

Road to Penugadupa where mining operations have since been started.

(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, when the construction will be taken up; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the new link will enable stepping of coal production by 2,000 tons a day?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal to provide an extension is at present only in the preliminary stages of investigation and it cannot now be stated as to when actual construction would be taken up.

(c) The production is expected to be increased by about 1300 tons per day by 1957.

**Shri Vittal Rao:** Am I to understand from the reply that the work will not be taken up even in 1953 and 1954?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The hon. Member's assumption is correct, Sir.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या इस कंस्ट्रक्शन से कोई फायदा भी होने वाला है ?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Am I to understand that the Government are satisfied that the present arrangements are enough to meet the demand?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Does it arise out of the railway link?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Yes, Sir. Are Government satisfied that the present arrangements are satisfactory without extending the railway line?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Sir, we are investigating the line.

#### FRUIT PRESERVATION SCHEME

\*1009. **Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for training in Fruit Preservation is going to be started in the financial year 1953-54; and

(b) whether any scheme for development of Indian fruits will be started in the near future?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No.

(b) No. The development of the fruit industry is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. The

Indian Council of Agricultural Research is, however, financing research schemes on important All India problems.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether there is any Adviser for Fruit Preservation at present in the Government of India?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** The Government of India had for some time an Expert Adviser. But the experiment was not successful. Therefore it has been dropped.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** What is the total amount of tinned fruit that we import annually; and has there been any decline in it?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to have notice of the question.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know how much financial assistance has been given in 1952-53 to the State of Madras in this respect?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There are various schemes going on. I can tell the hon. Member of at least one scheme where the share of the State Government is Rs. 31,900 and that of the I.C. A.R. the same amount.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Are there any foreign people who are engaged in this fruit preservation industry; if so, how many are there?

**Shri Kidwai:** Does he refer to foreign countries or to this country?

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** How many foreigners are engaged in the fruit preservation industry in India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This question will have to be addressed to another Minister, because research on fruit preservation is now the responsibility of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research who are now doing this work at the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Does the Government contemplate to sanction any amount under the Cottage Industries for this fruit preservation business?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** That is going to be investigated soon, Sir.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government have in view the starting of a canning plant at Punalur where there is a steady supply of pine-apples?

**Shri Kidwai:** We will have to make enquiries from the State Government if the question is put.

**श्री दधुनाथ सिंह :** क्या ईस्टर्न यू० पी० के आम के बारे में भी ऐसी कोई योजना है ?

**श्री किशवई :** अभी तक यह नहीं पालूम कि ईस्टर्न यू० पी० का आम कहीं और भी पसन्द किया जाता है ।

REPORT OF THE EXPERT STANDING COMMITTEE UNDER I.C.A.R.

**\*1011. Shri C. R. Chowdary:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any Expert Standing Committee has been set up under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research?

(b) If so, has any report been submitted to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with a review of steps taken in each State for evolving pure strains for the main food crops and for distributing them in the years 1951-52 and the first half of the year 1952-53?

(c) What is the extent of the area that has been brought under pure and improved seed in each State?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) It has been decided to set up a Central Seeds Committee in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture itself with a membership of five experts partly from the Ministry and partly from the State Governments and two representatives of growers to be nominated.

(b) No. The Committee has not yet met.

(c) The latest information is that contained in App. X of the Grow More Food Enquiry Report, copies of which were circulated to Members. A copy of the same is placed on the Table. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 60.]

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** May I know what steps are being taken by the Government to popularise the use of pure strains?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The steps taken are, I believe, well-known.

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** What is the agency employed for distribution of the same?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is the Agriculture Departments of the State Governments.

**Pandit K. C. Sharma:** Has the Government evolved any scheme to separate the seed areas for the purpose of seed preservation?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** Every State has some seed farms.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** What is the proportion of the area under cultivation of pure strains to that under cultivation of hybrid strains?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have already replied that the latest information is contained in the Grow More Food Enquiry Report, and I have placed a copy on the Table.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** That is with respect to total area under cultivation. I want the proportion of pure strains to hybrid strains.

**Shri Kidwai:** It is a question of calculation and computation which may be made from the reports.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Does it mean that the rest of the area is under hybrid cultivation?

**Shri Kidwai:** Maybe.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member will kindly look into the report and make the calculations.

**Pandit K. C. Sharma:** Has Government done anything to enthruse the cultivator himself to separate a particular area for seed purposes?

**Shri Kidwai:** Sometimes it is done, and I think the hon. Member will find in the neighbourhood of his own district there are many producers whose produce is purchased by the Government for seed purposes.

**Pandit K. C. Sharma:** My question is not that. I want to know whether Government has evolved any scheme for every cultivator to separate a particular area for seed purposes; or has Government done nothing of the sort?

**Shri Kidwai:** I think if every cultivator starts doing it then Government will not be asked to intervene!

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Have Government accepted in full the recommendations of the Grow More Food Committee in regard to seed production and distribution, and have they been implemented?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** On the whole, yes, Sir. I would not swear that every recommendation has been accepted. The hon. Member was, I think, a Member of the Committee. And most of the recommendations have been accepted.