

12 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Delhi Milk Scheme

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SNQ. 9. {
 Shri Maheswar Naik:
 Shri H. C. Soy:
 Shri Shree Narayan Das
 Shri Ram Harakh Yadav:
 Shri Murli Manohar:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
 Shri P. B. Chakraverti:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Milk Scheme is facing the worst crisis of its existence because of the heavy drop in supply of milk from the rural collection centres;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the costly plants for manufacturing butter, ghee and ice-cream are lying almost idle owing to shortage of milk; and

(c) if so, what effective steps are being taken to meet the situation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). No.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether the attention of the Minister has been drawn to a press statement published in the *Hindustan Times* on the 7th instant under the caption, "DMS faces worst crisis. Milk Supply drops", and in which it is also stated that the milk supply has dropped from 5,500 maunds to 3,330 maunds or so?

Mr. Speaker: He can believe the one or the other: either the press or the Minister. He might choose between the two.

Shri Maheswar Naik: I want to know whether the attention of the

Minister has been drawn to it, whether it has been brought to his notice and whether it is true.

Shri A. M. Thomas: That newspaper report has come to my notice. In fact, during that week when the newspaper report appeared, we have purchased on an average 1,480 quintals of buffalo milk and 46 quintals of cow's milk, altogether 1,526 quintals of milk. We have handled, including toned milk, roughly 1,42,000 liters of milk. That would be roughly about 3,900 maunds of milk.

Shri Maheswar Naik: It is also stated in the same report that the official spokesman of the DMS had stated that the production of milk products has dwindled to a trickle. May I know whether there is any truth in that statement and, if so, how the shortage is being met?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That report is not correct. We have handled about 4,000 maunds. In fact, the quantity now being handled is 1,52,600 liters. It is true that due to flooding of large areas of Uttar Pradesh,—which contributes a large share of the milk supplies,—in September last and also as a result of havoc and destruction of fodder crop and also disease of animals, among the buffaloes and even cows our supply has been affected to some extent. Otherwise, we would have perhaps procured a larger quantity, because the target of milk handling, as far as the Delhi Milk Scheme is concerned, towards the end of the third Plan is 7,000 maunds of milk. It may not be possible to reach that because of these circumstances. Otherwise, we would have been able to show better progress.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know what is the total processing capacity of this plant and how much of it is being utilised and what are the factors for the target not being reached?

Shri A. M. Thomas: As I have already stated, there is progressive increase in the handling. In 1961-62, we

handled 86,000 liters. In 1962-63, we handled 1,15,000 liters. Now, we are handling, as I have already stated, about 1,42,000 liters or a little more, so that it is progressively increasing. As I have indicated, our target is 7,000 maunds by the end of the third Plan. It may be difficult to reach that also. There is capacity for the plant, but there are certain circumstances, such as transport difficulty and so on. We have to procure the necessary tankers for which foreign exchange has to be obtained. Due to all these circumstances, we are proceeding a little slowly. We want to consolidate and then grow.

Shri Nath Pai: Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a growing suspicion, often fortified by the unpalatable experience among the consumers of milk, that the milk that is served as pasteurised milk is very often a cocktail of cow's milk, buffalo milk and other unmentionable ingredients and sources?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Buffalo's milk is sold as buffalo's milk, cow's milk is sold as cow's milk and toned milk is sold as toned milk. The number of card-holders comes to 1,44,000. In stray cases there may be some complaint. But we are trying to see that such complaints do not arise.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: Delhi is in the heart of the Hariyana belt. May I know whether it is a fact that no cow's milk of Hariyana is brought to Delhi, but milk is collected from 270 miles—Bikaner—only. What does the hon. Minister propose to do in order to procure Hariyana milk?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member prefers Hariyana milk. Can he supply him?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We are in short-supply of cow's milk. We are trying to get cow's milk.

Mr. Speaker: He is not asking for cow's milk, but for Hariyana milk.

Shri A. M. Thomas: We are setting up some chilling centres in Punjab,

and I think larger quantities of Hariyana milk will come.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि थोड़ा बहुत दूध जोकि मिल्क सप्लाय का आता है वह कंज्यूमर्स तक पहुंचते पहुंचते ७२ घंटे लेट हो जाता है और दूध के सब विटामिंस मर जाते हैं, यदि हां, तो सरकार इस को दूर करने के लिए क्या कर रही है ?

Mr. Speaker: He says it takes 72 hours.

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is not correct. Due to inadequate supply from the supply regions which I have mentioned, namely U.P., perhaps sometimes it gets delayed. But 72 hours is not correct.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : जो दूध २०० मील की दूरी से आता है वह ७२ घंटे से पहले तो कंज्यूमर्स को मिल नहीं सकता है ।

श्री अचल सिंह : जो दूध बीकानेर से आ रहा था क्या वह आना बन्द हो गया है या अभी भी वह आ रहा है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : एक मेम्बर ने कहा कि दूध हरियाना से नहीं आता है और बीकानेर से आता है जबकि दूसरे मेम्बर साहब पूछ रहे हैं कि दूध बीकानेर से आना बन्द हो गया है या नहीं ।

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have not stopped; we are getting about 130 maunds of milk from Bikaner.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Goa Iron Ore Mines

*573. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pellets made out of iron ore fines from Goa mines have been found to be ideal for use in blast furnaces for iron-making;