

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Yes, the reduced price of Milo is Rs. 13 per maund for bagged cargo, delivered ex-port/Central Storage Depots.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total amount paid as subsidy to keep down the price of milo?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Giani G. S. Musafir: Q. 666.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रश्न नम्बर ६६६, ६६७ और ६६९ एक ही विषय से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं। इसलिये इन को एक साथ ही ले लिया जाय।

[Seth Govind Das: Sir, questions Nos. 666, 667 and 669 relate to one subject and may, therefore, be taken together.]

मिस्टर स्पीकर : कौन से क्रमांक ?

[Mr. Speaker: Which question?]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : नम्बर ६६६, ६६७ और ६६९।

[Seth Govind Das: Nos. 666, 667 and 669.]

डाक्टर पी० ऐस० देशमुख : बहुत भाइली हो जायगा, साहब !

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It will become too oily, Sir.]

Mr. Speaker: Can all these be taken together?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no objection.

Mr. Speaker: Questions 666, 667 and 669 are being put now.

Vanaspatti (COLOUR)

*666. Giani G. S. Musafir: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government invited samples and formulae for suitable colours to be mixed in the vegetable ghee some time during the last five years?

(b) If so, how many such samples and formulae were received by Government?

(c) Was any of them approved?

(d) If so, how was the originator rewarded?

(e) What has been the main reason to drop the idea?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No.

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

VEGETABLE Ghee

*667. Giani G. S. Musafir: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state where does the question of colouring vegetable ghee lie?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The Committee, appointed by Government to examine the extent of adulteration of ghee with *vanaspatti* and other products and to suggest measures to eliminate or minimise adulteration with *vanaspatti*, has suggested that *vanaspatti* be coloured orange by using carotene oil concentrate as the colouring medium in addition to its latent colourisation with sesame oil. The recommendations of the Committee with regard to colourisation and other matters are under consideration of the Government of India.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member in whose name the question No. 669 stands is not present in the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may please make sure!

Vanaspatti

*669. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India appointed a Committee to inquire into the ways and means whereby a consumer may be able to easily detect and differentiate between genuine ghee and hydrogenated oil, and to prevent the adulteration and admixture of the said oil with genuine ghee;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report and what are its main recommendations; and

(c) what steps the Government of India has taken or contemplate to take by way of colourisation of the vegetable oil or otherwise to prevent its adulteration with genuine ghee?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Committee submitted its report to the Government on the 15th May, 1952. Its main recommendations are:—

(1) Total production of *Vanaspatti* in the country should be coloured orange by using carotene oil concentrate as the colouring medium;

(2) *Vanaspatti* should be fortified with synthetic vitamin 'A' so that its nutritive value could be increased;

(3) carotene oil concentrate is at present not produced in India; for the present it may have to be imported from abroad but efforts should be made to develop its production in the country so that the import of carotene from outside would gradually disappear; and

(4) the production of *vanaspatti* should be so controlled that every batch that leaves the factory is certain to contain the requisite amount of sesame oil to give a clear Baudouin Test.

(c) The report of the Committee is under consideration of the Government. The Government of India has, however, taken the following steps under the Vegetable Oil Products Control Order to check adulteration of *ghee* with *vanaspatti* :—

(1) *vanaspatti* is to be manufactured only in accordance with the quality specification laid down by the Central Government and it must contain not less than 5 per cent. of raw or refined sesame oil by weight but sufficient so that when the vegetable oil product is mixed with refined groundnut oil in the proportion of 20: 80, the red colour produced by the Baudouin Test shall not be lighter than 2.0 Red units in a 1 c.c. cell on a Lovibond scale;

(2) *vanaspatti* should not have the colour or flavour of *ghee* thus making it possible for any purchaser to distinguish it by sight and smell from *ghee*;

(3) the product should be packed and labelled in a specified manner to make it clear to any purchaser that it is not *ghee*;

(4) the *vanaspatti* should not be stocked or sold from the same premises in which *ghee* is stored or sold; and

(5) every dealer of *vanaspatti* should display a sign board to the effect that *vanaspatti* is sold in his shop.

گہائی جی - ایس - مسافر : رنگ
دیکھنے کے بارے میں سبکار کی آخری
رہنمائی کیا ہے -

[Ghani G. S. Musafir: What are the final conclusions that the Govern-

ment have arrived at on the issue of colourisation?]

श्री कर्मकर : सरकार आखिरी
राय बना रही है।

[Shri Karmarkar: The matter is still under consideration of the Government.]

Mr. Speaker: Government have not come to any conclusions yet.

