

issue or withhold introductory cards to persons who are on their register and are equally qualified for the job notified by the Employment Exchanges?

Shri Abid Ali: All depends on the seniority of the candidate, his seniority on our live register and his qualification. There is no discretion.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have Government received any complaints against employment exchanges that the officers have used such discretions and discriminated against certain persons?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, Sir. Complaints are received from time to time and enquiries are held and whenever we find that any officer has not carried out the instructions, he is severely dealt with.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल: क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि मामूली तौर से कितने वक्त के बीच में उम्मीदवारों को एम्प्लायमेंट एक्सचेंज के द्वारा जगह मिल जाती है ?

श्री आबिद अली: मैं ने अर्ज कर दिया है कि यह वक्त निकालना जरूर मुश्किल है। कभी तो उसी दिन जगह मिल जाती है कभी दो दिन बाद मिल जाती है और कभी कभी दो दो साल नहीं मिलती है।

श्रीलाल अर्चित राम: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि क्या उनके पास कोई ऐसी शिकायत पहुंची कि नाम रजिस्टर करने के लिए अफसर रुपया मांगते हैं ?

श्री आबिद अली: जी हां, ऐसी शिकायतें पहुंची हैं और कार्यवाही भी की गयी है और बड़े और छोटे अफसरान को निकाल भी दिया गया है।

श्रीलाल अर्चित राम: आपको इस मामले में कुछ कामयाबी भी हुई है।

श्री आबिद अली: उम्मीद तो है कि काफी कामयाबी हुई है और मैं ने अर्ज किया है कि सजा भी दी गयी है और मैं यकीन

दिलाता हूँ कि अगर कोई भी साहब कहीं से भी इस मामले में इत्ला देंगे तो उस पर सस्ती से कार्यवाही की जायगी।

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

*1193. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any improvement has been marked in the production of foodgrains in India during the year 1952?

(b) If so, to what extent will the improvement in internal food production influence the imports of foodgrains from abroad?

(c) Has any target of food imports been fixed for the first half of the year 1953?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what is that target?

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

(b) to (d). The improved position resulting from better production of foodgrains is reflected in the original estimate of 29 lakh tons of foodgrains to be imported in 1953 and the more recent estimate that possibly 25 lakh tons would suffice. The imports in 1951 were 47 lakh tons and in 1952, 39 lakh tons.

The targets for imports are fixed for the year as a whole.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Which are the States where improvements have been marked in the production of foodgrains and where the production has been the maximum?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Except for some States like Madras, Mysore, Hyderabad and some parts of Bombay, in the North there is a remarkable improvement. In our rice growing areas like Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam the Kharif crop has been better and the wheat crop in the North this year is normal.

Shri Altekar: May I know whether there are any state-wise figures of surplus foodgrains available for 1952?

Shri Dasaratha Deb: I could not follow the answer to (c).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member can wait. I do not want the hon. Minister to go on reading the figures state-wise. If he says "yes" let the

statement be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Altekar: May I know the position of Bombay?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Bombay is one of the highly deficit States.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the increase in the food production as estimated by Government, can the people hope that the calorific value of food will also be increased?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, Sir. That is obvious.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: I could not follow the answer to (c). Has any target of food imports been fixed for the first half of the year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The answer is that the target is for the year as a whole?

Shri Dasaratha Deb: What is the target?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The target we fixed tentatively was 29 lakh tons, but in view of the improvement in the country, there is every likelihood of our imports limiting to 25 lakh tons instead of 29 lakh tons of original estimates.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that a statement was made that in West Bengal there was a bumper crop, may I know if any calculation has been made as to how much crop has been spoilt due to pests?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Compared with the preceding 3 or 4 years, the Bengal crop was very much better this year; on'y last week I was there and in the open market rice was being sold at Rs. 18 to Rs. 20 a maund. The price this time last year was Rs. 32.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: What was the estimated production of rice for Madras and what was the short fall?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Madras had asked for about 2½ lakh tons of rice and we have agreed to give it.

They had asked for 5 lakh tons of Milo and the supply of Milo this year will depend on the availability of Milo overseas. The price structure is also there because the Milo that we are going to import will be equally costly as that of wheat. So we are thinking of giving to Madras wheat that we have got with us at subsidized rates, so that it will go a long way to meet the demands of Milo.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: My question was what was the estimated production of rice in Madras and what was the short fall?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We consider the demands of the various states to be their deficits.

