

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know the number of employees who were thrown out of employment on account of the integration of States?

Dr. Katju: Integration into which States? Part C States or Part B States?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: All the States.

Dr. Katju: All the States. I am repeating for the third time that so far as Part A States and Part B States are concerned I do not know, so far as Part C States are concerned I shall let you know.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether it is not the responsibility of the Ministry of States to look into the cases of persons who were employed in Part B States?

Mr. Speaker: He may raise that point when the Budget Demands come up. We are not here to argue.

FOOD PRODUCTION

*512. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the target of additional food production fixed for the year, 1952?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Attention of the hon. Minister is drawn to my answer in Parliament to Part (c) of Starred Question No. 237 by Shri S. N. Das on the 28th May 1952.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Are any additional efforts proposed to be made for effecting this additional food production?

Shri Kidwai: Some proposals are under consideration, but it will be premature to say that any decision has been taken.

Shri C. N. P. Sinha: May I know what will be the additional target of Bihar and how the Government proposes to meet the food requirements of Bihar?

Shri Kidwai: I have not got any separate figures state-wise.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is this estimate also subject to the usual disappointments of the Government?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

RADIO TELEPHONE LINK WITH AFGHANISTAN

*513. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Govern-

ment propose to link India with Afghanistan by radio telephone?

(b) If so, to which station in India Kabul would be connected?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, when additional equipment becomes available both in India and Afghanistan.

(b) This will be decided in consultation with the Government of Afghanistan after the necessary equipment has been installed and tests carried out.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know when these additional equipments are expected to be received?

Shri Raj Bahadur: According to the statement made by the hon. Minister of Communications in Afghanistan, it is expected that they will be able to get this equipment within a period of 18 months.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS FROM CHINA OR RUSSIA

*514. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any offer of foodgrains from China or Russia on barter basis or on any other basis; and

(b) if so, what was the response given by the Government of India to this offer?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) We have this year received an offer of 1,00,000 metric tons of rice on cash basis from China. No offer has been received from Russia.

(b) We deeply appreciated the offer of China and have entered into a contract with the Chinese Government to purchase the rice.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government of U.S.S.R. offered any rice on a barter basis?

Mr. Speaker: I think this question has been put several times previously.

Shri Kidwai: Sir, I have said that no offer was made by Russia.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether Government have refused imports of rice from China and Russia in preference to wheat from America?

Mr. Speaker: All these aspects have been raised before. Of course I cannot remember whether it was put by the same non-Member or not, but these questions have been put before.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: I want to know whether there has been a refusal?

Mr. Speaker: The same question is being repeated.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: In the case of the offer from China may I know whether the money will be paid to the Chinese Embassy in India?

Shri Kidwai: I do not know about the arrangement for payment. The agreement signed there has not yet reached us but the money will be paid according to the usual channels.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that the said country's demand is for supply of essential commodities in exchange for grains?

Shri Kidwai: But I have said that the arrangement is on a cash basis.

RATIONING

*515. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the ration has been increased recently; and

(b) the States which demanded the increase of their ration?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Only in Travancore-Cochin has there been an increase in the over-all ration during this year.

(b) None.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government is aware that while this increase has been ordered no ration is given?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member brings to my notice any case where the rations are not supplied then I will ask the Travancore-Cochin Government to look into the matter.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether Government is aware that there is a decrease in the purchase of rations by the cardholders after the rise in the price of rations?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware of it but I will make enquiries if the hon. Member so desires.

Shri Punnoose: Can the Minister tell us the amount of ration that is given in the Travancore-Cochin State?

Shri Kidwai: Rice 6 oz. and wheat 6 oz.

Shri Pocker Saheb: May I know whether there has not been a demand from the State of Madras for an increase in the rice ration?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, there has been a demand for the increase of the rice portion of the rations.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछ सकता हूँ कि दिल्ली राज्य में चावल की किस्म में कोई सुधार होने की उम्मीद है ?

[**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know whether there is any possibility of supplying better quality rice in Delhi?]

श्री किदवाई : क्षोशिश की जा रही है कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश से यहाँ चावल मंगाया जाय और उम्मीद है कि वह अच्छा होगा ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** Efforts are being made to get rice here from Vindhya Pradesh the quality of which is expected to be better.]

Shri Punnoose: Is he aware that at present in Travancore-Cochin the quantity of ration is 4½ oz. rice plus 1½ oz wheat? That comes to 6 oz.?

Shri Kidwai: I have got before me information that six ounces of rice and 6 ounces of other cereals are being supplied in the rationed areas.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: That is not being given effect to.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the long period of austerity rations in rice-eating areas and in view of the fact that we are getting rice from various other countries to meet the shortage, is there any proposal before Government to increase the amount of rice given to rice-eating States like West Bengal?

Shri Kidwai: Rice is being imported only to be supplied to States where there is shortage of rice.

LAND TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

*516. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have selected certain areas with assured water supply where they will concentrate their efforts of "Grow More Food" campaign and make available necessary funds and technical facilities with a view to secure maximum yield within a short time as a part of the land Transformation Programme; and

(b) if so, what are the areas selected by the Government of Bihar?