

**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.

Subsequently, if there is any adulteration we do not know. We have not got any case of adulteration which has been brought to our notice.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether it is a fact that not only in Delhi but even in U.P. the Central Government supplied bad sugar and even though the State Government of U.P. rejected it by saying that it will not take the supply, the Central Government compelled it to take the sugar which was bad?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** We do not know anything about it.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the Government did make an enquiry as to whether bad sort of sugar was supplied somewhere in Delhi, including in the M.P.s' Co-operative Society?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I do not think the Government need make any enquiry. If such a thing had happened, it would have come to our notice.

#### Theft of Explosives

\*289. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1804 on the 17th December, 1963 regarding theft of explosives from a Sealed Railway wagon and state:

(a) whether by the term 'outsiders' is meant Pakistani infiltrants;

(b) whether the operation of Pakistani espionage or any subversion ring was discovered or suspected during the investigation;

(c) if so, the counter measures taken or proposed to be taken; and

(d) what progress in the trial of the four outsiders and one railway employee has been made to-date?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) and (b). No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The case is *sub judice* in the court at Gauhati.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** The answer to (a) is "No", if I heard it aright. But they have used the word "outsiders" in the previous answer. So, what exactly is meant by the term "outsiders" in this context?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Outside the railway service.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** It is a fact that in this particular investigation the Assam State Police and the local railway police did not pursue the investigation effectively and properly and, if so, are there grounds for the widespread suspicion that certain elements in the State Cabinet as well as the Chief Secretary and the IG of Police did interfere with this investigation adversely?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** I do not know whether it is a question or a lecture, but the point is this.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** I could not follow. What did he say?

**An Hon. Member:** It is a lecture.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Is it a lecture? Sir, it is a reflection on you. You must pull him up. What did he mean by saying "lecturing"?

**Mr. Speaker:** How can I do that unless I am given an opportunity? Let him resume his seat. Then only I can do it. Now, when a question is asked, it is rather unfair to say that it is not a question but a lecture.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** I am sorry. It was long and I could not follow it.

**Mr. Speaker:** If hon. Members show respect to each other, then only they would be respected outside.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** I am sorry. The point is that it was not merely investigated by the local police but the matter was taken up by the Central Intelligence also and the report is based upon what is given by the Central Intelligence.