

Shri A. C. Guha: I think very few have come back, but has there been any attempt in recent times? Is there any programme to send them this year?

Dr. Katju: May I say, Sir, with all respect that the hon. Member knows much better than I do. I am always supposing that there is a continuous attempt at persuasion going on.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether Government has any idea with regard to the number of families which can be accommodated?

Dr. Katju: Our idea was there should be 20,000 people altogether, but the more the merrier.

Shri Achuthan: May I know the facilities given to such families?

Mr. Speaker: I think all these questions have been dealt with. There was a consistent string of questions during the day before last I believe. Any number of questions have been put.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any programme also to settle non-agriculturist families?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): A few non-agriculturist families have been sent, and I may inform the hon. Member that during the course of the remaining period, there is a proposal to send between 100 and 150 more families.

Shri B. K. Das: The hon. Minister replied that agriculturist families would be settled there. Is it with reference to the scheme of settling refugees or other persons also?

Dr. Katju: I can say more preference would be given to refugees. If refugees are not forthcoming, anybody else will go.

ADIVASIS (LITERACY)

*1849. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the percentage of literacy among the Adivasis of India?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): Attention is invited to the reply given by me to Shri R. B. Parmar's Starred Question No. 1484 on the 4th of July, 1952, which was to the effect that no information is available at present.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the Central Government has received information from the State Governments as to how the grants

placed at their disposal are utilised for the economic uplift of the Adivasis?

Dr. Katju: May I respectfully enquire whether this question arises out of the parent question? The question is: "What is the percentage of literacy?" and my hon. friend now enquires as to how the grants are being utilised for the benefit of the Adivasis. I can say a lot, but it will only take the time of the House.

Mr. Speaker: The point seems to be that the hon. Member is referring to a certain previous answer given in connection with literacy. For purposes of literacy, the Government of India, it seems, is making at least some grant. Therefore, the question arises if the Government have any machinery for seeing as to how the grant is being utilised. That is his question.

Dr. Katju: There is a Regional Commissioner here, and there is a Regional Commissioner there, and it is a State responsibility. They are doing the best that they can.

Shri B. K. Patel: Do Government propose to collect this information?

Mr. Speaker: Obviously, I think, they must collect all information that is necessary.

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

*1851. **Shri V. Missir:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any land reclamation and improvement scheme under consideration of Government with a view to stepping up agricultural production and if so, what is the nature of that scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The Central Tractor Organisation of the Government of India are already engaged on a scheme of land reclamation with the help of 240 heavy tractors. The scheme envisages reclamation of 1½ million acres of weed-infested lands in U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and Bhopal over a period of seven years beginning with the 1949-50 reclamation season. Except for a small area in U.P. where a pilot project of jungle clearance has been undertaken, the land to be reclaimed is infested by the Kans weed. The annual additional production of foodgrains from the reclaimed lands is estimated to be between 1/3 and 1/4 ton per acre. No other scheme for land reclamation is under consideration at present.

As for land improvement, there is no specific scheme under consideration at present. However, some land improvement measures such as drainage and contour bunding works are included in various Grow More Food Schemes sanctioned from time to time.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what is the total cost involved in this land reclamation?

Shri Karmarkar: The total expenditure incurred so far on the Central Tractor Organisation is Rs. 6,23,82,495.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the land reclaimed is being distributed among the landless agricultural workers?

Shri Karmarkar: I should think so.

Shri T. N. Singh: The hon. Member stated that there is an increase of 1/3 to 1/4 ton per acre on these reclaimed lands. May I know if this figure is according to what has been supplied by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research after their survey, or is it the previous figure which he has given?

Shri Karmarkar: I think, Sir, this is a recent figure, but the basis of it I should like to find out.

Shri Bansal: Are Government aware that in certain places Kans weed is coming up again after an year or so of its being removed.

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it a fact that in the Kans infested area that has been reclaimed, there is one which was only semi-Kans-infested, and in that the increased production is much lower?

Shri Karmarkar: I did not exactly catch what is the particular kind of land that the hon. Member was referring to, but I should like to have notice to find out.

Shri Bansal: Will Government make enquiries as to whether Kans is coming up again in some of the reclaimed land?

Shri Karmarkar: We shall certainly make enquiries.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the total acreage of land reclaimed so far and what is the yield per acre?

Shri Karmarkar: The Central Tractor Organisation reclaimed 6,16,807 acres in the three seasons to begin with in 1949-50. Taking into account the area reclaimed earlier during 1947

-48 and 1948-49, the total acreage is 7,20,835 acres.

INDIAN CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS

***1852. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the decisions of the Indian Co-operative Congress at its first meeting held in February 1952 and the steps, if any, taken or proposed to be taken in the direction of implementation of these decisions?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): A note giving the relevant resolutions passed at the first Indian Co-operative Congress is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 2.]

The recommendations are, at present, being considered by the Planning Commission and their final report is awaited.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know how long these resolutions have been pending before the Government for consideration?

Shri Karmarkar: I cannot give the exact period, but it should not be long.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the hon. the Minister be able to give us any idea as to the time that will be taken up before coming to final decisions?

Shri Karmarkar: The resolutions that concern the Government of India, mainly are resolution No. 4 relating to co-operative farming, and Resolution No. 5 relating to the establishment of a Central Co-operative Council.

As regards the former resolution, the Central Government had even before this resolution was passed by the Congress, advised the State Governments to give preference to co-operative farming societies.

As regards the other, namely the establishment of a Central Council, it may be mentioned that the Indian Co-operative Congress, which has both officials and non-officials as its members, has already provided a forum for discussion of problems connected with this matter.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to refer to Resolutions Nos. 2, 7 and 9 also, and say whether they also concern the Government of India or not?

Shri Karmarkar: So far as my information goes, there are no resolutions Nos. 7 and 9, in the list of resolutions with me at the moment. But resolution No. 2 which relates to the adoption of co-operative farming as a