

toms duty on the Postcard vending machine.

(b) Yes.

(c) If the experiment with the machine is successful, we shall have to pay a sum of Rs. 2,493/- to retain it. If the experiment is not successful and the machine is returned, we shall pay only Rs. 831/-, representing half the cost of altering the machine to suit our requirements.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the precise intention and object of the Government in making this experiment, whether it was with a view to having a luxury, or with a view to having economy or with a view to satisfying the curiosity?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** None of these things, Sir. It will provide better service and better facilities to the public. If such machines are introduced, people could get postcards, stamps etc. even on public holidays and during those hours when the post offices remain closed, and so on and so forth.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, while introducing such machines in India, whether the Government took into consideration the huge manpower that remains unutilised and the large number of persons that are...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member is entering into an argument.

**Shri S. N. Das:** I want to know, Sir, what was the object in India where there is a large manpower, to have this? Where was the necessity for this?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. This question need not be answered.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Is it for the first time that this machine is being tried in India, or has it been tried anywhere else in other countries?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Such machines are in vogue in other countries, in quite a large number.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the initiative came from the Government of India themselves or from the foreign interests?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** We are trying to improve our service. And as we think that there is a particular facility which can be introduced, we did so on our own initiative.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know with which countries contract, if any, has been entered for more machines?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I have answered this question a number of times, Sir. It is Messrs. Sodeco in Switzerland.

#### COFFEE

\*2107. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) in which States Coffee is cultivated at present;

(b) how many acres of land were utilised for Coffee cultivation in 1950-51 and 1951-52 and what was the quantity of production during the same period (State by State); and

(c) the number of plantations in 1947-48 and 1951-52?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) Mysore, Madras, Coorg, Travancore-Cochin and to a small extent in Orissa.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 19.]

And I might add for the information of the House, that the total number of plantations in 1950-51 was 10,851 as against 6,546 in 1947-48 while the total area covered in 1950-51 was 2,24,215 acres as against 2,14,816 acres in 1947-48.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** From the statement I find that the production of coffee in Orissa is very much less than in other States? May I know what steps have been taken to enhance the cultivation of coffee in Orissa and other areas?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Orissa, as my hon. friend will have noted, from the statement itself, is very poor in its promise. The number of plantations has not increased at all, while the total production was risen from 143 lbs. in 1947-48 to 771 lbs. in 1950-51; coffee plantations could be had only in places where it is feasible.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether any experiment has been carried on in the tea areas of Assam and West Bengal for coffee cultivation?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I have no information about that.

सरदार ए० ए० सहगल : क्या माननीय उपमंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश के बैतूल जिले में काफ़ी

उत्पन्न करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

श्री कर्मरकर : शायद हो रही हो, हमें तो पता नहीं ।

**Shri P. T. Chacko:** May I know whether the system now prevailing as regards the procurement of coffee seeds does not exempt even the smallest grower even though he produces only to the extent of what is needed for his own consumption? I want to know whether Government are taking any steps to protect the interests of those who produce only for their own use.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I have not that information under this question. If the hon. Member puts a question, I will find out.

**Shri Neswi:** Is this land fit for the growth of food crops?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Coffee is grown under peculiar circumstances as regards land and climate. If my friend is curious, I can tell him that Indian experience shows that coffee prefers land situated at 1500 to 5500 feet above the sea level, the exact altitude being controlled to a large extent by latitude which may be put down roughly at 25th parallel of latitude north and south. The temperature best suited would appear to range from 55 to 80.

**Shri N. Somana:** What is the area under 'Arabica' coffee?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I have not got the exact figures.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know, Sir, the varieties of coffee that are grown in India and which variety is liked very much?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I understand there are two varieties: Robusta and Arabica. I understand one of the varieties is grown wildly in the hills and the other is cultivated.

#### "GROW MORE FOOD" COMMITTEE

\*2108. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many times the "Grow More Food" Committee sat and what are the final recommendations of the Committee?

(b) Have the Members of the Committee toured all over India?

(c) What are the non-official agencies that were consulted by the Committee?

(d) How much has been spent in connection with the Committee?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) The Committee had three sessions. A summary of the final recommendations of the Committee is given at pp.69-77 of its report which has already been placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No.

(c) Non-official agencies like the Chambers of Commerce, Universities, Political Organisations, Co-operative and Land Mortgage Banks, eminent persons having experience in agriculture and private individuals and organisations associated or interested in the G. M. F. work including practical farmers and agriculturists, were consulted by the Committee.

(d) About Rs. 21,000.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know, Sir, whether the recommendations of this Committee will be compared with the recommendations of the Maitra Committee and what steps will be taken by Government?

**Shri Karmarkar:** Primarily our attention is devoted at the moment to the report of this Committee. All other relevant material will also be considered.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know, Sir, whether copies of the report of this Committee will be supplied to the Members of the House.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I said a copy has been placed on the Table of the House.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** I want to know if copies will be supplied to the members of the House.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I cannot promise. It depends upon the number of copies available. We are all interested in it and we shall certainly place some copies in the Notice Office.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government have derived any advantage out of this Committee, and if so, what it is?

**Mr. Speaker:** I have not been able to understand the question.

**Shri S. N. Das:** With regard to the answer to part (b) of the question, may I know, Sir, why the Committee did not go to the States with a view to enquire into the working of the Grow More Food scheme?