

under preparation and stage for entering into a contract has not yet been reached.

- SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know who is preparing the plans and estimates for this project?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The Consulting Engineers of the Bombay Port Trust are entrusted with this task.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is that an Indian firm or a foreign firm which is now in charge of preparing the plans and estimates?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The Consulting Engineers for the Bombay Port Trust are a U.K. firm.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Before this U.K. firm was entrusted with the business, were Indian engineers consulted to find out whether they could prepare the necessary plans and estimates for this project?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: They have been the consulting engineers to the Bombay Port Trust. This is a very difficult task and they did not feel confident enough to entrust to anyone here.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: But may I know whether any attempt was made to consult Indian engineers and find out whether they could undertake this work or not?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Indian firms may be associated at a later stage when the construction starts; but the preparation of the plans and estimates has been entrusted to these Consulting Engineers.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Ships of what tonnage will be able to use them?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I think even ships of 30,000 or more tonnage.

SHRI B. RATH: How many ships are there which carry 30,000 tons.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: All over the world? I do not have the information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In India?

SHRI B. RATH: There is none in India.

MEASURES FOR REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT

*383. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state what steps Government have taken during the last 12 months to reduce unemployment among the educated classes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): Government are pressing forward with the schemes under the Five Year Plan which will ensure larger number of employment.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it a fact that unemployment among the educated classes has been on the increase during the last three or four years?

SHRI ABID ALI: Yes, Sir. But according to the figures available with the employment exchanges, there is a slight decrease in December 1952.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: But as a general question, may I know whether it has been on the increase during the last three or four years?

SHRI ABID ALI: That has been the feeling.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Could not the Minister kindly give me an idea of the extent to which it has increased?

SHRI ABID ALI: No survey has been made to enable us to give any accurate information.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Are any efforts being made to get correct information on this important subject?

SHRI ABID ALI: We feel it would not be possible.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Sir, I could not follow the answer.

SHRI ABID ALI: Our feeling is that it will not be possible to have any accurate information

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: That is not my question. Sir. My question is whether any effort is being made through the introduction of certain systems, measures or organisations or any such thing, to collect information on this very important subject.

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I can assure the hon. Member that I am as anxious as anybody else, and the Government is as anxious as anyone else to find out the scope of this unemployment and the need for providing employment. We shall try to get in touch with the State Governments on this subject and most probably we will be able to do something later.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the number registered with the employment exchanges in the last three years?

SHRI ABID ALI: I have the figures for the period ending December 1952. Graduates with one or more degrees— engineering 832, medical 150, others 14,000. Passed Intermediate, not taken degree 11,902. Passed Matriculation, not passed Intermediate 92,000.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Am I to understand that these 832 engineers still are without employment?

SHRI ABID ALI: I said 832 engineers are on the live register of the employment exchanges.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What is the qualification of these engineers?

SHRI ABID ALI: I have already said— Graduates with one or more degrees— Engineering. 832.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Is that the total number up-to-date or is it for a particular year?

SHRI ABID ALI: That was the number on the live register in the §m-

ployment exchanges on 81st December 1952.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it a fact that these employment exchange figures represent onb' a fraction of the total unemployed in the country?

MR. CHAIRMAN: May be.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Has the Government of India set up any machinery to find out the number of unemployed in the villages, whom the Minister for Labour calls agriculturists?

SHRI ABID ALI: No. Sir.

PROF. G. RANGA: Are we to understand that the Government is interested in providing employment only to the educated unemployed, that they are not going to consider the question of the uneducated unemployed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question relates to unemployment among the educated. Now ' you put a question about unemployment among the uneducated classes. That does not arise.

PROF. G. RANGA: I am asking for further information, whether the figures given relate to the Labour Exchange in Delhi alone and if so, whether those not supposed to be resident in Delhi are entitled to get themselves registered and keep their names alive on these registers.

SHRI ABID ALI: These figures pertain to the entire country. Employment exchanges serve unskilled workers and labourers also if they seek employment

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA: How many workers have been thrown out, thus adding to the unemployment in the country?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different question.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Apart from the employment exchanges set up in

certain places, have Government made any attempt to find out the extent of the unemployment among the middle-classes, the educated middle-classes in the country and if so, what are they?

SHRI ABID ALI: I have already answered that question.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: I wanted to know whether any attempts have been made by Government apart from the employment exchanges set up at which voluntarily people may register themselves, to find out the extent of unemployment in the country?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I am assuring the hon. Member that a serious attempt will be made in consultation with the State Governments.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Then do I infer that no attempt has been made in the past and that in future the attempt will be made? I wanted an indication of the attempt made by Government in this direction.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir

MR. CHAIRMAN: One at a time.

SHRI V. V. GIRI: In fact it was already stated by my hon. colleague here that in the Five Year Plan there are measures likely to solve some of these difficulties. But we are not stopping at that; we are trying how best we can grapple with the present growing unemployment problem.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is it a fact that apart from what can be done under the Five Year Plan, the Government have no scheme for tackling the unemployment problem of the middle classes and as such they are not interested in finding out the extent of unemployment in the country?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: It cannot be said that there is no other scheme. Certainly the Government is interested and are very much troubled at the growing unemployment problem and will certainly study and see that something is done.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Do I understand that, Sir, apart from what is stated in the Five Year Plan, the Government may take into hand other schemes also to solve this problem?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: Of course.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is the Government aware of the *satyagraha* by the unemployed students of Ajmer?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I take the information from the hon. Member.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: May I know what concrete steps have been taken by the Government to solve this very pressing problem?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I think I have stated very generally the efforts of the Government and I cannot go much further now.

(Interruptions by Shri B. Ruth.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down. Next question.

SUPPLY OF RUST-RESISTANT SEED FOR CULTIVATION

*384. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which Government arrange to provide rust-resistant seed to cultivators in the country; and

(b) the names of the food grains for which Government provide such seed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA) :

(a) Rust-resistant seed is supplied to cultivators by State Governments who undertake its multiplication on their own farms. Information on the quantities supplied and acreage covered is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course. During 1952-53 the Indian Agricultural Research Institute supplied 346 maunds of nucleus seed