

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the resolutions or recommendations of this Conference?

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

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What was the subsidy given by this Committee for Central and State research schemes?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The Central Sugarcane Committee does not give any subsidy as such. It approves certain schemes of research and whatever is the cost that is incurred, half of it is sometimes contributed by the Committee.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** I could not follow the answer. Does this Committee not subsidise the Central and State research schemes for sugarcane?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It does. It is not exactly subsidising but the position is that this is the main Committee which has its own Institute of Research and carries on research under its own auspices. If there are any schemes proposed by Institutions and States, then it does help them.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Was any research made in any other Institute subsidised or assisted by this Committee?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. This Committee has been carrying on and helping research for a long time.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the conference was attended by only official experts or some non-official experts engaged in this work were also represented in it?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There were both, but mostly the representatives from the States were there.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF SMALL RAILWAY STATIONS

\*1164 **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently decided that instead of spending large sums of money after remodelling and reconstruction of big railway stations, they will in future spend more money for providing amenities for passengers at small stations; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the policy of Government in this respect and what additional amount they propose to spend after the improvement of small railway stations?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Alagesan**): (a) Yes.

(b) Certain minimum amenities such as waiting halls, benches, arrangements for supply of drinking water, etc., are to be provided at all stations irrespective of their importance. At the more important stations certain additional amenities such as raising and covering of platforms, lighting arrangements, etc., are to be provided. A substantial portion of the amount spent each year on amenities will be spent on small stations. During 1952-53 a sum of Rs. 97 lakhs is proposed to be spent on small stations and in 1953-54, Rs. 116 lakhs.

**Shri Dabhi:** I did not quite understand the reply. My question was whether the programme of amenities for the big railway stations has been postponed in favour of small stations.

**Shri Alagesan:** It is not a question of postponing the amenities for big railway stations. It is a question of diverting more money to small railway stations for amenities.

**Shri M. L. Bhowmik:** May I know whether a list of all such small and big railway stations where re-modelling requires to be done during the coming five years has been prepared and if so, will Government be pleased to place that list on the Table of the House?

**Shri Alagesan:** The Railways have been asked to prepare such lists of stations, and as soon as they are ready, they can be placed before the House.

#### HYBRIDING OF RICE

\*1169 **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed hybriding of two kinds of rice, one from Japan (Japonica) and the other from India (Indica) has taken place;

(b) if so, when and where;

(c) who are the experts who have carried out the experiment; and

(d) what is the productive capacity of each of those varieties of rice at present?

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

(b) The project was started in August, 1950, at the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.

(c) The experiments are being conducted under the supervision of the Director, Central Rice Research Institute.

(d) The Japonica yields on an average 2500 lbs. of clean rice per acre in Japan, while the Indies varieties yield about 750 lbs. in India.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the F.A.O. under the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme has tendered any help in regard to this hybridising work?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. One of the two schemes is an international cooperative scheme sponsored by the F.A.O.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether this hybridising experimental section has any connection with the experimental course at the training centre there?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, so far as the assistance of the F.A.O. is concerned. Otherwise, these two things are quite different.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether this is the first experiment or whether other hybridising works have been undertaken by Government or are proposed to be undertaken by Government?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I think this is the largest of its kind so far undertaken.

**Shri Barman:** What is the number of types of rice so far developed by this hybridisation process in this Institute?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** According to the last quarterly report for the period ending the 30th September 1952, it is reported that 55,989 pollinations were done during the Quarter and 3,847 cross seeds were collected.

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** May I know whether this hybridised seed requires any special type of land and weather, or whether it can be grown in any weather that we are used to have in our country?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The research is meant to find out seeds suitable to particular soils, and these experiments are carried on in order to acclimatise these seeds to Indian conditions, and various soils are tried.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know how many strains have reached the final stage of research in the Cuttack Research Station?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This research is a somewhat long drawn out process and for it to fructify and for us to determine what particular seed would be most suitable, it is likely to take a period of three to four years.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know which other countries are likely to be benefited by this experiment excepting India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** So far as this centre is concerned, besides India nine other Asian countries are participating.

**Shrimati A. Kale:** May I know the reason of this experiment? Will it produce rice richer in food value, or will it lead to production of more rice?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, the effort is to find out the seed that will yield more, will require less seed and possibly also give the greatest possible protein content.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know the names of the countries participating in this scheme?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I think this list was given last time. They are mostly South-East Asian countries.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Is China included in the scheme?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think so.

#### EXPORT OF FISH

\*1179. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total export of dried and fresh fish from India during the last three years;

(b) to which countries and to what quantities the export took place; and

(c) what was the total amount earned by India on account of these exports?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) to (c). No data with regard to fresh fish are available. With regard to dried fish, a statement giving the requisite available information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 14].

**Shri Eswara Reddy:** May I know, Sir, whether there is any provision in the Indo-American Agreement for increasing the output of fish in India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** India will get some assistance from international bodies for the purpose of experimenting in fisheries as well as some equipment for deep sea fishing.

**Shri Eswara Reddy:** Apart from the agreement, what steps are envisaged by the Government for the expansion