

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

CENTRAL COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

*699. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take for closing down the Central College of Agriculture as recommended by the Estimates Committee in their Seventh Report?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The Government of India are considering re-organisation of the Central College of Agriculture and will maintain it as an Institution separate from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

EGG DEFERTILIZATION PLANT

*704. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any egg defertilization plants have been installed by Government for treating eggs;

(b) if so, where and how many; and

(c) at what cost?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) One plant has been installed at Quilon in Travancore-Cochin State, as an experimental measure.

(c) Rs. 7,500/-.

ORISSA TEA LABOURERS

*718. **Shri Lakshmidhar Jena:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that about forty per cent. of the tea garden labour in Assam come from Orissa; and

(b) if so, the reasons why no provision has been made in the relevant Rules for a representative from Orissa being taken on the Central Tea Board?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) According to the

statistics available for the years 1948-49 to 1952-53, approximately 32 per cent. of the tea garden labourers in Assam came from Orissa.

(b) The Tea Rules, 1954, provide for the allotment of seven seats on the Tea Board to persons representing labour interests. These seats are filled in consultation with the most representative labour organisations in the country.

REGROUPING OF RAILWAYS

*719. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a definite assurance was given that by regrouping of Indian Railways, considerable economy would be effected in the matter of staff and expenditure and the scheme would result in increased earnings; and

(b) if so, whether these expectations have actually materialised?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Economies were anticipated in certain directions but their exact evaluation has become difficult as the recession in the international trade, reduction in the transport of food grains, revision of pay scales and the implementation of the Adjudicators Award, have introduced new factors in the revenue and operational cost position making a comparison between post and anti-integration periods unrealistic.

ABUSE OF RAILWAY PASS-PRIVILEGES

*721. **Shri Nambar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of serious abuse of pass-privileges by officers of the Railways have been brought to the notice of Government;

(b) the action taken by Government in such cases with particular reference to the one reported from the Southern Railway, where one Duty Pass was thrice used for travel between Trichinopoly and Mysore;