

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : रिपोर्ट्स तो मेरे पास आती रहती हैं, लेकिन मेरे लिये यह कहना मुश्किल है कि कितने महीनों में आती है। लेकिन जहां जहां बी० सी० जी० वैक्सिनेशन होते हैं, वहां से मालूम होता है कि कितनों को वैक्सिनेट किया गया है। और जहां हम फालो अप कर सकते हैं वह भी किया जाता है।

[**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Reports I do receive but it is difficult for me to say after how many months they are received. The number of persons who are given B. C. G. Vaccination is made known from the places where they are vaccinated. We also follow up wherever we can.]

Shri B. Das: Is it necessary that the hon. Minister also should reply in Hindi when she speaks English so well?

Mr. Speaker: I think the choice is hers, and besides, it is better that the use of Hindi is extended more and more. After all, Members have to learn Hindi which is the State language now.

EMERGENCY CHILDREN'S AID FUND

*39. **Shri Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how much progress had been made by the Emergency Children's Aid Fund in India in the year 1951?

(b) How many children were fed with milk in 1951?

(c) What is the total amount spent in 1951 for feeding the children in India?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) There is no Emergency Children's Aid Fund in India. Presumably the hon. Member is referring to the health programmes initiated in this country with the help of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. A statement giving particulars of U.N.I.C.E.F. programmes in India is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 12.]

(b) Milk was received for distribution between July 1950 and December 1951. The total number of feeds given with this milk amounted to about 11.24 millions.

(c) The total amount of milk used on the feeding of children was 8.8 million pounds. The total cost of this

milk to U.N.I.C.E.F. was \$184,290. The cost of transportation, storage and distribution was met by the State Governments to whom the milk was allotted. Particulars of expenditure incurred in this connection by the State Governments are not available.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India contribute anything for this Fund?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: We do not contribute anything to any particular fund; but we do make a contribution to the U.N.I.C.E.F. as an organisation.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether any portion from this is utilised for the benefit of children of labourers in the factories?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes. Children of factory labourers are fed.

Shri Dhulekar: Is U.N.I.C.E.F. supply distributed on population basis or on any other basis to different States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: We make the distribution according to the demands from the States. I do not think it is done on the basis of population. Very often where there is distress in areas, for instance, like Bihar, Assam and Rayalaseema in Madras, we naturally send all that we have.

Shri Dhulekar: May I know how much money is distributed to each State?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Money is not given; milk is given. The information that the hon. Member wants is in the statement appended to the answer. If he wants any more information, I shall be glad to supply it.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether Government have received any report regarding the misuse of this milk supply by certain States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Not only have we not received any report regarding its misuse; but we have received letters of gratitude for the milk that is being distributed.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, if this is powdered milk imported from America or fresh milk supplied from cows here?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: This milk comes from America; it could only be powdered.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if the quality of the powdered article is as good as fresh milk, or it is inferior?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need go into it.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is certainly far better than the adulterated milk that we often get here!

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether it has come to the notice of Government that the agencies which are distributing the milk in Travancore-Cochin have been misusing it and that a lot of reports have appeared in the press regarding the misuse of the milk?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I won't allow the hon. Member to make *ex parte* allegations like those. Has he any personal knowledge about this? Has he investigated into it? If so, he may communicate to the Minister concerned, in case he is sure of his facts. As a responsible Member of Parliament.....!

Shri Velayudhan: I have got here press cuttings regarding the allegations.

Mr. Speaker: If he is not prepared to take responsibility for the facts, he has no business to put a question.

Shri Velayudhan rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nambiar: I want to put questions on several matters.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member should know that, every Member who desires to put a question cannot be given a chance. He is one of the five hundred. I am trying to distribute, as far as possible, opportunity of putting questions. But when I find that the same Member gets up over and over again on every possible subject, well, my impression becomes a little adverse, and I then think that I must give that chance to some other Member. The hon. Member's business is to stand up each time when he likes and to put a question when called upon—not otherwise.

Shri Nambiar rose—

Mr. Speaker: I do not want any argument; the hon. Member will take whatever lessons he wants from this.

RISE IN PRICES OF RATIONED ARTICLES OF FOOD

***40. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how the withdrawal of food subsidy has reacted on the price of rationed articles of food;

(b) in what States, on what articles of food and to what extent it has resulted in increase of prices; and

(c) what State Governments have taken steps against the rise of prices?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) This has resulted in an increase in the issue prices of rationed foodgrains except in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, where State Governments have maintained the issue prices prevalent before the withdrawal of the subsidy scheme.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See **Appendix I, annexure No. 13.**]

(c) As stated in answer to part (a), Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have maintained the previous issue prices. The Governments of Bombay and Mysore are selling milo below its economic cost.

Shri B. K. Das: From the statement I find that the rise in the price of coarse rice varies from State to State. While it is Rs. 11/15/- in the case of Bihar (Jamshedpur) it is Rs. -/10/- in the case of West Bengal. May I know the reasons for this divergence in the rise of prices?

Shri Kidwai: States sometimes procure rice and sometimes import it from other provinces, or even from abroad. Then they pool the prices and fix it according to their resources. Some may be paying some subsidy; some may be selling at the price at which it is procured.

Shri B. K. Das: In the case of wheat the rise is almost uniform. Am I to understand that this enhancement of Rs. 7 is the subsidy that used to be paid formerly?

Shri Kidwai: That may be so.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the Central Government is contemplating any change of policy in this matter?

Shri Kidwai: We are trying to see if we can reduce prices by procuring more local grains or otherwise. The matter is under consideration and I hope a decision will be taken soon.

Shri Dabhi: Is it a fact that the procurement prices of indigenous foodgrains of similar or superior quality are far lower than the prices of foodgrains imported from other countries?

Shri Kidwai: That is true, because the imported price is the price that is prevalent in the countries from which the wheat or rice is imported.