

because of floods and various other reasons. The TCM boat is being used by West Bengal Government and they use it to survey the head of Bay of Bengal.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the amount of fish caught by these trawlers during the last two or three years?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I have got the figures showing the amount of fish caught by Central Government boats, I do not have the total amount of fish caught by the Bengal Government. I am prepared to give those figures to the hon. Member.

Shri Achar: Has the Government received any representation on behalf of the All India Fishermens' Conference held at Malpe in South Kanara?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I want to have notice to answer that question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether in view of the possibilities of developing deep-sea fisheries Government have completed collecting all relevant data about the fishing grounds at Wadgebank and Pedrobank, and have they completed all investigations necessary for the commercial exploitation of these banks in the near future?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We have started from Cochin. We have sent our two big boats *Ashok* and *Partap* to Cochin. We are waiting for the monsoons to be over. As soon as the monsoon is over, because our boat cannot work during the monsoons, we intend to go to Wadgebank and survey the whole area with a view to collect all the necessary information.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know what data you are collecting?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We collect the data of fishing grounds. Fish is not found all over the area, it is found only in a particular area according to currents and cross-currents in the sea. Then there is what is called the migratory path, the path through which fish go—it won't go every way. Then we collect data on fishing seasons, fishing areas etc., that are required for particular types of grounds.

Shri Tyagi: Are you introducing "red fish" in Kerala waters?

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I ask one more question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, Are we to convert this into a fishing school? Let us go to the next question.

झिझा नदी के ऊपर रुक

*७६०. श्री झाबीबाला : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इंदौर और देवास के बीच आयरा-बम्बई राष्ट्रीय राजपथ पर झिझा नदी के ऊपर वर्तमान पुल को चौड़ा करने का काम कब से प्रारम्भ होगा?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : उचित ठेका मंजूर हो जाने पर यह कार्य शुरू कर दिया जायेगा। राज्य सरकार को एक योग्य ठेकेदार चुनने में कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ा है यहां तक कि तीसरी बार ठेका आमन्त्रित करना पड़ा है।

श्री झाबीबाला : क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि एक समय में एक ही गाड़ी उस पुल पर से जा सकती है और इसलिए वहां आमदो-रफ्त में काफी दिक्कत हो रही है?

श्री राज बहादुर : बहुत दिन पूर्व ही इस दिक्कत को अनुभव हो गया था और इस पुल के सम्बन्ध में स्वीकृति दे दी गई थी, किन्तु इस समय कठिनाई किसी अच्छे ठेकेदार को काम सौंपने की है।

श्री झाबीबाला : यह काम कितने समय में हो जायगा?

श्री राज बहादुर : जैसे ही कोई अच्छा ठेकेदार मिल जायगा और का मंजूर हो जायगा, यह कार्य प्रारम्भ कर दिया जायगा।

श्री राज बहादुर : क्या ठेकेदार का यह ही था जायगा? क्या इस सम्बन्ध

में टेन्डर मागे गए हैं, यदि नहीं, तो अभी टेन्डर क्यों नहीं मागे गए हैं?

श्री राज बहादुर : दो बार टेन्डर मागे गए हैं, लेकिन दुर्भाग्यवश कोई अच्छा ठकेदार नहीं मिला। अब तीसरी बार फिर टेन्डर मागे गए हैं।

Surplus Food-grains

*791. **Shri Kasliwal:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government propose to purchase surplus wheat or any other food-grains also in the country?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnaappa): Government are, at present, purchasing rice in Orissa and gram in Rajasthan. Arrangement is in hand to procure rice in Andhra also under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act as recently amended.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know how much of gram Government propose to purchase?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): We have an idea of purchasing 50 per cent of the gram in Ganganagar. We have put a cordon round Ganganagar and the procurement operations under the new amending law are in progress. Stock returns have been called for and notices of procurement have been served on some.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether Government are considering any proposal to purchase coarse grains also after the khariff crop is harvested?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is not of our mind.

Shri Mahanty: May I know on what basis the price fixation is made? I also want to know whether the Government have in view any motion of a fair price to the cultivators in fixing the price?

Shri A. P. Jain: We are making this procurement from the trade and in fixing the price we generally take the average of three months preceding the notification, I believe, dated 6th June. Sometimes some other considerations are also taken into account and prices are fixed accordingly. So far as the farmers are concerned, we have made no procurement, but I quite agree with my hon. friend that the farmers must get a fair deal.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: May I know if the Government has paid any attention to the need for collecting taxes in kind so that the farmer is spared the contingency of the changing prices which hit him very badly when the prices fall he has to sell the produce to pay the taxes which remain more or less the same in terms of money?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is rather a big question, but something of the kind is being considered at our request by the State Governments. I cannot say what is going to come out of it.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the Government's estimate of gram in Rajasthan and Rajasthan's requirements of gram? May I know on what basis the decision of the Government is based for purchasing half the quantity of gram produced there?

Shri A. P. Jain: We are fully aware that one of the effective methods of controlling prices is for the Government to have adequate stocks. Now, we do not want to denude the Ganganagar market of all its stocks. We are intending to purchase 50 per cent, it may be more, it may be less, and the quantity which will be purchased by the Government will be equitably distributed in different parts of the country including Rajasthan, so that if there is any requirement there that will also be met.

Shri Ranga: Is it a fact that at a conference which my hon. friend the Minister for Food and Agriculture and his Deputy Minister had with the local Andhra rice millers as well as