

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 24th November, 1952

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

T. B. AMONG COAL MINES WORKERS

*583. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey was undertaken to find out if the incidence of T.B. among coal mines workers was greater than that among other industrial labour; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether there are any T.B. clinics attached to the hospitals for miners?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise. I may however add that buildings for the T.B. Clinics for the Jharia and Raniganj coalfields have been completed at a cost of Rs. 1,25,000 each, and each clinic will have 8 beds. The necessary equipment is being obtained and the staff is being appointed. They are located adjacent to the original hospitals at Katras and Searsole. It is expected that the clinics will start functioning very soon.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any survey is proposed to be undertaken in the near future?**Shri V. V. Giri:** After these are established, a survey will be undertaken.**Sardar Hukam Singh:** In the absence of a sufficient number of clinics, is there any visiting team going round and giving B.C.G. vaccination?

282 PSD.

Shri V. V. Giri: There is also that proposal, and it will be taken up after these clinics are established.**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether any foreigners were also invited to go round and advise us as to the programme that has to be undertaken for these coal mines?**Shri V. V. Giri:** Not yet.**Dr. Rama Rao:** Is any sanatorium run for the coal miners either by Government or the mine-owners?**Shri V. V. Giri:** There is no sanatorium, but there are hospitals.**Dr. Rama Rao:** Do Government contemplate starting any sanatorium for these miners or direct mine-owners to start even a single sanatorium anywhere in India?**Shri V. V. Giri:** That depends upon the funds.**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Is any clinic proposed to be opened at Talcher coalfields?**Shri V. V. Giri:** I would like to have notice.**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know if it is true that the building for the clinic in Jharia was completed some time back, and if so why has the starting of the clinic been delayed so long?**Shri V. V. Giri:** It will be started immediately.**Shri A. C. Guha:** My question was why there was delay in starting the clinic when the buildings have been completed.**Shri V. V. Giri:** I cannot say. I have not got the information.

WITHDRAWAL OF WHEAT STOCKS

*584. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Union Government had during the

past six months received requests from some State Governments to take back their stocks of wheat?

(b) If so, which State Governments had made such requests?

(c) What quantity of stocks has been taken back?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) Madras, Rajasthan, Ajmer, Delhi and Tripura.

(c) 20,000 tons from Madras and 250 tons from Tripura have been re-allotted to other deficit States.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the reasons why the State Governments requested the Government of India to withdraw the stocks of wheat? Had the quality of wheat deteriorated, or they simply did not want these stocks?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Sometimes when there is sign of failure of rains, the State Governments over-estimate their deficit, and to be on the cautious side, they always demand more. And when we supply them according to their demand, and if their condition improves because of rains, they won't be in a position to sell the whole thing. So they ask us to take it back.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know how much of this 20,000 tons of wheat is of bad quality?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Not exactly bad quality. The States are very cautious. They won't take bad quality from us. They always send their officials and entomologists to inspect the grain, to screen it and clean it, and then alone they take the grain.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is the Government aware that a large quantity of wheat stocks in Bihar is of deteriorated quality?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Bihar has not asked us to take back any wheat.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Will Government be careful in future in delivering wheat stocks to States?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He should ask for information, and not make suggestions.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Will the Minister tell us the steps that are contemplated to be taken with regard to allotting wheat to the States which have returned, 20,000 tons, or 250 tons?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think this is any improvement on the previous question.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the hon. Minister in a position to contradict that the low purchasing power of the persons concerned is one of the reasons for the non-clearance of the stock?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No, Sir.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know who will bear the cost of movement and the other incidental charges of this grain?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The concerned States will have to bear it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it a fact that the Government of Madras asked for rice and that the Central Government has sent wheat, and therefore it was not used in the State?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is not a fact, Sir. They had asked for 2 lakh tons of rice, and we are supplying them.

Sardar Hukam Singh: According to the hon. Minister, the States have been very cautious. Is it only the Centre that has not been cautious for such a contingency?

Mr. Speaker: The question does not arise.

AGRICULTURAL PUBLICITY

*585. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal is under consideration to set up a suitable agricultural publicity machinery on a countrywide basis; and

(b) if so, whether non-official agencies interested in the subject will also be consulted?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the fact that a vast majority of persons who work in the fields are illiterate, may I know, how this agricultural information would be catered to them?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The illiteracy of our people is fully taken into account, and various means are being devised to see that the information reaches them.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know what the various means are.