Shri Karmarkar: It is under consideration, Sir.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it a fact that repeated assurances were given by Government that a decision on this matter would be expedited and, if so, may I know why there has been this delay of more than a year?

Shri Karmarkar: Government have been very anxious about this matter as the hon. Member might also be knowing. But the difficulty is of finding a suitable colour. There are certain colours which are deleterious to health. We cannot mix it with those colours. There are certain other colours which are non-deleterious to health but which are not good to the eye. With regard to using carotene, it involves Rs. 1 crore foreign exchange in the shape of importing carotene oil, if it is to be mixed. We are in a struggle and we are trying to get out of that struggle as soon as possible.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether this proposed colour will be capable of being decolourised by any process? What is the recommendation of the Committee on this point?

Shri Karmarkar: As regards the recommendation of the Committee I should like to have notice. But that is one of the difficulties. Certain colours disappear when subjected to heating. With regard to yellow colour the question of distinguishing it from *ghee* comes in. There are *bona fide* difficulties.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether it is the finding of the Committee that *vanaspatti* as at present manufactured is injurious to health?

Shri Karmarkar: On that point Government has come to the conclusion that it is not injurious to health.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री
जी को यह बात मालूम है कि देश का

अधिकांश मत इस बात के पक्ष में हैं कि रंग देने से कोई फायदा न होने के सबब से इस वनास्पति का जमाना ही बन्द कर देना चाहिए?

[Seth Govind Das: Is the hon. Minister aware that the consensus of public opinion is that not much good can accrue from colourisation of hydrogenated oils and that it is better to stop manufacture of all *Vanaspatis* instead?]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It need not be answered. It is not a question for information.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: The hon. Minister told us that he is struggling with the selection of colours. May I know whether *vanaspati* cannot be made colourless—is it not possible to produce *vanaspati* without colour?

Shri Karmarkar: That is the whole difficulty, Sir.

श्री झुनझुनवाला : मंत्री महोदय ने यह कहा कि गवर्नमेंट अभी इस बात का निश्चय नहीं कर पाई है कि वैजोर्टैबिल ची का खाना हेल्थ के लिए अच्छा है या बुरा, तो जब तक यह दो मत हैं क्या तब तक के लिए गवर्नमेंट इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि इस का खाना बन्द ही कर दिया जाय?

[Shri Jhunjunwala: The hon. Minister has stated that the Government have not reached any final conclusion on the issue whether *vanaspati* oils are beneficial or detrimental to health. May I know whether the Government will agree to stop its consumption altogether so long opinions differ on this point?]

Shri Karmarkar: The question arose some years back, and Government subjected *vanaspati* to all types of test. The results that were obtained and which are with Government show that *vanaspati* as such is not deleterious to health. The only problem is one of adulteration.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Government are quite clear and convinced of the fact that the use of *vanaspati* is not harmful to health. By repeated scientific and medical tests it has been found that *vanaspati* or its like has been used in three-fourths of the world and nobody has suffered from it.

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES

*668. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in which Post and Telegraph offices remain open (1) till 9 P.M. (2) day and night on (i) all working days and (ii) Sundays and other holidays;

(b) whether the measure has proved to be successful and advantageous to the general public; and

(c) the extra annual expenditure for running them?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) (1) 18 post offices in 11 cities are kept open up to 8-30 P.M. on all working days and Sundays, but excluding post office holidays. As regards telegraph offices, 1697 offices (i.e. Departmental Telegraph Offices, Combined Post offices and Licensed Telegraph Offices) are kept open up to 9 P.M. on working days and 1567 on Sundays and Holidays.

(2) No post office works day and night. 1067 Telegraph offices are kept open day and night on working days and 1038 telegraph offices are kept open day and night on Sundays and Telegraph holidays.

(b) The extension of the working hours of 18 post offices and keeping them open on Sundays have proved successful and popular

(c) Rs. 2,04,300 approximately for the 18 post offices.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बतलायेंगे कि इस सुविधा को बढ़ाने के लिए जो खर्च पड़ता है वह उस आमदनी के मुकाबले में बराबर है ?

[Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether the expenditure incurred on the extension of this facility compares favourably with the income derived therefrom?]

श्री राज बहादुर : इन से अधिक आमदनी तो होती है पर यह तो नहीं कहा जा सकता कि वह आमदनी केवल इन के खोले जाने से ही हो सकती है। जो कस्टम और ट्रेफिक आम तौर से आता है वह भी इन में आ जाता है। लेकिन फिर भी इन से नुकसान नहीं है।