

Co-operative Banks

*1816. **Shri Shree Narayan Das** : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing State Co-operative Banks have been reorganised on the lines suggested by the Committee of Direction in its report on the All India Credit Survey ;

(b) the names of such State Co-operative Banks which have not conformed to these suggestions ; and

(c) the extent to which the State Co-operative Banks have been able to follow the suggestions made in the recommendation No. 66 of the All India Rural Credit Survey Report ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) Some of the State Co-operative Banks have been so reorganised. I might also give the names : Andhra, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Hyderabad, Madhya Bharat, Mysore, PEPSU, Bhopal, Coorg and Manipur.

(b) The State Co-operative Banks of Assam, Bihar, Madras, Orissa, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin, Ajmer Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Vindhya Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir have taken some steps towards this reorganisation, but have not completed them.

(c) Most of the State Co-operative Banks have nominees of the State Government on the board of directors as contemplated in the recommendation.

Shri Shree Narayan Das : May I know whether the Central Government have taken steps to ascertain from all those banks which have not so far conformed to the recommendations of the Committee of Direction as to what are the reasons for their delaying implementation thereof ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : The recommendations have been finalised only recently. It will take a little more time for the States to implement them.

Shri Shree Narayan Das : May I know whether the organisation at the Centre has been fully manned to see that all these recommendations of the Committee are implemented by the various State Governments ?

Shri A. P. Jain : At the Centre it is being organised. The hon. Member must have seen that the Central Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board has been set up. Now staff is being selected for that Board. It is not easy to get good personnels. We are trying to get as many good men as possible. We are making

every effort to set up the organisation at the Centre. But I might make it clear that it has not been fully organised so far.

Dr. Jaisoorya : May I know when these recommendations have come into effect, and whether by this measure private banks have reduced on a large scale the credit they have been giving ?

Shri A. P. Jain : Since the publication of the Report of the Rural Credit Survey Committee, we have been taking some action to implement it. After the Agricultural Produce Bill had been passed, we have now got the legal power to give increased tempo to the implementation of those recommendations. I do not know what the private banks are doing.

Shri Achuthan : The hon. Minister stated in reply to (b) that certain directions have been taken into consideration by some banks. May I know if they have given prior consideration to the need for reducing the rate of interest on loans issued to co-operative societies and agriculturists ?

Shri A. P. Jain : Yes, some of the co-operative banks have reduced their rate of interest to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Recommendations of the Estimates Committee on Railways

*1817. { **Shri Dabhi** :
Shri K. C. Sodhia :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since considered the various recommendations contained in the Thirty-third Report of the Estimates Committee ; and

(b) if so, the action taken to implement the following recommendations ;

(i) expediting the process of conversion of Narrow Gauge line into Metre Gauge or Broad Gauge, as the case may be ;

(ii) improving the types of level crossings, according to the flow of traffic ;

(iii) expediting decisions and action on the recommendations of the various committees appointed by the Railway Ministry from time to time to investigate specific problems ; and .

(iv) maintaining co-ordination between Research Organisation of Indian Railways and National Laboratories ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Action has been initiated on all the recommendations but finalised only in the case of 5 items.

- (b) (i) The matter is under consideration.
- (ii) Railway Administrations have already been asked to widen to 18' on a programmed basis all the 'B' and 'C' class manned level crossing gates which are now less than that width.
- (iii) The Committee's observations have been noted for future guidance.
- (iv) The relevant recommendation of the Committee is under consideration.

Shri Dabhi: May I know what Government have to say regarding the Estimates Committee's observation that the narrow gauge railway lines are daily losing concerns, except the NG on the Central Railway, and it is necessary that the process of conversion into MG or BG as the case may be, should be expedited? Have Government any phased programme for this purpose?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The policy of Government regarding narrow gauge lines is well known to this hon. House. These lines have been divided into three categories:

(a) Lines catering mostly for goods traffic. This category of narrow gauge lines is generally paying its way.

(b) Lines which are primarily for passenger traffic. These are, more or less, losing concerns, and when replacements become due, it will be considered whether to replace them or to abandon them.

(c) Lines in hilly country. It is not proposed to touch these. These are functioning quite well. In some sections, it is proposed to dieselise these lines.

Shri Dabhi: Is there a phased programme for the conversion?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): We had drawn up a phased programme, but we had to give it up in view of the curtailment made in our allotment.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: With reference to the answer to (b), what are the main committees appointed by the Railway Administration during the last two years?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: There is a large number of committees which had been appointed by the Railways. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I shall give him the list.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It was stated a few months ago, during the Budget session, that the Railways would not undertake to convert the existing narrow gauge lines for another ten years. The Parliamentary Secretary, in his reply to part (b) has stated that the matter is under consideration. May I know if the original decision is being reconsidered?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I do not remember if I had said categorically that no narrow gauge line will be converted during the next 10 years. Generally we think it will not be possible for us to convert many narrow gauge lines but this suggestion with regard to narrow gauge lines is different. There are, for example, railway lines of private companies which cannot function at all even for a single day. In those cases the Government of India as well as the State Governments have to consider as to how they may be replaced. Suppose they do not function or the companies are liquidated, then the Government of India has to consider how to provide the necessary transport in that area. It may be that in a particular case, we may decide to build a new line in that area instead of taking over that line. So, there are different problems in regard to this matter and we have to review the position off and on. But, generally, as I said, it will not be possible for the Railways in the coming few years to convert many of the narrow gauge lines.

