

मन गन्ना खराब हो गया है, उस के वास्ते सरकार को कोई इंतजाम करना चाहिये था या नहीं ?

श्री अ० प्र० जंन : वहाँ कोई गन्ना खराब नहीं हुआ है ।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने धनहा थाने में पड़ने वाले गांवों की बाबत जो कि छितीली शुगर मिल को गन्ना देते हैं, कोई जांच पड़ताल की है या जांच पड़ताल करना चाहते हैं ।

श्री अ० प्र० जंन : इस की बाबत उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से हम ने रिपोर्ट मांगी थी और उन्होंने ने हम को यह लिखा है कि जिस वक्त मिल के भन्दर हड़ताल हो गई तो उस गन्ने को दूसरे कारखानों को दे दिया गया और कोई गन्ना खराब नहीं गया । यह मैं उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की इत्तिला के ऊपर बता रहा हूँ ।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : छितीली मिल में हड़ताल हो जाने से धनहा थाने के किसानों का गन्ना पड़ा रह गया और नहीं जा सका और करीब २, ३ लाख मन गन्ना नष्ट हो गया....

Mr. Speaker, The hon. Member is giving information.

श्री राधेश, ल व्यास : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो गन्ने के सम्बन्ध में बिहार में स्थिति है वह दूसरे राज्यों में भी है, जैसे कि मध्य प्रदेश में है और वहाँ पर भां किसानों का गन्ना सूख गया और कारखाने वालों ने उस को नहीं खरोदा, तो उस के लिये सरकार क्या सोच रही है तार्कि यह गन्ना बेकार न जाये और उस को मिल वाले ले सकें ?

श्री अ० प्र० जंन : हमारे पास तो ऐसी कोई इत्तिला नहीं है, सब कारखाने चल रहे हैं, बिहार के भन्दर भी और मध्य प्रदेश के भन्दर भी, और गन्ने को पेरा जा रहा है ।

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to the fact that in spite of the fact that some of the

mills are going to be kept working a large area of sugarcane crop will remain standing and whether the hon. Minister will take steps, in consultation with the State Governments concerned, to see that the standing sugarcane crop is completely crushed?

Shri A. P. Jain: The apprehension of the hon. Member that any cane will be left uncrushed is unfounded. About 6 per cent. of the cane was left in the fields in Uttar Pradesh, and I think about 6, 7 or 8 per cent. in Bihar. Arrangements have been made either to transfer that cane to other mills for crushing or the mills themselves will prolong the period of crushing. My information is that almost all the mills this year will close about the end of the month and there will be no sugarcane left standing in the field.

Bombay-Kanya Kumari National Highway

*157. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made on the Bombay-Kanya Kumari National Highway;

(b) whether it is a fact that the construction of the bridge at Kariyan Kodi has been suspended; and

(c) if so, the reason thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement showing the progress on the Bombay Kanya Kumari road which is not a National Highway, is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 41.]

(b) and (c). The work was suspended for some time for revising the design of the bridge with a view to overcome some foundation difficulties which came to light during execution. The work has since been restarted.

12 00 hrs.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know when the work will be restarted as far as this bridge is concerned?

Shri Raj Bahadar: The work has been re-started.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Steps to prevent spread of Influenza to India.

S. N. Q. No. 3. { **Shri V. P. Nayar:**
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 Shri Easwara Iyer:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Influenza is raging in an epidemic form in Singapore and Malaya;

(b) whether adequate steps have been taken by the Government of India to prevent the spread of infection to India, through the passengers from the regions of the epidemic; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Influenza is in an epidemic form in Singapore and Malaya.

(b) and (c). The Government of India have taken steps to prevent the entry of infection to India. The steps taken are as follows:—

1. The Directors of Health Services in the States were alerted and asked to take necessary measures to deal with influenza cases.

2. Officers were deputed to Bombay, Calcutta and Madras to study the situation in ports and to act in close liaison with the State authorities to prevent the entry and spread of the disease.

3. All airport and seaport health authorities were ordered to quarantine and isolate passengers arriving from abroad and who were suffering from influenza. Passengers not suffering from the disease were to be given surveillance forms and asked to

report to the nearest medical authority for a period of five days after entry into India. The names of the passengers with their addresses were also ordered to be sent to the nearest medical authorities.

4. Influenza has been declared as an infectious disease under the Indian Port Health and the Indian (Aircraft) Public Health Rules.

5. One ship from Singapore, S. S. Rajula, with about 1,600 passengers and 200 crew arrived in Madras at 1 A.M. on the 16th May 1957. The Government of India have taken steps to place this ship under quarantine and to prevent its entry into Madras Port. 44 cases of active influenza were on board the ship on its arrival. A team of 30 medical officers and 70 other health personnel totalling about 100 people boarded the ship immediately after its arrival and rendered all medical assistance. Measures for treating cases and isolating them on board the ship have been taken. Steps have also been taken to supply the passengers with food and water.

6. Arrangements have been made for the evacuation of cases which are acutely ill and which require special attention not available on board the ship.

7. Arrangements have been made with the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, to isolate the virus from the infected cases in India and possible steps have been taken for producing on a small scale a vaccine against the actual virus. It is estimated that it will take about four weeks to produce about 1,000 doses of influenza vaccine from this strain of virus.

I should also like to add, to bring the information up-to-date, that we have received a report as of yesterday that the position after 19th May, 1957 was that about 79 cases of influenza were on board the ship, that 17 new cases occurred on 19th May and that three doctors and seven nurses of the medical team who went to render medical aid have also contacted the disease. Arrangements have