

and research on food articles and to analyse food samples.

(b) During the year 1975, 1976 and 1977, 191, 516 and 440 samples of various foods respectively were analysed in the Laboratory. These samples include the research and standardisation work done on boiled milk, curd, katha, coffee, iodised salts and other miscellaneous products.

(c) The year-wise expenditure on the Laboratory during the last 3 years is as under:—

1975-76—Rs. 3,31,227.

1976-77—Rs. 3,84,489

1977-78—Rs. 4,26,029.

(d) The Laboratory was utilised for the purpose for which it was set up. The appellate laboratories also function as research and standardisation Laboratories in accordance with the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules made thereunder.

(e) The Joint Select Committee of Parliament in their report in 1976 suggested the establishment of more than one Central Food Laboratory for P.F.A. work as, in their view, one laboratory at Calcutta was not sufficient for the whole country. Thus, this laboratory was notified as one of the four Central Food Laboratories with effect from 1-4-1978.

Food Samples

3726. SHRI RAMDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of food samples lifted under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 has gone down since the implementation of the Act has been taken over by Delhi Administration due to the undue influence of the unscrupulous food traders;

(b) the number of food samples lifted in Delhi during the years 1975, 1976 and 1977;

(c) whether food inspectors appointed by the Central Government are also being discouraged for lifting food samples in Delhi due to the undue influence of those unscrupulous food traders;

(d) whether the food inspectors of the Ministry of Health had been directed not to exercise their powers given under section 10 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act outside Delhi, while they had jurisdiction throughout the country; and

(e) the measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) No.

(b) The number of food samples drawn in Delhi during the years 1975, 1976 and 1977 is as follows:

1975	3585
1976	1659
1977	322

(c) No.

(d) With a view to maintain cordial Centre-State relations, the Food Inspectors have been advised not to exercise their powers unless the State Governments so desire.

(e) Does not arise.

Checking of Imported Food Articles

3727. SHRI RAMDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure being adopted by the Port Health Officer under the Act to check imported food articles at Bombay, Kandia, Calcutta, Madras and other seaports and whether pro-