

There is a regular programme in the Third Five Year Plan to augment that thing, and it is expected that by the end of the Plan period we will have as many as 1000 buses plying on the various routes.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration proposes to take buses from Jammu and Kashmir and also U.P.?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That again, I would say, does not arise out of this limited question.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is it not a fact that we are manufacturing double decker buses in India; if so, may I know how this question has arisen of importing so many buses from outside?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think we have still to import some components and parts even for the manufacture of these buses.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that in Delhi there is only peak hour traffic during a very restricted part of the day, may I know whether the economics of double decker traffic has been properly examined before going in for this import?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In fact, the position is otherwise. Because we have certain points where traffic originates in spurts or, if I may say so, spasmodically, it is exactly for that purpose that at places like the Secretariat or other places we require double-decker buses to take away the traffic quickly.

Cattle Epidemic in Tripura

*512. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been an out-break of cattle-epidemic in Chhaienta, Tripura, causing deaths of many cattle;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to arrest this wide spread epidemic; and

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(c) whether Government propose to set up one permanent Veterinary dispensary with adequate staff therein?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) There has been no cattle epidemic in Chhaienta.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not at present at Chhaienta.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether the Government have received any representation from the people that there has been an outbreak of cattle diseases in the Chamanu area and that no medical aid is available there?

Shri S. K. Patil: It was not an epidemic. A few cattle died there, but later on it did not spread. Therefore I answered that it was not an epidemic, and that question does not arise now.

Chemical Fertilizers

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{ **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
*513. { **Shri Yajnik:**
 { **Shri P. R. Patel:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that sodium sulphate is passed off as genuine chemical fertiliser for Ammonium sulphate and sold on a large scale throughout India, especially in the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(b) whether any representations have been received by Government in this connection; and

(c) if so, action proposed by Government in this regard?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). Yes; complaints were received that Sodium Sulphate—a chemical—was being passed off as Ammonium Sulphate—a fertilizer—to the cultivators in the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(c) (i) With a view to enabling the State Governments to take legal

action against the culprits, the Fertiliser (Control) Order 1957 has been so amended that sale of any substance as a fertilizer which in fact is not a fertilizer, is an offence.

(ii) The State Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat have been requested to investigate the matter and bring the culprits to book. Investigations are in progress. In the meantime, the State Governments have apprised the cultivators of the malpractice and suitably instructed their inspection staff also.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Has there been any enquiry at any time by the Fertiliser Inspectors at Nadiad and other places; if so, may I know what was their report?

Shri S. K. Patil: There is no doubt that it was sold in a big way. In fact, we had received alarming reports that that was being done. That is why we have alerted the governments concerned, and also steps are being taken to see that those who were responsible for the offence are brought to book.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Is the Government aware that the use of sodium sulphate destroys not only the standing crops but it also renders the land un-usable for two or three years.

Shri S. K. Patil: It is very much so. Sodium sulphate does destroy the basic properties of the soil, and it is a dangerous thing to be used. Therefore, there must be deterrent punishments. But, unfortunately, what happens is, because a certain substance is sold we cannot punish a man. After all, a man has the right to have a chemical. But it has got to be proved that that chemical was taken as a fertiliser and used as a fertiliser in order that it can be brought within the compass of the law.

Shri Umanath: Has it come to the notice of the Government that one concern, namely, the National Chemical and Fertilizer Industries, Bombay, is dealing in this in lakhs and lakhs of tons. If so, what action has been taken against this particular concern?

Shri S. K. Patil: That is exactly the concern. The hon. Member has merely given us some additional information.

श्री ज० ब० सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह एनक्वायरी किसके जरिए हो रही है, उसको पुलिस कर रही है या कोई जुडोशियल एनक्वायरी हो रही है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : यह एनक्वायरी तो महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट कर रही है और मैं समझता हूँ कि महाराष्ट्र की सी० ग्राई० डी० इस को कर रही है ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the name of the particular film? Is it a fact that they indulged in this sort of thing in the past also?

Shri S. K. Patil: The name was given by the hon. Member. We do not know whether they were doing it before. But irrespective of whether they were doing it in the past or not, it is an offence.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : क्या वैज्ञानिक महानुभाव से यह परामर्श ले लिया गया है कि यह जो रासायनिक खाद है यह कुछ वर्ष के पश्चात् खेती के उत्पादन में बाधा पहुंचाती है ? अगर ऐसा है तो क्या गोबर की खाद जो यहां मुलभ भी है और उससे उत्पादन भी बढ़ता है, उसके बनाने की योजना पर विचार हो रहा है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : वह तो दूसरा सवाल है, इसका इस सवाल से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है ।

Shri Yajnik: Is it a fact that this sodium sulphate has been sold in very large quantities which has resulted in loss to the tune of crores of rupees to the farmers of Gujarat, Maharashtra and other parts of India also?

Mr. Speaker: He has answered it by saying that it has been done in a big way and enquiries are being made.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: May I know whether any companies or individuals

have actually been penalised for selling sodium sulphate as fertilizer?

Shri S. K. Patil: We have found out that the company, whose name has just been mentioned, has been doing so. They are proceeding against the firm. There are some legal difficulties. I do not want to explain that because the whole case is *sub judice* just now in a court of law.

Food and Agriculture Organisation of U.N.

514. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the U.N. has drawn out a programme for helping under-developed countries with huge quantities of surplus foods and some cash; and

(b) if so, how much aid is expected to be received by India under the programme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). A Statement is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

A 100 million dollar World Food Programme to be operated on an experimental basis for 3 years has been drawn up by the Food & Agriculture Organization to assist under-developed countries in (i) meeting emergency food needs and emergencies inherent in chronic malnutrition including the establishment of food reserves; (ii) assisting in pre-school and school feeding; and (iii) implementing pilot projects, using food as an aid to economic and social development, particularly when related to labour intensive projects and rural welfare.

The contributions to the Programme to be obtained on a voluntary basis will be mostly in food-grains. The cash component thereof will be utilised for meeting overhead expenses.

It is too early to indicate what India's share of the aid will be as the preliminaries connected with the implementation of the programme have not yet been completed.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know on what terms the Food and Agricultural Organisation is going to take the food-grains of the surplus country and on what terms it is going to give food-grains to the deficient countries?

Shri S. K. Patil: Some years ago we have made a suggestion on behalf of our country to the FAO that they should establish a food bank, the idea being that the surplus countries may place all their surplus grains at their disposal so that they can be advantageously used in the deficit countries. This is the first stage and 100 million dollars have been placed at the disposal of the FAO so that it should be taken further on.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know from which countries this aid is expected?

Shri S. K. Patil: 100 million dollars has been placed at the disposal of FAO by the USA. Surplus countries are those where food is surplus and deficit countries are equally better known.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether India will be benefited by this?

Mr. Speaker: India is a deficit country.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: May I know whether this pool will affect the bilateral agreements that have been entered into by India with other countries?

Shri S. K. Patil: It would not affect them, because under the agreements that have already been made, the contractual obligations have got to be fulfilled. It is a better state of affairs. If it is done and the whole surplus is pooled together—of course, not physically pooled; there are other ways of doing it—the distribution would be