

PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF DRUGS

*104. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR (ON BEHALF OF SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN): Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of opium alkaloid, sera, vaccine and shark liver oil produced in India during 1953-54; and

(b) the quantity and value of these drugs imported into India during the same period?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

IMPORT OF AMERICAN BUTTER CONVERTED INTO GHEE

*112. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY (ON BEHALF OF SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any American expert is in India making a study of Indian ghee; and

(b) whether Government or any private importer has imported American ghee?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether Government have taken a decision in the matter of importing ghee?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Not yet, Sir.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have decided to enunciate their policy with regard to this question?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The decision will be taken after the policy is determined.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA: Is the Government aware that in America there is a very big surplus of butter, that it is very old butter and this butter they want to convert into ghee and then export to India? Are the Government considering prohibiting such an import into India because this butter is stale?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: If we do decide to take any of this ghee, we will certainly make sure that the presumptions of our friend are not correct.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a report in the press that the United States of America is trying to export such things in order to sell their unsold stocks of butter in their own country?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Questions are over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

NON-PAYMENT OF OPERATIONAL AREA AND HILL STATION ALLOWANCES TO P. & T. STAFF AT SRINAGAR

*97. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the staff of the Indian Telegraphs Department stationed at Srinagar refused to take their salary for December 1954 as a protest against the non-payment of operational area and hill station allowances to them; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are being taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes. The staff did not draw their pay on the 3rd January 1955, the first working day of the month, but drew it subsequently.