

(a) whether it is a fact that a fishing vessel of Mercantile Marine Bombay *Kalyani* No. V, sailed on the 15th July, 1965 or thereabout from Sassoon Dock, Bombay Port;

(b) whether it subsequently cap-sized or was somehow lost; if so, when and in what circumstances;

(c) what happened to the crew;

(d) whether an inquiry was held in the matter; and

(e) if so, with what result?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Transfer of I.A.C. Staff

*1738. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between the I.A.C. and its staff regarding the policy of transfers between stations, and particularly, from regional headquarters to outstations;

(b) if so, whether such agreement is also in effect in the Eastern Region;

(c) whether complaints have been received from Calcutta-based staff that large scale transfers are taking place in violation of the terms of the agreement; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) Transfers are regulated by an agreement with the staff Union, which is in force since 1956.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Famine Conditions in Hissar

*1739. **Shri Himmatshahi:**
Shri Narasimha Reddy:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether acute famine conditions are presently prevailing in Hissar District of Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the local authorities have asked for immediate Central assistance to tide over the present difficulties; and

(c) the action, if any, taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) No, Sir. Only scarcity conditions due to the drought of 1965 are prevailing in the Hissar District.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Vanaspati

*1740. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an acute shortage of vanaspati and other edible oil has arisen recently, particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the prices of vanaspati and other edible oils have also shot up;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the regulations enforced by Government to see that manufacturers and trade do not exploit the situation every now and then?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There have been reports regarding shortage of edible oils including vanaspati and rise in prices.

(c) The rise in price is due to the shortfall in production as a result of

late, uneven and inadequate rainfall in most parts of the country during 1965.

(d) Government are watching the situation and are considering remedial measures.

Supreme Court Judgment in Barium Chemicals Limited Case

*1741. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri D. D. Mantri:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the implications of the Supreme Court's judgement in the Barium Chemicals Limited case for the administration of Company Law;

(b) whether they have also studied its impact on the Government's attitude to the allegations made in the Memorandum submitted to the President by some M.Ps; and

(c) If so, the conclusions reached in respect of (a) and (b).

The Minister of Law (Shri G. S. Pathak): (a) Yes.

(b) The Supreme Court has held that there was no malafide on the part of the former Finance Minister. It is not for me to say anything beyond the legal aspect of the case.

(c) The only ground on which the Supreme Court allowed the appeal is that by majority judgment they held that in making the impugned order the Board had acted on material extraneous to the matters mentioned in Section 237 (b) of the Companies Act. This aspect of the matter is under examination with a view to decide what further action is necessary in this case.

Payment of Cane Price to Growers

*1742. **Shri Sivamurthi Swamy:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture,

Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received from the sugarcane cultivators of Hospet, Bellary District regarding pending payment of two and half lakhs of the ryots with the Indian Sugar and Refineries Ltd., Hospet since last season;

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take to regularise the payment; and

(c) how much is pending with the Hospet factory about the bonus rates to be paid to the cultivators for previous period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) By "bonus rates" the Hon'ble Member presumably refers to the additional sugarcane price payable for the years 1958-59 to 1961-62. The rate of additional cane price for 1958-59 has been determined at Rs. 5.71 per long ton according to the Order of the Sugarcane (Additional) Price Fixation Authority. The factory has, however, filed a writ petition in the Mysore High Court and has obtained a stay order. No additional cane price is due for the year 1959-60. The additional price due for the years 1960-61 and 1961-62 has not yet been determined in view of the stay order.

Import of Foodgrains

*1743. **Shri Linga Reddy:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state the quantity of foodgrains received from U.S.A. and other countries so far with a view to tide over the present food crisis in the country?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community