

(b) Which of the recommendations of the conference have been accepted by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 35].

Shri S. C. Samanta: In the statement I find, Sir, there is desirability of training personnel both in States and in the Centre. May I know how many training centres have been started and how many persons have been sent abroad for higher training in anti-locust schemes?

Shri Karmarkar: A training course for anti-locust operations was held at Jodhpur on 10th, 12th and 13th May 1952 and the nominees of several States were invited to a conference for controlling locusts and organizing such operations at villages, tehsils and district levels. It is not proposed to hold any such course in the near future. About the other part of the question, I have no information.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Has the Conference surveyed, Sir, the possibilities of damage in the course of the current year from locusts?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that when the deliberations of this Conference were being held in Delhi, swarms of locusts from Pakistan invaded the border state of Rajasthan and whether the same were warded off?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Neswi: Are the Government aware that there is a disease called wheat rust which affects the wheat crop in Karnatak? In the year 1948 or 1949, it so affected the crop that it entirely failed. Have Government found out any effective remedies to check the same?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to go into that matter.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether foreign swarms of locusts have infiltrated into India from all sides and in all seasons?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice and then I shall find out from what sides the locust swarms have come.

COASTAL FISHING

*1259. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any financial assistance for improving coastal fishing during the year 1951-52; and

(b) the extent of such assistance to each of the marine states?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following loans and grants were sanctioned:—

Madras.....	a grant of Rs. 1,60,025
West Bengal...	a loan of Rs. 3,50,000
Saurashtra...	a grant of Rs. 32,500
	and a loan of Rs. 1,95,000

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the Government are giving any assistance to any private company or concern?

Shri Karmarkar: I think, subject to correction, these amounts are being placed at the disposal of the State Governments and I find that the coastal fisheries are eligible to the following types of financial assistance from the Grow More-Food funds:—

- (1) Supply of yarn and other fishing materials to the fishermen.
- (2) Supply of boats and nets to fishermen.
- (3) Deep sea fishing with the help of foreign experts.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the Government have received any representations regarding the want of facilities for the export of prawn to other countries?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the Government have received complaints regarding the want of facilities to transport the catch to the interior places?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware of any such complaint. I shall find out.

Shrimati Renn Chakravarty: May I know of the Rs. 3,50,000 given to West Bengal what amount has been given for the deep sea fishing scheme and what amount has been given for individual small fishermen?

Shri Karmarkar: I think it is meant for deep sea fishing with the help of foreign experts and I understand that the expected yield is about 450,000 tons.

Mr. Speaker: She wants to know out of the total amount of Rs. 3,50,000 what amount has been allotted to deep sea fishing and for individual fishermen.

Shri Karmarkar: I have no idea, Sir.

Shri Pataskar: Did the Government of Bombay ask for any financial assistance?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no information with me now.

Shri M. D. Joshi: What are the methods of improvement adopted by the different States to which aid was given?

Shri Karmarkar: That would be a difficult question. As I said earlier, from the Grow-More-Food Funds assistance is given for the supply of yarn and boats and for deep sea fishing with the help of foreign experts. These are the three items under which assistance has been given.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL OF SUGAR MILLS

*1260. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the Subscribed Capital of the Sugar mills in India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Information is being collected.

FOOD POSITION

*1261. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the stock of food grains in the Country at the beginning of the year 1952;

(b) the expected food stock at the end of the year 1952 and

(c) the position of rice-stocks at the beginning and end of the year 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) At the beginning of the year the stock of foodgrains held by Government amounted to 1,377 thousand tons.

(b) On the basis of present estimates of offtake, procurement and imports the stock of foodgrains at the end of the year 1952 will be roughly 2,900 thousand tons.

(c) The stock of rice held by Government at the beginning of the year was 453 thousand tons. On the basis of present estimates of offtake, procurement and imports the stock of rice at the end of the year 1952 will be roughly 950 thousand tons.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the stock balance at the end of the year will be sufficient enough to act as a buffer to keep down the prices next year?

Shri Karmarkar: That is a question much too early to ask at this moment. I think the extent to which stocks are held they will serve as a buffer.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: In view of the continuous lowering of the offtake from the godowns what steps have Government taken to prevent wastage and deterioration of foodstuffs?

Shri Karmarkar: I think Government are constantly taking steps to prevent deterioration and waste, but I should like to have notice if my friend wants to have details.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the procurement target for this year is greater, and what would be the break-up of the stock balance at the end as between internally procured and imported food grains?

Shri Karmarkar: The procurement target for this year is:

Rice	...	24,97,000 tons.
Wheat	...	6,86,000 tons.
Other grains	...	4,23,000 tons.
Total	...	36,46,000 tons.

✓ **Shri Syammandan Sahaya:** Will the Government be pleased to state what the stock of foodgrains in the country was at the beginning of 1951, and if the hon. Minister is not able to give that figure would he kindly state if the stock then was less or more than what it was at the beginning of 1952?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no figures of stocks as they stood on 1st January, 1951, but as I have stated I have got figures for January, 1952 which I have already given.

Shri B. K. Das: Arising out of answer to part (c) of the question may I ask out of the 453,000 tons mentioned what stocks were with the Central Government and what were the stocks with the State Governments?