

पटसन का काम देने वाली अन्य वस्तुएं

*३५६. **सेठ गोविन्द दास :** (क) क्या **स्नाय तथा कृषि** मंत्री बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पटसन का काम देने वाली अन्य वस्तुओं के उत्पादन के सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

(ख) इस विषय में सरकार की क्या नीति है ?

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

(a) Research on jute substitute fibres is being done at the Jute Agricultural Research Institute, Barrackpore, but the work is yet in an experimental stage.

However, the Mesta and Bimli fibres are already being used as jute substitutes. They are grown extensively in Hyderabad, Madras, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar States. The production of these crops is as follows:

1952-53	1953-54
(Final Estimates)	(Second Estimates)
6,30,567 bales.	5,39,000 bales.

(b) It is not the policy of Government to encourage an increase in the area under these two substitutes. Their policy is to grow jute of better quality.

Seth Govind Das: Is it a fact that in Madhya Pradesh, in Bastar District there is a lot of land still not under cultivation, and is it the opinion of the scientists of Madhya Pradesh that this variety of jute can be grown there profitably?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): I will communicate to the Madhya Pradesh Government the point made by the hon. Member, and I hope they will take advantage of the information supplied.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता था कि अब तक इस

सम्बन्ध में मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार की कोई रिपोर्ट केन्द्रीय सरकार को प्राप्त हुई है, और क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई सहायता मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने केन्द्र से चाही है ?

श्री किशवई : कम से कम मुझे इसका इल्म नहीं है, लेकिन मैं दफ्तर में तहकीकात करूंगा कि इस तरह का कोई कागज आया है या नहीं।

Shri Jhunjunwala: What is the cost of production of the substitutes as compared with that of jute?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The cost of production of both the varieties is less than that of jute.

Shri Jhunjunwala: What is the percentage?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is the production per acre?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I would like notice.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: In view of the statement just now made by the hon. Minister that the policy of the Government is to encourage the production of quality jute, may I know, Sir, whether there is any reason to believe that the production of quality jute has gone down this year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We are trying to increase the production of quality jute. But the overall production of jute has gone down this year because of the low prices at the beginning of the sowing season. That has nothing to do with the production of quality jute. The overall production of jute itself has gone down.

IMPORT OF RICE FROM CEYLON

*357. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government conducted negotiations with the Ceylon Government to purchase 30,000 tons of boiled rice;

(b) whether this step had been taken on account of shortage of rice; and

(c) the nature of agreement reached between the two Governments?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) The Government of India arranged with the Ceylon Government an exchange of 30,000 tons of boiled rice with an equal quantity of Madhya Pradesh raw rice.

(b) and (c). No, Sir; there is no shortage of rice as such in the country. The requirements of deficit States can be met out of internal surpluses. It was to meet a temporary shortage of boiled rice in Travancore-Cochin, where the consumers prefer boiled rice, that an exchange arrangement with the Ceylon Government was made.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या यह बात सच है कि गवर्नमेंट ने स्टेट सरकारों को यह हिदायत दी है, खास कर मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को, कि वे उसना चावल प्राप्त करें न कि जो मामूली चावल है उसे प्राप्त करें ?

साधु तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री किडवाई) यह बात सही है ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या सरकार को यह मालूम है कि इस हिदायत के कारण स्टेट की सरकार ने मिल मालिकों को इस बात के लिये आगाह किया है कि वे अपने अपने ब्वायलर्स को बदल कर उमना चावल तैयार करने के ब्वायलर ल्गायें ?

श्री किडवाई : यह बात जब मान ली गई है कि हां, ऐसा कहा गया है, तो यह बात तो सही होनी ही चाहिये ।

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether there is any difference in the price of rice that is imported from Ceylon to Travancore-Cochin?

Shri Kidwai: The question of price does not arise because we are exchanging it with our rice. Therefore,

the price that the consumer will have to pay in Travancore-Cochin will be the price that we have to pay in Madhya Pradesh.

FREIGHT ON IMPORTED FOOD-STUFFS

***359. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in the rates of freight on food-stuffs imported into India, between ships owned by Indians and by others; and

(b) the total quantity of food-stuffs imported into India, in Indian and foreign ships and the total freight paid to them (separately) during the year 1952?

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

(a) Presumably information is required in respect of foodgrains imported on Government Account. There is no difference in the rates of freight for Indian owned vessels and foreign flag vessels.

(b) The quantity of foodgrains imported in India, in Indian owned and foreign flag ships, during 1952, and the freight paid thereon are as follows:

	Quantity (in '000 tons).	Freight (in lakhs of Rupees)
Indian vessels.	328.6	159.0
Foreign vessels.	3535.4	3629.0

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know, Sir, if, in view of the desirability of encouraging transport by Indian vessels, Government consider it desirable to increase the quantum of Government subsidy to Indian-owned shipping companies?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Apart from the question of subsidy, we pay the freight and that is acceptable to both foreign and Indian firms.