

colleges or other things can be started by them? As far as I know they are doing some training work for the State Government, but if the Central Government takes the initiative, more work will be done by them in this field.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They have not approached us and we have not yet got any information from them, but this is a college just to train graduates in dairy science and technology.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know the capacity of this college to train people, and whether candidates from all parts of India are taken?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Candidates from all parts of India have been selected. Out of 410 applicants, about 20 have been selected from all parts of India.

Food Situation in U. P.

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*1411. **Shri R. S. Lal:**

(**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**

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

(a) whether monsoon had not started in eastern U.P. uptill the 8th July, 1957;

(b) if so, its effect on (i) early paddy (ii) on general food situation; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check the already deteriorating food situation there?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) No, Sir. The rains started in June though gained full momentum only in July;

(b) Owing to inadequate rains in June, early paddy could not be sown over large tracts, but the general food position was not materially affected.

(c) The State Government are distributing substantial quantities of

foodgrain through about 1270 fair price shops. I may also add that yesterday the Minister had discussions with the representatives of the U.P. Government. The entire position has been reviewed and all possible steps are being taken.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस्टर्न यू० पी० में हाजत अच्छी नहीं है और हमारे पी० एस० पी० के एक महान नेता हुंगर स्ट्राइक पर हैं। इस अवस्था में सरकार यू० पी० को क्या सहायता देने जा रही है ?

Mr. Speaker: An hon. Member may rise, but he cannot put a question unless I call him. I want to give an opportunity to Shri Banerjee. He is the other gentleman who has tabled this question. Let him put a supplementary.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that mere supply of foodgrains will not solve the problem because of the low purchasing power of the people of those districts, and if so, may I know what steps are being taken to overcome this difficulty?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. F. Jain): It is a fact that mere supply of foodgrains cannot solve the problem if people have not the purchasing power, but to provide the purchasing power is not the responsibility of the Food and Agriculture Ministry. The State Government is doing that, and the State Government has also got some gram and barley to be distributed at subsidised rates. Besides, our prices are also subsidised prices.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अब तक इस्टर्न यू० पी० के लिए क्या सहायता दी है और वहाँ के लोगों के लिए कितने टन अनाज दिया है।

श्री प्र० प्र० जैन : ईस्टर्न यू० पी० के लिए हम ने इस वक्त तक एक लाख टन से ऊपर अनाज दिया है और इस महीने हम उन को चालीस हजार टन गेहूँ देने जा रहे हैं। इस के अलावा उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने साठ हजार टन चना खरीदा है, जिससे जितना नुकसान होगा, उस का पचास फीसदी बतौर सहायता के हम देंगे। इस वक्त उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट के पास—इस बारे में मैं ने कल बातचीत की थी—करीब करीब ७५,८० हजार टन अनाज के स्टॉक्स मौजूद हैं। इस के अलावा चालीस हजार टन हम और देने जा रहे हैं। यह बहुत भारी मिकदर में अनाज है।

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that this need for injecting some purchasing power into the people has become a chronic affair, may I know whether in this discussion which the hon. Minister had with the State Government any effort was made to integrate the developmental plans on the basis of test relief and the relief which is being given by the Central Government by way of chana or barley or other coarse grains for distribution as doles?

Shri A. P. Jain: The question of want of purchasing power is much larger than the responsibility of this Ministry. Obviously I could not take up that question. I took up the question of making adequate supplies available to the State Government, and I can say with confidence that I have done so.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Certain Opposition parties have made allegations of starvation deaths in Eastern U.P. Has the Government made any enquiries and if so, what are the results?

Mr. Speaker: That was answered some time ago.

Shri A. P. Jain: I can deny it categorically. I have made enquiries of the U.P. Government, and they have communicated to me in writing that all cases of starvation deaths that were brought to their notice have

been carefully examined and that there is not a single case of starvation death. This is what the U.P. Government have conveyed to us.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: In view of the serious food situation in Eastern U.P., may I know whether the number of fair price shops would be increased?

Shri A. P. Jain: They have got between 1,200 and 1,500 shops and they are going to increase them.

Shri Ranga: Have any relief works been organised in U.P., especially in those areas where scarcity conditions are prevailing?

Shri A. P. Jain: I understand the U.P. Government have started fairly extensive and large number of relief works.

Buckingham Canal

*1412. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 78 on the 16th July, 1957, and state what precisely are the terms of reference of the Gokhale Committee which has been asked to inspect the Buckingham Canal in August, 1957?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): The hon'ble member's attention is drawn to Resolution No. 3-IWT(44)56 dated 18-2-57 and 4-4-57 which were published in the official Gazette.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether along with this committee any technical experts of Andhra and Madras Governments have been associated?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The Gokhale Committee has been appointed on an all-India basis. The Andhra Government and the Madras Government have carried out their own investigations, and when this committee visited that area, they had consultations with the representatives of these Governments.