

**Raja Mahendra Pratap:** Are we under any obligation to the United States for their giving this money to our country?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** There is no obligation that I know of, except that we are very grateful for the help.

### Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks

\*1534. **Shri Venkatasubbalah:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether greater emphasis is being put on food production in the National Extension Service and Community Development Blocks; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this direction?

**The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All steps required to increase the food production, viz., use of improved seeds, fertilizers, green manuring and other organic manures, irrigation, soil conservation, plant protection etc. form part of the block agricultural plan. Besides these measures about 50 farm leaders drawn from the the villages in each V.L.W.'s circle will be trained to take upon themselves the task of popularizing improved agriculture practices amongst other farmers in their villages. Krishi Pandits are associated with the Block Advisory Committee to give a fillip to agricultural production.

**Shri Venkatasubbalah:** In view of the fact that in Andhra in the N.E.S. and Community Development areas there are thousands of breached tanks and if they are renovated more land can be brought under irrigation, may I know whether the Government propose to allocate funds in that direction?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The State Government of Andhra has been advised to

utilise the fund under irrigation for renovation of Government tanks.

**Shri Venkatasubbalah:** I am asking about it in relation to the Community Projects so as to increase the food production.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then, why did not the hon. Member put the question specifically? What I want of the hon. Member is this. Generally, when their object is to have a particular information regarding their own State and to point out that the Central Government should give them sufficient money and all that, they must put the question specifically. This is an all-India question.

I would also request the hon. Ministers to say hereafter, instead of repeating what is contained in the books, "refer to such and such a book."

**Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Government consider the conversion of all waste lands which lie throughout the country in plenty?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** The Community Development Programme visualises the reclamation of whatever wasteland is within the Community Development areas and to the extent possible it is being done.

**Mr. Speaker:** I must say that if any hon. Member wants particularly a point with respect to his State, then, he may take it up and put the question specifically. The general points are there and the literature is there in the Library.

**Shri Venkatasubbalah:** It relates to the Community Development Blocks and the Community Projects.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is plenty of literature available regarding the function of the Community Blocks, Krishi Pandits, how many have been appointed, etc. All that is available in the Library. The hon. Members want one thing and put another question.