COUNCIL OF STATES

Tuesday, 16th December 1952.

The Council met at ten of the cleck, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SPICES ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

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

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has set up a Fact Finding Committee to inquire into certain matters relating to spices;
- (b) when the Committee was sct up;
- (c) whether it has submitted its report, if not, when it is expected to do so;
- (d) what is the strength of the Committee; and
- (e) how many of its members are members of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Yes.

- (b) In September 1951.
- (c) No. By March 1953.
- (d) Seven.
- (e) Four.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the answer to (d) and (e)?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: (d) Seven (e) Four.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: At whose instance was this Committee set up?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It was done at the instance of the Planning Commission.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How many times did they meet so far?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: They met first in the middle of September, 1951 and they circulated a comprehensive questionnaire to the State Government and to interested groups like the Chambers of Commerce etc. The Committee has finished its preliminary work in Travancore-Cochin and is expected to start enquiry sometime in December for getting first-hand information in Madras, Mysore, Coorg, Bombay and Orissa.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How many times has it met?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It has met only once and it is now going or tour to investigate on the spot.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has the Committee been asked to give report not only or pepper but also on other articles?

Dr. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are those articles?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: They have not been enumerated. But all the principal items would be looked into.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is the Committee calling for any opinions from the growers of these crops?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: As I have already stated the questionnaire has been issued and the growers will certainly be included.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has the Committee toured the places also?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: It is going to.

TELEPHONE INDUSTRY

*244. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the maximum capacity of the Indian Telephone Industries, Banga-

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lore, for the production of telephones each year;

- (t) the annual requirements of telephones in India;
- (c) what are the raw materials for want of which, the Industry is unable to produce to its maximum capacity; and
- (d) what are the articles other than telephones intended to be produced by this Industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Exchange Equipment 30,000 lines, Telephone Instruments 50,000.

- (b) About 30,000 lines Exchanges Equipment, about 40,000 Instruments.
- (c) Special ferrous, ferrous and nonferrous metals and Fine wire enamelled and or insulated.
- (d) For the present it is proposed to manufacture Automatic Excharge Equipment, Inter-Communication Sets, Carrier Systems, Portable Control Telephones for Railways, Intermediate and Main Distribution Frames, Arrestors and Fuse Strips, Iron Work, Selector Racks and Relays for Exchanges.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are we producing about 90% of the component parts for these industries?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Roughly yes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are we getting all the raw materials that are required to produce the telephones?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I have stated that we have to get some material from abroad.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has the General Manager who recently went abroad to bargain for the purchase of raw materials returned?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: The hon. Member is very well informed.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: In order to make our country self-sufficient in these products, have Government restricted imports of these materials from foreign countries?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: So far as telephones are concerned we hope in course of time to meet our requirements from local manufacture and for such parts of the equipments and instruments as we are unable to manufacture here, we have got to depend on the A. T. E. in England.

Schools conducted or aided by Railway Ministry

*245. SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any secondary or primary schools conducted or aided by the Railway Ministry for the children of Railway employees; if so, what is the number and location of such schools;
- (b) what is the annual expenditure incurred by the Railway Ministry for running or aiding those schools; and
- (c) whether those schools are open to the children of persons other than Railway employees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Yes. There are 152 schools run by Railway Administrations and 113 non-Railway Schools who receive grants-in-aid from Railway Revenues. Two statements are placed on the Table of the House giving details of these schools. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 71.]

- (b) Total expenditure incurred during the year 1951-52 for running the Railway Schools and giving grants-in-aid to Non-Railway Schools amounted to Rs. 33 lakhs approximately.
- (c) Railway Schools are intended primarily for the children of the railway employees but children of outsiders are admitted if accommodation is available after meeting the requirements of the children of railway employees.