

SETTING UP OF AN INDIAN KITCHEN AT BRITISH FOOD FAIR

•602. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a modern Indian kitchen will be set up at the British Food Fair to be opened from the 1st September; and

(b) if so, what will be the special features of that kitchen?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The High Commission of India at London has arranged to set up an Indian Kitchen in the International Kitchen Exhibition at the British Food Fair scheduled to take place from 1st to 17th September, 1960.

The kitchen will be staffed by a team of 4 to 6 Indian lady volunteers who will act as demonstrators. Indian dishes of different types will be prepared each day and served to the visitors. The kitchen will be fully equipped at the cost of the British Gas Council in the United Kingdom. Ingredients required for cooking will be drawn each day from the Store at the Exhibition maintained at the cost of the Gas Council.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether this kitchen will be designed and arranged in Indian style or in European style and, if the answer is that it is to be designed in the Indian style, what is the name and the qualification of the designer?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I do not know the style, but Indian dishes will be cooked there.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will idly and Sambhar also be prepared there?
(No reply.)

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the selection of the lady volunteers will be made in India or in England?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The wives of the officers of the High Commission and the other Indian ladies who are living in England have volunteered.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether there is any proposal to set up a permanent unit of the Indian kitchen there to popularise Indian dishes?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: There seems to be a misunderstanding. No kitchen is being set up by India. There is going to be a British Food Fair in which they want the dishes of different countries to be served to the people and to be demonstrated. The kitchen is being set up at the British Food Fair by the Gas Council. However, they have asked for volunteers who are being made available.

FALL IN THE EXPORT VALUE OF INDIAN TEA

*603. SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of Indian tea fell in value by Rs. 10 crores last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that Ceylon tea has regained its market in the United Arab Republic while Indian tea has lost its market there; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian tea has not lost its market in United Arab Republic.

(c) Does not arise.