

have requested the construction of the bridge at this place?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: On that point, I require notice. I earlier submitted that the Andhra Government themselves have included this in their list.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: The hon. Minister said 'no' to part (a) of the question. At the same time he concedes that representation has been made by the Andhra Government. At the same time, is the Minister aware that prior to his taking charge, in this House itself many representations had been made for the construction of this over-bridge?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The question was whether it is a fact that a large number of representations have been made. To that the answer 'no' was given.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: What is the connotation that is attached to large?
(No reply.)

•75. [For answer, vide cols. 668-69 infra.]

POULTRY DEVELOPMENT

*76. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the amount spent by the Central Government on poultry development during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA): Rs. 37-43 lakhs—Rs. 28-76 lakhs disbursed to the States as grant, Rs. 5-19 lakhs as loan and Rs. 3-48 lakhs for Central schemes.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know, Sir, whether any chicks have been imported from foreign countries and distributed to the various States?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, we imported in the beginning of last year 80,000 chicks in a plane all the way from

America under the T.C.M. scheme and they were reared here in Delhi and they were distributed to all the States in India.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Is there any scheme to have five model poultry farms started in five regions?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, five regional farms will be started all over India. The work connected with these is going on.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: What progress has been made regarding the starting of these five regional farms?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: For the regional farms, I just now referred to, we have acquired the land, and the plans for the buildings are being drawn up in the Central Public Works Department, and the work will be taken up very early.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: What will be the exact functions of these regional farms?

(No reply.)

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: How have these chicks been faring? Have they been thriving?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, they have done very well and they have given the maximum number of eggs during the last ten months or so. These T.C.M. chicks are the best and I look after them, and enquire about their welfare. They are the best.

DR. R. P. DUBE: The Minister looks after chicks?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, whenever I visit the place, my first business is to enquire about the welfare of these T.C.M. chicks.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Where will these regional farms be located?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: One regional farm is already working in Delhi Cantonment. Another is in Himachal Pradesh, the third in

Bangalore to serve the southern States, the fourth at Bombay and the fifth at Bhubaneswar.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: So none in Rajasthan.

DR. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether the Government has considered the advisability of including poultry farming in the list of small-scale industries and for which purpose facilitating the issue of loans and thus encouraging scientific poultry farming by private individuals at least in the block development areas?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: That is the intention of the Government, for the poultry farming industry is a very good cottage industry. In fact I humorously used to say that the only "tree" that can give 200 fruits in a year without water, without fertilizer is "poultry." So we have realised the importance of poultry and it is our aim to train up educated young men in the rural parts, in the community project areas, with a three months' training and give them a loan of Rs. 500, not in money but in the form of chicks and a small incubator, so that the educated young men will not only be able to solve their unemployment, but will also be able to produce real food for the country.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Is poultry farming self-sufficient and do these farms pay their way and yield a profit?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, most of the poultry farms, though they are a sort of experimental farms, are paying ones. Poultry farming is one of the cottage industries which will be very highly paying.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether the country is self-sufficient in eggs? What are the plans of the Government to make it self-sufficient, if it is not?

AN HON. MEMBER: Import.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: The per capita consumption of eggs in England is 400 per individual per year. It is 4 in India. So, I cannot call India self-sufficient in eggs. Where the Englishman eats 400 eggs per year, the Indian eats only 4 eggs per year. Our aim is to reach at least the English standard, in eggs.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: Are you able to meet even this demand of four eggs a year here before you aim at the English standard of 400 eggs a year?

(No reply.)

AN HON. MEMBER: There are vegetarian eggs.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Is there really any need in th's country for this much consumption of eggs? The consumption in England may be 400 per year, but do we need it in India?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: We do require more consumption of eggs, because for an under-fed population as in India our aim should be to reach at least the western standard in this respect.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FISHERIES CO-OPERATIVES

*77. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fisheries co-operative societies have been functioning in the country; and

(b) if so, what is the financial assistance given to this type of societies by the Central Government?

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

(b) Financial assistance is given to such societies as under: —

1. Loans are granted to such societies for co-operative marketing.