

Shri Manubhai Shah: There was only a very temporary lull for clarification of the rupee arrangement. That has been got over and all the East-European countries have agreed to the new arrangement. Trade is not likely to fall, on the other hand it is likely to increase.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that the total quantity or the total volume of our trade with these countries has not suffered at all due to devaluation.....

Shri Manubhai Shah: Your assumption is correct.

Shri P. C. Borooah: The hon. Minister just now said that tea is one of the articles exported to Bulgaria and Rumania. This article is facing stiff competition in world market and it is almost being priced out. May I know whether any subsidy has been given to this item, particularly, to push this item in these two countries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No special assistance is announced. The general policy of assistance which has been laid on the Table of the House applies to all countries irrespective of destination.

Unwholesome Food served in Canteens on Railways

+

- *373. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Dr. M. M. Das:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of serving of unwholesome food by the departmental canteens on the Indian Railways have increased;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to find out the causes thereof; and

(c) the measures contemplated to improve the working of the canteens?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Sustained attention continues to be paid to see that catering establishments at stations and on trains serve food of good quality. The steps taken include procurement of raw materials of good quality, posting of efficient cooks, training of staff, and Refrigeration/insulation arrangements where necessary. Supervision by Commercial and Medical Officer and Inspectorial staff and members of non-official Committees has also been intensified.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि जो ट्रेनों में इस वक़्त खाना मिलता है उस में से बर्दाश्त आती है और जो चाय के लिए दूध आता है वह चार दिन पुराना होता है, उसमें कीड़े पकड़े जाते हैं ?

श्री शामनाथ : ऐसी बात तो नहीं है और न ऐसी कोई शिकायत आई है। जो शिकायत आयी है वह यह है....

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : यह शिकायत है।.... (ध्वनिमान)... हम लोगो ने यह एक्सपीरियेंस किया है अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस-लिए यह कंस कह सकते हैं ?

श्री शामनाथ : शिकायत जो अनुमन आती है वह चपातियों के मुताल्लिक होती है या राइस के मुताल्लिक होती है। यह दूध बगैरह की इतनी क्वालिटी खराब होने के मुताल्लिक कोई शिकायत हमारे पास तो आयी नहीं।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या कभी मिनिस्टर साहब ने देखा है कि जो खाना आता है, उसकी

सज्जियां चार चार दिन पुरानी होती हैं, उन में छौंक लगा कर देते रहते हैं, नतीजा यह होता है कि चार चार दिन पुरानी सज्जियां कोई खा ले तो बीमार हो जाता है।

श्री शामनाथ : आपने बताया है तो मैं जरूर देखूंगा, लेकिन हमारे पास ऐसी कोई शिकायत नहीं है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : इन क्रेन्टियों में, ग्रथ्यल महोदय, कभी पेट भर भोजन नहीं मिलता है, मेरे जैसे आदमी का तो पेट नहीं भरता है।

ग्रथ्यल महोदय : अगर किसी खास आदमी का पेट नहीं भरता है, तब तो उसका कोई चारा नहीं है, अगर आम तौर पर पेट नहीं भरता है, तब तो ठीक है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : वह इतना भोजन देते हैं कि उससे मुजारा ही नहीं होता है।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Britannia Biscuit Company

***361. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:**
Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the Britannia Biscuit Company was permitted to take a dollar loan from the Aid Fund of the World Bank;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have used this loan to import, rebuild and recondition machinery from their foreign parent Company in U.K.;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the U.K. Company holds 60 per cent interest in India;

(d) whether the U.S. loan will have to be repaid in U.S. dollars;

(e) what are their export earnings since the loan was sanctioned; and

(f) whether the biscuit industry is considered as a top priority industry in the Plans?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) Messrs. Britannia Biscuit Co. were permitted in May, 1965, to import a new plant from U.K. valued at Rs. 5 lakhs from out of a loan from the ICICI, for their Bombay unit, as the equipment was required by them in replacement of the plant installed 25 years ago.

(b) No. They were, however, allowed in July, 1965 to import a reconditioned plant and packing machinery valued Rs. 3,14,760 from U.K. out of a loan secured by them from that country for setting up a unit at Madras.

(c) No, their participation is 52 per cent.

(d) The ICICI have provided a foreign exchange loan upto the equivalent of U.S. \$108000 (about Rs. 5.10 lakhs pre-devaluation) out of the 6th line of credit from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. This has to be repaid in U.S. dollars.

(e) Their exports (excluding to Nepal) are:

1963	Rs. 3.86 lakhs
1964 ..	Rs. 4.80 lakhs
1965 ..	Rs. 4.95 lakhs
1966 ..	Rs. 4.49 lakhs

(January-August)

(f) No.

Chilean Nitrate of Soda

***363. Shri Mohammad Elias:**
Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price for Chilean Nitrate of Soda fixed by Government is Rs. 339 per ton and if so, how the same is being sold in the market at Rs. 2500 per metric tonne;