

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, 20th September 1955

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**F.A.O. COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS**

*514. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the decisions arrived at the twenty-fifth session of the Food and Agricultural Organisation on Commodity Problems which will be implemented by India?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): The Committee on Commodity Problems is an Organ of the F.A.O., responsible to the Council of F.A.O., and its report will be finally discussed at the forthcoming Session of the F.A.O. Conference, to be held in Rome, in November 1955. The recommendations of the Committee will be taken into consideration after decisions are taken at the Conference Session.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the agenda for that meeting and who is the representative of India?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The delegation to the next conference is yet to be finalised and the agenda will be the recommendations and the reports of the previous Commodity Committee meetings.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: There is an agenda regarding stabilisation of some sort or other to normalise the prices of commodities all over the world. What is the position to be adopted?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I do not think the hon. Member's guess is correct that this Commodity Committee is attempting to have a uniform price.

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SHRI M. VALIULLA: But anyway, there will be some sort of stabilisation of prices all over the world.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Stabilisation of prices may probably be very much in the picture. They, however, want to have this by international adjustments of the surplus with which certain countries are faced.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In what way will the commodities be used for expansion purposes in underdeveloped countries?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: All these methods and suggestions are under consideration. There are various views expressed.

*515. [The questioner (Shri S. N. Dwivedy) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3615 infra.]

*516. [The questioner (Shri Raghavendraro) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3616 infra.]

IMPORT OF SUGAR

*517. SHRI B. P. AGARWAL: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar which was contracted for import from foreign countries during the last year and the current year;

(b) whether any foreign contract for supply of sugar to India is still to be fulfilled, and if so, for what quantity; and

(c) whether any sugar imported during the above period has been sold to any other country, and if so, on what terms?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) 10'82 lakh tons during last year and nil during the current year.

(b) Yes; for 1 ■ 1 lakh tons.

(c) Yes, one shipload of 8,499 tons has been sold to Pakistan at the prevailing world market price.