

**Shri Ranga:** May we have a few more details in regard to the number of years during which these people are going to be on the farms? After what period are they expected to submit a report? Is any notice taken of their experience while they continue their study in the colleges?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The whole thing is not so complicated as hon. Members are thinking it to be. This was a simple suggestion I made to the Ministers of Agriculture in States, that opportunities may be given to students to go to villages and stay there and see the practical things done by the farmers. This is working very well. They come into contact with the practical farmer and derive certain benefit. It has been tried only since 1955. There are no rules about it. It has to be decided by the students or one or two professors who will accompany them to the village which will act as the 'host village'. It is done mutually between the village and the college, and since the experience has been good it is likely that the States may take it up.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** May I know what are considered to be the progressive farms, what kind of equipment they have and what is it that the students are going to learn there?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think this is a matter which I should define. I think everybody knows that a progressive farmer is one who utilises the new methods of agriculture and derives the largest possible crop and tills his fields well.

**Shri Thirumal Rao:** Will the hon. Minister kindly enlighten the House as regards the experience of his Department, whether these students stayed with the practical farmers with any avidity or they evaded it?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Nowadays there is a tendency for young people to take to farming even after their education.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The hon. Minister stated in his reply that the scheme has been tried with success in Madras. I want to know how a progressive farmer has been distinguished from a reactionary farmer.

D.V.C.

†  
\*294. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee;  
Shri Sadhan Gupta;  
Shri A. C. Guha;  
Shri H. C. Mathur:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to allegations regarding financial and other irregularities in the Damodar Valley Corporation published along with photostatic copies of ledger entries and cheques etc. in 'Yugantar' a Bengali daily of Calcutta in March and April;

(b) whether any investigation has been made into the allegations; and

(c) if so, with what result?

**The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government have looked into the allegations.

(c) On the facts before them, the Government feel that the allegations are lacking in substance.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the fact that a certain overdrawn amount was reimbursed by cheque only after the irregularity was reported in the Press, and also to allegations made in the same Calcutta daily and elsewhere that unusable boats were purchased from Patiala in the teeth of opposition from the Financial Adviser, and that tenders were not invited and the usual procedure was disregarded?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Our attention has been drawn to all these allegations and we have looked into them. I won't detail them here, it will take a

long time. But if the hon. Member asks any particular question with respect to any allegation, I would tell him.

**Mr. Speaker:** Regarding some leaky boats he asked.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** On the question of boats the allegation is that twelve boats at a cost of Rs. 74,000 were purchased from the Maharajah of Patiala in spite of repeated objections from the Financial Adviser and that the purchase was made without following the normal procedure of advertising. If that is the question, the answer to that is that the assumption that twelve boats were bought is itself wrong; we have bought thirty-five boats. They were bought at an average cost of Rs. 2,000, and the price was not only economical but very attractive. And I think the officer has done well in buying them.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Is it a fact, as reported in a Calcutta daily yesterday, that the Minister is going himself to D.V.C. to look into the matter and, if so, will he personally examine the specific allegation in that daily, referred to in my question, that the Chairman of the D.V.C. has paid in by cheque in early April a sum of Rs. 1,000 to cover up further irregularities likely to be discovered? It is in the paper, I can give it to you.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** So far as my going to Calcutta is concerned, it is not precisely for this work. I go and visit all the projects, and in that itinerary surely the D.V.C. will come. But so far as the news to which reference is made is concerned, of late I read more about it in the newspapers than otherwise, and therefore everything that appears in the newspapers should not be taken as gospel truth. But so far as my enquiry into it is concerned, surely I carry an open mind and when I go there I shall certainly look into these matters.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I suggest to hon. Members here that this is not the only place where information can be obtained? With respect to such small items, as a thousand rupees and so on, as soon as any hon. Member receives any information or finds something reported in the Press, he can write to the Minister. Many things may be cleared up. If still they are not satisfied, they shall certainly come to the House. It is not as if the jurisdiction of the House is not there. The Supreme Court has jurisdiction over every case. But, it comes up at a particular stage. That would be more easy and it will spare the time of the House.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know whether, when the investigation into the affair was pending and the Chairman was obviously involved in the investigation, the Chairman himself visited Delhi and got an extension of his term?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does this arise out of the question?

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Irregularity of the investigation.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I do not think he comes to Delhi merely for this purpose. The Chairman has sometimes to visit Delhi for this project.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question does not arise.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether the Government tried to find out how such secret documents of the D.V.C. leaked out to the press? Is it true that of late, the D.V.C. administration has been subjected to all sorts of indiscipline, cliques and undesirable activities of a section of the staff themselves. If so will the Minister try to go into the matter and bring to book those offenders?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I have taken serious notice of this because it is a

bad practice and no administration can go on with that. We have taken serious note of that. We are looking into that as to how this leakage took place.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:** May I know whether the attention of the Minister has been drawn to further such allegations made in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* of Calcutta, particularly the one about the missing of diamond bits worth Rs. 2 lakhs?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I get all these newspaper cuttings. So far as diamond things are concerned, they are not in this particular question.

#### Air-Port at Trivandrum

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

Some Hon. Members. *ross.*

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members will specialise in particular subjects. Every hon. Member need not rise on particular questions. Next question. **Shri Kumaran.**

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Question No. 315 is of the same nature. Can it be taken also?

**Shri H. C. Mathur:** At least those hon. Members who have given notice of the question should be permitted to ask questions.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am trying to do so as far as possible.

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** Am I to answer these two questions together?

**Mr. Speaker:** If that is not inconvenient

\*295. **Shri Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes contemplated under the Second Five Year Plan for the development of the airport at Trivandrum; and

(b) the steps that have been taken to implement them?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 31].

#### Civil Aerodrome at Tuliha! and Kiccha

\*315. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the progress made in regard to the construction of one Civil Aerodrome at Tuliha! in Manipur (Assam) and at Kiccha near Haldwani (District Naini Tal—Uttar Pradesh)?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** *Tuliha!:* The possession of the land has been obtained and the earth work and collection of material at the site for the construction of the runway are in progress. The works relating to the reconditioning of the Air Traffic Control building and the Wireless Telegraph station building are in progress.

*Haldwani:* The possession of the land has been obtained and the construction of the runway is in progress. The fencing of the aerodrome has also been taken in hand.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** For the last four years, the Minister for Civil Aviation has been giving assurances that the aerodrome will be taken up shortly. Four years have elapsed. Only bricks have come; there is no trace of aerodrome.

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The land was given possession only after the monsoon of 1956. Therefore, the question of four years cannot arise.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will this be a all-weather or fair weather aerodrome?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Which?

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** *Tuliha!.*

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The Aerodrome at Tuliha! and that at Haldwani will be all-weather aerodromes.