

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, the question was about agitation; now the hon Member is making reference to certain allegations.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: No; I am asking about agitation.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: There is no agitation at all.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Does the hon. Minister agree that even now there is controversy and the controversy is being raised by the former Ruler of Bastar? I have referred to controversy in my question. Will the hon. Minister say that there is no controversy so far as these three Rulers are concerned?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: What we have to do is to grant recognition in proper cases. That has been done. If, for example, certain persons raise a controversy, then the Government need not take that into account.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know whether it is not a fact that all these controversies regarding these Maharajas are raised because of the privy purses that are paid to them and would it not be desirable, particularly in these days of national emergency, to abolish all these privy purses?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, it is not necessary to go beyond the question of recognition here.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: I have asked the hon. Minister to abolish these privy purses. Would it not be desirable to abolish the privy purses to scrap all controversies that are being raised?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: The question does not arise.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Before we do that we will have to give up our salaries also; also the Members of Parliament will have to give up their salaries too.

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SHRI A. D. MANI: Is it the considered policy of Government to regard adoption purely as a personal matter between the adopter and the adoptee and the Government has no part in making the decision?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: That is so but the Princes have to consult the Government of India and take their approval before actually the adoption takes place or before it is decided as to who will be adopted.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Even the poorest man in this country is sacrificing all he can to defend his motherland. Would it not be advisable to abolish all the privy purses considering the emergent situation in the country?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The demand for abolition is not there but I might inform the hon. Member that a letter was sent to all the Princes requesting them to make handsome contributions and I must say, Sir, that the response has been very good indeed; 5 per cent, 10 per cent of their privy purses.

ILLICIT DISTILLATION OF LIQUOR IN DELHI

*240. **SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of liquor is being illicitly distilled, and brandy and whisky are being manufactured on a large scale from tinctures in Delhi;

(a) whether it is a fact that some persons were arrested in September, 1962 for the manufacture of brandy and whisky; and

(c) what steps Government are taking in the matter?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I would answer this question in a general way. So far as Delhi territory is concerned, Government have introduced a number of restrictions like stopping the sale of liquor on certain days, stopping the sale in certain public places, etc. and on the whole the Government find that the experiment is fairly successful.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: The hon. Minister has admitted that even in Delhi which is a wet area there is illicit distillation and one hon. Member has pointed out that distillation is illicitly going on in other States also. In view of these circumstances and in view of the national emergency would it not be advisable to scrap prohibition?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I have answered that question already.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: What is the answer, Sir?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I have answered the question that when the matter comes before Government, the Government will consider the whole matter.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Does the hon. Minister know of a tincture known as Tincture Ginger which is being sold freely in the market and which is substitute for all drinks? Does the hon. Minister know about it?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Government have come across a few of such instances and the Ministry of Health are making enquiries into them as to whether something can be done to stop such tinctures.

श्री नवार्बसिंह चौहान : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह भी जानने की कोशिश की है कि शराग पीने वालों की संख्या दिल्ली में

बढ़ रही है या घट रही है ? अगर बढ़ रही है तो क्या वे यह समझते हैं कि इस चीज को रोकने में वे कामियाब हो जायेंगे ?

श्री सभापति : क्या कभी बताने हैं, ऐसी चीज पीने वाले ।

श्री लाल बहादुर : मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे मेम्बरान पर अक्सर इस बात का असर पड़ता है कि शराब का पीना बढ़ रहा है; क्योंकि वे दिल्ली की तरफ ज्यादा देखते हैं। अगर वे और जगह देखें तो ऐसी हालत नहीं है। दिल्ली में इसको रोकना माननीय सदस्यों का भी काम है, अकेले हमारी जिम्मेदारी नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope you would agree if I proceed to the next question.

PIG IRON PLANTS

***241. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences so far given to private sector companies for setting up pig iron plants;

(b) the number of companies which have not yet started any work on these plants and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take so that work on these plants is commenced as early as possible?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) At present there are 9 licences (including two licences for expansion) in force.

(b) 5; one licensee has secured foreign exchange clearance and is conducting preliminary tests before placing orders for plant and machinery; four licensees are negotiating with foreign firms with a view to