

(b) Is it a fact that such pre-1931 railway staff transferred to G.I.P. & B.B. & C.I. Railways have been fitted in their corresponding pre-1931 scales of pay?

(c) Is it a fact that the general question as to what pre-1931 scales of pay should apply to the old N.W.R. & B.A. Railway employees who were posted to the Indian Railways as a result of partition was considered by the Railway Board?

(d) If so, what decision has been taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Only the ex-B.A. Railway pre-1931 staff who were transferred to the ex-East Indian Railway on partition along with the Sealdah Division were allowed to continue on ex-B.A. Railway scales. The others are drawing the pay of the post to which they are transferred.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The question was considered in detail and it was decided in consultation with the Railway Administrations not to disturb the fixation of pay already finalised on the various Railways.

**Shri Gidwan:** Is the decision final or will the Government reconsider it after getting representations from the affected parties?

**Shri Alagesan:** Unless we receive any further representations, the decision taken is final so far.

#### LANDLESS AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

\*295. **Shri Gopala Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far spent, out of the Rs. 2 crores, allotted for resettlement schemes for landless agricultural workers under the Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount of money spent in each State; and

(c) in what way the landless workers have been benefited?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) and (b). No amount has so far been spent. A proposal to open a mechanised farm for this purpose in the Bhopal State has been recently approved.

(c) The scheme has not reached the stage when its benefit to landless workers can be judged.

**Shri Gopala Rao:** May I know how much time it will take to finalise this?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** The land is being prepared and, I think, we will have sowing in the next season.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether any of the State Governments have already been taking steps in order to provide land and other facilities for these landless agriculturists?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The matter was discussed in the Agriculture Ministers' Conference and they have come to some conclusions according to which each State has to take a survey of the landless labour and the possibilities of such of those places where we can start the farms. So, every State has taken prompt steps in this direction and they are likely to start such farms in the States.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know what is the procedure that is followed in sanctioning the amounts to the State Governments out of these 2 crores of rupees?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** According to merits.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the allocation of funds from these 2 crores has also been one of the subjects discussed in the recent Conference?

**Shri Kidwai:** We have not received any schemes from any Government to resettle these landless labourers. That is why, after waiting for two years we have ourselves started it.