

collaboration with the well-known company, M/s. Mohan-Meakins Ltd. Though most of the allocated quantity is lifted by them, we hear that the alcohol does not finally reach Bhutan as a large part of this is given to a potable alcohol distillery in U.P. for reprocessing and only a very small portion ultimately reaches Bhutan. There are reports, which the Government must check, that part of the quantity lifted finds its way to Bangladesh where the price of alcohol, we are told, is three times that of India.

Sir, in 1981-82, the revenue of Bhutan from alcohol was nearly three crores of rupees when the quantity taken by them was relatively very small. In 1985, the revenue should have shot up to five crores of rupees in comparison to the quantity they were receiving. But we hear that only sixty lakhs of rupees. Apart from the fact that the Royal Government of Bhutan loses a large amount by way of Excise revenue running into crores of rupees, because of this mismanagement, a vast majority of people because of the non-availability, feel that India is not supplying enough alcohol for their distilleries to keep the normal supply going.

Sir, it is my earnest request that the hon. Minister concerned should initiate an inquiry along with the Bhutanese Government. We understand that it is necessary to help our neighbours, especially a small neighbour as we do help a small brother. But when we act as big brothers and generously give alcohol required in our country, it is also necessary for the big brother to keep an eye on the young one to see what is happening...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhatia, I would like to draw your attention to a matter of etiquette. You should not cross between the speaker and the Chair.

SHRI MADAN BHATIA : I am sorry, Sir.

SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY :

Sir, what is most striking is that these potable distilleries are run by the Army and so much of money is going into the hands of Army in a neighbouring country this is the frightening part. I want to bring before the Government this aspect and I earnestly request the Government that they should initiate a joint inquiry along with the Bhutanese Government. Thank, you Sir.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED INCREASE IN THE INCIDENCE OF POISONING BY PESTICIDES

SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN

(Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the alarming situation that has arisen in different parts of the country on account of the recent studies in the field of pesticides. Sir, there was a special feature in the recent issue of "India Today" and any one who reads it would be enraged. There was a time when pesticides were meant for killing pests and insects harmful to the agricultural produce. But it is no longer so. A recent study by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University at Coimbatore has revealed that the samples of mothers milk and cows' milk taken from different parts of the State contained residue of BHC. Studies conducted in Ludhiana have proved that butter and wheat flour samples were full of BHC and DDT. Recently, a study conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences has also shown that there was a lot of DDT in the fat tissues of the Delhi residents. Similarly, it has been found that for every cluster of ten villages in Guntur and Prakasam districts in Andhra Pradesh, there were apparently over 75 cases of pesticides poisoning during the last agricultural season. With the steady rise in the pesticide consumption of 25 per cent in the last four years, the incidence of such cases throughout the country has arisen alarmingly. Most of these cases are hard to trace since villagers were the victims and

[Shri Valampuri John]

no records worth the name were maintained in the village hospitals.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government of the fact that formulators and factories have been violating the provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968. For instance, manufacturers have not provided data on the toxicity of 130 basic chemicals and 400 formulations which were in use when the Act came into effect in 1971.

The Central Insecticides Board has given permanent registration certificates to nearly 360 pre-1972 pesticides without receiving complete data of their poisonous effect.

Some of the manufacture have scant respect for safe limits and dilution levels.

The law says and it is very specific that if a formulator wants to change his solvent he must apply a new to the CIB for registration and furnish researched information about the new product's toxicity. But there are formulators who have changed their solvents without any information to the CIB.

There are gross violations in areas like packaging. The Indian Standards Institute's prescribed for a mild steel or tin plate container. But in most of the places in the southern part of the country, only polythene containers are used. Formulators in Ambatur and Velachery in Madras use high density ploythene containers because they are cheaper.

The Act expressly forbids the re-use of containers used for strong poisonous basic chemicals since traces of it remain even after repeated cleaning.

There are instances where these containers are brought by general merchants to store edible oils which are not unknown when it has been established that even a single gram of phosphorus can cause even paralysis. When used pesticides containers and packages are very much in use, the Government has been cold to the hard realities of village life and no steps are taken to educate villagers on the harmful effects of pesticides.

There is a criminal neglect towards the safety of workers 25,000 of them working in 400 odd pesticide factories and formulation units. They are exposed to the poisonous spread since they have not been provided with protective gear like overcoats helmets, gloves, boots and masks.

I would like to make a fervent plea to the Government to come forward to save the workers and the public in general villagers in particular from the invasion of pesticides.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED REFUSAL TO PROVIDE JOBS TO QUALIFIED SECOND MATE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS BY SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA

श्री कैलाश जति मिश्र (बिहार) :
सभापति महोदय, आई एम सी पां करने के बाद 22 से 25 वर्ष की उम्र के बीच के बहुत ही मेधावी नौजवान शिपिंग कार्पोरेशन आफ इंडिया में सैकण्ड मैट एफ जी की डिग्री प्राप्त करने के लिए उन्हें जिन शर्तों के अन्दर से जाना पड़ता है मैं जरा उसका उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ। राजेन्द्र ट्रेनिंग शिपिंग में प्रवेश पाने के लिए जे०आई०टी० की अखिल भारतीय लिखित-परीक्षा पास करनी पड़ती है। भारत सरकार के शिपिंग एंड ट्रांसपोर्ट के मर्केन्टाइल के मैरीन डिपार्टमेंट की लिखित सिग्नेलिंग तथा साक्षात्कार की परीक्षा पास करनी पड़ती है। मैडिकल ट्रेस्ट में फिट होना पड़ता है। एक साल बम्बई में ट्रेनिंग लेनी पड़ती है, शिपिंग कार्पोरेशन आफ इंडिया के बाहर जाने वाले जहाजों पर समुद्र में रहकर 26 महीने की और ट्रेनिंग लेनी पड़ती है। मर्केन्टाइल डिपार्टमेंट आफ इंडिया के द्वारा परीक्षा लेने के बाद सैकण्ड मैट की डिग्री मिलती है। उनसे यह बांड लिखवाया जाता है कि यदि वे शिपिंग कार्पोरेशन आफ इंडिया में 5 साल की सेवा पूरा किए बिना वहाँ और चले जायेंगे तो 50 हजार रुपये उनको ज़ुर्माना में चुकाना पड़ता है। महोदय, 1983 से तीन सौ ऐसे सोसायटी के करीब मेधावी छात्र