

being wasted on railway locomotives and that is why these collieries are working at a great loss?

Shri Alagesan: We are at present not getting the required quantity of low grade coal; hence, we are using the metallurgical coal. Still, there is a limit fixed for its consumption.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether these collieries are proposed to be transferred to the Ministry of Production, because metallurgical coal is available in them?

Shri Alagesan: They have been already transferred.

Shri Nambiar: As a result of this transfer, may I know whether large scale retrenchment is being planned in Giridih?

Shri Alagesan: This is for the Production Ministry. It has been answered in this House.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is it proposed to use electricity in place of metallurgical coal?

Shri Alagesan: I want notice?

Shri Nambiar: Arising out of the answer that there is going to be retrenchment, may I know what steps are being taken to give employment to the men who will be thrown out?

Mr. Speaker: He did not say whether there would or would not be retrenchment. He said that the question should be addressed to the Production Ministry.

Shri Nambiar: He said it has been answered previously.

Mr. Speaker: He says it is a question for the Production Minister.

Shri Nambiar: Collieries are under the Railways.

Mr. Speaker: Let us accept his statement.

SURVEY OF GROUND-WATER RESOURCES

*1474. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether an agreement has been arrived at between the Governments of India and the U.S.A. with a view to undertaking a survey of the ground-water resources of India?

(b) If so, what is the estimated cost involved in that survey?

(c) When will that survey work start?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes. It is not a survey, but it is explorations.

(b) The total cost of the project is estimated to be 4.5 million dollars and 1.2 crores of rupees.

(c) Immediately.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the dollar part of the money will be met by the U.S.A. Government and the rupee part by the Government of India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether this work will be carried on only in areas where sub-soil conditions are fairly well known or will it be carried on on an all-India basis to find out the sub-soil water potentialities?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have replied to this sort of question sometime back. We have fixed up the areas also, and that will indicate the nature of our explorations.

Shri C. R. Chowdary: May I know whether this survey is conducted under the supervision of the Government of India or under the supervision of the foreign authority?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The whole work is done under our supervision, under our control and under our guidance; and apart from supplying us the funds the U.S.A. Government has nothing to do with this.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether under the agreement this Government has reserved for itself any powers for recruiting specialists and other personnel needed for the work and, if so, what are those powers?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: These powers have always rested with us, and in every instance they rest with us.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know how many experts are required to carry on this exploratory work and what their salaries and allowances are?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If foreign experts are meant none at all at any rate so far.

FAMILY PLANNING

*1475. **Shri Achuthan:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the family planning work has begun in any State in India?

(b) If so, what is the nature of work so far done?

(c) What is the *modus operandi* to convey this information in all villages of India in an effective way?

(d) Have any institutions or public bodies volunteered to co-operate in this task?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have opened three pilot family planning centres to study the applicability of the Rythm method. Family Planning Clinics have also been established in some States by the State Governments or voluntary organisations.

(c) A certain amount of educative propaganda is being carried out by the Government of India. Advice regarding the Rythm method is given at the three centres mentioned earlier. State Governments or voluntary organisations which run family planning clinics arrange their own publicity.

(d) It is understood that the following organisations are working in this field.

- (i) The Family Planning Association of India, Bombay.
- (ii) The Family Planning Association of India, Simla.
- (iii) The Family Planning Sub-Committee, Indian Red Cross Society, Lucknow.
- (iv) The Family Planning Association of Hyderabad.
- (v) The Family Planning Association of Madras.

Shri Achuthan: May I know whether any team of medical men has been sent abroad for the purpose of specialising in the methods adopted there?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: No, Sir.

Shri Achuthan: May I know whether, apart from the rythm method, any other method is being adopted here?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: No, Sir.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether Government is aware of the opposition of certain religious organisations with regard to this matter, whether any representations have been made in this respect by any religious communities, and if so which?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: We are aware of it, but I cannot say in detail what organisations have represented to the Government.

Shri Achuthan: May I know whether Government is prepared to approach the Red Cross and the St. John Ambulance Associations to take up this work intensively because they are doing many other things of a like nature?

Mr. Speaker: I think these are suggestions for action.

SELECTION OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL FOR OVERSEAS STUDIES

*1476. **Shri Raghuramaiah:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India propose to depute some medical personnel for overseas studies;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, how Government propose to make the selection; and

(c) whether any publicity has been given to this selection and whether applications have been called for?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The Government of India's scheme of scholarships and fellowships under which medical personnel used to be deputed abroad for advanced training has been suspended for a long time. Since 1952, however, a panel of names of suitable candidates is prepared for the award of fellowships for medical training abroad, which may be made available to India by foreign countries or international organisations.

(b) and (c). All State Governments, their Administrative Medical Officers, and non-Government medical institutions are invited to forward the applications of suitable candidates. The selection is made through a Central Selection Board specially constituted for the purpose every year.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether applications are called for and whether the selection is made ultimately by the Central Government or whether the State Governments have got any say in the matter?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: No. The applications are received from the State Governments, but the selection is made through a Selection Board as I stated in the answer.

Shri Namdas: May I know whether backward regions will be given due consideration in the selection of candidates?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Certainly, Sir.