

rainfed areas are there and if deep-root strains are developed, naturally they will be in a position to sustain themselves getting moisture from the deep layers of the soil even if there is no winter rain or lack of rain. Perhaps this will help in increasing wheat-yield in those areas. The experiments are going on and I am not in a position to make any precise statement just now.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

COLLISION OF VESSELS NEAR BOMBAY

SNQ 6. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a cargo-laden vessel bound for Calicut Collided with another vessel on charter to Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Sank near Bombay on 27th March, 1974;

(b) if so, the estimated loss as a result thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted and if so, the findings thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMARM MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The collision took place at about 0124 hours on 26th March 1974 between sailing vessel "NARAYAN PRASAD" and m.v. 'SUN FISH' chartered by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

(b) As a result of collision, sailing vessel sank with 610 bags of oil seeds and pulses valued at Rs. 1,72,800/-. The cost of the vessel was approximately Rs. 12,000/-. There was no loss of life. There was no damage to m.v. 'SUN FISH'.

(c) A preliminary inquiry under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, is in progress.

श्री बीरेन्द्र सिंह राव : भग्यवत महोदय, वह जहाजों का धापस में टकरा कर डूबने का मामला बड़ा गम्भीर है। मिनिस्टर साहब ने फरमाया है कि जो जहाज डूबा है, उस की कीमत का भन्दाजा कुल 12,000 रुपये है। 12,000 रुपये में तो कोई टूटी हुई जीप भी नहीं मिलती है। क्या कीमत का कम भन्दाजा इस लिए तो नहीं लगाया गया है कि सरकार को उस जहाज का कम्पेन्सेशन देना पड़ेगा ? यह जो जहाज डूबा है, इस का मालिक कौन था—क्या यह सरकारी जहाज था, या किसी प्राईवेट भ्रादमी या कम्पनी का था ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : The owner of the sailing vessel is Jivabhai Nathabhai of Bhagwa Dand; it was insured for Rs. 15,000. The motor vessel was not damaged at all. In fact the cargo being carried by the sailing vessel was of more value than the actual value of the sailing vessel itself.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CONSTRUCTION OF PAMBAN BRIDGE (TAMIL NADU)

*588. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether tenders were called for the construction of Pamban bridge (Tamil Nadu);

(b) if so, the parties which had submitted tenders and the name of the Company whose tender has been accepted; and

(c) whether the construction work has begun and the time schedule for completion of the work ?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLA-PATI TRIPATHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five firms have tendered for the work and tenders are under examination.

(c) Work on main bridge portion has not yet been started. Time schedule for completion will also depend upon award of contract and completion would depend on availability of funds.

MACHINERY TO TEST RESEARCH BY I.C.A.R. AND I.A.R.I. BEFORE THEIR PUBLICATIONS

*590. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 250 on 11th March, 1974 regarding I.C.A.R. Enquiry Committee on premature publicity of agriculture research achievement and state whether in view of I.C.A.R. Enquiry Committee report, Government have devised any machinery to ensure that the results of research done in I.C.A.R. and I.A.R.I. are properly tested before they are published for the use of agriculturists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE) :

In pursuance of the I.C.A.R. Enquiry Committee's recommendations, instructions have been issued to all the ICAR Institutions, Project Co-ordinators and the other participating institutions to strictly adhere to the experimental procedures already laid down for the purpose of thoroughly evaluating the research results for their merits. Advice has also been sent to these institutions to maintain a research project file in which stage to stage progress is being maintained systematically. Where a particular finding or an innovation reaches a final stage, it is expected to be discussed in the research councils of the Institutes, annual Workshop meetings of the All India Coordinated Projects and the State and the Central Variety Release Committees as the case may be before it is finally recommended for adoption.

OFFER BY FEDERATION OF ALL INDIA FOODGRAINS DEALERS' ASSOCIATION TO PROCURE MARKETABLE SURPLUS OF FOODGRAINS

*593. SHRI V. MAYAVAN :
SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of All India Foodgrains Dealers' Association has offered to procure marketable surplus of grains;

(b) the other suggestions put forth by the Federation;

(c) whether Government have examined the suggestions made by the Federation; and

(d) if so, to what extent and when the final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :

(a) to (d). In their communications, the Federation of the All India Food-grain Dealers Association have made the following main suggestions :—

(1) The wholesale trade in wheat may be allowed to operate under a system of traders' levy and out of the purchases of wheat made by a trader for export outside the surplus States of Punjab, Haryana, U.P., M.P., Rajasthan and Delhi 50 per cent be surrendered to Government, agencies at a fixed price of Rs. 105 per quintal.

(2) The trader should be free to remove the remaining 50 per cent of the levy free quantity to any part of the country without restrictions.

(3) The public distribution system should be confined to the vulnerable sections of the society and that too in the deficit States only.