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: May I know the country with which the Government had negotiated a rice deal for this year as also the quantity and prices?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Normally we get rice from 3 to 4 countries the major portion from Burma from Thailand and China. Negotiations are still going on and by the end of this month the barter deal may be concluded. We may try to get some rice from Thailand and China also but no final decision has yet been taken.

Shri T. N. Singh: In 1950 we reduced our food imports considerably and these reductions are supposed to reflect the improvement. May I know whether it is the same criteria that was used in 1950 which resulted in a reduction of imports or is it something different?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I will give you the figures. In 1951 we have imported 47 lakh tons.

Shri T. N. Singh: I said about the reduction in imports in 1950.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: In India generally speaking, it is a cycle of 5 years. One year is good, one is bad, one is neither good nor bad, and two years are indifferent. I will give you the figures of a trade cycle of five years.

In 1948 we have imported 28 lakh tons.

In 1949 we have imported 37 lakh tons.

In 1950 we have imported 21 lakh tons.

In 1951 we have imported 47 lakh tons.

In 1952 we have imported 39 lakh tons and this year we have reduced it to 29 lakh tons and there is every likelihood of our limiting it to 25 lakh tons in view of the improved conditions in the country.

Shri Gopala Rao: Are these figures for wheat or rice or for both wheat and rice?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: This consists mostly of wheat. The second largest

quantity is rice. In some years, we got milo also. If the hon. Member wants, I can give the break up.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The hon. Minister expressed satisfaction about Northern India. What are the prospects of gram crop this year in Northern India?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The position of the gram crop is also reflected in the downward trend of prices prevailing in Northern India. We expect to have a normal gram crop this year. The harvest has commenced and prices are going down.

Shri Raghavachari: Has the Central Government any plans to procure more rice from Orissa where plenty of it is available?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is true that in Orissa, by this time last year they had procured only 80,000 tons and this year, they have procured nearly 2 lakh tons, that is, three times the normal procurement. They hope to procure one lakh tons more provided we relieve the congestion that has been created in the various mills there. We hope that they will procure more than 3 lakh tons because of the bumper crop.

Shri Raghavachari: My question was, whether the Central Government has any plans to procure it direct and avoid going to foreign markets.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We do not directly procure by establishing parallel Government agencies in various States. The States procure for us and we pay for them. The various States for which we allot the rice try to lift the grain. This year, we have thought of another plan: that is, the Centre itself purchasing some rice from Orissa and stocking it at Orissa, just as a sort of giving them some relief and making some more money available to them to procure more rice.

Shri P. T. Chacko: What arrangements have been made to transport these foodgrains from the surplus States to the deficit States? May I know whether any improvement has been made this year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes. All the available wagons have been placed at our disposal with the kind help of the hon. Ministers Mr. Alagesan and Shastriji. They have done their best to see that all the rice procured from Orissa is exported to the deficit States

as early as possible. We are also thinking of another plan: sea-cum-rail route also, wherever possible. There are two ports: one is Vizagapatam near the border of Orissa and the other is Chandbali or something like that. From these ports we intend to transport rice by steamers also.

Shri Nambiar: Arising out of the answer that 2½ lakh tons are required by the Madras Government, may I know whether the Madras Government have asked the price to be at the imported rate or at any subsidised rates?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We do not propose to subsidise. In this year's Budget, there is no provision for subsidising foodgrains. But, this much is certain. The present price level will be kept up in Madras. In Madras rice is sold at Rs. 17-8-0 to 22 a maund. There will be no occasion for enhancing it. We will try to keep up the issue prices.

Shri Altekari: May I know the surplus quantity of rice in Orissa in 1952.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: As I said, last year, they had procured 1½ lakh tons; by this time, they had procured 80,000 tons. This year, up till now, they have procured 2 lakh tons and they hope to procure one lakh tons more. We say that they should procure 4 lakh tons because of the bumper crop. That means, they will have a surplus of 4 lakh tons.

CAPITATION FEES FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

*1194. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to lay on the Table of the House, a copy of the Notification or Circular in connection with exempting the Medical students from payment of Capitation fees in various Medical Colleges?

(b) In how many States Capitation fee has been exempted?

(c) What are the States which are still charging capitation fees from medical students belonging to other States?

(d) What steps are being taken to bring about uniformity in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) No notification or circular has been issued by the Health Ministry. The Ministry of Education issued a letter to all Parts 'A' and 'B' States urging the abolition of the system of charging capitation fees in all educational institutions.