

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-

tourists' fields, and also the progressive cultivators discuss among themselves matters about improved agricultural practices and they exchange their ideas with agricultural officers in the Department.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Do I take it that only theoretical training is given or practical training is also given? From the reply of the hon. Minister it appears that only theoretical training is given. Is there any arrangement for giving practical training?

SHRI S. K. DEY: Both theoretical as well as practical. As I mentioned, demonstrations are also actually given in the fields in the host village.

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: What is the cost of the training of these farm leaders?

SHRI S. K. DEY: Actually there is hardly any cost involved because the progressive farmers come with their own rations. The Government has so far spent up to a maximum of about Re. 1 per day to subsidise the cost of food and other expenses.

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: Is it uniform for all the States?

SHRI S. K. DEY: Yes.

SHRI B. P. BASAPPA SHETTY: For how long do they give training to these farm leaders?

SHRI S. K. DEY: Between 3 to 5 days.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know where precisely these farm leaders have been employed so far, if they are employed?

SHRI S. K. DEY: They are not at all intended to be employed by anybody. These are the progressive cultivators who are made to gather in a common camp to exchange ideas with each other and with the Government organisation and also to receive demonstration in improved methods in the fields.

ACTION TAKEN AGAINST HIGH RAILWAY OFFICIALS ON GROUNDS OF CORRUPTION

*221. **SHRI J. H. JOSHI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of inquiries and investigations made and action taken against high Railway officials on grounds of corruption during the last two years; and

(b) whether there has been any appreciable result in the direction of removing the evil?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN):

(a) Inquiries and investigations were made against 12 Railway officers in the administrative grade during the period 1-1-56 to 15-7-58; out of these the allegations against 10 were not substantiated; one case is pending finalisation and, in the remaining case, the officer's claim for promotion was not considered for some years.

Orders were issued in 1957 dismissing two officers in the administrative grade, as a result of inquiries initiated prior to 1-1-1956.

(b) The inquiries revealed that in most cases, the allegations were unfounded. It is hoped that with the increased activities of the S.P.E. and Vigilance Organisation on the Railways, further improvement in the incidence of corruption could be expected.

SHRI J. H. JOSHI: How many of them are in Classes I and II and how many belong to Class III category?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The question specifically referred to the cases against high officers. By high officers, we took the officers of the administrative grade. They are all in Grade I.

SHRI J. H. JOSHI: May I know if as a result of this departmental or legal action against the railway employees, on grounds of corruption, any amount has been recovered by way of fine or penalty during these two years? If so, how much?