

(b) the places in which it is in operation;

(c) the progress so far made; and

(d) the amount spent on the scheme?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) The Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.

(c) 432 cross combinations and 100 back crosses have been completed. A large quantity of seed for growing the second hybrid generation have been distributed to the participating Indian States and South-East Asian countries.

(d) Rs. 1,75,451-5-6 till the end of August, 1953.

Shri Sanganna: May I know, Sir, the agency through which the results of the implementation of the scheme are put into actual practice in the different parts of the State?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would ask for notice of the question, but evidently the agency must be the Agricultural Department of the State.

Shri Sanganna: May I know, Sir, is any increase in the production of rice due to the implementation of this scheme?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is the intention in carrying on with this scheme, but I have no complete information.

Shri Meghnad Saha: May I know, Sir, what has been the improvement on account of the hybridization of rice scheme?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has any improvement been noticed and if so, to what extent?

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Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got those details here.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether this experiment is carried out with Indian rice or with the rice of any other country?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Two varieties of rice—Japanese and Indian.

HASSAN-MANGALORE RAILWAY LINE

*1395. **Shri Siddananjappa:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the survey work of Hassan-Mangalore Railway line has been taken up?

(b) What progress has been made so far?

(c) When is it likely to be completed?

(d) Is it going to be a metre gauge or broad gauge line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Not yet.

(b) and (c). The preliminary Engineering and Traffic Surveys are to be taken in hand next month. The possibility of carrying out an aerial survey is under consideration.

(d) A decision will be taken after the survey reports are examined.

Shri Joachim Alva: Before a decision was taken regarding the survey work of this line, was the nearest point of North Kanara also taken into consideration?

Shri Alagesan: At present we are confining ourselves to a survey of this particular line, Hassan-Mangalore.

THEFTS IN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

*1397. **Shri Ramananda Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that a large