

few days back. Kindly allow Government some time to consider it.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** As the industry was enjoying this concession for a long time, may I know what were the considerations which weighed with the Railway Board, the railway authorities, to withdraw the concession, and whether Government was consulted before the concession was withdrawn?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** It is not with this coir alone but it was a general question. The station-to-station rate was withdrawn in view of certain considerations. Those considerations were 4 in number. First of all, we had to increase the income from the railways; then, there is shortage of wagon; the cost of operation has increased and there is also the need for desisting from diverting traffic to other modes of transport, particularly sea transport. These were the considerations that prevailed with us.

**Shri Kumaran:** May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the coir yarn trade was preferring the rail route because of the difficulty of getting shipping space and also because of the fact that if the yarn is transported by steamers it gets spoiled and damaged?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** I would require notice for that. The point really is a matter of principle.....

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. Minister wants notice why does he pursue the matter?

#### Food Production

1865. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the final targets of additional food production by the end of the Second Plan; and

(b) the final targets of food imports for the period of the Second Plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) The target of additional food production by the end of the Second Plan period has been fixed at 15.5 million tons.

(b) There was provision for the import of 6 million tons of foodgrains in the Second Plan. While it is clear that this figure will be exceeded, no revised figure for the entire Plan period has been decided upon. The quantity to be imported every year will depend on several factors such as crop conditions, marketable surplus in relation to demand, prevailing prices, world supply position etc.

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Regarding import, may I know whether Government have accepted the basis proposed by the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The basis that they proposed was that India would require a total of 3 million tons per year and we have in our stocks more than 1½ million tons of foodgrains in buffer stocks and there is an import programme of nearly 2½ million tons. It depends upon various factors, the next monsoon, how it starts and how it behaves and the next crop itself. All these various factors have to be taken into consideration.

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** About additional food production targets, may I know whether any extra amount has been allotted for this purpose?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** There is no extra amount allotted. The only thing is that in other Ministries we have pruned the Budget; but, here, in the Agriculture Ministry, the money allotted has been almost kept up.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** About additional food targets various figures have been given. Some time ago the figure of 10.5 million tons was given and now the Deputy Minister has said that 15.5 million tons will be the additional target. May I know which

is the correct figure? Or, is it between 10 and 15 million tons?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Both are correct. In the beginning, it was decided to have an additional production of 10 million tons. Then, the Planning Commission, the Ministry and the N.D.C. decided that we must produce at any cost 15.5 million tons more. So, the targets were raised. Therefore, in the beginning it was stated as 10 million tons; but it was decided later on to have 15.5 million tons. So, both are correct.

**सेठ गो.बिन्दु दास :** जहाँ तक अधिक अन्न उत्पादन का सम्बन्ध है अभी कुछ दिन पहले इसी प्रकार के एक प्रश्न का उत्तर देते हुए छोटी सिंचाई की योजनाओं के सम्बन्ध में यह कहा गया था कि इस विषय में विशेष रूप से विचार किया जा रहा है और साथ ही यह भी कहा गया था कि इस बात का भी प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है कि हर राज्य से हम कितना अधिक अन्न उत्पादन करा सकते हैं इसकी भी एक योजना बनाई जाए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय में राज्य सरकारों से कितनी दूर तक लिखा पढ़ी हो चुकी है, मेरा मतलब यह है कि सिंचाई की छोटी योजनाओं में क्या प्रगति हुई है और दूसरे यह कि जहाँ तक हर गांव का सम्बन्ध है वहाँ तक हर गांव का उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाए इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार राज्य सरकारों से क्या लिखा पढ़ी कर रही है ?

**साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री श्री प्र० जैन) :**  
२६ जनवरी को मैंने एक पत्र भेजा था राज्य सरकारों के पास। उसमें मैंने बहुत सारी बातें लिखी थीं। उनमें से दो खास बात यह हैं कि जो छोटे सिंचाई के साधन हैं उनके ऊपर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाये अगर कोई और स्कीम वे बना सकती हैं तो बनायें। उसमें मैंने यह भी लिखा था कि जो हमारा फूड प्रोडक्शन का टारगेट है उसको वे खाली सूबों तक ही सीमित न रखें बल्कि उन टारगेट्स को वे डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स तक ले जायें और गांवों तक ले जायें और जिस अगह सम्भव हो सके वहाँ

पर वे इसको फार्मर तक ले जायें और खास तौर से यह बात उन इलाकों पर लागू होती है जहाँ पर सिंचाई के साधन हैं। यह प्रेरणा काफी होती है। उसके बाद कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने उसका जवाब दिया है कुछ लोग धार्ये हैं और हम से मिले हैं और हम ने उनको मददवरा दिया है और हम कुछ धार्ये भी बढ़ रहे हैं। लेकिन जहाँ तक मध्य प्रदेश का सम्बन्ध है हमें अभी वहाँ से कोई जवाब नहीं धार्या है।

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The hon. Deputy Minister said that the Government are having a stock of about 1½ million tons and that they will need between 2 to 3 million tons in the course of a year. May I know whether Government have prepared any plan to meet this shortage by tapping the unutilised resources of water supply in this country?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Yes; this is one of our schemes. In fact, generally speaking, the estimate of the Asoka Mehta Committee that on the basis of past performance there may be a gap of 2 to 3 million tons per year is correct. Now, we are trying to meet this gap by stepping up production. And, one of our main schemes is to utilise the unutilised portion of the irrigation potential, to renovate the irrigation works which have been out of use and to construct new ones.

**Shri Yajnik:** In view of the fact that the target of additional production has been increased from 10 to 15 million tons, I want to know if all the component States have agreed to increase their own food production State-wise so as to reach the total of 15 million tons; and how much of this additional increase envisaged in the Plan has actually been realised in the course of the last two years.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The target of 15.5 million tons was accepted after the concurrence of the State Governments. In the year 1956-57, the additional production was of the order of 5 to 6 per cent., which was higher than what

was envisaged under the proposed targets. So far as the production of the year 1957-58 is concerned, hon. Members are aware that large parts of the country have been affected by drought. We have not got the firm figures; but, it may be that our production is comparatively lower in 1957-58 as compared to 1956-57.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Now that the targets has been increased from 10.5 million tons to 15.5 million tons, may I know what steps have been taken to reach this target and whether a conference of the Food Ministers of the various States is likely to be held here?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Yes; a number of conferences have been held between the Agriculture Ministers of the States and the Centre and also between the Agriculture Ministers of the States and the Planning Commission. The matter was fully discussed in the last meeting of the N.D.C. where all the Chief Ministers and the Agriculture Ministers of the States were present. Concrete steps have been taken to step up production.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know the particular steps.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I just now said—the utilisation of unused potential, the renovation of the works which have been out of use, building up new works, improved seeds, farmyard, compost, green manure etc.

**Shri Panigrahi:** Out of the proposed import of 6 million tons of foodgrains, may I know what will be the import of rice and from which countries besides Burma rice is proposed to be imported?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I will not hazard any exact figure. But, I can say that the import of rice has been comparatively small. In 1956, I believe it was of the order of about 8 lakh tons or may be a little more. In 1957, it was about 8 lakh tons.

गंगा नदी पर पुल का निर्माण

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१८६६ { श्री नेक राम नेगी :  
श्री भक्त बक्षस :

क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २ मई १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १८८६ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मेरठ और मुरादाबाद के बीच गंगा नदी पर एक पुल बनाने के सम्बन्ध में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है;

(ख) इस पुल के निर्माण पर अब तक कितना व्यय हुआ है; और

(ग) शेष काम को शीघ्र से शीघ्र पूरा करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्र: (श्री स० का० पाटिल) : (क) और (ख). मांगी गई सूचना का एक विवरण लोक सभा-मटल पर रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ८ अनुबन्ध संख्या २५]

(ग) कार्य प्रगति पर है और यथामंभव उसको शीघ्र पूरा करने की हर कोशिश की जा रही है।

**An. Hon. Member:** In English also.

**Mr. Speaker:** He may read the English version also.

**The Minister for Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 25.]

(c) The work is in progress and every effort is being made to complete it as early as possible.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** Provision was made for this project in the Budget some four years back and this bridge is on the national highway. What are the causes for the inordinate delay?