

1951	13,245,000 Maunds.
1952	12,432,000 Maunds.

The fall in fish production in 1952 is attributed to the failure of the Sardine and Mackerel fisheries on the Malabar Coast.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know the total expenditure incurred in this project?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: A copy of the whole agreement was placed before the House. It comes to 24,62,000 dollars—Rs. 68,05,000.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know whether the Norwegian Agreement for the development of marine fisheries has come into force?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir. It is being implemented now. It was signed very recently.

Shri Kanungo: Arising out of the answer to (c), will the hon. Minister kindly say what is the quantity of fish brought by the traditional method and what is the quantity by the trawler method?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got the break-up.

Shri Kanungo: Is it contemplated that these power units will be fitted to the existing boats or that new types of boats will be designed?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As far as possible to the old boats, so that the ordinary fishermen could take advantage of it.

STORAGE ACCOMMODATION AT METTUPALAYAM RAILWAY STATION

*1877. **Shri N. M. Lingam:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether representations have been received from the Merchants' Association of Mettupalayam regarding the inadequacy of storage accommodation for potatoes in that station?

(b) What action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) One representation was received by the Southern Railway.

(b) Arrangements are being made this year to maintain a steady supply of about 40 wagons per day in two placements and this should obviate the necessity for additional storage accommodation.

TAPIOCA

*1878. **Prof. Mathew:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received an offer from the All-Kerala Agricultural Development Association for the supply of a million tons of tapioca flour as food for distribution through fair-price shops at the rate of four annas per lb. only; and

(b) whether the said Association has asked for any special help or encouragement in the matter of increasing the tapioca output in Kerala?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). A copy of the offer referred to in the Question has been received and is under examination of the Government of India.

Prof. Mathew: Is it a fact that the Travancore-Cochin Government have taken steps recently to ensure cheap supply of tapioca flour in different parts of the State so that any export of it will not hit the poor consumers badly?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes; it is a fact. When there was a rise in the price of tapioca, in order to help the poor people in Travancore Cochin, whose main food is tapioca, the Government have taken some measures to see that tapioca is supplied through the ration shops at certain reasonable prices.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know whether tapioca fair price shops will be opened all over India?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: This question, in fact, relates to the All-Kerala Agricultural Development Association who have offered 10 lakh tons of tapioca flour, as they call it, at the very cheap price of four annas per pound. Wheat flour or any other flour will cost 8 to 12 annas per pound and this Association is offering at the rate of four annas per pound. We are examining the whole question. They say it is as sweet as wheat flour or any other flour and that if they are given proper encouragement, they will open cafeterias throughout India. We are examining why we should not make use of the 10 lakh tons of flour offered by this Association.

Shri Bansal: Where is wheat selling at 8 annas or 12 annas a pound?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Not wheat; wheat flour.

Shri Bansal: Yes; wheat flour; where is it so selling?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Our imported cost sometimes comes to that though we supply at cheaper rates. You must know that we are subsidising this.

Shri Bansal: Eight annas per pound?

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire whether the Food Ministry has enquired into the claims made by this Association with regard to the nutritive value of tapioca flour as well as palatability and if so, what has been the result?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We are just examining this question.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT BOARD FOR SOUTH INDIA

*1881. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an Inland Water Transport Board for South India;

(b) whether the opinions of the State Governments concerned have been elicited for setting up that Board; and

(c) how many State Governments of South India have expressed their willingness to contribute to the funds of that Board?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes. A proposal to set up a Board for South India is under consideration by the Government. The budget for 1953-54 contains a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs towards the Central Government's contribution to that Board, if it is formed.

(b) and (c). The views of the Governments of Madras and Travancore-Cochin have been invited and are awaited.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Arising out of the reply just given, that the Central Government's share would be two lakhs, may I know what would be the share of the State Governments, and whether any share is being borne by them?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: One lakh annually for the next three years.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether only these two State Governments, Travancore-Cochin and Madras,

are going to participate in this scheme or any other State?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The newly formed Andhra State might also participate.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know how this Board is going to be constituted and what would be its functions?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The matter is still under consideration.

Shri Kanungo: Is there any proposal for constituting a Board for Eastern India?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): There is already a Board called the Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Transport Board existing and it is working.

HOMOEOPATHY

*1882. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the proposals of the representatives of Homoeopathy as endorsed by the Planning Commission have been considered by the Ministry?

(b) If so, what are the steps proposed to be taken during the Five Year Plan period, year-wise?

(c) What amount will be spent in all?

(d) How do the proposals differ from the recommendations of the Homoeopathic Enquiry Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) to (c). The proposals are under consideration in consultation with the representatives of the Homoeopathic profession. It is not possible at this stage to give an idea of the expenditure likely to be incurred.

(d) The proposals are similar to the recommendations of the Homoeopathic Enquiry Committee.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether it is a fact that the State Governments were advised not to allow Homoeopathic institutions to be opened after the establishment of the Homoeopathic Enquiry Committee and if so, whether that order stands at present?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: No, Sir.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any special department is going to be opened for the implementation of the proposals both of the Five-Year Plan and of the Enquiry Committee?