

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** They were not influenced in any way by the research outside. They depend upon their own research investigations.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Who were the Members? Any foreign experts?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got the information to answer here.

**TREASURY CONTRACTOR OF POST OFFICE**

\*878. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what action has been taken against the agent of the Treasury Contractor of the Post Office, who did not deposit Government money to the extent of Rs. 1,03,500/- between September 1948 to January 1950?

(b) Which officials of the post office and the Imperial Bank have been found involved in the above case?

(c) What action has been taken against the Post Master and other officials involved?

(d) Is there any chance of any portion of Government money being recovered?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The agent is being tried by a Special Court at Allahabad.

(b) The Supervisor of the Accounts Branch and the Accountant of the Post Office are suspected of criminal acts and are being tried in a Court of Law. Two officials who had held charge as Postmasters were found guilty of negligence in their duties. No official of the Imperial Bank is criminally involved.

(c) The Supervisor and the Accountant mentioned in (b) above are under suspension. One of the Postmasters has been reverted and the question of reducing the pension of the other, who has since retired, is under consideration. Action against other delinquent officials will be taken after the judicial proceedings are over.

(d) Yes.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know what amount has been recovered?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** According to the terms of the contract, the contractors have got to make a deposit of 20 per cent. It comes to Rs. 33,500 in this case which has been forfeited and according to the contract, the contractor is bound to indemnify Government to the full extent. We are trying to realise the balance.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether this was due to non-existence of rules on this point or non-observance of them?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Not on account of non-existence of rules but on account of laxity in observance of the rules.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether the rules are up to the mark?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The efficacy of rules in order to prevent the occurrence of such incidents is always under review from time to time and re-consideration will be done after the result of the trial is known.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether there is any relation between the amount of security and the amount of money that these people are allowed to handle?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** 20 per cent. of the average daily amount handled in the post office.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether, as a result of the enquiry made by the Department, any official entrusted with the duty of supervising was found negligent?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I have already replied to this question. That is in the main reply.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** How long has the question been pending?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It came to light round about April 1949 and it was entrusted to the Special Police Establishment for investigation. Now the case is before the special court.

**CHINESE GIFTS TO INDIA**

\*879. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Chinese gifts for relief of the distressed in India were received and subsequently returned;

(b) if so, the circumstances which led to the return of the said gifts; and

(c) what was the source of the gift?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) to (c). On the 19th August 1952 the Bank of China, Calcutta, informed the Indian Red Cross Society, Delhi, that a sum of Rs. 4,21,940 had been received by them for the Indian Red Cross Society from the People's Relief Administration of China, Red Cross Society of China, All-China Democratic

Youth's Federation, All-China Democratic Women's Federation and All-China Federation of Labour. This was followed by a telegram from the donors to the Indian Red Cross Society asking them to hand over the amount to the Andhra Provincial United Famine Relief Committee in response to whose appeal the money had been donated. While acknowledging the receipt with thanks, the Indian Red Cross Society informed the donors that it is their practice to organise relief through their own agencies and, therefore, the money could not be handed over to the Andhra Provincial Famine Relief Committee. Thereupon the donors requested the Indian Red Cross Society to return their money through the Chinese Embassy, New Delhi, and this request was complied with.

2. On the 18th September, 1952 the Chinese Charge d' Affaires informed the Ministry of External Affairs that his Government had instructed him to inform the Government of India that the Chinese organizations had decided to give the money to the Indian Red Cross for famine relief in South India. He also sent the amount to the Minister of Health, who is the Chairman of the Indian Red Cross Society.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** The principle as enunciated in the answer is that any gifts received from abroad cannot be given over through private organisations. I want to ask how it is that American gifts are being distributed to refugees by private organisations in India.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** American gifts are distributed through Government agencies and Red Cross; not by any un-recognised organisations.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** No, Sir. There are organisations in Calcutta which are distributing American gifts to the refugees.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** No. Only through recognised organisations and Government agencies are all the food gifts from abroad distributed in India.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Pictures have come out of the Rotary Club, Calcutta distributing.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. Are we entering into an argument?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** This is wrong information.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order, please. When the Speaker or the Deputy-Speaker is standing, no other hon. Member need stand. The hon. Minister has said that wherever any individual is distributing, primarily he is the agent either of the Government or the Red Cross Society who are

