

exchange by exporting it. It is even profitable to import a small quantity of superphosphates if necessary. 25 per cent. of the bone meal which is obtained in the process of crushing the bones is used by our agriculturists. We will not require crushed bones till new industries which are in a position to utilize the same are developed in this country.

Shri Venkataraman: Out of the total number of factories given by the hon. Minister, how many are power-driven and how many non-power driven?

Shri Satish Chandra: I have no exact information on that point but I believe they are all power-driven.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The hon. Minister has mentioned the State where the production is the highest. May I know the name of the State which consumes it most?

Shri Satish Chandra: I have no information.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: In view of the fact that phosphates are plant food taken out of the soil which should be returned to the soil and not exported outside, will Government take into consideration the banning of export of bones?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is making a suggestion for action.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: May I know why protection is given to the bone meal industry in certain States and not in certain others?

Shri Satish Chandra: I have no information. The question about protection should be addressed to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

श्री पी० एन० राज जोष : क्या यह बोन मील भारत में ही इस्तेमाल किया जाता है या दूसरे देशों को भी एक्सपोर्ट किया जाता है ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : मैं ने पहले ही अर्ज किया कि बोन मील दूसरे देशों को एक्सपोर्ट नहीं किया जाता है ।

UDAIPUR-HIMMATNAGAR RAILWAY LINE

*1126. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any traffic survey has been made for the proposed Udaipur to Himmatnagar railway line;

(b) whether it was found to be economic or uneconomic; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are those factors that have been taken into account and led to this conclusion?

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

(b) The project was found to be uneconomic.

(c) The estimated cost of construction, traffic prospects and working expenses have been taken into consideration. The anticipated net earnings are not expected to give a return of even 2 per cent. on the capital outlay.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: Was any representation made by the Rajasthan Government to re-examine the whole case as most of the economic factors have not been taken into account, such as minerals, etc.?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I have no information about that, but if any such representation has been made we will look into that.

PROCUREMENT PRICES OF PADDY, RAGI ETC.

*1127. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state.

(a) the procurement prices of (i) paddy (ii) Ragi and (iii) jola in the States of Madras, Mysore, Bombay and Hyderabad;

(b) the reasons for the variations in prices, if any, of the same commodity in different States; and

(c) whether the procurement prices are fixed for each commodity, having in view the cost of production?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 54.]

(b) The reasons for variations in prices in different States are due to the fact that the procurement prices in each State are fixed taking into account the condition of the crop, economic conditions in the State, prevailing market prices and price trend of other competing crops.

(c) No. The data regarding cost of production is not available.