

Government propose to take against these factories engaged in this nefarious task?

Dr. D. S. Raju: No special machinery is necessary to find out those factories. We have got the machinery which is already existing, and we are going to strengthen this machinery.

Shri Hari Vishna Kamath: It is a serious matter, Sir, and I seek your protection. It is a question of poisoning of the population on a mass scale. The hon. Deputy Minister says that no machinery is necessary for this purpose. How can our people exist then?

Mr. Speaker: What the hon. Deputy Minister means to say is that there is an adequate machinery already, and no extra machinery is needed just at present.

Shri Hem Barua: What action has been taken against those factories?

Mr. Speaker: A separate question might be put. The Deputy Minister is not ready with that information.

Dr. D. S. Raju: I said that we are strengthening the present machinery.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : श्रीमन्, कुछ रोज पहले स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने इस सदन में इस आशय का आश्वासन दिया था कि चूँकि जांच करने के लिये काफी संख्या में इन्स्पेक्टर नहीं हैं, इसलिये खाने की चीजों में मिलावट होती है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने अभी तक कोई कदम उठाया है कि काफी संख्या में इन्स्पेक्टर बहाल किये जायें। यदि नहीं, तो देर का क्या कारण है ?

Dr. D. S. Raju: For instance, in Delhi, they had 14 food inspectors, but now they are being increased to 24. That is how we are strengthening the inspecting staff.

श्री शिव नारायण : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पायजनस फूड बेचने वालों में से कितनों पर मुकदमे चलाये गए हैं।

Mr. Speaker: How many have been prosecuted so far?

Dr. D. S. Raju: I can give the figures for 1961-62. During a period of nine months between 1st July, 1961 and 31st March, 1962, about 11,005 samples have been analysed, and in 1352 cases a fine of Rs. 3.43 lakhs was collected, and 108 persons have been convicted.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: It was stated here in this House that because of lack of facilities for laboratory tests these adulterated things were not being tested properly. May I know whether any efforts have been made to make arrangements for more and more laboratory tests?

Dr. D. S. Raju: Steps are being taken. Two more laboratories are being established in Delhi, that is, analytical, laboratories.

Dr. Sarojini Mahishi: Has it been brought to the notice of Government that there are certain specialised shops which deal in commodities which are helpful in adulteration of food?

Dr. D. S. Raju: It has not come to my notice.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: There is a general feeling among the people that the punishments awarded in courts for adulteration cases are very little. What is the maximum punishment given?

Dr. D. S. Raju: In the new amendment, the punishment has been made more severe. Conviction is being made compulsory. It ranges from 4 months to two years.

कोसी नदी की धारा को मोड़ना

*६३४. श्री योगेन्द्र झा : क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोसी नदी की मुख्य धारा को बराज हो कर मोड़ने में सफलता मिल गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो दोनों तटबन्धों के बीच बसने वाले लोगों की स्थिति में इससे क्या फर्क पड़ेगा ?

सिचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री के सभा-सचिव (श्री सं० प्र० मेहदी) : (क) हां, हां। कोसी नदी का कोसी बराज से व्यवर्तन १८ फरवरी, १९६३ को आरम्भ कर दिया गया था और इसे ३१ मार्च, १९६३ को सफलतापूर्वक पूर्ण कर दिया गया।

(ख) इससे पूर्व कि दो तट-बन्धों के बीच रहने वाले लोगों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ सकता है इसको आंका जा सके; नदी के बहाव को अगले दो अथवा तीन सालों तक और खाम कर बाढ़ों के दिनों में देखना आवश्यक होगा।

[(a) Yes, Sir. The diversion of the Kosi river through the Kosi Barrage was started on the 18th of February, 1963 and successfully completed on the 31st of March, 1963.

(b) The behaviour of the river will need to be observed for the next two or three years, specially during floods, before an assessment could be made of the effect of diversion on the people living between the two embankments.]

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

Catering Contracts in Constitution House

S.N.Q. 5. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of Estates recently invited tenders for catering in Constitution House;

(b) the number of tenders received, together with the details of rates quoted by each tenderer;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in the matter;

(d) if so, which tender has been accepted; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes.

(b) Five.

(c) Yes.

(d) The lowest tender has been accepted.

(e) Does not arise.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know why for catering in Constitution House tenders were first invited in November last, then no decision was taken in the matter, and fresh tenders were again invited last month, that is, in March, and why it was that the old contract was extended from month to month on an *ad hoc* basis without taking any final decision on the tenders received?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: For the simple reason that we were rather in a period which was emergency... (Interruptions). Yes, yes. Our intention then was to convert Constitution House into a sort of hostel for outsiders or for government servants. I had then personally requested and asked the 14 MPs living there if they would like to move to Western Court where accommodation would be provided to them; I also told them if they wanted to go anywhere else, accommodation could be made available to them somewhere else too. That was the main idea.

Now the intention is that we might carry on with the present arrangement for about 6 months more because Constitution House may be demolished and rebuilt. We may have a new plan there. That is all under consideration.

So, we have accepted the lowest tender now.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know what is the position—I would request you to throw some light on it if the Minister cannot—in regard to tenders, when tenders are invited, they are received, and no decision is