

are even going to alter the name perhaps.

### Graduate Course in Tea

\*734. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri P. Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for the introduction of a graduate course in tea at the Assam Agricultural College;

(b) the contribution of the Tea Board for this scheme;

(c) the duration of the course and the method of selection; and

(d) when the course will commence?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal is to introduce an integrated B.Sc. Degree Course in Agriculture in the Assam Agricultural College, Jorhat, with provision for specialisation in Tea and vegetative propagation.

(b) Non-recurring expenditure; Rs. 3,70,000.

Recurring: Rs. 30,500 per annum.

(c) Four years course. Though the details have not been finalised it is tentatively proposed that the Selection Board to be constituted by the Assam Government will associate the representatives of the Tea Board and the tea industry. The selections will be on all-India basis. Government also proposes to institute similar courses for other such crops.

(d) The course is expected to commence from the ensuing academic year.

**Shri A. V. Raghavan:** May I know the minimum qualification for admission to this course and whether students from the tea-growing areas will be given preference?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The latter part of the question is correct: they will be given first preference. We do not have tea specialists as far as the agricultural part of it is concerned.

**Shri A. V. Raghavan:** What is the number of students that will be admitted next year?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Tentatively, it is 20. It may be increased if the demand is more.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know if it is a fact that the Government of Assam has approached the Central Government with a proposal to upgrade this agricultural college at Jorhat to an Agricultural University and, if so, may I know what is the reaction of the Government to that proposal?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That will fall within the purview of the Education Ministry. We are more concerned with plantation, technology and agriculture, which we are trying to implement.

**Shri Kunhan:** May I know whether there is any proposal to extend this course to any other tea-growing State like Kerala?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Both Kerala and Madras are under consideration.

**श्री बूटा सिंह:** माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि इस में जो एडमिशन होगी, वह आल इंडिया बेसिस पर होगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आसाम के इस कृषि विद्यालय में जो प्रजुएट कोर्स चालू किया जा रहा है, इस में हरिजन विद्यार्थियों की क्या संख्या होगी, उनको कितने परसेंट जगह मिलेगी ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह:** राजाब के जितने भी दोस्त आना चाहेंगे उन सब को लिया जायेगा वशतें कि व ठीक क्वॉलिफिकेशन वाले हों।

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Is it the intention of the Government to restrict the employment in the tea gardens to the people coming out of

this college only, because that is likely to follow, and, if it is not the intention, what corrective measures do the Government propose to take in this regard?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This is for specialisation at a high level. The question of employment does not arise in this. The employment of labour in tea gardens is a thing which is preponderantly based on local conditions. It will be confined to technical people, but preference will be given to those who are specialists rather than non-specialists.

**Shrimati Akkamma Devi:** In view of the fact that there are many thousands of small growers of tea in our country, may I know whether this graduate course in tea will benefit these small growers also?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That is a very good suggestion. As I said earlier, we are going to do it in Madras also.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** May I know whether tea-tasting will also be one of the subjects taught in this course?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** As I said, this is in regard to agriculture. But in regard to tea-tasting, we have world-known Indian specialists in India.

**श्री विभूति मिश्र :** जो लोग टी गार्डन्स में काम करते हैं, जो मजदूर काम करते हैं, उन के बच्चों को क्या इस में आने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जायेगा

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** वह तो है ही ।

**श्री हेमराज :** यह ग्रजुएट कोर्स टी का जो , उसका प्रैक्टिकल शिक्षा के लिए टोकलाई टी एक्सपोर्टमेंटल स्टेसन से क्या ताल्लुक होगा ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** रिसर्च का जहां तक ताल्लुक है, वहां इसका कोऑर्डिनेशन होगा । जैसा सदन को पता है, एक बहुत बड़ी रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूशन खोली जा रही है जो टी में

फंडमेंटल रिसर्च करेगी और टोकलाई को शायद उस में मर्ज कर दिया जायेगा ।

**Credit Facilities to Foreign Countries by S.T.C.**

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\*735. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri B. K. Das:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Trading Corporation are allowing credit facilities to certain countries to overcome their rupee payment difficulty;

(b) if so, the names of the countries enjoying the facility; and

(c) the total amount of credit advanced so far by exporting iron ore to those countries?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Switzerland only at present.

(c) The total amount advanced by State Trading Corporation for iron ore export was Rs. 302.70 lakhs, and it has all been repaid.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** May I know whether the quantity of iron ore that is exported has increased since these credit facilities were given?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is for the export of iron ore that a sum of Rs 302.70 lakhs was given.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** I want to know whether the export has increased and, if so, to what extent, since these credit facilities have been allowed.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** If the credits were not there, this export would not have taken place. But, if the hon. Member wants to know about the