

what steps Government have taken to use the "hitherto less known timbers" after suitable treatment with preservatives in Government constructions in view of the emphasis in the plan on popularising such material?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): The matter was discussed by the Standing Committee of the Central Board of Forestry held at Poona in August, 1954. The Committee recommended that well seasoned and preserved secondary timbers should be used by all the Government departments as a means to conserve our timber resources and to maintain steady supplies to meet timber requirements of the various development schemes that are being undertaken under the Five Year Plan. To increase the supply of such treated timber, the Committee also recommended the setting up of four or five wood seasoning and preservative plants. The recommendation has been accepted by Government and the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, has been instructed to prepare a detailed scheme for setting up such seasoning and preservative plants.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun has made a list of the less known timber, which on treating, could be used with as much advantage as the well-known varieties of timber?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: They have just been instructed. I do not think they have submitted this.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government have insisted upon the various Departments which are using timber for construction works, that they should confine to the less known but treated timber, in preference to the well known varieties of timber, in so far as Government works are concerned?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I believe the suggestion made by my hon. friend is kept at the back of the mind, while executing such works.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is seen from the *Progress Report on the Working of the Five Year Plan* that the need for popularising the timber emphasized in the Plan has not made much progress. May I know the specific reasons for that?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is due naturally to the fact that the trade has not come in, and if we want to do anything, it is the Government activity alone which will have to take over the responsibility.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know whether the method of treatment is the same as the old Ascu method or something better than that?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There are various methods. I do not think it is confined to only one particular method.

RAILWAY TRIBUNAL

***309. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tribunal which was asked to go into the grievances of railwaymen has submitted its recommendations to the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the Tribunal is likely to finalise its recommendations?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) It is understood that the Tribunal has been unable to hold any regular sittings so far, as it is awaiting the receipt of a comprehensive Written Statement of the demands of Railway Labour.

(c) It is not possible to state this at present.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen have submitted their memorandum as long ago as May, and it was rejected.

Shri Alagesan: Rejected? They did submit a provisional memorandum, which they themselves said was subject to alteration. They have not yet filed the written comprehensive statement which they promised. They have been taking extension after extension.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether the Tribunal will receive any memoranda from associations of unions other than the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen?

Shri Alagesan: If other associations are anxious to place any point of view, they can route it through the Federation.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether the Tribunal is going to visit the headquarters of various zones?

Shri Alagesan: I do not think that is necessary.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know the names of the Chairman and the other members of the Tribunal, and the place where the Tribunal will have their sittings?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): There is only one member on the Tribunal, and his name is Shri Shankar Saran.

Shri P. C. Bose: The place where it will hold its sittings?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Here in Delhi.

ANTI-MALARIA MEASURES IN STATES

*312. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1389 asked on the 27th September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether any emergency aid was given to any other State for anti-malaria measures in the flood-affected areas of the country so far during 1954;

(b) if so, the names of the States to which aid has been given; and

(c) the amount given to each State?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) to (c). In addition to Bihar, the Government

of India have made available the following supplies for anti-malaria measures in the flood-affected areas in Uttar Pradesh:

Estimated cost.

- (i) 50 tons of 75 per cent. D.D.T. dispersible Powder. Rs. 1,75,000
- (ii) Spraying equipment. Rs. 25,000
- (iii) Mepacrine tablets—Two lakhs in number.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the use of these equipments is confined to certain areas, or are they being used throughout the flood-affected regions?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): That depends on the State. We give them the equipment and the help that they need, and the State use it according to where they think best.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Are Government aware that as a result of the steps taken under these anti-malaria measures, any area of the flood-affected region has been cleared of the mosquito menace?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I would have to ask the State to give me the detailed information on that point. But I have no doubt that malaria has been controlled in the flood-affected areas by this help.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that in the areas affected by flood in the Ghagra, Tapti and Gandak rivers in U.P., the present anti-malaria measures are not adequate and that still there is much demand for these equipments and supplies?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: From what we know from the Bihar Government, they propose to organise three to four additional units...

An Hon Member: He is asking about U.P.