

the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 8.]

(b) The revenue of the Council is derived from the following sources:

(i) Cess levied under the Agricultural Produce Cess Act of 1940.

(ii) Contributions from former Constituent Indian States (now Part B States and some Part C States).

(iii) Grants from the Government of India for specific schemes.

(iv) Interest from the Investment of the Council's Funds.

(v) Miscellaneous Receipts.

A statement showing the revenues credited to the Council during the last five years since 1947-48 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 8.]

(c) The accounts of the Council are audited by the Accountant General Central Revenues under the general superintendence and control of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Shri A. C. Guha: From the statement I find that the closing balance of the Agricultural Council is increasing year after year. From Rs. 68 lakhs in 1947-48 it has come over to Rs. 1,18,000 in 1952-53. Why has Government allowed so much closing balance to be accumulated with that Council?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: At the present moment almost every scheme that is proposed by any State Government or University is accepted. The larger balance is due to the fact that we got extra revenues in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52. If I may draw the attention of the hon. Member to the statement, he will see that during the last two years the excess accumulation has been to the extent of Rs. 46 lakhs. In the balance in 1947-48 and 1952-53 there is a difference of Rs. 50 lakhs. The Council has been spending according to the average and has not been trying to push up expenditure irrespective of good schemes. All the good schemes are, however, sanctioned.

Shri A. C. Guha: In the face of these accumulating balances, why is Government making grants year after year to the Council from the Central Funds?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is no system of making grants as such. The schemes are proposed and we meet the expenditure fifty-fifty.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is the levy collected under the Agricultural Produce Act automatically transferred to the Council without being entered in the Budget, either on the credit side or on the debit side?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am not in a position to reply to this question off-hand. I would like to have notice of that question. But so far as my information goes, every quarter the realisations out of this are credited to the Council by the Customs Department.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know if any steps have been taken by Government to reduce the number of temporary employees of the I.C.A.R.?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. This matter is constantly under consideration.

MOVEMENT OF FOODGRAINS (ZONAL SYSTEM)

***43. Shri Charak:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided to form Zonal System in India for the movement of foodgrains;

(b) if not, why not; and

(c) whether this question was considered at the Food Conference held at Delhi in January, 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). The question of formation of zones in respect of millets and other coarse grains was at one time considered and discussed with the State Governments but was given up.

(c) No.

AIR COMPANIES (SUBSIDIES)

***44. Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the year when payment of subsidies to Air Companies was started;

(b) the rate at which the subsidy has been given to the various companies; and

(c) the total amount of subsidies paid so far and to what companies?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) From 1st March, 1949.

(b) For the period 1st March 1949 to 31st March, 1951 subsidy was paid