

but when the information which the hon. Member wants is contained in a Report which was placed on the Table of the House, he should be presumed to have known what is contained in that Report.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : There was a Press report that the Law Ministry or the Department concerned does not propose to abolish the managing agency system. In view of the fact that it has tremendously contributed to monopolisation and concentration of economic power may I know whether the Government propose to abolish the managing agency system lock, stock and barrel?

SHRI G. S. PATHAK: Now we have stated that the whole question which emerges from the Report is before the Government at the highest level and until the Government arrives at a decision it is not possible for me to say what the decision is going to be.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : That much we know. Unless the Government arrives at a decision there will not be any decision. That much we know. We want to get a little more light from him. In 1956 on the floor of this House Mr. Chintaman Deshpande when he sponsored Companies Bill gave a clear assurance that latest by 1960 the managing agency system in the country will have been abolished. And since then the assurance had been earlier repeated also. May I know the reason why the Government has adopted such dilatory tactics in abolishing the managing agency system, which was castigated from all sides of the House and in response to which the Government gave an assurance about its abolition ? Do I understand that it is the patronage of big money behind the Congress Party that is now coming in the way of taking firm action against the managing agency system, as there are 445 managing agencies still operating in the country ?

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: Could he not put a question without insinuation?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question was : What was the reason for the delay ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Why is he keeping the political managing agency ? He is in the syndicate.

SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY: We can have everything outside, but not inside the House.

*(Interruption)*

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : The hon. Minister has not answered the question.

SHRI G. S. PATHAK : The suggestion that the Government is guilty of any dilatory tactics and all the insinuations which have been made by the hon. Member are being repudiated. They are wrong.

♦8. [Transferred to the 29th July, 1966.]

#### SHORTAGE OF VANASPATI AND EDIBLE OILS

\*9. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN:

SHRI B. N. MANDAL :

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an acute shortage of vanaspati and other edible oils has arisen in the country recently and particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the prices of vanaspati and other edible oils have also gone up; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to see that manufacturers and traders do not exploit the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (c) Shortage of vanaspati and groundnut oil accompanied by a rise in prices was reported from many States, including Delhi, during April-May, 1966.

(b) The shortage was largely due to the shortfall in production of groundnut during the current year and consequent reduced availability of groundnut oil, the main raw material for vanaspati. In Delhi, the shortage was further accentuated by heavier

(d) The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagat Narain.

movement by traders to places outside the Union Territory and also increased local demand due to marriage season.

(d) Imports of vegetable oils are being speeded up and the existing restrictions on bank advances against stocks of oil and exports continue in force. Improvement in distribution arrangements for vanaspati has been made, including introduction of statutory control on the wholesale and retail trade in vanaspati in Delhi. Restrictions have also been placed on movement of vanaspati by traders to places outside Delhi.

श्री जगत नारायण : क्या वजीर साहब बतलायेंगे कि उनके नोटिस में यह बात आई है कि पंजाब के गवर्नर ने वनस्पति के व्यापारियों की दुकानों पर जो रेड्स की हैं उनमें जो वनस्पति मिला है उसमें ग्रीज मिली हुई

Wt—grease mixed with vanaspati. The current police raids on food adulteration have brought to light strange human behaviour to make quick money. A case was registered here yesterday against a person on a charge of mixing grease with vanaspati."

मैं वजीर साहब से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो ग्रीज मिलाई जाती है वह मिल से जो डिब्बे जारी होते हैं चार किलो के, आठ किलो के या 12 किलो के उनमें मिलाई जाती है या जो रिटेल में बिकता है उसमें मिलाई जाती है ? क्या उन्होंने इसके मुताबिक जांच की है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We have not received any report about the Punjab cases, but as far as the question of the hon. Member is concerned whether adulteration takes place at the production stage, I may assure this House that there is strict control as far as the standard and quality of the product at the production stage is concerned. If adulteration had taken place, I do not think it would have taken place at the production stage at all.

