

point of view, may I know whether the matter would be expedited?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** That is the point of view the Ministry of Agriculture is pressing.

**Shri Warrior:** To a former question the answer was given that there was some difference of opinion between Agriculture Ministry and the Planning Commission. May I know whether that difference has been resolved now? It is time for taking a final decision in this matter.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Not yet fully.

**Shri Tangamani:** In view of the fact that the ICAR has recommended the formation of such a committee and that the hon. Minister has also accepted on the floor of the House on a previous occasion that cardamom is one of the rich foreign exchange earners, I would like to know why there is so much delay. Let us know whether they are going to set up such a committee or board.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** One view that is expressed is that no sooner have we such committees the expenditure increases and so on. We are trying to meet that argument.

#### Protection from Termites

\*897. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**

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

(a) whether any data has been maintained relating to the approximate extent of damage in terms of money caused annually by termites in India to wood-work, furniture, stored products, books and records in Government buildings and to crops in India;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the nature of protective measures taken in this regard?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Different methods are used for different articles. Those adopted for Government stores, buildings and properties, are spraying of D.D.T., exposure to sun, use of termite-proof chemicals and paints. Organic and inorganic insecticides are used in the case of crops.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** The control of termites, particularly as regards grain, has been experimented with radio isotopes. May I know whether we have had any such experiments with radio isotopes in India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The radio isotope is a recent thing, which we are utilising for all kinds of research. I do not know whether we have gone to the problem of termite so far.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Have we evolved any anti-termite thing especially for food such as obtains in the U.S.A. because the damage is very great through termites?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** With regard to storages, all our improved storages are termite-proof and no damage is reported.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** I am speaking of damages to crops alone.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We are going to investigate so far as damage to crops is concerned.

#### Soil Conservation

\*899. { **Shri Achar:**  
**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**

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

(a) whether a team of soil conservation experts from the U.S.A. have visited India recently;

(b) if so, the States visited by them;

(c) whether any report has been submitted by them; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Mr. Don A. Williams, Administrator, Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, came to India as a Consultant on Soil and Water Conservation.

(b) He visited the States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Madras.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The report is under consideration of Government.

**Shri Achar:** May I know whether any flood control expert was also associated with this committee?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No, Sir; this has no connection with flood control.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** The hon. Minister just now said that the team visited U.P. also. May I know whether the team surveyed the area of Chambal and Jamuna and whether they have submitted any recommendations with regard to soil conservation in the ravines of Chambal and Jamuna?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Actually, the team consisted of only one expert. Of course, he had a look at the ravines and their reclamation and so on. This matter has also been included.

**Shri Achar:** May I know the main recommendations of the team?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** They are rather lengthy. I have got the report. I can place a summary of it on the Table of the Sabha if desired.

**Mr. Speaker:** He can place copies on the Table of the House. Are there no copies?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I can place a few copies.

**Mr. Speaker:** All right; let them be placed in the Library.

**Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** Why is it that this expert team visited certain States? Is it because the problem of soil conservation is acute in those States only in India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We tried to select typical areas. It is not possible for an expert of this type to visit every possible area so long as the type of soil conservation required for a particular types of land is taken into consideration.

**Shri Hem Raj:** May I know whether it is a fact that soil erosion is very heavy in the Indus water basin and whether any survey has been made of that area?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** One man could not survey. What the problems are and how they are to be tackled alone has been undertaken. We are aware of the revages done by these rivers.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** There have been constant complaints that due to jhum cultivation in the hill areas in Assam, Brahmaputra is being silted up? Is there any reason why this team was not instructed to visit Assam and ascertain whether soil conservation was necessary there?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We are aware of the problems of Assam and as I said we could not go all the places. The problem of Assam is a very big one and I am sure it is receiving our attention.

**Shri P. C. Boroah:** Assam is one of the highest foreign exchange earners in respect of agricultural products like tea. It is the same question as Shri Amjad Ali's. Why was this team not instructed to visit Assam?

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there a proposal to send a team to other States also?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The present team has completed its work. One gentleman alone came here. Of course this is not the end of the thing. This is only a survey for advice on particular problems. We are continuously doing these things. So far as our experts are concerned, nobody need feel that any particular aspect was neglected.

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** May I know whether Government have

received any complaint about silting in Govind Sagar and if so whether there is a proposal to send any expert team there also?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would require notice.

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बात को जानने हुए कि हमें अधिक अन्न उपजाने के लिए अधिक भूमि की आवश्यकता है, क्या देश भर में इस प्रकार के सर्वे कराने के लिए भारतीय एक्सपर्ट्स की कोई टीम मुकर्रर की गई है और क्या तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में इसके लिए कुछ धन रखा जायेगा ?

**डा० पं० शा० देशमुख :** हमारे पास भारतीय एक्सपर्ट्स काफी हैं और वह इन चीजों पर ध्यान रखते हैं और सर्वे भी करते हैं। इस एक्सपर्ट्स को तो कुछ खास बातें जानने के लिए बुलाया था और उसने देखने के बाद हमें अपनी रिपोर्ट दे दी है।

**श्री पद्म देव :** क्या इस स्कीम में पर्वतीय इलाकों का निरीक्षण भी शामिल है क्योंकि देश और पर्वत में इरोजन अलग अलग किस्म का होता है ?

**डा० पं० शा० देशमुख :** जी हाँ, उन्होंने इस पर ध्यान दिया है।

**Shri Warrior:** May I know whether there is any proposal before the Government to extend the survey to other parts also which are not covered by this team, especially where the monsoon is the highest?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This may be taken care of to the extent possible in the Third Plan.

**Shri Shivananjappa:** May I know whether this expert came here at the invitation of the Government of India or whether it is a part of the package programme?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This has nothing to do with the package programme. It was agreed to between the U.S. Government and ourselves.

**Shri Achar:** The hon. Minister was pleased to say that the team visited Mysore State. May I know whether it visited the Deccan portion or it visited the West Coast also?

**Mr. Speaker:** These are details.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I cannot say that.

#### Landslides on Jammu-Srinagar Highway

**\*902. Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state what steps are being taken to check landslides on the Highway linking Jammu with Srinagar?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** The State Government have been asked to build retaining walls, breast walls and series of check walls. They have also been asked to stabilize the hill face by planting shrubs on the slopes.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** As the Jammu and Kashmir State is a very poor State, what is the contribution going to be made by the Central Government to maintain this highway?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** This is a national highway and the entire cost of the maintenance is on the Central Government. Perhaps it may be shared by the border road development fund to some extent.

#### Earth Tremors

**\*903. Shri Rami Reddy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were frequent earth tremors in Andhra Pradesh during the last six months;

(b) if so, the places as also the timings where and when they occurred;

(c) the effects caused by the tremors; and