

all important sugar producing States for a further period of three years with the object of increasing yield of cane per acre and its sucrose content.

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** May I know whether this fall in production is a general feature prevailing in all centres of sugar production, or localised at certain places?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is more marked in U.P.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether this fall in production is due to the lowering of the prices of sugarcane to an uneconomic level?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think so, Sir, because when the prices were lowered, the sugarcane crop was already cultivated and standing in the fields.

**Pandit K. C. Sharma:** Is it a fact that the fall in the sugarcane production is due to the deterioration of the cane on account of sugarcane pest?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There has not been such a good crop in many places, but I do not think it is due to any pest. It was more due to less and timely rain.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Has any increase been marked in the production of gur this year as compared to last year?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. There is a considerable increase in gur production because of higher prices of gur.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, whether there has been any increase in the yield per maund of sugarcane?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got the figures here, Sir. I would like to have notice.

**Shri Nanadas rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is putting questions on every question. I do not think he is right in doing that.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the percentage of recovery has gone up from 9 points something to 10.15 or thereabouts?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got the figures here. I could not say. Probably my hon. friend is right.

**Sardar A. S. Salgal:** I would request you, Sir, to take up question No. 1571. Mr. Jangde is ill and is not able to be present.

**Mr. Speaker:** Question No. 1571—Mr. Jangde. Well, we will consider it at the end. Next question.

#### PURCHASE OF RAILWAY STORES

\*1573. **Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether adequate consideration is being given for finding supplies in the country at the time of purchasing stores for his Ministry from abroad?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Yes, provided that the stores can be delivered in the period during which they are actually wanted and the quality is good enough for the purpose for which they are required.

**Shri Bansal:** Is it a fact that in America there is an Act under which every government department has to purchase American goods even if the cost price is 25 per cent. higher than that of the imported goods?

**Shri Alagesan:** I take that information from the hon. Member.

#### CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROAD

\*1574. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the agency at their disposal for the maintenance and construction of roads and bridges is C.P.W.D. or any other organisation?

(b) Is there any dual control of C.P.W.D. by Transport and Works, Housing and Supply Ministries?

(c) Which of the two Ministries controls the C.P.W.D.?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Road works under the control of the Ministry of Transport are generally executed through the agency of the State Public Works Departments and the Central Public Works Department. A few works have been entrusted to other agencies such as the Central Water and Power Commission and the Railways. The work entrusted to the Central Public Works Department does not amount to a large percentage of the total.

(b) No.

(c) The Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** How is the arrangement of the staff made between these two Ministries?

**Shri Alagesan:** Sir, the Public Works Department executes this work. The staff of the Public Works Department—either State or Central—executes the work.