

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is the scheme being executed according to the recommendations of the Major Port Development Board or has it been altered?

Shri L. B. Shastri: So far as I am aware, it is being implemented in accordance with the recommendations of that Committee.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

TELLICHERRY-MAKUT RAILWAY LINK

*1487. **Shri N. P. Damodaran:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to connect Tellicherry by rail with Mysore through Coorg;

(b) if so, why it has not been taken up;

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the editorials in the "Mail" of Madras and the "Mathrabhumi" of Calicut on the need for such a railway line;

(d) whether it is a fact that survey of the proposed line was once made from Tellicherry to Makut; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not proceeding further in the matter?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) Adequate justification could not be found for the construction of the line.

(c) In the absence of the date of publication, it has not been possible to trace out these editorials.

(d) Yes.

(e) After examination of the survey reports it was at the time decided to shelve the project on financial grounds. The area is at present well served by roads on which buses ply.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: In view of the changed circumstances existing today, may I know whether Government propose to reconsider the question of linking Tellicherry with Mysore?

Shri L. B. Shastri: No, Sir.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether Government is aware that there is greater traffic between Mysore and Tellicherry via Coorg?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Well, the hon. Member may be knowing about it better than myself.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that the route between these two places passes through hilly tract and the hill products have to be taken to the cities and ports, may I know whether the

Government would consider the matter again in view of the changed situation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. These are all giving information and making suggestions.

Shri Velayudhan rose—

Mr. Speaker: Does he really want any information or has he only got some more arguments to advance?

Shri N. P. Damodaran: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that such a line is very necessary for the agricultural and industrial development of Malabar, Coorg and a portion of Mysore?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am sorry I cannot allow these questions.

TAPIOCA

*1489. **Jonab Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tapioca has been experimented as a substitute of rice;

(b) whether it was first experimented in the State of Travancore-Cochin and with what results;

(c) what are the different edible preparations from Tapioca;

(d) whether it is being experimented in Assam and with what result;

(e) whether Government propose to extend the same to other States as well; and

(f) what aid for this experiment the Governments of Assam and Travancore are getting annually from the Government of India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes, certain experiments have been carried out by the Food Technological Research Institute Bangalore, of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

(b) A small experimental demonstration plant was put up in Trivandrum early in 1951 for showing the method of production of synthetic grains using tapioca as the raw material. It is reported that while some persons like the product, there were others who did not care for it. The results are, therefore, inconclusive.

(c) Dry chips, tapioca starch or flour, tapioca suji, sago.

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) Nil.