

### **Agriculture in Community Project Areas and N.E.S. Blocks**

\*1422. **Shri E. M. Rao:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state how much of land has been brought under "Japanese Method" of cultivation in the Community Project Areas, and National Extension Service Blocks?

**The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey):** Figures of land brought under Japanese method of cultivation particularly in Community Projects and National Extension Service areas are not available but they have been called for, from the State Governments for the period ending September, 1957. This method is taking up in an intensive way in areas wherever irrigation facilities exist, and 23.73 lakhs acres of land has been brought under the Japanese method of cultivation over the whole country during 1956-57 according to reports received from States by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

**श्री नकुसुबन राव :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतला सकते हैं कि जापानीज पद्धति से खेती करने पर खाद्य पदार्थों का उत्पादन कितना अधिक हुआ है ?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** From our experience we find that the increase in production by the Japanese method of paddy cultivation is to the extent of 50 per cent sometimes it even exceeds that figure

**Shri Venkatasubbalah:** May I know whether any additional staff has been engaged in NES and Community Development areas to propagate this Japanese method of cultivation, and whether the expenditure incurred on that staff is commensurate with the additional production of foodgrains in these areas?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** No additional staff is visualized in the National Extension Service Blocks and Community Development areas. The existing agricultural personnel at the block

headquarters and village level are expected to propagate this improved method of cultivation.

**सरदार भ० सि० सहगल :** क्या यह सच है कि कम्युनिटी प्रोजेक्ट्स और नेशनल एक्सटेंशन सर्विस ब्लॉक्स में जापानीज मैथड से खेती करने को उतना प्रोत्साहित वहाँ किया जाता जितना कि किया जाना चाहिए ?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** We are making all efforts possible, and we expect continuous improvement

**Shri S. R. Arumugham:** According to the third addition of Indian Agriculture, we find that the additional yield of paddy per acre by way of Japanese method of cultivation in Madras State is 1.07 maunds. This is the lowest yield compared to any other State in India. I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether any special steps have been taken or will be taken to improve the yield of paddy by this Japanese method of cultivation, and if so, what are those steps?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The Japanese method of paddy cultivation, as is known to all, includes use of better, seeds, better fertilisers, better seedlings, line sowing and other improved methods of cultivation all of which go to improve production. If in any area the results have not been commensurate with the investment, there must have been something wrong with the technique. That will be improved.

**श्री ना० त्रि० पटेल :** क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह मालूम है कि जापानीज मैथड से खेती कराने के लिए जो स्टाफ रखा गया है वह उस पर पूरा ध्यान नहीं देता और इसलिए जो लोग जापानी पद्धति से घनाज बो रहे हैं उन को नुकसान हो रहा है ?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** I am not aware of any special staff engaged specifically for the Japanese method of paddy cultivation. As I have already indicated, it is the existing block staff who are propagating the idea.

Some Hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** We are going on into a discussion as to how much land has been brought under cultivation, various other methods of improvement and so on, just like a general discussion.

**Shri Shahasan Singh:** I want to ask only one question. May I know whether any particular facility is given by the Government to the cultivators for adopting the Japanese method of cultivation?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** Seeds are supplied to the cultivators, so also fertilisers. Other such facilities are also given apart from technical assistance in regard to cultivation.

#### Baraset-Hasnabad Railway Line

\*1421. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final alignment for the laying of the broad-gauge Railway line from Baraset to Hasnabad via Basirhat has been decided upon in consultation with the West Bengal State Government;

(b) whether the preliminary engineering and traffic survey for this line has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The formal approval of the State Government to the final alignment is still awaited.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** If the survey has been completed from the railway side, may I know why it is that this year some provision has still been made for this survey in the Railway Budget?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** There is no question of any further survey. The survey has been completed, sanction has been accorded and the work is to be taken

in hand as soon as formal approval of the West Bengal Government regarding the alignment is received.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** Considering that the traffic survey and the engineering preliminary report have already been completed nearly two months back, may I know the reason why the West Bengal Government has not yet given its approval?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I cannot say. We have written to the State Government. That is a very thickly populated area and the State Government will have to acquire the land for the Railways. Therefore, we want to have their approval for the alignment. They suggested certain modifications which we have included, and now we have asked for their final approval. I do not know why the delay has occurred.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** In view of the fact that by the Planning Act we can start construction work even pending the land acquisition proceedings, may I know whether actually the Railway Ministry is going to start construction immediately even without waiting for the land acquisition?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** We have sanctioned certain works which we can start—construction of houses and buildings. That work has taken up, but the actual construction of the railway line cannot be undertaken until the land acquisition proceedings are over.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the numerous complaints put forward against the alignment have been finally settled?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** The final suggestion of the West Bengal Government regarding the alignment where the railway can be most useful has been agreed to.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** Rs. 20 lakhs have been allotted in the budget for this year. Now, about half the year is over. May I know whether the amount is actually going to be spent, or it will be allowed to lapse again owing to the procedural rules, etc.