Shri B. S. Murthy: If I heard the Parliamentary Secretary aright, he said as regards (b) (ii) that the recommendations of the Estimates Committee about level crossings are taken for future guidance. Is it the intention of the Ministry to say that no level crossings are there today with all the inconveniences or even in a dilapidated condition and they will not be renewed?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I think the hon. Member did not hear me properly. I may read it again.

"(b) (i) The matter is under consideration.

(ii) Railway Administrations have already been asked to widen to 18' on a programmed basis all the 'B' and 'C' class manned level crossing gates which are now less than that width."

पंडित द्वा० ना० तिवारी : क्या माननीय मंत्री को यह ज्ञात है कि एन० ई० रेलवे में लेवल क्रॉसिंग बनाने के विषय में पब्लिक की सुविधा का ध्यान कम रखा जाता है, कहीं कहीं दो दो मील तक लेवल क्रॉसिंग नहीं है ? क्या माननीय मंत्री इस बात की

जांच करेंगे कि एन० ई० रेलवे पर जहां बहुत दूर दूर लेवल क्रॉसिंग हैं, वहां नए लेवल क्रॉसिंग बनाने का प्रबन्ध किया जाय ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : वहां की रेलवे लेवल क्रॉसिंग के सम्बन्ध में माननीय सदस्य को ज्यादा पता होगा, लेकिन जिस लाइन पर मैंने दौरा किया है, उससे मेरा अन्दाजा है कि एन० ई० रेलवे पर लेवल क्रॉसिंग ज्यादा हैं और काफी अच्छी हालत में रखी जाती हैं। लेकिन जहां फासला ज्यादा है, अगर माननीय सदस्य उधर ध्यान दिलायें, तो वहां के बारे में हम जरूर विचार करेंगे। लेकिन कठिनाई यह है कि वर्तमान लेवल क्रॉसिंग को ठीक करने, मैन करने और वाइडन करने का काम नए लेवल क्रॉसिंग खोलने के मुकाबले में जरूरी हो गया है।

Shri Dabhi: May I know what the Government's reaction is to the remark of the Estimates Committee that the Committee have come across a number of cases where implementation of the recommendations of the various committees have been unduly delayed and where some of the important recommendations of these committees have not been implemented at all on the ground that the members of those committees were not experts?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: It is just possible that some of the recommendations of certain committees might have been delayed and they might not have been implemented so far. But, recently, I have asked the Efficiency Bureau to go into this matter and see that the recommendations of all the important committees are considered quickly and if they are agreed to, to implement them. I may inform the House that we have received a few big and important reports recently; for example, the Railway Anti-Corruption Enquiry Committee and almost all the recommendations have been accepted except a few and they are being implemented also.

छोटा नागपुर में पानी की कमी

*१८१८. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या बिहार के, विशेषतया छोटा नागपुर के लोगों ने केन्द्रीय सरकार के

पास इस सम्बन्ध में एक प्रस्ताव देना भेजा है कि वह वहां पीने के पानी की कमी की दूर करने के लिये कार्यवाही करे;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने अभी तक इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की है ; और

(ग) पानी की यह कमी कब तक दूर हो जायेगी ?

स्वास्थ्य उपमंत्री (जीवती चन्द्रशेखर):

(क) जी हां।

(ख) राज्य सरकार ने छोटा नागपुर समेत सारे राज्य में कुएं खुदवाने, झरूरे कुओं को पूरा करने और नल-कूप लगाने के लिए ४४.०२ लाख रुपये मंजूर किये हैं।

राज्य सरकार द्वारा लोकल अफसरों (स्थानीय अधिकारियों) को उन इलाकों में, जहां गर्मी के दिनों में कुएं वगैरह सूख जाते हैं अधिक से अधिक कुओं, तालाबों आदि से गारा निकलवाने या उनको गहरा कराने के लिए ठोस कदम उठाने की भी हिदायतें दी गई थीं।

(ग) आशा है कि दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्त तक पानी की यह कमी काफी हद तक दूर हो जायेगी।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : जिन जगहों पर गरमी के दिनों में पानी की कमी हो जाती है और जहां के लोग बहुत गरीब होने के कारण कुएं नहीं बना सकते, क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने आदेश दिया है कि वहां पर सरकार स्वतः अपनी तरफ से पैसा देकर कुएं बनवा दे और पानी का प्रबन्ध कर दे ? अभी तक सरकार का यह नियम है कि जो लोग कूप बनाना चाहें, उन को एक-बोवाई या घोषा पैसा देना पड़ता है।

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (राजकुमारी जमुत कीर) : केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से प्रांतीय सरकारों को गांवों के लिए जो रुपया दिया