

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

No railway employee on the Assam link section of the North-Eastern Railway lost his life "as a result of the recent floods". However, 4 railway employees are missing (believed to be dead) as a result of an accident to a light engine on Hatinullah Bridge between Chalsa and Nagrakata on that Railway. On receipt of a message from the Gauge Reader at Hatinullah that the water level was rapidly and abnormally on the increase, the Inspector of Works, Mal Junction, presumably with a view to immediately inspecting the safety of the bridge, took out a light engine from Mal Junction and piloted it with trolley-men, leaving Chalsa station at 2.50 hours on 23rd August 1954. It is presumed that when the engine was on the bridge, a pier collapsed due to sudden floods taking down the engine along with the crew of three, the Inspector of Works and the trolley-men. The search party could trace only the Inspector of Works in an exhausted condition but no trace of the driver, two firemen and trolley-man is available so far. An enquiry has already been instituted and the actual course of events will be known only after it has been completed.

The payment of compensation due and admissible will be considered when the enquiry is completed after the Inspector of Works is in a fit condition to tender his evidence.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: May I know how long it will be before the enquiry is completed?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It could not take long—I can only say that.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: It is a month now since these em-

ployees have been reported missing and I would like to know whether any provision is being made for their dependants while the enquiry is taking place?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I think those provisions will be made.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I want to know when it will be made.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: No provision has been made just at present and we have received no representations from their families also, but I think that the enquiry has almost been completed. In a few days' time we hope to be able to look into that matter further and consider about giving relief to the employees' dependants.

TRAINING OF INDIAN FARMERS IN DENMARK

*498. SHRI B. C. GHOSE (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to send a batch of farmers to Denmark for training;

(b) if so, when those farmers are to be sent;

(c) what will be the period of their training;

(d) whether their selection has been made; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, what procedure was adopted for the selection?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) It is proposed to send 15 Instructors from the various Extension Training Centres and Basic Agricultural Schools to Denmark for training.

(b) The trainees are expected to sail from Bombay on the 9th October 1954.

(c) 12 months.

(d) Yes.

(e) The State Governments having Extension Training Centres were asked to recommend two candidates from each State. Final selection was made by a Departmental Committee of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture out of the names recommended by the State Governments.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: May I know what is the particular branch of agriculture in which training will be had in Denmark?

DR P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, it is with the desire to enlarge the scope and functions of the Extension Training Centres that these trainees are being sent. The speciality of Denmark is, however, co-operative management, co-operative societies, cattle breeding and other things.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: I know they are, but in sending these students Government must have had some definite idea as to the purpose for which they were being sent, and I asked for what particular purpose Government were sending them to Denmark.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have mentioned the plan under which trainees are being sent.

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He wants to know what is the particular branch of agriculture.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is for agriculture in general, Sir.

DR P. C. MITRA: What particular categories of farmers are being sent?

DR P. S. DESHMUKH: They are not farmers; they are the trainers, the teachers who are training other village level officers.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: If it is agriculture in general, what is the particular point in sending the students to Denmark?

DR P. S. DESHMUKH. Well, Government has come to the decision that it is fruitful and worth while giving this training and an opportunity for our staff to learn what exists in Denmark.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE. Is the Government of Denmark providing any financial or other assistance in the matter?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: They are helping us along with the expenses being met by certain foreign aid.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: These are vague answers. They are helping us in what particular ways?

DR P. S. DESHMUKH: I want notice of that specific question.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: To what particular institute are these people going in Denmark? Or are they going to be scattered all over? I want to know the particular institute where all these people will go and have some training.

DR P. S. DESHMUKH: They are going to the International People's College, Elsinore, Denmark.

RECOGNITION OF THE AIR CORPORATION EMPLOYEES' UNION

*499 SHRI B. C. GHOSE (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. N. DWIVEDI): Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Air Corporation Employees' Union for the recognition of that Union;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter;

(c) what is the number of trade unions formed by the employees of the two Air Corporations; and

(d) what are the conditions required to be fulfilled by a trade union for being eligible for recognition?