क्या प्रवृत्त किया था ?

**परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) :** (क) और (ख). पिछला अप्रैल, १९६० में बम्बई में ट्रक मालिकों की हड़ताल के कारण यहां की गोदी पर माल ढोके का काम प्य नहीं आया। जो माल आस्ता ही से ले जाया जा सकता था

वह व्यापारियों तरा डेलों व बैलगाड़ियों द्वारा ले जाया गया और जो दूर भेजा जा के लिये था वह इन के द्वारा रेलगाड़ियों से ढोया गया। सरकार ने अनाज रेलों व लारियों के जरिये भेजा। ये लारियां सेना के स्थानीय अधिकारियों से प्राप्त की गयी थीं।

#### Diesel Traction on Railways

\*275. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme for extension of Diesel traction has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Telegraph Enquiry Committee

\*276. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**  
**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**  
**Sardar Iqbal Singh:**  
**Shri Pangarkar:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 772 on the 7th March, 1960, and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the recommendations of the Telegraph Enquiry Committee; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):** (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Committee deal with a number of important issues. Orders have been issued on a number of minor matters. Some of the major recommendations are under review in the light of the recommendations of the 2nd Pay Commission. It is hoped to take a decision within the next three months. I shall place a statement on the final results