

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The information is made available through posters, films, visual representation, the spoken word, radio etc.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the cost of the working of this organisation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It has yet to be calculated.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is radio one of the means through which this information is broadcast to the rural folk?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether this publicity machinery is different from the Press Information Bureau?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know if any non-official agency has already been consulted?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: What is the agency?

Mr. Speaker: Let us proceed to the next question.

CATERING SCHOOL, BOMBAY

*586. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a foreign expert has been invited by the Government of India in connection with the setting up a catering school in the city of Bombay;

(b) if so, from which country the expert has been invited;

(c) whether the scheme has been prepared and approved; and

(d) what will be the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (d). According to an Agreement between the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the Government of India for the provision of technical assistance, the Food and Agriculture Organisation has agreed *inter alia* to arrange for an expert to visit India for a period not exceeding 6 months to advise and teach at the catering school of the All India Women's Food Council, on the organization of catering services and the operation of cafeterias supplying non-cereal foods. The expert has already arrived and she is from U.K. The

Government of India has to bear only the lodging charges of the expert. The total expenditure on this account for a period of six months will be Rs. 5,050/-. Salary and other allowances admissible to the expert are borne by the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the experience and qualifications of this expert?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: She is an expert in all aspects of catering of non-cereal foods including administration.

Shri K. K. Basu rose—

Mr. Speaker: Let us not waste time over this.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether, before inviting her, efforts were made to find out if such experts were available in India or not?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: This is an agreement entered into between India and the F.A.O., according to which they have sent her, and we have sent three persons from India to F.A.O. for training.

FLAG STATION FOR KAKARHATTI

*587. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the proposal to locate a flag station between Darbhanga and Tarsarai Stations on N. E. Railway at Kakarhatti has been considered and sanctioned?

(b) If so, has the work been started?

(c) How long will it take to complete the work?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The work was completed on the 31st October 1952 and the flag station opened on the 5th November 1952.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the number of trains that pass through this station and the number that stop there?

Mr. Speaker: Can the hon. Parliamentary Secretary give the information?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: They have arranged to open a flag station there, and one passenger train will halt there.

Shri S. N. Das: How many pass through that station?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I have not got the full data with me.

ALL-INDIA COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

*588. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how and when the All-India Council of Agricultural Education was formed;

(b) the constitution and functions of the Council; and

(c) whether a model and uniform curriculum of the agricultural colleges in India has been formed?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Education was formed in November, 1951, on the recommendations of a conference of the State Ministers of Agriculture, Vice-Chancellors and Deans of the Faculties of Agriculture of the Universities and Principals of Agricultural Colleges. The Conference was convened by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 35.]

(c) Yes, it has also been circulated to the Universities.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether a seven-man Standing Committee has been elected by the Council, and, if so, what will be its functions?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The statement mentions the functions of the Council as a whole, and the Standing Committee is expected to perform the very same functions.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many times the Council sat since its inception?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: According to my knowledge, about twice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any special recurring or non-recurring grants have been made to colleges for the training of students who will work in rural areas or surroundings and not in college surroundings?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No financial assistance of any sort has so far been given, nor are we giving any specific training to the students under the Council. But we are considering if

any steps could be taken for encouraging agricultural education in the country.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether all the agricultural colleges in India have taken into consideration the recommendation of the Council that at least one hundred acres of land should be with the colleges in the college compounds?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would require notice for that question.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether steps have been taken to implement the recommendation of the Committee that agriculture should be introduced as a subject in all primary and middle schools?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am afraid this matter has not yet been taken up by the Council.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know what specific assistance the agricultural colleges will get from this new Council?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Nothing much except advice on determination of uniform standards in the colleges.

Shri Abdus Sattar: May I know the number of agricultural colleges and their locations?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I require notice.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether some of the students who have passed out of these colleges have been unemployed because they know only the theory of agriculture and not the practice?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is not a question, Sir. The hon. Member is propounding a view.

ASSAM RAIL LINK

*589. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss caused by the last flood to the Assam Rail Link; and

(b) the estimated cost of repairs to be done?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) About Rs. 30 lakhs in loss of earnings due to interruption of traffic.

(b) The estimated cost of repairs on the section Mal Jn.-Amingaon is of the order of Rs. 50 lakhs.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the repair work has been completed?