

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

CALICUT-TELLICHERRY ROAD LINK

*63. **Shri N. P. Damodaran:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the construction of an alternate road in Malabar, from Calicut to Tellicherry avoiding the French Settlement of Mahe was ever considered by Government after or before the Mahe incidents of October, 1948?

(b) If so, is the proposal still under consideration or has it been dropped?

(c) Was the conversion of the Mahe Railway bridge into a combined rail-road bridge considered in this connection?

(d) If the proposal for an alternate road is still under consideration, has the alignment of the road been finally settled and if so, what is the alignment?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The matter is being examined by Madras Government as this pertains to a State highway.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: Are Government aware that huge sums of money belonging to Indian citizens...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is a matter under the purview of the Madras Government.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: But it is a question in which the Government of India must be interested, because it relates to a French territory.

Mr. Speaker: How does it affect the liability of the Central Government? I think that this question was dealt with in part yesterday.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: It was not, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. Minister got any information?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir. It concerns the Madras Government and they are in the midst of negotiations with the French authorities.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

NEW TYPE OF PLOUGH

*64. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a new simple steel plough especially designed for Indian agriculture has recently been produced at Kannur?

(b) If so, who are the experts and technicians that have designed and manufactured the same?

(c) What basic changes in the ordinary ploughs in use in India have been made to turn out this new type of plough?

(d) What is the cost of production and what steps are Government taking to popularise this new type of plough?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Government are aware that a new plough known as 'Care Plough' has been produced at Kanpur.

(b) **Shri V. C. Kapoor** of M/s Cossul & Co. Kanpur and **Shri H. Skinner**, an American technician, have jointly designed the plough and M/s Cossul & Co. Ltd. Kanpur are manufacturing the same.

(c) Government are informed that this plough is a multi-purpose plough for all common types of cultivation work including levelling and earthing standing crops of *Sanai* for green manuring. The mould board, share and the land slides are of steel. The 11 ft. beam is adjustable to the size of bullocks. The plough bottom is replaceable by a furrower. It can be fitted to a country plough for preparing seed beds. The plough, however, has not been tested by the manufacturers for the draft required to pull it.

(d) About Rs. 51/- per piece complete with beam and handle but without attachments. The plough is still being tried and Government will decide whether to encourage it or not only after the results of these trials are known.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Government have been exceptionally pleased with the new plough and they intend to distribute it amongst the needy cultivators? Has that work begun in India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It has not begun in India. The "Care plough" under reference has not been brought into this country, but the manufacturers have sold it and it has been reported that many ploughs of this type have been produced by the Co-operatives for American Remittances to Europe and Asia for export to foreign countries. It is under trial so far as India is concerned.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how this plough compares with the double sheared plough that has been manufactured in the Pusa Institute?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It has certain advantages, but the final decision of