

SHRI S. K. PATIL: Any other method of sugar production, whether it is from palm or beet, is likely to be more costly. It may not be liked by people also. We are doing experiments, and some considerable amount is being spent on that.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I would like to know from the Minister what steps are being taken to improve the quality of sugarcane because that would have a good effect.

SHRI S. K. PATIL: We are doing everything. When the questions are being answered, the whole thing cannot be explained, because it is a big question. We are doing everything in our power.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: In reply to a question as to what steps Government is taking to bring down the price of sugar, the hon. Minister stated that nothing could be done unless the price of sugarcane is brought down. I would like to know whether there are possibilities of asking the sugar industry not to make so much profit which it is making instead of lessening the prices of sugarcane.

SHRI S. K. PATIL: Because questions were asked, we referred the whole thing to the Tariff Commission, and the millowners are today not given one naya paisa more than what the Tariff Commission has recommended.

UDAIPUR-HIMMATNAGAR AND UDAIPUR-MODASA-TALOD RAIL LINKS

*359. **SHRI SURESH J. DESAI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons for the decision to take up Udaipur-Himmatnagar rail link for connecting Udaipur with Ahmedabad and not the Udaipur-Modasa-Talod link?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): Shorter length, lesser

initial cost and better return led to the decision to prefer Udaipur-Himmatnagar alignment.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: A number of experts of the Railway Board themselves have recommended during the last fifteen years that the Udaipur-Modasa line would be more economical—the word “economical” was used by the experts—and that the initial higher cost would be amply repaid in a few years’ time, and the Railway Board consequently took a decision in favour of the Udaipur-Modasa line. Even the Collector concerned issued a notification for acquisition of land also there. What is the reason for the Railway Board turning round and changing their decision and insisting on the other alignment?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: All the arguments advanced for the Talod line as well as the Himmatnagar line were taken into consideration. As I said, there is a difference in cost. That is one reason. The length of the Himmatnagar-Udaipur line is 133.25 miles; cost is Rs. 10.72 crores; and percentage return is 4.67. The Udaipur-Talod line is 144.77 miles; cost is Rs. 11.39 crores; percentage return 4.59. But that is not the end of it. The former links up Himmatnagar which is the district headquarters also. Moreover this alignment would help in the resettlement of displaced persons from project areas. Fourthly, the cost of the land in this alignment would be cheaper. These are the several reasons which weighed with us.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: When the percentage returns have been calculated, the returns from Talod, if it is linked with Udaipur via Modasa, will all go to the Modasa link. The percentage aspect which the hon. Minister is referring to is not correct. Secondly, Modasa is the largest town in the district. It is a commercial centre also and it has no rail link.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: As I have submitted, all these considerations have been looked into.

*360. [Postponed to the 15th March, 1961].

MOSQUITOES' RESISTENCE TO INSECTICIDES

*361. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. A. P. Ray, Director of the National Malaria Eradication Programme, told the 14th World Health Assembly in New Delhi on 13th February, 1961, that there is an increased resistance by mosquitoes to insecticides in India and some other South-East Asian countries and consequently people are unwilling to accept spraying operations; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered this aspect of the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) Dr. A. P. Ray told the Committee on Programme and Budget of the World Health Assembly that 'in India, resistance had been observed in *A. culicifacies* in certain foci. The period after which resistance was observed in different parts of the world was not uniform'.

Dr. Ray also told the Committee that 'there had been opposition to spraying operations on the part of the population, first because bed bugs, which had disappeared for a time, had again made their appearance, and *secondly* because in view of the low incidence of malaria, they could not understand that spraying should be continued'. The opposition to spraying operations was not stated to be in consequence of the resistance by mosquitoes to insecticides.

(b) Measures to delimit the problem are in progress and future line of action has been determined.

SHRI S. C. DEB: What was the decision that was taken on this point? Was any decision taken on this point?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The decisions that was taken at the 14th World Health Assembly was that in view of the possible resistance by mosquitoes to insecticides like D.D.T., the malaria eradication programme should be finished as early as possible.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know the reaction on the people on account of the resistance by mosquitoes to insecticides and whether Government is taking further steps—effective measures—for killing mosquitoes?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, I would try to understand the question. The question appears to be what steps Government are taking to make the malaria eradication programme as successful as possible. As I have said and as is obvious, one of the effective ways is to remove the misunderstanding among the public about health education and to educate them on the value of malaria eradication.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you satisfied?

SHRI S. C. DEB: The point is that Dr. Ray was complaining that the people are not appreciating these measures for killing mosquitoes. I want to know what further steps Government are taking to minimise the resistance of mosquitoes to these insecticides and also to make people appreciative of its measures.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, the way is to organise resistance to mosquitoes. But the fact of the matter is that the malaria eradication programme is quite successful in the country except in a few pockets where people are not interested in this and they do not permit these people to come in because they say that malaria is a past problem which it is not, and that the insecticide is not killing bed bugs which are a greater nuisance to them than mosquito-bearing malaria