

sion of fishing in India with particular reference to mechanisation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We are tackling this question of mechanising our fisheries department very seriously and we are going to get a number of engines that will be fitted on the ordinary boats. There will also be trawlers which will be used for deep sea fishing.

Shri A. M. Thomas: From which part of India is dry fish largely exported?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am afraid I have not got the information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member knows that it is from Malabar.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What amount out of Grow More Food funds was spent for the expansion of fishing?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got the figures.

MURLIGANJ-DAURAM MADHEPURA RAILWAY LINE

*1173. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the construction of a Railway line from Murliganj to Dauram Madhepura in North Eastern Railway of Bihar has been taken up?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the progress made so far?

(c) When is the said line expected to be ready for traffic?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) Regarding the progress of the work, earthwork for the embankment for 6.25 miles from Dauram Madhepura to Budhamghat has been completed.

(c) It is expected that the work will be completed towards the end of 1953-54.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that of late the construction work has been held up?

Shri Alagesan: The work is going on and is being done by the Public Works Department of the Bihar Government. As soon as they get hold of more land they will continue the work.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that even acquisition of land at certain places has not been made as yet?

Shri Alagesan: The Chief Engineer has told us that he will be able to get

more land in the future and he will be able to proceed with the work.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE, BANARAS

*1175. **Shri Rup Narain:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of trainees in the Vocational Training Centre in Banaras Hindu University;

(b) whether seats are reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates in this Training Centre;

(c) what are the number of trainees belonging to the Scheduled Caste community in the above Training Centre; and

(d) whether these trainees are given any kind of stipend, if so, what is the total number of stipends and the amount per month given to the trainees?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) There were 303 trainees receiving technical training in the Training Centre at the Engineering College, Benares Hindu University at the end of October, 1952.

(b) Yes; 12½ per cent. of the seats have been reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates.

(c) 18.

(d) 12 Scheduled Caste trainees receive stipend at the rate of Rs. 25 per month per trainee.

Shri Rup Narain: May I know whether the certificates given to these trainees have been recognised by the Central Government or the State Governments?

Shri Abid Ali: Some Governments have recognised.

Shri Bheekha Bhat: May I know if any seats are reserved for Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Abid Ali: Not for Scheduled Tribes.

श्री गणपति राम : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग पर कितना रुपया अब तक खर्च किया गया है ?

श्री आशिष बली : इस के लिये अगर आप सवाल लिख कर पूछें तो मैं जवाब दे सकूंगा ।

Shri Sanganna: May I know why no seats have been reserved for Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Abid Ali: I require notice of that question.

Shri Kap Narain: May I know, Sir, whether the Central Government has taken any responsibility for the employment of these trainees?

Shri Abid Ali: We try to get them employment; but we have not given any undertaking.

श्री गणपति राज : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग पाने वालों के लिये कोई ऐसा प्राविजन भी बना रही है जिस से उनको ट्रेनिंग खत्म करने के बाद कुछ जोल्स भी दिये जा सकें ?

श्रीभाबिबिअली : ट्रेनिंग के बाद उन को कुछ दिये जाने की कोई स्कीम नहीं है ।

LABOUR WELFARE ORGANISATION

*1177. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Labour Welfare Organisation as it exists at present on different Railways is under the Administrative control of the various General Managers or the Departments concerned;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Labour Ministry, Central Government, sometime back had proposed that this organisation should function directly under its control and not under the Administrative control of the respective Railways; and

(c) if so, what has happened to the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Alagesan**): (a) The Labour Welfare Organisation or the Personnel Organisation as it exists at present on different Railways is partly directly under the control of the General Managers, while in the case of others as e.g. in workshops, the Employment Officers are under the control of the Department concerned.

(b) No. We are not aware of any such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what are the duties and functions of these officers?

Shri Alagesan: These officers are in the Personnel Organisation of the

railways. They look after the promotion, transfer, fixation of pay, grant of leave, provision of educational facilities, etc. These are the functions and duties of the officers.

Shri Sankaran Singh: May I know, Sir, whether there is any Gazetted welfare officer in North East Railway?

Shri Alagesan: We have 249 posts. Of them two or three are Gazetted.

TEA INDUSTRY

*1178. **Shrimati Jayashri:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tea Industry has to shoulder the responsibility of feeding its labour; and

(b) whether any other industries have been asked to shoulder similar responsibility of feeding their labour?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (**Shri Abid Ali**): (a) In Assam, West Bengal and Mysore, tea estates supply foodgrains to labourers at concessional rates. This practice has been in vogue since long. In Madras and Travancore-Cochin, except where statutory rationing is in force estates act as ration shops and supply foodgrains at cost price.

(b) In collieries also employers supply foodgrains at concessional rates to workers.

Shrimati Jayashri: May I know whether it is a fact that some of the owners of tea gardens have made representations that they are finding it difficult to shoulder this responsibility?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, Sir: several representations have been received.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know whether it is a fact that the Assam Tea Gardens undertook to give rations to their labour at concessional rates even at the time of recruitment?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, it is a fact.

Shri Venkataraman: In view of such undertaking, do Government propose to consider their request that feeding their labour should be taken away from their responsibility?

Shri Abid Ali: No. Government do not propose to take away or curtail the concession to the workers. This matter has been placed in the agenda for the tripartite conference which will take place on the 19th and 20th of this month where the labour representatives will also be present, and their views will be ascertained.