

Department is taking every possible measure to check smuggling.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it a fact, Sir, that the Customs Department has represented that in order to check smuggling it would be better to allow larger imports of watches?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: I have not got any such information with me, Sir.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Have the Government considered this fact that larger imports would go to reduce smuggling to the minimum?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: That is only a suggestion for action.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: What do Government do with these smuggled watches?

SHRI TAJAMUL HUSAIN: After the seizure of the watches, what do Government do with them? Do they sell them?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: In most cases they are confiscated and put to auction.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: Is it not a fact, Sir, that smuggling is done to some extent with the connivance of the customs officials?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: That is only an insinuation.

SYNTHETIC RICE PLANT

*480. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY (On behalf of SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA): Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to refer to the answer given in the Council on the 3rd March 1953 to Starred Question No. 174 and state:

(a) whether Government have since purchased the machinery for the setting up of a synthetic rice plant; and

(b) if so, what is the imported cost of this machinery?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b). Quotations for a pilot plant with a capacity of 2 tons per day are being examined by the Council of scientific and Industrial Research.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that orders have been placed to purchase only one plant which will produce one ton of rice per day?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Order is being placed for one plant.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is the production of one ton per day sufficient to feed the country?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The idea is not to put up the plant to feed the country. It is a pilot scale experiment to be carried on with a view to find out whether the people will accept the food. If the quality is acceptable to the people then we shall consider the question of increasing the number of plants for further expansion of trials.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Are the Government convinced themselves that it would¹ allow commercial exploitation of this, namely, the installation of the plant and the manufacture of artificial rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: It is still premature to say whether there will be commercial exploitation or not. The Government is just now trying to know about acceptability of this food by people.

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : चावल के सम्बन्ध में सेल्फ सफ़ीशियेंट (self-sufficient) होने के बावजूद भी क्या इस प्लांट (plant) को इंस्टाल (instal) करने की आवश्यकता है ?

t [SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM: Is it necessary to instal this plant in spite of the fact that we are self-sufficient in rice?]

fEnglish translation.

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : चावल के सम्बन्ध में सेल्फसफीशियेंट हो जाने से इसका कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है। यह भोजन पदार्थ बहुत सस्ते में बनाया जायेगा। काउंसिल आफ साइंटिफिक ऐंड इंडस्ट्रियल रिसर्च (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) को ऐसी आशा है कि यह चावल से ज्यादा पुष्टि कारक होगा और सस्ता होगा। गरीब जनता के लिये कुछ ऐसी ची की आवश्यकता है जो कि चावल से ज्यादा पुष्टिदायक हो और लोगों को उसमें रुचि हो। इसलिये ही तत्काल देने वाले एक सस्ते खाने का अनुसंधान किया जा रहा है। यह चावल का सब्स्टीट्यूट (substitute) नहीं है।

fCSirai K. D. MALAVIYA: It has nothing to do with self-sufficiency in rice. This food stuff will be manufactured very cheaply. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research expect that it will be more nourishing and cheaper than rice. Some such thing is required for the poor as may be more nourishing than rice and to their liking. That is why experiments are being made to find out a nourishing and cheap food. This is no substitute for rice.]

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : क्या इससे यह भी खतरा नहीं उत्पन्न हो सकता कि जिस प्रकार मिलों से बनने वाली तमाम चीजों के कारण गांवों को, किसानों को हानि पहुंची है उसी प्रकार यह चावल, चावल प्रोअर्स (growers) के लिये हानिकर साबित होगा ?

f [SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM: Will it not give rise to the danger that just as all mill-products have caused harm to villages and farmers similarly this rice will prove harmful to rice growers?]

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : जी नहीं, ऐसा नहीं होगा।

USHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No Sir, it will not do so.]

श्री एच० पी० सक्सेना : क्या यह चावल साबूदाने की किस्म का होगा।

[[SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Will this rice be like sago?]

DR. P. C. MITRA: What are the ingredients used to make such rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The ingredients on which the scientists of the Technological Institute are working on the latest specimen are: a substantial amount of tapioca flour mixed partially with defatted groundnut flour and a very little quantity of wheat flour.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Why is it named rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Well, it is for the hon. Members to advise if they wish to change the name.

DR. P. C. MITRA: In other words it amounts to saying that ghee and Dalda vegetable oil are the same.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: It is not correct to say so.

trSHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Synthe-tic rice will be a peculiar type of food which will give much nourishment. Will this be like

श्री एच० पी० सक्सेना : सिन्थेटिक राइस (Synthetic rice) एक अजीब किस्म का खाना होगा जब बहुत ज्यादा ताकत बरसेगा। तो क्या यह साबूदाने के किस्म का होगा, जैसा कि मैंने अभी दरियाफ्त किया ?
sago, as I asked you just now?]

