

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether government is considering....

**Mr. Speaker:** It practically comes to the same thing. He may put it in any language he likes, but still it is a suggestion. Let us be more strict in the observance of the rules, so that a larger number of question may be put.

#### DRY FARMING METHODS

\*333. **Shri Chinaria:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have tried Dry Farming methods for bringing self-sufficiency in foodgrains and making dry unirrigated areas immune from famine through drought; and

(b) if so, with what results?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India sanctioned Dry Farming Schemes in various States during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52. Statements showing the targets and achievements of units of work and additional production in respect of these Schemes are attached. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 23].

**Shri Chinaria:** May I know what arrangements were made to make them reach the cultivator? Or were they meant only for the scientists?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Some efforts we have made, but we are going to intensify our efforts hereafter.

**Shri Chinaria:** Are the government aware that in other foreign countries successful crops are grown under similar conditions, while in India we fail under exactly similar conditions?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We have to improve ourselves a lot.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know whether dry farming is being introduced in every state or only in a few states like Rajasthan?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am afraid I cannot answer the question off hand.

#### RESTORATION OF LOCAL TRAIN FROM AMGAON TO GONDIA

\*334. **Shri Jasani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any application from Shri Kasturchand Jain on behalf of the residents of Amgaon town and surrounding villages addressed to the General Manager, Eastern Railway, Calcutta requesting for the restoration of the local train from Amgaon to Gondia and vice-versa was received by Government; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in the matter?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) As the availability of passenger coaches and locomotives improves Railway Administrations will continue to restore passenger train services and introduce new ones as justified by traffic requirements. The Amgaon-Gondia train service is one of the train services on the Eastern Railway's priority list of trains to be restored and introduced as soon as feasible.

**Shri Jasani:** May I know how much time will be taken for the restoration of this train service?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** There is no possibility of its being restored within the next 18 months.

#### PANIWALA MAHARAJ

\*335. **Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, Minister of Agriculture recently made a statement regarding the capacities of the water diviner who was appointed a Member of the Rajasthan Underground Water Board;

(b) the total amount of money spent on the said Paniwala Maharaj, and the period of his service under the Board; and

(c) the number of localities inspected by Paniwala Maharaj for water and the number out of those localities, where water was found with his help?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes.

(b) The Paniwala Maharaj remained with the Rajasthan Underground Water Board for 2 years and 8 months and was paid Rs. 74,322/9/- during that period against which Rs. 37,192/8/- were recovered as advice charges.

(c) According to information available with the Board, 128 sites were selected by the Paniwala Maharaj. Wells were dug at 29 sites and water was found in 21 of them.

**Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Who was responsible for his appointment?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like notice for that question.

**Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** The hon. Minister stated that some portion of the money has been recovered. From whom?