

Shri Alagesan: Yes.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the team of officers also surveyed those stations which have individual electric installations on the Eastern Railway?

Shri Alagesan: There are various sections which are fairly comprehensive on which they had to do this investigation work. I do not exactly know the stations that the hon. Member has in mind. If he can give the names, I can tell him. I have here the names of the sections only.

LAND HOLDINGS

*1011. **Shri Heda:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state in how many States Land Census Scheme has been introduced?

(b) How many States have asked for the advice from the Food and Agriculture Ministry about the fixation of ceilings on land holdings?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):

(a) So far, in no State.

(b) The question came up for discussion in connection with the land reform Bills of four States viz., Hyderabad, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and PEPSU.

Shri Heda: May I know whether Government have got any proposal to take such census?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, it has also been replied in this House that a circular has been drawn up and within a week we are writing to all the Governments to conduct a survey about the middle of next year.

Shri Heda: When do Government expect replies from the various States?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Within six months we expect a reply.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: Is the census a preliminary to a comprehensive land reform?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is preliminary to all the land reform that is going on in the country.

Shri Nanadas: May I know, Sir, whether any State has taken census of waste lands that are likely to be cultivated?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): It is part of the enquiry that is to be made.

Dr. Rama Rao: Is it a fact that the Delhi State suggested 30 acres as maximum ceiling and the Government of India rejected that?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We have not yet rejected in the correct sense of the term, but they had given three alternatives. They said that if the number of the co-sharers is from six to ten, the ceiling should be 30 standard acres; if it is more than that, it should be 40 standard acres; and if it is more than that number, it should be about 50 standard acres. They had given alternative suggestions, and the whole position is under the consideration of the Government.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, whether, before issuing these instructions, the Government have consulted Kumarappa's report?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I think all these reports were before the Planning Commission when they came to this conclusion.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: The hon. Minister has stated that there has been no survey or census of land or waste land. May I know how the Central Tractor Organisation and other organisations in the country are functioning and what they are doing if there is no land survey at all?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That has nothing to do with this, Sir. Here what we mean by land survey is the number of holdings, different sizes of holdings in the country. Perhaps for the Central Tractor Organisation, for reclamation purposes, no survey is necessary. Only waste land is required for reclamation.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: A question was put about waste land also, and the hon. Minister has given the same reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

PUBLIC CALL OFFICE AT ADILABAD AND KOTHAGODAM

*1012. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what is the position regarding the opening of a public call office at Adilabad and Kothagodam?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The scheme for Kothagodam has been sanctioned and stores are being received. The scheme for Adilabad is under examination.

Shri Heda: May I know when Government hope to start the Exchange at Kothagodam?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We hope to complete the work by the end of the financial year.

Shri Heda: Is there any proposal to change the public call office into a regular exchange at Adilabad?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is being examined—the financial implications thereof.

Shri Heda: Have Government taken into consideration the fact that Adilabad is not well connected so far as communications are concerned with Hyderabad or any other place?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No, Sir. There is a public call office which functions as a wireless station and it is connected so far as towns in Hyderabad State are concerned, but it is not connected with the general net work of the system in the country.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

*1013. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the implements purchased from Messrs Pasabhai Patel and Co. Ltd., Bombay

at an investment of forty lakhs of rupees are lying unused;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons;

(c) whether it is a fact that an F.A.O. expert has introduced certain modifications in order to render them workable; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government are taking to use these implements?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnaappa): (a) to (d). A statement giving the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 69.]

Shri Bheekha Bhai: May I know, Sir, the amount spent on the modification work by the F.A.O. expert and whether the amount will be realised from Pashabhai Patel & Co.

Shri M. V. Krishnaappa: The total cost of the implements comes to about Rs. 43 lakhs, and the amount exactly required for the modifications is not known, but they have given certain amounts for the modification in individual cases. And I am told, though not on record, that they have agreed to bring about this modification free of cost.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: May I know, Sir, why these ploughs were purchased and who was responsible for them, whether any investigation was made by the Government into these irregularities?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): I think, so far as who was responsible, the Government was responsible for the purchases.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Which officer of the Government?

Shri Kidwai: I think the decision was taken by the Government, whoever may be the officer who might