

the Bokaro Plant, and how much of it is being consumed at present?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I haven't got the figures now. But I think, Sir, that we have been fully booked.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if any global tenders have been invited, and if so, when and how that invitation had been made?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Sir, this loan has been finalised only on the 23rd July. So, tenders will now be invited for the equipment that we want through this loan.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the Secretary of D.V.C. had been to the United States, and this agreement etc. followed his talks there and those talks included actual transactions?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No; the Secretary of D.V.C. had not gone there.

WHEAT AID FROM U.S.A.

*219. { †SHRI V. K. DHAGE:
SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that fresh aid of two million tons of wheat is to be received from the United States of America pursuant to the negotiations carried on during the month of July, 1958; and

(b) if so, what is the actual amount of the aid?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) and (b). Negotiations are still in progress.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. K. Dhage.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know, Sir, when these negotiations are likely to be over?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: In the very near future. The U.S. Senate has passed the necessary legislation. It has been reported in the Press that this legislation has been passed on the 22nd. So, Sir, within the next few days we may be able to finalise the agreement.

SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: What are the terms of that agreement?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The hon. House knows that it is under negotiation still.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that this wheat agreement has been stipulated by the U.S.A. because of its difficulty in disposing of its poor quality surplus?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Of course, that wheat is surplus in the United States. But the question of poor quality does not arise.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know, Sir, if the proposed agreement will form part of the barter deal proposal for that country?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The question of barter agreement, Sir, is a separate matter.

SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR: May I know, Sir, whether any negotiations are going on with any other country for wheat aid?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: We are having not exactly negotiations, but some talks.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if this wheat aid of two million tons would be coming from the usual American surplus stocks, and whether it is a fact that some of those stocks have not been found to be good?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: This wheat is, of course, from the surplus American stocks, but so far as our experience goes, those stocks are good.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: May I know, Sir, the countries with which negotiations are going on?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Sir, we are not actually carrying on any negotiations, but we are just making enquiries.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Which are those countries?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: One of them, of course, is Australia.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know, Sir, whether the payment is going to be made in rupees or in dollars?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: We have the option to pay it either in rupees or in dollars.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the State of Uttar Pradesh, from which the hon. Minister hails, was a surplus State in wheat a few years back?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he is asking is: "Is it not a fact that till the other day, Uttar Pradesh was a surplus wheat State?"

SHRI A. P. JAIN: I know that at one time some wheat was being exported from Uttar Pradesh, but also some wheat was being imported there.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know, Sir, as to what prices are being negotiated for the purchase of this wheat?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Actually, Sir, no prices are negotiated. Certain allocations are made, and out of these allocations wheat is to be purchased at the prevailing market prices.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, what arrangements are going to be made with regard to shipping—whether we have any free hand in this matter?

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Well, Sir, in the past 50 per cent. of it was American shipping, and the remaining 50 per cent. was other.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, what will be . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

TRAINING OF FARM LEADERS IN ORISSA

*220. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farm leaders so far trained in the State of Orissa after the scheme for training of farm leaders was launched; and

(b) the cost incurred on, and the result obtained from, the training of these farm leaders?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. K. DEY):

(a) Since the inception of Gram Sahayaks' Training Programme on 2nd October, 1957, 21,183 Gram Sahayaks have been trained in the "Agriculture Group of subjects" in Orissa up to the end of July, 1958.

(b) The cost involved on account of holding these camps from October, 1957 is Rs. 65,000.

Gram Sahayaks took keen interest during the training. In the follow-up programme it has been observed that Gram Sahayaks have adopted and have also influenced some of the villagers to adopt improved methods and practices of agriculture.

SHRI HARIHAR PATEL: May I know, Sir, whether the farmers are trained on the Government farm or on the private farm?

SHRI S. K. DEY: Sir, the training is not actually conducted on any particular farm. Usually from a Gram Sahayak circle of ten villages we select about 50 progressive cultivators to go to a village which agrees to be the host village and demonstrations are given usually in agricul-