

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** In regard to agricultural production Food and Agriculture Ministry is responsible. The plan target is 100 million tons and what I have stated is about 80 million tons.

**Shri Tyagi:** I want commoditywise details.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is contained in other publications, I would not allow them to be read here.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Has the Government any plan for apportioning the production of various kinds of agricultural commodities according to the soil and climatic conditions; or, keeping in view the overall shortage of foodgrains, do they feel that each region and each area should be made self-sufficient in foodgrains alone?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** As I said in the beginning, taking for instance, paddy production, we shall have to concentrate in regard to the stepping up of the production of paddy only in that type of land where paddy can be profitable grown; so is the case with wheat and other products. We will specialise more and more in that field.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** What about cotton?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next question.

#### Agricultural Commodities Advisory Committee

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\*335. { Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri Daji:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision to set up an Agricultural Commodities Advisory Committee has since been arrived at; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) and (b). No decision has been arrived at on the question of setting up an Agricultural Commodities Advisory Committee.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** इस कमेटी को कब तक कायम करने का ख्याल है ।

**डा० राम सुभग सिंह :** एक बार पहले इस पर विचार किया गया था । दो बार यह मीटर कैबिनेट में गया और चूँकि कुछ कारणों से वहाँ इस पर तसफिया न हो सका, इसलिये इस वक्त फिर इस पर विचार किया जा रहा है और इस को जल्दी कायम किया जायेगा ।

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** किसानों से जो आधे दामों पर गल्ला खरीदकर फिर दुगने दामों पर बेचा जाता है, क्या इस पर विचार करने के लिये भी इस कमेटी में कोई प्राविजन रखा गया है ? क्या सरकार के ख्याल में यह कमेटी इस की भी देखभाल करेगी ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** पहले कमेटी तो बनने दीजिये ।

**डा० राम सुभग सिंह :** जब यह कमेटी बनेगी, तभी इस के बारे में सही उत्तर मैं दे सकूँगा । अभी यह मसिति नहीं बनी है ।

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** May I know whether the Government think it desirable to set up this Committee as early as possible so as to ensure a minimum price for agricultural produce in the country?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Yes, Sir. We shall expedite it.

#### Import of Steel for Railways

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\*336. { Shri Umanath:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Mohindra & Mohindra Ltd., Calcutta

has been allowed to import a certain type of steel for Railways;

(b) if so, the reasons for not getting the steel through State Trading Corporation; and

(c) the total value of imported steel through the above firm in 1962-63?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Against clearances issued by the Iron & Steel controller, Calcutta for the Railway Board's import of certain of their steel requirements, tenders were issued inviting competitive offers, as a result of which some orders have been secured by M/s Mohindra & Mohindra Ltd., Calcutta.

(b) Iron & Steel requirements are generally imported by the Iron & Steel Controller. Only to some extent, imports are arranged by the S.T.C. to facilitate their barter deals. The Railway requirements are also imported by the Iron & Steel Controller or through the Railway Board under the clearances given by the Iron & Steel Controller.

(c) About Rs. 1 Crore.

**Shri Umanath:** Generally, the import of special alloys is dealt with at the Government level. May I know why this deviation is resorted to in favour of private importers?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** This does not refer to alloys at all. This deals with other types of steel, that is to say, rounds, billets plates, sheets, etc.

**Shri Nambiar:** Is there any special reason or peculiarity for allowing Messrs Mohindra & Mohindra, Ltd., Calcutta, to import steel for the railways? What is the reason?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** There is no special allotment.

**Mr. Speaker:** Tenders were invited.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Global tenders were invited; and in the four cases that the hon. Member refers to, there were no less than 15 to 20 other competitors, and we accepted the lowest rate, and theirs was the lowest acceptable tender.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shrimati Savitri Nigam,

**An hon. Member:** May I know . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** For those who try to catch me by the ear I would not allow my eye to be caught.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** Your ears are covered. (*Interruption*).

**Mr. Speaker:** The gents should not have any objection. When a lady stands up she would more easily catch my eye!

**Shri Tyagi:** That is everybody's weakness.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** May I know how far this is correct, namely, the allocation of steel made to the Railway Ministry has not been spent or consumed last year and this year also?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** It is the other way about. There was a short-fall in the supply; not that we have not spent what has been given to us.

रोमन लिपि में तार

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\*३३७. { श्री प्रकाशबोर शास्त्री :  
श्री यशपाल सिंह :

क्या डाक और तार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पंजाब के कुछ भागों में प्रादेशिक भाषाओं के तार रोमन लिपि में भेजे जाते हैं ;