

(b) whether Government have received any complaint that the payment is not in accordance with the wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA):

(a) The Institute does not employ skilled and semi-skilled labourers on daily wages. The unskilled labourers are paid at the rate of Re. 1 to Rs. 1.25 per diem per man, Re. 1 per woman and Re. 0.81 to Re. 0.94 per boy.

(b) Yes.

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: The Advisory Committee under the Minimum Wages Act of the Government of India have recommended that unskilled labourers, so far as Cuttack is concerned, should get at the rate of Rs. 2-4-0 per day. May I know why only half of that is being paid to the employees there in spite of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee constituted under the Minimum Wages Act?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: The present rates are those notified by the Orissa Government under their Minimum Wages Act; as a matter of fact, we are paying them more than what has been notified by them for Cuttack District.

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: So far as labourers under Government of India are concerned, are they to be paid at the rates fixed by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Government of India under the Minimum Wages Act or are they to be paid according to the rates notified by the Orissa Government under their Act?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: That question is being examined with the Labour Ministry as to whether we should follow the Government of India Notification of Minimum Wages

or the Orissa Notification on Minimum Wages.

†HOUSES FOR LABOUR WORKING IN CENTRAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

***429. SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount was sanctioned for building houses for labour working in the Central Rice Research Institute at Cuttack;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the total amount sanctioned; and

(c) whether it is a fact that instead of houses for labour, staff quarters were built with the said amount?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA):
(a) No.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SUBJECT OF CO-OPERATION IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

***589. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state whether Government have taken any steps to obtain proper attention to the subject of Cooperation in schools and colleges?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): Yes, Sir. Co-operation has been included in the Degree Course of Commerce of the Universities of Bombay,

†Postponed from the 10th December, 1959.

Madras, Gujerat, Baroda, Andhra, Kerala and Vallabh Vidya Nagar. Action has been initiated to introduce the course in schools and other Universities.

KANDLA PORT

*590. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steamers are reluctant to call at the Kandla port because of heavy silting;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to prevent silting; and

(c) whether Government have received a report of the investigations made by the Kutch Congress Committee into the working of the port, and if so, whether a copy of this report will be placed on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A resolution and a memorandum, and not a report of investigations made, were received from the Kutch Congress Committee in August and October, 1958.

CATERING AT MADRAS CENTRAL AND MADRAS EGMORE STATIONS

*591. SHRI D. A. MIRZA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to take over the catering establishment which is now being managed by contractors, at the Madras Central and the Madras Egmore Railway Stations attached to the Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to procure the necessary staff, equipment etc., required for the opening of the proposed departmental catering at those stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) It has been decided to departmentalise the catering and vending arrangements at Madras Central with effect from the 1st April, 1960, except the sale of fresh fruits. There is no proposal at present to change the existing catering and vending arrangements at Madras Egmore Railway Station.

(b) Staff and equipment of the outgoing contractors at Madras Central found suitable will be taken over to the maximum extent feasible and the balance requirements will be procured in the usual manner of recruitment and purchase.

SELLING OF ARTICLES BY CONTRACTORS AT MADRAS CENTRAL AND EGMORE STATIONS

*592. SHRI D. A. MIRZA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government propose to permit the present contractors at the Madras Central and Madras Egmore Railway Stations to sell articles such as fruits, cigarettes, aerated waters, betels etc. (except refreshments, meals and beverages) on contract basis or Government purpose to call for tenders for the purpose of running them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): The catering and vending arrangements at Madras Central, except the sale of fresh fruits, are being taken over for departmental management from the 1st April, 1960. No change in the arrangements at Madras Egmore is contemplated at present. Also no change is contemplated in the arrangements for the sale of fresh fruits at Madras Central.