

Shri Shree Narayan Das : The Parliamentary Secretary stated that the pulling of chains between Samastipur and Darbhanga is very numerous. May I know whether any statistics are available as to the number of such pullings?

Shri Shah nawar Khan : I would not say that the pulling of chains on the section Samastipur-Darbhanga is particularly bad; in fact, it is bad all over Bihar.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : It has become a fashion for the Parliamentary Secretary to reply in this manner.....

Mr. Speaker : Order, order.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : He should not cast an aspersion on the whole of Bihar like this.....

C.T.O.

*666. **Shri Kamath :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 389 on the 3rd August, 1955 and state;

(a) whether any proposal to further reduce tractorization rates is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether reduction already announced will have retrospective effect;

(d) whether Government propose to reduce the rates of interest charged on tractor taccavi; and

(e) if so, to what extent?

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

(b) The details have not yet been settled.

(c) No.

(d) and (e). Tractor taccavi presumably means outstanding instalments of reclamation charges payable by the cultivators. The interest on such charges is a matter between the cultivators and the State Governments and the Government of India have no information on this point.

Shri Kamath : Arising out of the answer to part (c) of the question, may I know why this reduction has not been made with retrospective effect?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : No question has arisen about retrospective effect. The matter is under consideration between the State Governments and ourselves. We had originally made certain suggestions by which the difference between the payment made by the cultivators and

the charges incurred was to be divided fifty-fifty between the State Government and the Government of India, but certain State Governments are not prepared to accept this proposal. He or some other formula is being tried to be evolved.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : With your permission may I add a word? We are considering a reduction of rates for the future. There is no proposal to reduce the rates which were formerly contracted.

Shri Kamath : Are these rates, interest and instalments for the tractor taccavi fixed by the Central Government on their own, all these three, or are they fixed by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government, each one of these, or which by the Central Government and which in consultation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : When the Central Tractor Organisation was started, the Government had fixed certain rates and the fixation of the rates does rest with the Central Government, of course after consultation with the State Government. We cannot merely do it on our own. But so far as the instalments and interest are concerned, it is between the cultivators and the State Government, although sometimes, since we are interested in the recovery the State Government consults us whether so many instalments should be given or not.

Shri Kamath : Is it a fact that the rate of interest charged by the C.T.O. on these tractorization charges is far higher than the rate of interest charged by the State Government on their own tractors?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : My reply will show that we do not charge any interest. It is because the recovery is to be made from the State Government, and the question of interest is really the concern of the State Government. We do not charge any interest.

Accumulation of Mails

*668. **Sardar Hukam Singh :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of heavy rains and floods there was any accumulation of unsurcharged second class mails in North India during October 1955; and

(b) the places where and the duration for which deliveries remained suspended?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) Yes, in certain offices.

(b) 1 to 16 days at different places.

Sardar Hukam Singh : Are there any places which remained cut off so far as communication was concerned, even in respect of first class mails?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Amritsar was one of them and there are other towns in Punjab and the Western Districts of U.P.

Sardar Hukam Singh : May I know whether the second class mails remained suspended throughout the period when there was no railway service or were alternative methods adopted for carrying them by air or by motor lorries or other means?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The period during which they remained suspended differed from place to place and district to district, and these services were resumed as and when the road connections or rail links were restored.

Sardar Hukam Singh : What was the longest period during which any particular place remained cut off so far as these mails were concerned?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Sixteen days. I have got a complete list of places and the days for which the mails for each of these places remained suspended, but it will take a long time to read.

सबू सिचाई योजनायें

*६६२. श्री श्री नारायण दास : क्या साहब और कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सबू सिचाई योजना के क्षेत्र में विभिन्न राज्यों में अब तक हुये कार्यों को प्राकृत और उसमें इसके विस्तार की सम्भावना की जांच करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार ने जो समिति नियुक्त की थी क्या उसने अपना काम पूरा कर लिया है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो काम किस अवस्था में है ?

कृषि मंत्री (डा० पी० एस० देशमुख) :

(क) अभी नहीं ।

(ख) समिति के विधान के अनुसार हर एक राज्य सरकार का एक प्रतिनिधि इसका मेम्बर है । अब तक केवल २३

राज्य सरकारों ने अपने प्रतिनिधि नामांकित किये हैं और बाकी राज्यों के प्रतिनिधियों के नामों का इन्तजार हो रहा है ।

हर एक राज्य की सिचाई सम्बन्धी भीतरी शक्ति की परीक्षा करने के लिये, टेक्निकल और दूसरी तफ्तील एक प्रस्तावली के रूप में मांगी गई है । राज्य सरकारों से जवाब आने पर समिति अपना काम का करेगी ।

श्री श्री नारायण दास : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस समिति का काम कब तक सत्य होने की आशा की जाती है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : यह कहना इस वक्त मुश्किल है क्योंकि अभी तो रिप्रेजेंटेटिव भी मुकदर नहीं हुए हैं ।

श्री श्री नारायण दास : क्या सरकार का यह इरादा नहीं है कि जो दूसरी पंच-वर्षीय योजना बनने वाली है उससे पहले ही यह समिति अपना कार्य पूरा कर ले ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : तब तक तो शायद हो जाय ।

Shri Bogawat : May I know whether there is a great demand for minor irrigation projects in scarcity areas and people are prepared to give half the cost by *shramdan*, and if so, whether provision for this will be made in the Second Five Year Plan?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : This does not very much arise out of this question, but I can tell the hon. Member that we have every sympathy for minor irrigation works in scarcity areas and the Government's attention is pointedly drawn to it and they are trying to do their best.

Mr. Speaker : The question is whether Government have made any arrangements for making use of *shramdan*?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : Yes; that is essentially done by the State Government.