

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, 29th September, 1955

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CONFERENCE OF THE STATE MINISTERS OF
AGRICULTURE, CO-OPERATION AND ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY

*659. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any resolutions were passed at the Conference of the State Ministers of Agriculture, Co-operation and Animal Husbandry held at Srinagar on the 14th and 15th July 1954 which were to be implemented by the Central Government; if so, what are those resolutions; and

(b) how many of these resolutions have so far been implemented?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Two Resolutions were passed at the Conference held on 14th and 15th July 1954, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Matters dealt with in these Resolutions, have been dealt with in the recommendations of the All-India Rural Credit Survey Committee, which are being implemented by Government.

RESOLUTION No. 1

Having regard to the need for consolidating the farmer's gains in production for protecting him from exploitation by middlemen and for actively helping the farmer in selling his produce to his best advantage through the organisation of co-operatives, from the primary upward to higher levels, the sub-committee recommends the immediate setting up of an All-India Co-operative Marketing Board attached to the Central Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The All-India Co-operative

Marketing Board would function as a co-ordinating, advisory and promotional body on all matters pertaining to the development of co-operative marketing of agricultural produce in the country. For this purpose the Board's function would be:—

- (i) to study and review the working of different types of co-operative marketing organisations in the country and to suggest measures of reorganisation and improvement;
- (ii) to promote local or regional co-operative marketing organisations of producers;
- (iii) to promote and ensure co-ordination of activities between co-operative marketing organisations in different states to study the marketing trends and the movements of produce within and outside the country, to assess the supply and demand of marketing co-operatives and give them necessary advice;
- (iv) to keep the State and co-operative Marketing Organisations informed of Government policy in regard to trade and other related matters; to secure for co-operatives adequate and exclusive quotas for export and import, and to assist the State and District or Regional Co-operative Societies in getting the full benefit of all such arrangements;
- (v) to study the problems of storage and processing of agricultural produce; and make concrete proposals for securing adequate Central assistance in these respects;
- (vi) to examine the transport facilities available to the marketing co-operatives and to provide such assistance as may be necessary to secure adequate transport facilities, reasonable freights etc.;
- (vii) to formulate schemes of training of business managers, grading and marketing assistants,

etc. for employment in marketing co-operatives;

- (viii) to act as an exponent of co-operative opinion in matters relating to agricultural marketing and allied problems;
- (ix) to advise whenever necessary the State and Central Government on matters relating to the marketing of agricultural produce and other allied problems; and
- (x) to undertake publicity, to disseminate marketing intelligence and generally to carry out such other measures as are incidental and conducive to the fulfilment of the above objects.

The Board would initially be nominated by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and would consist of the following:—

- (a) Chairman.
- (b) Four representatives of the Central Government including the Agricultural Marketing Adviser.
- (c) Director of Co-operation.
- (d) Four representatives of the State Governments.
- (e) One representative of the All-India Co-operative Union.
- (f) One representative of the Reserve Bank of India.
- (g) Four representatives of the State Co-operative Marketing Organizations.
- (h) A whole-time paid secretary.

In the light of its study and experience after a year and of the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee of the Reserve Bank of India, the All-India Co-operative Marketing Board should report on a concrete scheme of establishing an All-India Co-operative Marketing Corporation for actively participating in trade, the organisation that it should have for the purpose, the commodities in which it would like to make a beginning in this direction, the capital

that it should have and the extent of participation of and assistance from the Central and State Governments which it would need.

RESOLUTION No. 2

That an All-India Co-operative Council be constituted broadly along the lines suggested by the Co-operative Planning Committee (1946) and the Co-operative Sub-Committee (1948) with such modifications as may have become necessary in the light of subsequent developments and that the Government of India be requested to take necessary action to set up the Council without delay.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether a similar resolution was also passed in 1953 at Srinagar?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I think this itself is the Srinagar Resolution.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Another conference was held in Delhi in 1953 and a similar resolution was passed. The same answer was given then also.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: At that time we had not come to grips with both the suggestion of the Central Council as well as the Co-operative Marketing Board. At this conference we had a more concrete idea about it.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Now as it is the Board will have a number of functions. When will it be constituted?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: A Bill is being drafted and we were hoping that it would be introduced in Parliament this session but that seems hardly likely, but it will be at the earliest possible moment.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In regard to Resolution 2 on the subject of All-India Co-operative Council, I would like to know when it will be constituted.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: In view of the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee, this proposal has been held over. We will see what they will do as a result of the constitution of the Board.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know whether any resolution was passed about the improvement of cattle wealth in the country?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I don't think any specific resolution was passed except I think, if I may rely upon my memory, to carry on the campaign for the elimination of rinderpest.

PROF. G. RANGA: Are Government considering the possibility of incorporating necessary provisions in their own proposed Bill to obviate the necessity for the State Governments also to pass similar legislations in order to establish their warehousing corporations?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I am not in a position just now to reply to this question. The whole matter—the constitutional as well as the legal aspect—will have to be considered and then alone it will be possible to say whether such action is possible.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it a fact that in addition to these, a number of other resolutions were also passed relating to State subjects?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes.

RESEARCH STATIONS FOR PRODUCTION OF FINE WOOL

*660. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the places in India where stations for conducting research for improving the quality of wool are located?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Under the co-ordinated scheme of Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the development of sheep and production of finer wool on regional basis the following sheep research stations have been or are in the process of being established:—

1. *Temperate Himalayan Region*:—The regional station has been located at Pipalkoti in U.P. hills with a fleece-testing laboratory at Kalsi in Dehra Dun district and a sub-station at Banihal in Jammu and Kashmir State. Another sub-station is expected to be set up shortly at 'Sarahan' in Himachal Pradesh.

2. *Dry Northern Region*:—Main station has been established at Jaipur in Rajasthan, with a sub-station in Jeria (Bombay).

3. *Southern Region*:—The main station with a wool-testing laboratory has been set up in Poona (Bombay) with a sub-centre in Nilgiris (Madras). The setting up of another sub-centre in Mysore is under consideration at present.

4. *Eastern Region*:—Main station with a wool testing laboratory has been established at Gaya in Bihar. The setting up of a sub-station at Kalimpong (Darjeeling) is under active consideration.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know the progress so far made with regard to two of the laboratories and research stations—one in Kashmir and another in U.P.?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I cannot give the latest stage of development. I have not got the information.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: With regard to the stations to be started at Darjeeling and Mysore, may I know when they will be started?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I must ask for notice.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: It is stated in para 3 of the statement that the main station with a wool-testing laboratory has been set up in Poona with a sub-centre in Nilgiris. The setting up of another sub-centre in Mysore is under consideration at present. May I know when it will fructify?