

the present machinery which is quite efficient and which is not a profit making machinery.

Dr. Rama Rao: In view of the new markets that we are finding for our sugar, do Government contemplate expanding our sugar production further?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have already decided to expand sugar production by 1 million tons per year, and, for the present, we propose to go on with that programme. Later on, we may think of expanding it further. The question has to be viewed from one particular point of view that we are not making the whole machinery for sugar manufacture. In two years' time we hope to produce a major portion or a highly substantial portion of that machinery. On account of our difficulties of foreign exchange we may have to stagger the programme of further expansion.

Shri B. D. Fande: May I know the names of the countries to which sugar is exported?

Shri A. P. Jain: Those names have been mentioned in the answer to the question. I may repeat them here. They are Persian Gulf Ports, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya and the United Kingdom.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know the difference between the world prices and the Indian prices and the amount of profit that Government will be making by the export of 1 lakh tons of sugar?

Shri A. P. Jain: The sale price works out to about £59/2 per long ton F.O.B. Indian Ports, leaving a profit of about 2/17 per ton. The profit on the 46,000 tons is estimated at Rs. 17.4 lakhs.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether the price rate of sugar in India would be reduced in view of the present surplus position of sugar?

Shri A. P. Jain: The sugar market is a free market and I cannot give any such undertaking.

Budameru Reservoir

*17. **Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of work on the Budameru Reservoir;

(b) the work carried on the (i) diversion channel (ii) widening and deepening the outlet from the Kolleru lake and (iii) subsidiary reservoir on Tammileru;

(c) the acreage that will be protected from inundation during an average flood, if the whole work is completed; and

(d) the additional acreage that will be irrigated after completion of the composite scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No work has yet been started on the Budameru Reservoir scheme.

(b) to (d). The Budameru Diversion scheme involves 530 lakh cubic feet of earthwork, out of which work to the extent of 180 lakh cubic feet was done up to the end of January, 1957. By the completion of this scheme, an area of 3,500 acres will be protected from floods in the Budameru and an area of 13,000 acres brought under irrigation. The schemes for widening and deepening the outlet from the Kolleru lake and for the subsidiary reservoir on the Tammileru have not yet been received from the State Government.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know at what stage is the controversy about the Budameru Reservoir?

Shri Hathi: The controversy was, as the hon. Member knows, that fertile lands were being submerged if the dam was constructed there. The C.W.P.C. has suggested an alternative site. The other controversy was that the diversion scheme would give benefit to about 3/4 of the areas and that expenditure on the second scheme may not be commensurate with the benefits accruing therefrom.

Several other technical points were raised which the C.W.P.C. has clarified. The State Government are considering this point.

Dr. Rama Rao: We were informed by the hon. Minister some time ago that the Central Government is of the definite opinion that this Budameru Reservoir is essential and serves the purpose. Now, where does the difficulty lie in going on with the work?

Shri Hathi: As the hon. Member knows, when the Minister met the members from the State concerned, the experts from the Central Water and Power Commission said that the schemes were feasible and sound ones. But in view of the State Government's reply that nearly three-fourths of the area will be covered by the diversion scheme and it will be better if a comprehensive scheme for Kolleru is taken up, it will be of greater benefit to the area concerned. Now the Central Water and Power Commission has suggested some technical points and clarifications which the State Government are considering. Till we receive a reply, no definite decision can be reached.

Merchant Navy Rating School

*19. **Shri Matthen:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 738 on the 3rd December, 1956, and state when the new school for Merchant Navy Ratings proposed to be started in Cochin will commence functioning?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): Details of the scheme are still under examination and no decision has so far been taken.

Shri Matthen: Is the hon. Minister aware of the announcement made by Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri a few months ago that a school for the training of merchant navy ratings will be started at Cochin and of the hopes created and also subsequent

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The whole question is being examined and the Director General, Shipping has been asked to send in his recommendations. We have at present three institutions for training of ratings and we find that the ratings produced in these three institutions are enough for the present work. We have no arrangement for doubling the work of training, and the question is under examination whether Cochin is a proper place.

Shri Matthen: Am I to understand whether this is going back on the announcement made by Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Not in the least.

Shri Joachim Alva: In drawing up a scheme for merchant navy rating school, does Government view the whole of the West Coast in its proper perspective in the sense that Karwar, Bhatkal, Kunte, Malpe and Mangalore, important fishing centres where matriculate fishing boys have no avenue for extra activity?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: All factors are taken into consideration.

Shri Matthen: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the Kerala Government has offered to contribute not less than a lakh of rupees towards the building of this school?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am personally not aware of that, but as I have said, the whole thing is being examined from all aspects and the hon. Member need not be apprehensive that the scheme has been dropped.

Direct Coach from Bikaner to Ajmer

*20. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to consider the feasibility of providing a direct coach from Bikaner to Ajmer on the regular train services in view of the existing traffic which, with the merger of