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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 2nd December, 1954

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12 NOON.

MESSAGE FROM THE RAJYA SABHA

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of the Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha. I am directed to enclose a copy of the Tea (Amendment) Bill, 1954, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th November, 1954".

TEA (AMENDMENT) BILL

**Secretary:** Sir, I lay the Tea (Amendment) Bill, 1954, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, on the 30th November, 1954, on the Table of the House.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SHORTAGE OF MAIDA FLOUR IN MADRAS

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem):** Under Rule 215, I beg to call the 524 LSD

attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

Acute shortage of and rise in price of maida flour, an article of food, in Madras city and suburbs for the last ten days.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishappa):

Madras city and its suburbs are in the free zone which also includes, amongst others, the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal and Madhya Bharat, where the wheat supply position is satisfactory and traders in Madras can purchase wheat freely from these States, either for sale of wheat as such, or for conversion into maida. Maida manufactured from imported wheat can also move freely on private account from Bombay, Calcutta and other areas into Madras. Temporary fluctuations in prices can always occur, where free movement on private account is allowed, for reasons other than any shortage in supplies, and, therefore, the recent temporary fluctuations in the price of maida in Madras should not be taken to imply any shortage of supplies. Government have, however, taken necessary steps to ensure that further supplies are moved to Madras within the shortest possible time and are also watching the situation.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan (Cannanore):** I had sent in notice of a motion under Rule 215 on...

**Mr. Speaker:** It will come in due course, if it is admitted.