

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: May I know whether this test can be applied only to detect the admixture of cow's milk with buffalo's milk or to other admixtures also viz. of cow's milk with goat's milk or sheep's milk?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Buffalo's milk by adulteration is being sold as cow's milk. In fact, it is to avoid this that this test is used. Even if buffalo's milk is mixed to the extent of 1 per cent it can be detected by this process.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether the test will be fruitful if sufficient water is added to buffalo's milk and the milk is lighter, so that it may appear like cow's milk?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Even for that case, this test will be useful.

Fire in Cargo Ship

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*284. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cargo ship, "the State of Maharashtra" caught fire at the Alexandra Docks in Bombay on or about the 25th December, 1963;

(b) if so, the damage suffered in the accident; and

(c) the cause of the fire?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A preliminary enquiry into this accident is in progress to find out the cause and the damage involved.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when the preliminary enquiry was started and when it is expected to conclude its deliberations?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I cannot exactly give the date as to when it was started. But it will be completed by the end of this month.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether there is somebody like the Inspector of Railways who carries out the enquiries in the case of railway accidents or some *ad hoc* committee has been appointed in order to conduct this enquiry?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Enquiries are conducted under the Merchant Shipping Act by the mercantile marine department. It is in pursuance of this that this enquiry has been initiated. The accident occurred on 25th December 1963 and the enquiry must have started in the month of January.

Forest Wealth

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*285. { **Shri D. D. Puri:**
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) how far Vanamahotsav campaigns have helped increase the forest wealth of the country;

(b) how long Government propose continuing such campaigns; and

(c) the annual cost of the campaign?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shinde): (a) The Vanamahotsav campaign is helping a great deal in increasing the forest wealth of the country by persuading people to plant as many trees on the occasion as possible.

(b) As we are deficient in regard to the area under forest, it is necessary to continue the Vanamahotsav campaign for a long time.

(c) The information is being collected from States/Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when received.

Shri D. D. Puri: May I know whether the Government have assessed the results of this campaign, particularly as to the survival ratio of the trees after one, two and three years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): We are getting reports from the State Governments and we have got reports from 1950 to 1960, for a period of 11 years, there were 41 crores of trees planted and about 50 per cent have survived.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Since this campaign was started may I know how many times the Central Government have followed it up, so that we may know what percentage of the trees planted are still surviving?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have given special instructions that it should be followed up and all care should be taken in the matter like watering and other things. In fact, having regard to the magnitude of the campaign, even 50 per cent survival is a good record.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : जनना गरीबी के कारण पिछले लगे बागात को लगातार काट रही है. और पिछले लगे बागात करीब करीब खत्म हो चुके हैं। क्या नये बागात उम कमी को पूरा कर रहे हैं या नहीं ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Swaran Singh): It is true that certain trees are being cut from certain gardens. But plantations are also going on, even in U.P., to which State the hon. Member belongs.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : जितने कटे हैं उतने लगाए गए हैं या नहीं ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : यह कहना कठिन है कि उतने लग रहे हैं या नहीं, मगर लोग लगा रहे हैं ।

श्री बड़े : वन महोत्सव में जितने पेड़ लगाए जाते हैं उन में से कितने रहते हैं क्या उन की संख्या नैकस्ट इयर मालूम की जाती है ? क्या कभी शासन ने इस का विश्लेषण किया है या नहीं ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : इस की जांच तो पूरी होती है। मैं इस बात की जानकारी के लिये एक छोटी सी किताब सभा पटल पर रख

दूंगा, उस में यह सारी जान कारी दी गयी है [पुस्तकालय में रखी गई। देखिए संख्या एल० टी०-२३६४/६४]

Shri P. K. Deo: In spite of our anxiety to augment the forest wealth by Vanmahotsav, may I know whether it is a fact that large-scale denudation of forests in various river valleys, especially the Mahanadi Valley, on the plea of rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees, has been going on thereby aggravating the flood situation and soil erosion there?

Shri Swaran Singh: One has to strike a balance between the overall requirements. In certain parts the areas will have to be cleared of forests so that the land might be brought under cultivation. The particular object mentioned by the hon. Member is one about which concern has been expressed from all sections of this House, that we should do something for rehabilitating the refugees from East Pakistan. Therefore, if certain areas have been brought under cultivation by cutting down the forests, that is part of the overall requirements, and I think we should not grudge it. I agree that, on the whole, we should try to preserve the forests as much as possible, but overriding considerations of this nature cannot be ignored.

Dr. Sarojini Mahishi: In addition to free supply of seedlings and fertilisers, may I know if any other incentive is also given to do the follow-up work after plantation?

Shri A. M. Thomas: No other particular incentive is offered, except that the people's consciousness should be roused so that the follow-up work is also done after planting.

श्री प० सा० वारूपाल : क्या यह सही है कि वन महोत्सव केवल एक रस्म बन कर रह गया है, जो वन लगाए जाते हैं उनको रक्षा नहीं होती, और जो पुराने वन हैं उनको बेरहमी से काटा जाता है और उसकी रोकथाम सरकार की ओर से नहीं हो रही है ?

Shri Shinde: It is not true. In fact, it has great educative value as well as even practical value. It is bearing results.

Shri D. J. Naik: May I know whether any afforestation work has been undertaken in the denuded areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat under the Vanmahotsav Scheme?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is altogether a different question. Afforestation programmes are being taken up by both the Centre and the States. That is done under the Forest Policy programme.

Shri Kapur Singh: May I know what steps, if any, Government are taking or propose to take to separate solid work from showmanship in the Vanmahotsav?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, showmanship is also to a certain extent necessary. Unless there is some propaganda how can we create interest in the people? In fact, there must be consciousness among the people about protection of trees, preservation of forests and other things. People must have some love for the trees.

Shri Kapur Singh: I mean photographing of V.I.Ps. at the time of Vanmahotsav (*Interruption*).

Dr. Ranen Sen: During the last world war the forests in the Himalayan foothills, particularly in north Bengal and near about Bengal, were completely denuded. May I know what steps have been taken to plant trees in those areas which were denuded during the second world war?

Shri Swaran Singh: The hon. Member will bear with me when I say that that is purely a State subject. Afforestation of a particular part is a State subject. If he is interested, he may table another question and I shall collect the information from the State Government.

Supply of bad Sugar

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*287. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Dr. P. N. Khan:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that some of the Consumer Co-operative Societies of Delhi including the M.P.s' Consumer Co-operative Society supplied poor quality of sugar mixed with dust in December, 1963;

(b) if so, from where this kind of sugar was purchased; and

(c) the price paid for this sugar and the price at which this was sold to the consumers?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shinde): (a) No, Sir.

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

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that the sugar that was received from the M.P.s' Consumer Co-operative Stores had certain sediments? Has it not been reported to the hon. Minister?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): In fact, no complaint has reached us saying that there has been any dirt found in the sugar supplied by the M.P.s' Cooperative Society.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether there is any machinery whereby the Government, when it supplies sugar, tests whether the sugar is sold in a refined form or in an adulterated form?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, the entire production is under our control. We release the entire sugar according to the requirements of each State on the basis of fixed quotas. The sugar that is manufactured should conform to certain standards.