

RECLAMATION OF RAVINE LANDS

♦136. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK f.
SHRI V. K. DHAGE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have asked certain State Governments to undertake reclamation of ravine lands simultaneously with reconnaissance surveys;

(b) if so, which of the States have been so requested;

(c) whether the Centre will give any financial aid for the purpose; and

(d) what is the latest progress achieved in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. .

(c) Yes. Financial assistance is permissible according to the nature of the work done, on cost of works and work charged staff. For survey and afforestation, it is 50% of the above cost and for all other works 12½%, the balance being permissible as loan.

(d) Replies from the State Governments are awaited.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know why no such reconnaissance and reclamation programmes have been suggested in other States where ravine lands are supposed to be in plenty, such as Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Madras, etc.?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The major States where this sort of ravines exist on a large scale are Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bombay.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Maheswar Naik.

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We are dealing with the States which have got ravines on a large scale.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Has any estimate been made with regard to the lands to be reclaimed?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes, Sir. So far as the estimates are concerned, we may not be very correct, but the present estimates are, about 35 lakhs of acres in U.P. and about eight lakhs each in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bombay.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the extent of the budget amount granted with regard to the reclamation of these lands in the various States and what is the extent of assistance to be given by the Centre?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have already given an idea about the assistance, which is 50 per cent, of the cost, depending upon the nature of the work, the cost of the work and the work-charged staff and 12½ per cent, so far as the other works are concerned. The provision was Rs. 1,77,00,000. I am afraid that it has not been spent fully; only a small portion has been spent. But the cost works out to be rather high. In one of the experiments which we have done in M.P., it works out to Rs. 900 per acre.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: As far as I remember, there was another scheme in practice which was suggested for the eradication of the dacoit problem in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. I want to know whether the present scheme is the same as it was before and, if this is different, whether the activities of these two schemes are not overlapping with each other.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, the State Governments also have been

trying several ways to stop erosion and to reclaim these lands. It is difficult for me to understand which scheme the hon. Member means,

137. [The questioner (Moulana M. Faruqi) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 819-820 infra.]

POST-GRADUATE STUDIES IN MEDICAL COLLEGES

*138. DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by Government under the Chairmanship of Dr. B. C. Roy about the post-graduate studies in Medical Colleges has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its main findings; and

(c) whether Government have examined the report?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHEI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) The Committee has not yet submitted its report.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know when the report is likely to be submitted?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I expect it during the next three months.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether the Government have brought to the notice of the Committee the urgency of the matter? Have they reminded them?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The Committee is already conscious of the urgency of the matter.

TRAFFIC SURVEY FOR LINKING MANGALORE WITH BOMBAY

*139. DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake a traffic survey for linking Mangalore with Bombay; and

(b) if so, when the survey will commence?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether an aerial survey was conducted three years back?

MR. CHAIRMAN: "Was an aerial survey conducted?" That is what he asks.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am not aware of the aerial survey.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether there is any prospect of the line being included in the Third Five Year Plan?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir; but a survey has been sanctioned for the Diva-Panvel-Uran Section.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: At present, is there not any link between Mangalore and Bombay so that a traffic survey is at all necessary?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The question is not very clear, Sir.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK; I wanted to know whether there was no link between Mangalore and Bombay at that moment so as to necessitate a fresh traffic survey.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: There is no direct railway link.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE IN USE OF RADIO ISOTOPES

*140. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi,