

श्री राम सुभग सिंह : जी हाँ, केवल पूरी ही नहीं की गई, अभी भी अगर उत्तर प्रदेश को चाहिये तो भिजवा देंगे।

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Recently the papers have been saying that extensive areas have been subjected to this attack by locusts. I would like to know if effective steps like spraying from aeroplanes have been undertaken to eradicate this great menace?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Yes; steps have been taken mostly in Rajasthan and we are planning to send planes to Punjab also. We have already decided to send planes there but the ground staff was not ready to receive the planes and so they did not go there. The damage that is likely to be done by the attack of the locusts is actually being looked after by the State people who are taking all precautions in regard to fighting this menace. As you know, the groundwork is more effective; ploughing and other things are very effective in this regard and the students, particularly small children, do very good work in fighting this locust menace. But wherever planes are needed we try to send them.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know how many planes the Food and Agriculture Ministry has got for anti-locust campaign?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: We are at present having six planes at our disposal; four belong to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and two belong to the Defence Ministry.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: Supposing the State Governments make no request for the use of aeroplanes; is it not the duty of the Centre, in order to prevent destruction by locusts, to keep a watch as to where there is need for anti-locust measures to be taken?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: There is complete co-ordination between the States and the Centre and we are taking all possible steps to see that this menace is fought effectively by Central as well as States machinery.

PAY SCALES OF FORMER JODHPUR STATE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

*404. SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special officer has since been appointed to go into the question of the pay scales of those members of the medical staff of the former Jodhpur State Medical Department who opted for Indian Railways in April 1950; and

(b) if so, whether this officer has visited Rajasthan in that connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Orders have since been issued to the Northern Railway to offer them railway scales of pay and the necessity of appointing any special Officer for visiting Rajasthan did not arise.

SUPPLY OF JERSEYS TO STAFF IN JODHPUR DIVISION

*405. SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that woollen jerseys (pullovers) were not supplied to the entire railway staff of the Jodhpur Division on Northern Railway during the years 1960-61 and 1961-62; and

(b) if so, whether the members of the staff who were not supplied jerseys in a particular year got them during the next year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Full supplies could not be made to all the staff.

(b) Part supplies were made in the year 1961-62 and the balance are being supplied in 1962-63.

SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: May I know whether those persons who did not get jerseys in 1960-61 would get both jerseys in 1961-62 or those who are eligible to get jerseys in 1961-62 would not get them?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: The life of a jersey issued in the subsequent years is accounted from the year of issue and not from the year it is due to the staff.

*406. [The questioner (Shri Nir-anjan Singh) was absent. For answer, vide col. 1984 infra.]

ENTRY AND SALE OF HYDROGENATED VEGETABLE OILS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE

*407. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on the entry and sale of hydrogenated vegetable oils in the State of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has informed the Union Government that the ban is going to be removed shortly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) No, Madam.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I would like to ask the Government whether the ban on the entry of hydrogenated oil is based on health grounds or any other grounds.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: There is a ban on the entry and sale of hydrogenated oil in Jammu and Kashmir State. In all other States there is absolutely no ban. In fact the State Government has informed us that the

matter of lifting the ban is under the consideration of the State Government.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Madam, what I wanted to know was whether the State Government's ban was based on health grounds or any other grounds.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It cannot be said that it is on health grounds. If it were on health grounds, it must equally apply to other States also.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether the ban was on health grounds or whether it was on any other ground.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We do not definitely know the reasons which have impelled the State Government to impose the ban. In fact the Vegetable Oil Products Control Order, 1947, under which the Food and Agriculture Ministry is exercising control over this is not applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Madam, I afraid the answer is very unsatisfactory. Here is a matter where the free transport of articles in India is prohibited by one State. If that prohibition is on valid grounds, one can understand it. And the Government does not even make an enquiry of the State of Jammu and Kashmir as to why the ban is imposed.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: We have asked the State Government and the State Government has intimated us that the lifting of the ban is under their consideration. So we have to wait for some time.

GRANT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NATURE-CURE INSTITUTIONS

*408. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications have been received from nature-cure institutions for financial assistance by Government during the coming year; and