

COUNCIL OF STATES

Tuesday, 16th December 1952.

The Council met at ten of the clock,
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 set 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 on tour to investigate on the spot.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Has the Committee been asked to give report not only on 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-