

क़वम उठा रही है या उनके नकारात्मक उत्तर देने के बाद ही यहां से अधिकारी भेजे जाते हैं ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत: मैंने यह नहीं कहा कि वह काम नहीं कर पाते हैं। मैंने कहा कि जब भेजे जाते हैं तो उन बातों का क्याल किया जाता है कि जो हमारे वहां दूतावास हैं उन से ही यह काम हो सकता है या यहां से भी प्रादमी भेजने की जरूरत है और अगर इसकी जरूरत समझते हैं तो हम भेजते हैं।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether it is a fact that there is some complaint in some quarters that in sending certain delegations abroad in some cases the deserving officers, people with seniority and all that are bypassed by the manoeuvrability of some officers who are not normally justified for holding that job and going abroad?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: They are, as I said, very carefully screened. So there should not be any such complaint.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know how many officers are accompanied by their wives. If they go singly on official work, how many wives follow them and when do their grown-up children follow them who later on get scholarships from the respective governments?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: No officers are accompanied by their wives when they go with these delegations.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us go to the next question. The information is being collected. I should not have allowed even a single question, but I have allowed many.

Shri Ranga: Sir, I rise to a point of order.

In reply to the question put by Shri Venkatasubbaiah whether officers out of their proper turn and seniority had been chosen to accompany these delegations, the only answer given by the Minister was

that they are very carefully screened and therefore such a thing should not happen. That is not a proper answer at all. What the House would expect the hon. Minister to say is that such a thing would not be done hereafter. We want an assurance with regard to that matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said that they will be screened.

Shri Ranga: Even with the screening it has happened.

Shri B. E. Bhagat: I do not accept that allegation. What I said is the correct answer, I said that they are carefully screened and therefore there should be no such complaints. But if the hon. Member has some instance, let him come out with it and I will examine it. But I cannot accept such a vague question (*Interruptions*).

Rodent Control Committee

*660. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some time back, Government constituted a Committee to consider the problem of Rodent Control and to take effective measures in that direction; and

(b) if so, how far this Committee has been successful in the achievement of its object?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government has set up a Committee to consider the problem of rodent control in all its aspects.

Information regarding the existing organisation and measures adopted for control of rodents in the different parts of the country is at present being gathered and compiled. The work involved is very extensive. What further measures need to be taken for effective rodent control can be considered on receipt of the Committee's recommendations. The Committee is expected to submit its report by the end of March, 1968.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: It is said by eminent scientists and experts that God has not created life in vain, that all His creatures have a certain function to perform in his scheme of things, and that nature automatically keeps a balance between them, and that balance should not be upset by human beings. May I know whether the hon. Minister of Health agrees with this view and, if so, would not any act on the part of Government in the direction of rodent control upset that balance of nature?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is entering into philosophy.

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): I have no desire to enter into an exchange of opinion on the subject. All that I can say is that rodents at the present moment are a source of great damage to our food-grains and endanger health of the people. So, we have to do something about controlling them.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Has any assessment been made to find out the total rodent population in the country?

Shri P. S. Naskar: It is very difficult to find out the rodent population in the country. Recently I met an expert of WHO and he also told me that it is not possible to guess the number of rodents in any given area of a country. The National Institute of Communicable Diseases has published a pamphlet where it has said that the rodent population is about six times the existing human population in the country.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is there any truth in a recent press report—perhaps by the National Institute; I am not sure—that there are round about 5,000 million rats in our country? And even if the figure be different, is it a fact that rats have multiplied so fast, either because our cats have become lazy, ease-loving, may be even non-violent, or because the cat population has not kept pace with that of rats and, if so, has the

Committee been asked to go into this matter of cats also?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How does any Committee come into the picture?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The Government say that they have set up a Committee. Will it deal only with rats and other rodents or with cats also?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I have not been able to follow the question. The rat population is estimated to be...

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Sir, may I repeat the question, because she has not heard it? She was not attentive perhaps.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Recently, there was a press report that there are round about 5,000 million rats in our country. Even if that figure be different, is it a fact that the rats have multiplied so fast either because our cats are ease-loving, lazy, maybe even non-violent, or because the cat population has not kept pace with that of rats? If so, has the Government got any scheme with regard to cats also?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: So far as the estimates of rats are concerned, it is said that the population of rats may be something like 2,400 millions. It may not be an exact number, like the human census, but it is a fair approximation. There are certain methods like counting the rat droppings, closing rat holes at one end and counting the number of rats in that hole after cynagassing etc. that these estimates are based on. As for the balance between cats and rats, I am not in a position to say anything. We have no scheme for increasing the number of cats.

श्री विजयसिंह विश्व : माननीय सदस्य, श्री कामत ने कहा है कि बिल्लियाँ बरों में चूहों को पकड़े। लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि वो चूहे हमारे कमरों में रहते हैं और

हमारी क्रसलों को खा जाते हैं, क्या सरकार ने उन के बारे में कोई इलाज किया है।

डा० सुशीला नायर : उन्हीं चूहों का इलाज करने के लिये यह विचार-विनिमय हो रहा है।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : मंत्री महोदय ने चूहों के कुछ फ़िगर्स दिये हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने चूहों की गिनती किस तरह की है।

डा० सुशीला नायर : मैंने अभी निवेदन किया है—माननीय सदस्य ने शायद उस वक्त ध्यान नहीं दिया—कि चूहों की इर्षागञ्ज (मेंगों) से कुछ घन्टाखा लगाया जाता है। इस के प्रलावा उन के बिलों को, रेट-होल्ड को, एक तरफ से बन्द कर के उस में गैस बगीरह लगा कर गिनती करते हैं कि कितने चूहे मरते हैं और कितने निकलते हैं।

Shri Basappa: May I know whether Government is aware of the growing disease of elephantiasis in the South Kanara District....

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: That will be on the next question.

Shri D. C. Sharma: While we are eradicating these rats, shall we keep due proportion or balance between male rates and female rats?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Shri Hem Barua.

Shri Hem Barua: Since, according to the hon. Minister, the rat population is multiplying very fast in this country, may I know if our Government proposes to introduce and organise family planning among rats?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Shri Berwa.

श्री झोंकार लाल बेरवा : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान के बीच जो बार्डर है, क्या पाकिस्तानी चूहे को क्रस कर के हमारी ओर आ रहे हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री कपूर सिंह।

श्री झोंकार लाल बेरवा : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस प्रश्न का "येस" या "नो" में जबाब तो मिलना चाहिए।

Shri Kapur Singh: The concluding portion of part (a) of the question justifies the supplementary as to whether there is substance in the impression that this committee has been entrusted with the task of actual destruction of rodents in the land. Or, has it merely been asked to report on how to do so?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: The committee will only submit its report as to the extent of the problem, and suggest the ways and means of dealing with it in an effective manner. The committee cannot be expected to implement the control scheme.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: Is there any truth in press reports that the rat eradication programme—the cost incurred thereon by many municipalities—worked out at a rate of Rs. 100 per rat catch?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: There is no basis for such a report. It is completely wrong.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: My submission is that there are other very important questions. We have had enough of questions on this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

डिमेरिया, मलेरिया और हाबीपाच रोगों का उन्मुलन

†

श्री ज० सा० द्विवेदी :
श्रीमती साध्वी निगम :
श्री स० च० सामन्त :
श्री सुबोध हंसवा :
डा० महादेव प्रसाद :
श्री किशोर लाल :
श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय :

*661.