

(b) whether any offer for help in the matter has recently been received from any foreign country; and

(c) when a decision in this matter is expected to be taken?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION SHRI K. C. REDDY: (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

INQUIRY INTO ADULTERATION OF TEA

*828. SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA (ON BEHALF OF DR. RAGHUBIR SINH) : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the detailed results of the India-wide inquiry into the adulteration of tea undertaken by the Tea Board;

(b) the punishments given to the sellers of such adulterated stuff; and

(c) the details regarding the type of sellers thus found guilty and consequently punished?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) During 1954, 957 samples were taken; 639 samples were analysed out of which 289 samples were found adulterated.

(b) Fines ranging from Rs. 4 to Rs. 100 were imposed on dealers on conviction.

(c) Sellers of adulterated tea were largely wholesale dealers.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: How many pounds were collected?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Only small samples were taken.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: What is the period over which this survey was made?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is a continuing process, and the figures I have given relate to 1954 only.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: What are the States which have been covered?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The samples were taken from all over India.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: What sorts of things are mixed with tea for adulteration purposes?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Black gram husk, tea prunings, tea stalks, unfermented leaves, *Shati* leaves and *avarai* leaves.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: What kind of offence is it for which only Rs. 4 have been imposed as fine?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I do not know what was the exact case, but the courts were there to judge the intensity of the offence.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Is opium ever mixed with tea?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Are there any convictions of imprisonment in these cases?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No. These are offences under the Health Act, and the Public Health authorities in the States launch the prosecutions. The Tea Board only helps. I am not sure whether there is any provision for imprisonment or not.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: May I know whether samples taken from sealed packets were also found to be adulterated and, if so, to which companies, they belonged?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The procedure for drawing samples has been laid down. I have no information beyond the fact that 639 samples were taken.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Is any of the well-known companies involved in this?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I have no information about the names of the companies.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: Was tea exported from this country also found to be adulterated?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No.

SHRI V. G. GOPAL: May I know whether the adulterated tea was confiscated and destroyed?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It must have been, but I have no information.

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SEMINAR ON HOUSING

*831. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN (ON BEHALF OF SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY) : Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final reports of the United Nations Seminar on Housing and the South-East Asian Regional Conference of the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning have been considered by Government; and

(b) whether any action has been taken on them; and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir; the reports have not been received so far.

(b) Does not arise.

RURAL CELL

*832. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN (ON BEHALF OF SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY): Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Rural Cell has been established in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply; and

(b) if so, what is the work done by it so far?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Rural Cell has continued to tender advice on rural housing to the Community Projects Administration and the Development Commissioners in the various States. It has drawn up type designs-of model houses and complete layout plans of a few villages together with the types and specifications for houses for adoption in the rural centres. A Manual on Rural Housing, published by the Cell, is designed for the guidance of the Community Project workers in the work of assisting villagers to build better types of houses through methods of aided self-help and with local materials and resources.

DR. R. F. DUBE: Has it been implemented anywhere?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: The scheme is that technical assistance and technical help is given to the Community Projects Administration and it has been given.

12 NOON

PLANNING OFFICES IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

*836. SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN (ON BEHALF OF SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY) : Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a Planning Officer in each unit of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;

(b) if so, what are the particulars relating to those officers—their number, salaries and duties; and

(c) what are their relations with the Planning Commission?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.