

began the plan period with a tonnage of 3,90,000 tons. The rest of the addition also is expected to be made before the plan period is over.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Have Government any idea as to what tonnage of shipping we may require to carry our cargo on a fifty-fifty basis?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I may not be able to give that figure straightaway. But as I said the target in the first plan period has been fixed at 6 lakh tons towards which we have sanctioned loans of about 11 crores.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Even though the Government is not able to say exactly what is the shipping required, may I take it that till that requirement is reached, the Government will go on helping the shipping industry in the same manner as they are now doing?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That was the answer. We propose to continue the help.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: Are any applications for loans pending and what is the amount applied for as loans?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: In fact we had to induce applications for loans. When they are received, we are very quick in sanctioning them.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: Are any applications pending?

(No reply.)

DR. R. P. DUBE: May I know whether these cheap loans are restricted for the purchase of ships made in India only or are they intended for getting ships from firms in other countries also?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: These loans are intended for the construction of ships orders for which are placed with the Visakhapatnam yard as well as for second-hand ships and also for ships made in foreign shipyards.

DR. R. P. DUBE: May I know why our Visakhapatnam shipyard is not so constituted that we may not have to place orders outside?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Perhaps the question should be directed to the Minister for Production, but I can assure the hon. Member that we have taken all the available capacity in the Visakhapatnam ship-building yard.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In view of the fact that the loans given by the Government of India to the ship building companies have not been fully utilised by these companies on account of the conditions imposed on those loans, is it proposed to make these loans available on more favourable terms?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: They have been liberalised and larger numbers are taking these loans.

CENTRAL SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD

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

(a) the names of the members of the Central Soil Conservation Board;

(b) the names of the States from which soil conservation schemes have been received by the Board; and

(c) the assistance which has been rendered by the Board to the State Governments on their schemes?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 171.]

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know what action or steps the Government have taken to see that the amounts given to the States have been fully utilised and to watch the progress made by these schemes.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, the Soil Conservation Board was constituted

only recently and it is too early to look for any implementation yet.

SHRI PRASADARAO: Is it not a fact that one of the main reasons for soil erosion is the denudation of forests by the zamindars?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes, Sir.

SHRI PRASADARAO: What action has the Government taken to prevent that?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The Soil Conservation Board has been set up to achieve the desired result.

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES IN MYSORE STATE

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

(a) whether any assistance has been rendered by the Government of India for any scheme formulated by the Mysore Government for the development of fisheries in that State; and

(b) if so, what is the extent of such assistance so far rendered?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) and (b). No assistance was given as the schemes formulated were found to be lacking in details. Eventually instead of supplying that information the State decided to drop the scheme.

EXPENDITURE ON EXTENSION PROGRAMMES

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

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in connection with the extension programmes in the year 1953-54; and

(b) the places at which the programmes were carried out?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Presuming that the question pertains to the programme of training of extension personnel being carried out by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the total expenditure incurred is about Rs. 35,58,700 during the year 1953-54.

(b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No 172.]

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: What are the programmes mentioned in the answer?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is a training scheme; we have opened about 35 training centres and the expenditure is incurred on training the village-level workers and supervisory staff.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: What are the names of those centres?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is one—Antari in Madhya Bharat.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: They are all distributed in all the States; there may be more than one in Madhya Bharat.

*581. [For answer, vide cols. 3874-3875 infra.]

AMENDMENT TO THE INDIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL ACT, 1933

*582. **SHRI N. C. SEKHAR:** Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the question of amending the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933;

(b) if so, what are the changes contemplated; and

(c) whether the Indian Medical Council have expressed their views on the proposed changes?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) Yes.