श्री जगत नारायण : वजीर साहब ने अपने जवाब में यह कहा है कि ग्राउन्ड नट्स का प्रोडक्शन कम हो गया है । पीछे एक सवाल

के जवाब में उन्होंने कहा था कि गवर्नमेंट ग्राउन्ड नट के प्रोडक्शन के लिए पूरी सबसिडी दे रही है और रुपया भी खर्च कर रही है एग्नीकल्चरिस्ट्स को देने के लिए । इसके सम्बन्ध में क्या वाकई दे रहे हैं या नहीं दे रहे हैं ? क्यों कमी है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : The fact that last year's shortfall was mainly due to inadequate rainfall has been known to the hon. Member himself and to this House. In addition, the schemes of the Government for intensifying groundnut production are there. We have intensive development schemes in various areas for groundnut in various States. If the monsoon's behaviour is satisfactory, then perhaps we may be in a position to have output as per our expectations.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Is the hon.

Minister aware that there is quite a large ! volume of medical opinion in the country • to show that the large intake of vanaspati i\* i responsible for the high level of cholesterol in blood causing coronary thrombosis, blood J pressure and similar diseases? If so, what is the reaction of the Government ? Does J the Government think that medical opinion i on this point is correct ? Is the Government taking any steps towards restricting I the production of vanaspati and restricting its use by the public ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: This point is being agitated in India as well H all over the world, but medical experts are also of opinion that as far as vanaspati products are concerned, they are not harmful for human consumption. As far as Indian products are concerned, I may mention that 80 per cent of it is groundnut oil, 10 to 15 per cent cottonseed oil and 5 per cent sesame oil and this, according to health experts even, is suitable for human beings, not harmful to human health.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Apart from there being an acute shortage of vanaspati, is it a fact that there was blackmarketing, with impunity, in Delhi, of vanaspati and that Government took no action to control the price of vanaspati at that time? I know that this matter has been investigated by Hindustan Levers and they themselves found

that in many centres there had been black-marketing of vanaspati, the brand which was put up in their name.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : There were some reports about it and the Delhi Administration went into this problem. As a result of the suggestion of the Delhi Administration, now two orders have been issued, which have been approved by the Government of India. One is in regard to the restrictions on the movement of vanaspati outside Delhi and the other is the wholesalers and retailers have been asked to get licences from the Delhi Administration. They are required to maintain stocks and sales registers and also display the stocks and prices of vanaspati at the start of each day. As far as the brands are concerned, they are well-known. The machinery of the police is looking after it. They are quite vigilant in regard to this. Even then if we get some complaints, we would look into them again. If the hon. Member has specific complaints, he may point them out to me.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA : I would like to know if the Minister of Food and Agriculture is aware of the fact that there is surplus stock of groundnut oil rotting in Gujarat and the growers have been put to great hardship, where as the vanaspati factories or the consumers of oil in other parts of India are in a very difficult situation. What steps have they taken to see that the surplus oil from Gujarat finds its normal way . . .

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : There is no surplus in Gujarat.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA : You do not know.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : I come from Gujarat. I know much more than you.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA : I know it better. I would like to tell him about this. I can tell you that in Bombay the complaint is that every day truckloads of surplus oil from Gujarat are coming and are heaped up everywhere, making tons of money from every truck that is coming to Bombay from Gujarat. Will the Food Minister tell us whether he will institute an

enquiry into the whole matter, which is now an open secret, and the scandalous way in which it is being talked about?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is **few** that there is restriction on the movement of groundnut oil from Gujarat to other States. That is on the basis that the production in Gujarat of groundnut went down considerably. Therefore, they do not want indiscriminate movement, but they are permitting on the basis of the Food Corporation purchasing it for the other States and we have started moving this surplus available from Gujarat to the other States. The only other way is to leave unrestricted movement, which would push up the prices further.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA : Sir, I have **also** tabled this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have passed on to the next question. Many questions have been put.

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA : I had already tried to catch your eye.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I wonder if twenty people give the same question, it is anybody's right. If I am satisfied that enough questions had been put, I proceed. That gives no right.

#### SUGGESTION OF FORESTRY EXPERTS WORLD BANK

•10. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two forestry experts deputed by the World Bank have suggested the setting up of a paper plant in U.P. and a pulp plant in Alwaye; and

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made by these experts ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not **arise**.