

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As far as I can see that is not a very material question in this regard. Different batches and different productions have different tendencies. Sterility might be induced and extraneous. Therefore, Sir, it all depends on the various conditions prevailing there, including the climatic conditions prevailing from season to season.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that since 1st November, 1959 the number of rejections has gone up?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There is nothing on record to prove that. Of course, there have been different periods during the last six years when these rejections have been heavy and also these rejections have been light. What the House, as far as I can see, is concerned with is that whatever is passed should be of some standard quality.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether monsoons have anything to do with these rejections of the penicillin batches?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: I may submit, Sir, that these three months were not monsoon months. But certainly monsoons have a great lot to do because the atmosphere is charged with humidity and water.

DR. R. B. GOUR: The hon. Minister has said that seasonal variations also affect the result of these sterility tests. May I know from the hon. Minister the results of sterility tests in the corresponding season during the previous years?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: I have not got, Sir, all those types of records. I may submit that any public sector project and its minute details are not generally enquired about so many times.

DR. R. B. GOUR: But he says "This is the normal rejection". We should know what sort of quality . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not got the information for those corresponding months.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know whether this kind of rejection determines the quality of production?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir, it has nothing to do with that. Some batches having failed in sterility tests, strict instructions are issued not to pass anything which is below certain accepted standards.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have calculated any percentage of rejections per year in regard to this matter and whether they have made any scientific study with regard to climatic and other conditions?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, this is a matter of international study. After all, this is a drug which is not only made in India. It is made in other places also. So, it is continuously in production, and if any particular batch does not conform to certain accepted standards, it has got to be rejected.

#### CENTRAL SALT BOARD

\*23. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 50 in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the formation of the Central Salt Board; and

(b) if so, what would be the functions of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) The matter is still under consideration and decision will be taken soon.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether there are any special reasons for not taking any decision so far?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There are one or two fiscal reasons, because we are trying to reorganise and, if possible, retrench the strength of the salt department which is rather more administrative than developmental. We want to transfer some of the staff to the development side.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that the salt development work is suffering because of indecision in regard to this matter?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, Sir. What has been suggested is an improvement no doubt. It is true that if the Central Salt Board is constituted, some better developmental work may be done. But there is no question of any suffering because the present policy continues, the policy of having the salt department under the Salt Commissioner.

SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Is it a fact that in anticipation of that decision being taken the salt areas of Rajasthan have been transferred to the Rajasthan Government for administrative purposes?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is true, Sir, but it has nothing to do with this report. The lease with the Rajasthan Government in respect of Pachbhadra Didwana and Sambhar was coming to an end on the 31st March, 1960. We have retained the Sambhar lease and as per the request of the Rajasthan Government we have retransferred the Pachbhadra and Didwana areas to them.

SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Salt being a Central subject, will the Rajasthan Government be under the supervision of the Board, if it is constituted?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: In that sense it is not a Central subject

because there are lots of salt areas spread all over the country which are being looked after by the State Governments. But to the extent of cess collection and general quality control they will be treated on the same basis as any producer.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether the members of the Board will be appointed in consultation with the Government?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No decision about the Board itself has yet been taken. Of course, all the interests concerned will be consulted.

तिब्बती शरणार्थियों की रेल में मृत्यु

\*२४. { श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : ‡  
श्री जुगल किशोर :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले मार्च मास में आसाम के मिसमारी कैम्प से धर्मशाला जाते हुए रेल यात्रा में पांच तिब्बती शरणार्थियों की मृत्यु रेल में ही हो गई; और

(ख) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर 'हां' हो, तो उनकी मृत्यु के क्या कारण थे और कितने तिब्बती शरणार्थी उस रेल-गाड़ी में थे ?

†[DEATH OF TIBETAN REFUGEES IN TRAIN

\*24. { SHRI NAWAB SINGH  
CHAUHAN: ‡  
SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five Tibetan refugees died in train during their railway journey from the Missamari camp in Assam to Dharmasala in March last; and

‡[ ] English translation.

‡The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Nawab Singh Chauhan.