

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** Temporary repairs have been carried out.

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** But there are further proposals for improving the railway lines.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know whether any protective measure has been taken to save the line from future damage from floods?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know the nature of the work contemplated or being done, whether there are any embankments or any new bridges etc.?

**Shri Alagesan:** Embankment works and the making of the foundation of the bridges stronger.

**Shri Barman:** May I know whether Government has considered the question of increasing the number of bridges on the North Bengal-Assam line so that these instances of damage from floods which have increased since 1950 can be diminished or abolished to some extent by giving more outlets than the existing ones?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is making suggestions for action.

**Shri Barman:** I made the suggestion before, and I am asking whether it has been implemented.

**Mr. Speaker:** A question suggesting action is not permissible. The hon. Member may ask for information.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know whether damage to the Assam Rail Link due to floods will be a perennial affair or is anything being done now that will prevent further damages?

**Shri Alagesan:** I may inform the House that it is proposed to effect some improvements in the shape of additional waterways, deeper foundations for bridges etc. at an additional cost of about Rs. 25 lakhs. I think after these are done, it will not be a perennial affair.

#### TRAINING OF WORKERS FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

\*590. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the training of village-level workers for community projects has started?

(b) If so, what are the names of the centres and the number of workers being trained there?

(c) What are the subjects in which training is being imparted?

(d) Is any syllabus of the course available?

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

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 36.]

(c) Agriculture; Cooperation and Village Participation; Animal Husbandry; Health; Sanitation and Hygiene; Adult Education.

(d) Yes. A copy of the syllabus prepared by the U.P. Government, which was circulated to all Training Centres, is placed on the Table of the House. [Copy placed in the Library See No. P-78/52.]

**Shri S. N. Das:** From the statement it appears that seven centres have been started in seven of the States. May I take it that in other States, such training centres are existing—or are they still to be opened?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The matter is under consideration, so far as the other States are concerned.

**Shrimati A. Kale:** May I know whether there are any women workers being trained, and, if so, what are their qualifications?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Not so far.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the cost of training is borne by the States or by the Centre?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is borne by the Ford Foundation partly, and partly by the 'TCA' agreement which we have entered into.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the time that will be taken for starting these centres in other Part A and Part B States?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Fairly effective steps are being taken to see that the centres are opened at an early date.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know the time-lag between the starting of the projects—I think it was started on the 2nd October—and the time when these trained village workers will take charge of the villages?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think there has been any great delay or much time-lag. Everything is being expedited as much as possible.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know whether the workers will immediately be engaged in the different project works after the completion of their courses?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am afraid there are too many Members coughing, and I am unable to follow the question.

**Shri Kelappan:** May I know whether there are any foreign experts among the teachers?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, but very few.

**Shri Kelappan:** How many?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I am going to the next question.

#### FISHING RIGHTS (AMERICAN AGENCY)

\*591. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any American agency had requested Government for fishing rights in areas en route to the Lacadive Archipelago and the Maldives; and

(b) whether Government have made any effort to exploit these areas for fishing the highly-priced fish like Tuna and Bonito?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) An American agency made an enquiry in 1950 asking for the grant of a licence for Tuna fishing off the South Coast of India. They were asked to make proposals on the principle that Indian nationals would be associated with the venture but no concrete proposals resulted.

(b) Investigations are proposed to be undertaken soon.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** How many miles off the Indian coast do we get these Tuna and Bonito? May I also know whether the Central Government has made a preliminary survey of the area in the sea?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I could not give the mileage beyond which they are available, but I think it requires deep sea fishing to a considerable extent.

I did not hear the second part of the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister requires notice for that question?

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

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that these two fish, Tuna and Bonito, are very highly priced in America and may I also know whether in a scheme submitted by an American agency there was a proposal for the export of these fish to America?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got the details of the American proposal, Sir.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government of Bombay have requested the Central Government for any assistance on this?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I want notice.

**Shri Damodara Menon:** Is it the policy of the Government to give fishing rights to foreign agencies on the coast of India or to reserve it for Indian nationals?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** As has been clearly indicated in the reply to the question, Sir, it is not our intention to give exclusive rights without securing some advantages.

#### TELE-COMMUNICATION PLANNING SECTION

\*593. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state when the Tele-Communication Planning Section of Post and Telegraph Directorate was constituted?

(b) Have all necessary statistics been collected and tabulated?

(c) How far has the section progressed as regards the expansion of the existing Auto Exchanges?

(d) How far will it help in the implementation of the Five Year Plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) January, 1952.

(b) Considerable quantity of statistics have been collected and are being tabulated. This is a continuous process.

(c) A statement of the present position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 37.]

This Section has so far dealt with Manual Exchanges and Carrier Systems.

(d) It is essential for the drawing up and implementation of the Five Year Plan. The fixation of priorities for equipment and works and the co-ordination of the various phases of the development schemes is the responsibility of this Section.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know, Sir, what will be the amount required for the working of this Section according to the Five Year Plan?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It is provided in the Budget as a normal budget provision every year.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** Not for this special Section?