

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I have put a question already with your permission. It has not been answered fully.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Therefore I say we may put it at some other opportunity.

Post-Graduate School in I.C.A.R.

*1694. **Shri Venkatasubbalah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to start a Post-Graduate School in Indian Agricultural Research Institute in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation from October, 1958;

(b) whether the Council of I.A.R.I. has been consulted in framing rules and regulations regarding admission and general administration of the School; and

(c) whether Government employees of I.A.R.I. have been given the facility of obtaining M.Sc. or Ph. D. without prejudice to their services which system was in vogue previously in awarding the Diploma of I.A.R.I.?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Institute's Council has been consulted in the matter. Copies of the Calendar of the Post-Graduate School have been placed in the Library of the Sabha.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Venkatasubbalah: In view of the fact that this post-graduate school is to be started within a month or two, may I know whether Government have come to a decision regarding allowing government employees to get this degree?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Very soon the school will be started and the process of selection of students is now in progress. As soon as the classes start or before the classes start, we have to take a decision about allowing government employees to get this degree.

Shri Radhehal Vyas: May I know what are the number of students to be admitted to the M.Sc. and Ph.D. classes and whether due consideration has been paid to the claims of the various States for admission?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, Sir. The number of students that will be admitted to the M.Sc. classes will be 100 and to the Ph.D. classes will be about 50. The question whether they have to be taken on merit from India as a whole—or whether regions or States have to be given particular representation will be discussed with the Director of the Institute whom I am going to meet at 1.30.

Shri Kadiyan: What is the outlay for starting this and what assistance will we get from the Rockefeller Foundation?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We get from the Rockefeller Foundation about \$1 lakh immediately, some technical equipment and other things and some experts. And the Government of India intend to spend Rs 2.24 lakhs on capital and Rs. 22.0 lakhs on revenue account.

Shri Ranga: In view of the great demand of scholars from different States for seats in these M.Sc. and Ph.D. classes, this being the first year, will the hon. Minister examine in the conference he is going to have today the advisability of increasing the number?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The experts have held that the maximum number could be 100 for the M.Sc. and 50 for the Ph.D. courses; and the existing facilities and equipment are quite sufficient only for that number. This is the first year; and from next year we can consider the question of increasing the number.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: May I know whether any seats have been reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in this school, and if so, how many?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The students will be selected according to certain rules and regulations prescribed. And, if there is an obligation on our part to give some reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes that will be followed.

Shri Bose: May I know whether the requisite number of professors for taking the M.Sc. and Ph. D. classes have been appointed; and, if so, are any of them from foreign countries?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They have been appointed since last week. The U.P.S.C. have selected most of them. Of the three experts, one has already come under the Rockefeller Foundation and two are about to come.

Shri Venkatasubbliah: What are the reasons that prevent the Government from deciding the matter of allowing government servants to undertake the courses as it was done on previous occasions?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Hitherto Government employees were not attending classes. Here they have to attend classes hereafter. We have to find out how we can adjust this—the government employees attending to their work, and, at the same time, attending the classes. That is the problem here.

Shri Heda: May I know what procedure one has to adopt to get admission? Can anybody apply directly or has he to come through the department or the State concerned?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There are two or three courses, agronomy, micology, chemistry and various subjects. It was published in the papers and applications have been invited and only those people who were entitled to apply have already applied.

Ferro Concrete Sleepers for Railway Tracks

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*1665. { Shri Jadhav:
Shri Goray:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government

plan to use ferro concrete sleepers for railway tracks?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Yes Sir; for the present, it is proposed to use ferro concrete sleepers in large yards.

Shri Assar: Has there been a trial of these sleepers in our country to test whether they stand the climatic conditions?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I could not hear the question properly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Will the hon. Member repeat the question?

Shri Assar: May I know whether these sleepers have been tested as to whether they can stand the climatic conditions and changes in our country?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The only trial was made in 1949 in the Langhola Ghat section of the Sealdah Division. Only 200 sleepers were laid and that number is not enough to give any scientific data; nor is the experience in other countries like France and West Germany, where the conditions are different, decisive. Here there are very many difficulties. For instance, they are heavy and each weighs about 6 mds. The handling difficulty, the difficulty about fastenings, packing are all there unsolved. They have to be experimented on a large scale before any definite opinion is given about them.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know to what extent these sleepers will replace the wooden sleepers?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: To a very limited extent because our experience is only of about 200 sleepers, as I said, on the Sealdah division. We have got to test far more before we can launch upon it.