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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 31st March, 1954

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The House met at Two of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOOD YEAST

*1432. **Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state :

(a) whether any experiments have been conducted with the food yeast supplied by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, with a view to popularising its use as a supplement to ordinary diet in the country; and

(b) if so, what were the results of these experiments?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 1.]

Shri Bahadur Singh: If this experiment proves advantageous, would the Government consider the necessity of providing yeast to all those people whose diet suffers from vitamin deficiency?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The Central Government carries out experiments in research and passes on the results of the research to the State Governments. It is for the State Govern-
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ments to see whether they can make use of the results of the experiment, and how.

Shri Bahadur Singh: Is the hon. Minister of Health aware that if yeast were supplied to States where prohibition exists, its supply would encourage illicit distillation?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a hypothetical question.

Shri P. C. Bose: What is this yeast produced from?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is not followed either by the Chair or the Minister.

Shri P. C. Bose: I wanted to know what is this thing food yeast, where it comes from—does it grow in India or it comes from abroad?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is sad that an hon. Member of this House should exhibit such ignorance about yeast.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know if it is under the contemplation of Government to manufacture yeast on a large scale and supply it at a cheap price?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This only relates to health.

Shri Dabhi: In the statement it is said that in the village Thana in U.P. some people were given this yeast, and afterwards when they were asked whether they would use it henceforward, they refused and said they won't. May I know whether it produces some undesirable effect on health?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: There are no bad or undesirable effects, but

because we are accustomed to a certain kind of taste, people do not like to take it.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, if a private agency comes forward to produce this yeast on a large scale and supply it at a cheap rate, whether Government will consider the offer?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a suggestion for action. Yeast is being eaten almost every day.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know if during the experiments it was discovered that to a certain percentage of persons it causes digestive upsets? If so, what was the percentage?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: This happened only in the case of 3 out of 21. The digestive trouble might not have been due to yeast, it might have been due to other causes. There is no evidence to show that yeast causes digestive trouble.

P. & T. TRAINING CENTRES

*1433. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the places where P. & T. Training Centres have been opened in India to train new recruits; .

(b) the number of recruits who received training in these Centres during 1953-54; and

(c) whether the Government of Nepal utilised such Centres for training their recruits during this period?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) On the telegraph side there is one Training Centre at Jabalpur and on the postal side there is one at Saharanpur.

(b) Between 1st April and 31st December 1953, 469 trainees passed out of the Tele-communication Training Centre at Jabalpur while 939 trainees were trained at the P. & T. Training Centre, Saharanpur, during the whole year 1953-54.

(c) No trainee of the Nepal Government was deputed to the Saharanpur

Training Centre. Two candidates sponsored by her under the Colombo Plan joined the Mechanics class at Jabalpur.

Sardar Hukam Singh: In the last report, we were told that there was a proposal to open other centres also. May I know the reasons for not opening those centres?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The main reasons were the lack of suitable accommodation, and also the finalisation of the financial schemes concerning these centres.

Sardar Hukam Singh: It has been pointed out in the Five Year Plan that these centres are intended to remove deterioration in the quality of service. In what respects has the efficiency or the quality of personnel been improved by these centres?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The training is essentially aimed at improving the efficiency of the working of the department. To the extent that we are sending out more and more of trained clerks, R.M.S. sorters and other officials, the efficiency in the services is improving.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know whether Government have considered the advisability of opening these centres on a regional basis?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes, that is what is contemplated. We are opening one in Madras for the Madras and Andhra Circles, one in Hyderabad for the Hyderabad and Central Circles, one in Bombay for its own purpose, and one in the Bihar Circle for the eastern region.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has already said that these centres have been opened on a zonal basis.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether many science graduates are working as clerks in post offices, and whether their training in these training centres has been arranged?