

Fruit Preservers Licence

*998. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the small scale fruit preservers had stopped their business owing to the unreasonable licence fee;

(b) whether the licence fee from the whole-sale dealers and the small scale dealers is the same; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this matter?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir. On the other hand, the number of licences of small scale fruit preservers is on the increase.

(b) Yes, because under the present system, the licence fee is charged item-wise and the fees which a licensee has to pay depends on the number of items produced by him.

(c) The question of revision of the rates is under consideration of Government.

Shri Daljit Singh: May I know whether any representation has been made for the revision of these rates and the action taken thereon?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir; I believe a revision is contemplated as a result of the representation.

Shri Dasappa: May I know what the licence fee is?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is on a table. It is not separate for each State. The average licence fee for manufacturers using low power comes to about Rs. 67/-, and power up to 15 h.p. it is Rs. 485 and up to 25 h.p. it is Rs. 1078 with surcharge. This is proposed to be revised. Rs. 67/- is proposed to be brought down to Rs. 40/- and Rs. 485 to Rs. 80 plus Rs. 80 and Rs. 1078 to Rs. 250. But, we are between the Devil and the Deep Sea. On the one hand, the manufacturers want less to be levied and, on the

otherhand, the Finance Ministry asks us to make it self-supporting, which we find very difficult to do.

श्री ज० सि० दासपाः क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि फ्रूट जूसिंग को निकालने के लिये और शुद्ध फ्रूट जूसिंग को बाटल करने के लिए कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था की जा रही है या किसी कम्पनी को इस प्रकार की मदद दी जा रही है ?

डा० पं० डा० देसमुक्क : जहाँ जहाँ भी ऐसे फल तैयार होते हैं, हमारी कोशिश है कि वहाँ हम कुछ मदद दें, कुछ लोनस वगैरह दें और प्रगर कोऑपरेटिव वगैरह हो सके तो वह भी करें। यह सब प्लेन में मौजूद है।

Shri Dasappa: May I know how the question of self-supporting arises when it is merely question of licence fees?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The administration of the whole fruit preservation scheme requires a certain amount of staff and a certain amount of people to look after. That costs us about Rs. 2 lakhs and our intake is about Rs. 1,20,000.

Construction of National Highways

*999. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a portion of one of the proposed National Highways is to pass from Salamgarh in the Devria District (U.P.) through the North Western portion of Saran District (Bihar);

(b) if so, the broad outline of the route from the place of origin to the place of termination; and

(c) the progress made in the execution of the scheme so far?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (c). A statement is