

being evolved to assess such damage but the cost will of course be an important consideration.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government contemplate taking any action to control plant diseases?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said, a detailed scheme is under consideration; obviously, it will be a matter of cost.

COWDUNG

*233. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to conduct research into the possibilities of preparing cooking gas and fertiliser out of cowdung as suggested by the Engineering Department of the U.S. Government; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) I am not aware that Engineering Department of the U.S. Government has made any suggestions about this. Research on the subject has been conducted at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, since 1940.

(b) The results of the experiments conducted with a simple demonstration plant show that cow-dung produced by 4 or 5 animals (about 130-150 lbs. daily) will yield about 70-80 cubic feet of combustible gas per day. The residual material does not lose the manurial value and also produces annually about 3 tons of dried sludge containing about 1.5 per cent. nitrogen. The gas is sufficient to meet the daily cooking requirements of an average family.

The question of setting up and operating a bigger plant at the Institute for testing the economics of gas production is under consideration.

श्री ऐम० ऐल० द्विवेदी : क्या माननीय वंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि एक ऐसा प्लांट लगाने में क्या खर्च पड़ेगा और क्या आर्थिक दृष्टि से यह ठीक होगा ?

[**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the cost of installation of such a plant, and also

whether it would be feasible from the financial point of view?]

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, we have, for instance a gas plant evolved by Mr. A. V. Joshi and Co. of Poona. The prices were fixed by the firm at Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 1,800 respectively for gas plants for a family of 2 and 4 persons respectively.

श्री ऐम० ऐल० द्विवेदी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि दिल्ली से १२ मील के फासले पर एक ऐसा प्लांट लगाया गया है या लगाया जा रहा है ? और अगर लगाया गया है तो उस का क्या उपयोग हो रहा है ?

[**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a plant has been installed or is being installed at a place which is at a distance of about 12 miles from Delhi? If so, for what purpose is it being used at present?]

Shri Karmarkar: So far as I know an experimental plant is being completed by the manufacturers at Shamilpur, in the Delhi State, for testing it under field conditions.

NEW DELHI RAILWAY STATION

*234. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to remodel the Railway station of New Delhi; and

(b) if so, when the proposal is likely to materialise?

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

(b) The work is proposed to be taken in hand shortly and it will be completed during 1953-54.

श्री ऐम० ऐल० द्विवेदी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस नयी दिल्ली स्टेशन के रिमाडल करने का कितना व्यय होगा ?

[**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what would be the cost of remodelling of the New Delhi Railway Station?]

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : करीब ५१ लाख ।