

the Railway had a programme of lifting coal and iron. The new steel factory is coming up. Unless more power was supplied to the Railway, it would not be possible for them to fulfil the programme which concerns the whole country.

Shri Anwar Harvant: The hon. Minister has pointed out that tenders have been called for. May I know whether tenders have been called for from Indian firms or it is global tender?

Shri Hathi: Global tenders for generators, etc

Parlakimedi Light Railway

*918. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1836 on the 15th April, 1959 regarding Parlakimedi Light Railway, and state:

(a) whether protective measures to safeguard the railway line against high floods have since been taken, and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy) (a) Not yet

(b) The question of the provision of protective measures was discussed at the 10th meeting of the State Committee of Engineers, Orissa, held on 25-7-59 when the Committee was of the opinion that the railway track is not endangered by the floods in the river, and no steps are required to be taken for any protective measures.

Shri Sanganna: Are the Government aware that the Government of Orissa have been contemplating to take some measures to protect the damaged portion of the line?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: We are not aware

Shri Panigrahi: The line is an old line. May I know whether any improvements have been effected in

this Parlakimedi Light Railway line during the last 10 years?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: This deals with a limited question. About the railway line, a separate question may be put.

Shri Panigrahi: I want to know whether any improvements have been effected in this Light Railway line. It comes within this question.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: This deals with the specific question of an embankment and repair to that. So far as that is concerned, I have answered. With regard to improvements to the Parlakimedi railway line as such, a separate question may be put

Mr Speaker: He wants notice

Shri Sanganna: Is the Government aware that this portion of the line was submerged in the floods of the year 1958?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy. Yes, Sir. It was submerged. There was no need to strengthen the embankment. It is all right. Trains are running.

Chinese System of Minor Irrigation

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{ **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Ranu Krishan Gupta:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Assar:
Shri Kadiyan:
Shri Parulekar:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1294 on the 17th March, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Indian team which visited China to study minor irrigation systems and soil conservation in that

country has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, whether it has been examined;

(c) the nature of the recommendations made; and

(d) the decisions taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). The Report is being printed for circulation to State Governments. Meanwhile, the main recommendations are being taken into account while preparing the Third Five Year Plan.

(c) A statement showing the principal recommendations made by the Delegation is placed on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 52]

Shri D. C. Sharma: In the recommendations, it has been said that deep ploughing and close planting, as practised in China, should be closely studied on an experimental basis. May I know if this experiment is being tried anywhere or will be tried anywhere in the near future?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: As I replied this whole report is being circulated to the States. It is the States that have to implement most of the recommendations. In the meanwhile the Central Government is keeping them in view in preparing the Third Plan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: His question was different.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what action Government propose to take to have an agricultural exhibition of a permanent nature at the Centre and also in the States?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is one of the recommendations.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, it is one of the recommendations. I said we were keeping the recommendations in mind in preparing the Third Plan. It is too early to say anything.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Of the nine chief recommendations given by the delegations, recommendations Nos. 7 and 9 are regarding deep ploughing and agricultural exhibition. May I know what is the novelty in the remaining seven recommendations which the agriculturists in India do not know, and what was the purpose in sending such a delegation to China, why did the Government send this delegation and waste money on it?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I do agree with Dr. Ram Subhag Singh when he says that there are so many recommendations—not only seven, even more than seven—which our agriculturists are already practising, and they are doing them much better than some of the other farmers. But the average Chinese and Japanese agriculturists have always been efficient agriculturists because of the circumstances there; because of limited land available and over-population, the Chinese had been skilful farmers even before the Communist regime came there and they are known for their efficiency. But a Chinese delegation also came to India and they have gone back with the impression that they have got so much to learn from India also. So, it is not that we have to learn everything from them. It is a question of visiting each other's country and learning from each other.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister evidently means that only after sending a delegation you learn that there is nothing new.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how much money was spent on the delegation to learn that we can learn nothing from China?

Mr. Speaker: By answering this question, the money is not going to be recovered. There is nothing there.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know why further money is being wasted in printing this report?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The Cabinet and the Planning Commission felt, in view of the fact that China was claiming that it was taking a leap forward in agricultural production, that we should send some of our agricultural experts to study the exact reasons why they could make so much progress. All the money we have spent is only Rs. 10,000

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether it is a fact that this type of minor irrigation is prevalent in some parts of Bombay State?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Certainly. The conditions being identical in China and India, both in minor irrigation and agricultural practices there are so many common points. We are under identical conditions both in China and India—same rice, same land, only difference is excess of population

Handling of Foodgrains at Gauhati

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*920. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1310 on the 17th March, 1959 and state:

(a) whether investigations in regard to grant of contract for handling and transport of foodgrains at Gauhati have since been completed; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes.

(b) The investigations disclosed that in the award of the contract there was no irregularity. No malpractice could also be established

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the number of firms which applied for grant of contract for

handling transport of foodgrains at Gauhati and their quotations?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In response to the advertisement for the handling of transport of foodgrain, thirteen tenders were received, and it was found on examination that the tender of Bajanka Brothers was the lowest, and the contract was awarded to them.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether the Assam Government had also made any recommendation in favour of any one of them?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The Assam Government has not made any recommendation. The only thing was that this firm are also contractors to Assam and have been fulfilling their contracts satisfactorily

Shri Vajpayee: May I know who conducted the investigation and whether the complainant was asked to produce documentary evidence in support of his allegations?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The Special Police Establishment conducted the enquiry, and all investigations were made by them

Shri Vajpayee: My information is that the complainant was not asked to appear before the enquiry. Is it a fact?

Shri A. M. Thomas: According to the report, several persons were interviewed and all relevant facts were ascertained

Mr. Speaker: He only wants to know whether the complainant himself was ignored

Shri A. M. Thomas: The complainant produced two letters on the basis of which this inquiry started. The allegations in those letters indicated that some money had been spent by this contractor. It was found on investigation that there was no indication at all that money had been spent for bribing any officer or anything like that, and it was also found that no favouritism at all had been shown.