

(b) whether the rent fixed is uniform in all Railway stations on Southern Railway?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). A nominal monthly rent of Re. 1/- per Restaurant is being uniformly recovered from Contractors on the Southern Railway.

The recovery of nominal rent in these cases is, in view of the limited demand for Western style food, which the Restaurants normally cater for, and the standards they are required to maintain.

Besides the Rent are also levied water and electric charges, based on consumption, and a separate charge towards the rent and maintenance of the electrical installations.

**Shri Thimmalah:** Do the Government propose to have a uniform rate of rent in all these railway stations?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** We have decided to call a meeting of representatives of various Zonal Committees. That meeting is being convened shortly in Delhi to find out if it would be possible to levy a uniform rent on these restaurants.

**Shri Thanu Pillai:** May I know whether it is a fact that while the Western style restaurants are charged Re. 1 per month, the Indian style restaurants are charged as much as Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 per month?

**Mr. Speaker:** Not Rs. 200 only.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** That may be true in some cases.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Even more.

**Mr. Speaker:** Are there any cases where Re. 1 is charged from Indian refreshment rooms?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** No, Sir.

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** The reason has been given why a nominal rent of Re. 1 is charged from restaurants of Western style.

**Shri Thimmalah:** Has it come to the notice of the Government that in small stations the rent charged is higher than the rent charged at big stations?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** May be in some cases, but it has not come specifically to my notice.

#### Cost of Sugarcane Cultivation

\*452. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the scheme for finding out the cost of cane cultivation in the country; and

(b) the principles for fixing the cane price for the coming crushing season 1957-58?

**The Deputy Minister of Food (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) and (b). A statement containing the desired information is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 22].

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know if Government has taken note of the deep dissatisfaction and discontent prevailing among the cane growers in this country at the want of a fixed principle for fixing the cane price?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** I do not think there is any discontent. On the other hand, there is general satisfaction.

**Shri Yadav:** What is the present price fixed per ton of sugarcane?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The price is Rs. 1-5-0 per ton, and Rs. 1-7-0 for gate delivery.

**Shri Heda:** Are Government contemplating to apply the SISMA formula or its modification all over the country, and in that case may I know whether the recovery will be for different periods or for the whole season?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The name itself indicates that the SISMA formula is only for South India—South Indian Sugar Manufacturers' Association Formula. For North India it is different.

**Shri Ranga:** Is it not a fact that when the late Shri Kidwai was alive, he gave an undertaking at a meeting of all the interests concerned in this industry that he would try to apply the SISMA formula to the rest of India also with suitable modifications? What is the action taken in it?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** A corresponding formula has been worked out for the rest of the country and that formula is being implemented.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** What is the margin of profit to the cultivator at this price?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The figures of the cost of production have not been finally worked out. A scheme for finding out the cost of production of sugarcane in different States was initiated in 1954. It has worked since then, but the period that has elapsed is not sufficient to give any firm data.

**Shri Tangamani:** May we know if the SISMA formula is being strictly applied to the sugarcane planters in South India?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Yes, it is being applied.

श्री सिहासन सिंह : जो सरकारी फार्म हैं, जिन पर ईस बॉर्डि जाती है, उन पर कास्ट ग्राफ प्रोडक्शन की जो दर है, क्या सरकार ने उसका अनुमान लगाया है ?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** This question of working out the cost relates to the fields of the farmers, and the scheme is based upon making an assessment of the cost of production in the fields of the farmers.

श्री सिहासन सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने अपने फार्मों पर कितना अनुमान लगाया है। सरकार क अपने फार्मों पर कास्ट

ग्राफ प्रोडक्शन तो कम होना चाहिए। क्या उसने कमी इसका अनुमान लगाया है ?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** They are experimental farms or demonstration farms. They are not commercial farms in the strict sense.

#### Buckingham Canal

\*453. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 566 on the 28th November, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the technical investigations by the Governments of Madras and Andhra of the proposal to widen Buckingham Canal with a view to make it navigable by motor launches have since been completed;

(b) whether Government have examined the same; and

(c) if so, the nature of decision arrived at?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) The Government of Andhra have completed their technical investigations; the Madras Government have not yet done so.

(b) The examination will be taken up as soon as the Madras Government's report is also received.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know whether this technical investigation is being carried out for the whole length of the Canal measuring about 451 miles from Kakinada to beyond Madras or is confined only to the Canal between Vijayawada and Madras?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** At the first stage the investigation is for the Buckingham Canal itself. It is only 260 miles and not 451 miles. It links up with some other canals in the Krishna and Godavari delta and goes to about 400 miles. The present investigation is for the Buckingham.