entrusted with that work. What the hon. Minister has said is that there is no direct dealing between the Americans and any other individual persons.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is only through these agencies that gifts are distributed. If however the hon. Members want a debate, this is not the forum for that.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Is the Rotary Club of Calcutta, for example, an agency of the Government or an organisation employed by the Red Cross?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** All the food gifts that we receive from abroad are being distributed by Government agencies and recognised organisations like Red Cross, Ramakrishna Mission and other recognised organisations in India.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** On a point of information, Sir, I would like to ask whether this is only in the case of gifts that are coming to Government or any gifts come directly from abroad to individual private organisations.

**The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi):** Political parties?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** They would be sent through the Government to recognised Relief organisations here in India. Individuals cannot receive them and distribute them except through Government or recognised organisations.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** May we know how the All India Women's Conference has been distributing American gifts in Calcutta to the refugees?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The Red Cross Society may take the help of all other organisations in the distribution.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** Is the Government in a position to contradict that relief organisations which are not predominated by Congress people are never recognised to give relief?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. Need not be answered.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether any part of these gifts is distributed as wages by the Government authorities in the State of Mysore?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** No. Regarding gifts distributed in Mysore, I want to bring this to the notice of the House. There is some doubt in the mind of the hon. Member that in Mysore they are taking work for the

gifts distributed. The real fact is this. In Mysore, there are some people who think it below their dignity to accept gifts that are doled. They are in distress on account of the continuous failure of rains during the last four years. In some villages, even middle-class men are in distress. They are not prepared to take help in the form of doled gifts. They are prepared to work in the community projects or common works such as silt clearance in tanks, construction of roads to villages etc. They are prepared to work and take food: not from doles.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Nambar:** Some more information is necessary.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Enough has been asked. Next question: Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay.

**Kumari Anate Manareve:** On a point of order, Sir, when a questioner feels that the answer given to the question is not correct, is there any remedy for that?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I can only say, further questioning is not the remedy. Next question.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** One more question, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have called the next question.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** It is directly relating to the question.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I know, I have passed on to the next question.

#### CULTIVATION AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS

\*880. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the estimates of cultivation and production in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 of rice, wheat, gram, sugarcane, potato, arhar, groundnut, mustard, linseed, cotton, jute, tea, coffee and tobacco in the whole of India?

(b) By what time the crop estimates of Rabi and Kharif crops are finalised and published?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Statement I giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Statement II containing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [For (a) and (b), See Appendix V, annexure No. 23.]

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether the decrease in estimate in respect of rice, wheat, gram, groundnut, linseed and tobacco,

is confirmed by actual production also?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** In many respects it has been, Sir. The decrease is generally due to adverse climatic conditions and weather conditions.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether it is possible to have an almost accurate estimate of the crops three or six months before they are sown, and if that is so, what is the agency giving information as to what is going to be produced, on which this estimate is made?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Estimates are estimates after all. Every care is taken to see that the estimates are correct. We have to depend on the agencies employed by the State Governments.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** I want to know the principle according to which these estimates are made.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** They are collected by village officers. I do not think there can be any principle.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Is the patwarl the agency who gives all this information or is there any other officer?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to have notice.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether there is any periodical conference of the officials who give these estimates, for comparing them with actuals for future guidance?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am not aware.

#### DOCKYARD AT GEONKHALI

\*881. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how far the Scheme of West Bengal Government to construct a Dockyard at Geonkhali on the Hooghly, 30 miles from Calcutta Dock and also to start a Salt Works there, has materialised?

(b) How far is Kolaghat Railway Station (Eastern Railway) from Geonkhali?

(c) How far will the coal traffic congestion be alleviated if a rail link is established between Kolaghat and Geonkhali?

(d) Have the Government of West Bengal given any information or submitted any proposal to the Planning Commission about the above-mentioned Schemes?