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : यह अजीब किस्म का खाना भी नहीं है और साबू-

दाने की किस्म का भी नहीं है लेकिन इसमें वह पदार्थ जरूर है जो कि साबूदाने में है।

t[SHR K. D. MALAVIYA: It is neither a peculiar type of food nor like sago, but it certainly contains the ingredients of sago.]

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Is there any possibility of adulteration in this synthetic rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: There should be absolutely no possibility of adulteration.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR: May I know, Sir, whether, after producing synthetic rice and synthetic ghee, we are proceeding further to produce synthetic children also?

(No reply.) 9

A.M.

MAJ-GEN. S. S. SOKHEY: Is the hon. Minister aware that the scientific committee appointed by Government to give their opinion has said that this synthetic rice is not suitable from the nutritional point of view?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No, Sir, there was no such opinion held by the committee as referred to by the hon. Member. On the contrary, they said that this food was at least as nutritious as the natural rice and the members of the committee were unanimously of the opinion that the acceptability trial should be carried out.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Will care be taken to see that the production of artificial-rice will not reduce the production of natural rice?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Sir, all such care will be taken and the Government do not fear that there will be any such reduction.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: It appears from the answer of the hon. Minister that tenders were invited for the purchase of this machinery and that they are under examination now. But may

I know if the Government deputed any officer abroad to purchase this plant and if so, what was the expenditure incurred on that account?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Sir, an officer was deputed to examine the possibility of finding out suitable machinery for this plant. He visited England, Italy and Switzerland specifically with a view to test our raw materials to be used and to find out the particular plant and machinery required for the synthetic rice, and he has succeeded in examining our raw materials and finding out the machine. Now quotations have been received, by us which we are examining.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: That is exactly my question. Now the fact remains to be said that France and other countries are manufacturing synthetic rice production machinery which the Government are aware of. So having known that why did they send an officer for the purpose? And if we have sent him why again we call for tenders? We could have purchased them straightaway.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a long argument.

T[SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM: I want to know whether this food stuff made of groundnut flour and wheat is more nutritive than rice.]

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि मूँगफली का आटा और गेहूँ से बना यह भोज्य पदार्थ क्या चावल से अधिक पोषिक और न्यूट्रिशस

t[SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Rice contains lot of starch which has not many nutritive ingredients.]

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : चावल में स्टार्च ज्यादा होता है जिस के अन्दर पोषिक रासायनिक पदार्थ बहुत नहीं होते।

SHRI S. MAHANTY: What is the probable cost of this machinery and what amount was spent on the travelling expenses of that particular office; who was sent abroad?

SHRINK. D. MALAVIYA: This year the Government have sanctioned Rs. 2,50,000 and we are likely to add about Rs. 1,50,000 more in this current year. I do not possess the exact figure of the amount spent by Dr. Subrahman-yan who was deputed. It was perhaps about Rs. 20,000.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Am I to understand that the probable cost of the plant and machinery is about Rs. 4,00,000 and the amount spent on the travelling expenses of the officer was Rs. 20,000?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No, Sir, it is not like that. The actual amount on travelling expenses was less than that. For example about Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000 worth of raw material was sent from here to examine whether that raw material could be used for the particular machinery.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: When will the Government stop this wasteful synthetic research?

श्री के० डी० माधवीय : जी नहीं;
ऐसा नहीं है और अपने काम को रोकने
का गवर्नमेंट का कोई इरादा नहीं है ।

[SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No Sir. It is not so, and Government have no intention of stopping its work.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Questions are over. Secretary.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: I could not follow the hon. Deputy Minister; he mumbled something in the- Hindi language.

[English translation] 18

C.S.D.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

386. [Postponed to the 5th May 1954.]
BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED BY GOVERNMENT

387. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed by Government on the basis of the research work carried out at the Central Building Research Institute, Ro'or-kee;

(b) the location of these houses; and

(c) the cost at which each of these houses was constructed?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD) : (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Council [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 219.]

GRANTS TO INDIAN SPORTS TEAMS VISITING FOREIGN COUNTRIES

383. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the financial assistance rendered by Government during the past two years to the various Indian sports teams when they visited foreign lands; and

(b) what is the financial assistance budgeted for the purpose of granting such aid in the year 1954-55?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) Rs. 1,95,160.

(b) No specific provision has been made on this account.

DISCOVERY OF AN EDICT OF EMPEROR ASOKA

389. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an important epigraphical edict of Emperor Asoka has been discovered in Kurnool;

(b) if so, what is the script of the edict;