

Shri Radha Raman: The statement says that the Town Planning Organisation has analysed the economics of such a scheme and that its report is sent to the authorities. May I know what are the recommendations which the Town Planning Organisation has made and whether such a scheme will involve import of machinery? If so, what will be the total cost of the scheme recommended by the Town Planning Organisation?

Shri Karmarkar: The Town Planning Organisation has worked out the economics of this project. In short, what it does mean is the importing of hard coke and then reducing it to soft coke and gas. That is estimated to work out cheaper for the consumer.

As regards the import of machinery; I should like to have notice.

Shri Radha Raman: In view of the difficulty experienced every year by the citizens of Delhi in obtaining soft coke as well as hard coke, may I know whether after the receipt of the report Government are seriously considering taking up this scheme and expediting its implementation?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: It has been stated in the report that by the use of gas and soft coke will help to lower the domestic fuel expenditure in Delhi in all income groups. May I know by what percentage it will be lowered?

Shri Karmarkar: The present average monthly expenditure on domestic fuels has been estimated to be about Rs. 11 per month. This could be brought down to Rs. 7.5 per month. That is the estimate.

Mechanised Farms

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 *380. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:
 Shri Kodiyan:
 Shri Assar:
 Shri Birendra Bahadur Singhji:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 286 on the 24th February, 1961 and state:

(a) whether the question of setting up new Mechanised Farms on the line of the Suratgarh Mechanised Farm in Rajasthan has since been finalised;

(b) if so, the nature of decisions taken; and

(c) whether negotiations have been held with U.S.S.R. for obtaining agricultural equipment for setting up new Mechanised Farms?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). It is proposed to set up a second mechanised farm on the lines of the Suratgarh Farm at Jetsar in Rajasthan. Operational details are under examination.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know why it is that the second mechanised farm is also being set up in Rajasthan?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is because the site is readily available there. There is no question of evicting any farmers. To acquire 30,000 acres of irrigated land in any other place, we will have to evict at least 20,000—30,000 farmers who are already cultivating the land, whereas here the land is lying idle and fallow. The Rajasthan Canal is coming very soon in that area. So we thought we could start the second mechanised farm in that area.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the Suratgarh mechanised farm has yielded any profit so far or it has been a deficit project?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No, Sir. It is working profitably.

Shri Kasliwal: There must have been some experience by now of the working of this kind of mechanised farm. May I know whether in the working of this farm any minor or major defects have been found, and if so, whether they will be taken care of and rectified in the next farm which is going to be set up?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There are so many minor and major defects when we work such a big scheme like a mechanised farm; especially with the Rajasthan and Punjab Governments we have every day quarrel for water. We ask them to allot us water. Such minor things are the fate of farmers. When they take up such work, they have to undergo so many difficulties.

Shri Ranga: Have Government given careful consideration to the findings and recommendations of the Estimates Committee which has gone into this question of the working of the Suratgarh farm in great detail, especially as regards their criticism that as much as 25 per cent of the total expenditure is being incurred on establishment alone?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No, no. I have read the whole Report of the Estimates Committee. We have taken note of it also. The major portion of the criticism is not on the working of the farm, but concerning certain estimates. We provided more money than we spent for the building construction. That area is a desert area where even for drinking water we have to depend on transport by railway trains from a long distance. So no contractor came forward to tender and construct the buildings. We had provided Rs. 60 lakhs for the building programme; we could spend only Rs. 12 lakhs or Rs. 15

lakhs. This was not due to our fault, but due to the conditions in that area.

Shri Kodiyan: The answer to part (c) is in the negative. Am I to understand that all the heavy equipments needed for this new mechanised farm are produced in India?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No, it does not mean that. The question was whether we approached the USSR for the machinery, and we have said 'no'. We can work our own farm provided the Finance Minister gives us the requisite foreign exchange.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know if the setting up of this type of mechanised farm is still considered by Government to be purely at an experimental stage or if it is accepted as part of the planned development of agriculture?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know if the opening up of another farm is still on an experimental basis or it has been accepted as a matter of policy.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The Committee appointed for the purpose proposed that site. We are examining the details of the working and discussing them with the State Government. The proposal is to offer it to the State Government with Central finance and technical aid for them to take it up and work it. We have not yet had the reaction of the State Government.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: My question has not been answered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have not yet arrived at that stage where we might say that this is a matter of policy.

Shri Assar: What will be the amount of foreign exchange involved in the purchase of machinery for this farm?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Completion of the farm and all the equipment might require about Rs. 1 crore.

Shri Tyagi: May I know what is the total investment including foreign machinery on the Suratgarh farm and

what was the net profit earned last year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: If the hon. Member gives sufficient notice, I am prepared to answer in detail. But it works out to a cost of Rs. 220 per acre in respect of wheat which is the major crop whereas our realisation is Rs. 300. The second best crop is paddy . . .

Shri Tyagi: What about the recurring cost?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The cost includes the cost of cultivation, depreciation on everything and interest on capital investment . . .

Shri A. C. Guha: Overhead charges also?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us proceed.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Have Government drawn up any comprehensive scheme to have an agricultural technological institute attached to the farm in order to train farmers as agricultural experts?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We have a workshop there which is working...

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Not workshop. I am talking of a technological institute.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: In one farm, we do not require a technological institute. We have an efficient workshop there with all the necessary training personnel to train our people.

Shri Thirumala Rao: In view of the defects mentioned by the Estimates Committee like flooding and the huge loss of money on account of defective farming, have Government come to the conclusion that before taking up other farms, they should perfect this machinery?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A similar question was put by Shri Ranga also.

Shri P. K. Deo: May I know if the Government is proposing to disperse these farms in other parts of the country?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That reason has been given.

Report by U.N. Expert on Bombay Port

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*381. { **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 54 on the 16th February, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Mr. Posthuma, the U.N. Expert, has since submitted his report on modernisation of Bombay Port; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Mr. Posthuma has forwarded his report to the United Nations who have not yet submitted it formally to the Government of India. The details will be made known as soon as the formal submission is over.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the plan formulated by this UN expert is an improvement on the original plan, or if it is an entirely new plan altogether?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Mr. Posthuma, so far as the requirement of Bombay is concerned, examined what is known as the New Modernisation Scheme, as distinguished from the Minimum Scheme. This is what he has considered.

Shri Hem Barua: The original scheme was the Minimum Scheme for the modernisation of the Port of Bombay. I want to know whether this new scheme prepared by the UN expert is a re-examination of the original scheme and an improvement on that, or if it is an entirely new scheme.

Shri Raj Bahadur: This is an entirely new scheme, and is distinguishable