

Planters Association and the South Indian Association known as UPASI where the Tocklai Research Institute was proposed to be handed over to the Government of India and two branch institutions, one in the Duars and another in Madras, were proposed to be opened? What is the reaction of the Government to that?

Shri Satish Chandra: The matter is under consideration. Only a few days back Prof. M. S. Thacker, Secretary, Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, held a conference at which the representatives of the various tea associations and of the Tea Board were present. They discussed the matter and the present thinking is that a new organisation may be created to take over this Research Station and the one run by UPASI in the South. It may also open one in the Duars. The matter is under consideration. We have not arrived at any final conclusion so far.

Shri R. Narayanasamy: May I know whether the United Planters Association of Southern India, Coonoor, Nilgiris have applied for pecuniary aid for their needs and, if so, what has been the consideration of Government to their request?

Shri Satish Chandra: The UPASI are running a Tea Research Station in the South and the Government grant is already being given to them.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Where do the Tea Board come into the picture? Because, one of the functions of the Tea Board is to promote research in regard to tea. May I know whether the Tea Board has also considered this whole scheme and what their suggestions in regard to this are?

Shri Satish Chandra: The whole matter is being considered in consultation with the Tea Board. The Tea Board is fully represented in these discussions and several grants are being given from the Tea Board funds for carrying on research in tea Agronomy.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know if Government has any intention of setting up any research centre on tea of their own?

Shri Satish Chandra: No; Government is aiding the institutions, and the present thinking is that some separate organisation should be created which should take over these institutions. But the matter has not yet been finalised.

Shri Tangamani: Recently the UPASI has opened a Centre at Valparai. May I know whether the Research Station there and the Branch being opened at Peermade have anything to do with this, and whether there is any co-ordination in this respect so that there is no overlapping between these Centres?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Sub-Stations in the South have been opened as branches of the main Station, to which I have referred just now, to look after the particular problems in the particular areas, for instance bio-chemistry and soil chemistry. The soil and climatic conditions differ from place to place, and these two sub-Stations have been opened apart from the main one.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the Tocklai Experimental Station in Assam is a sort of a miniature university doing a commendable job in the country may I know whether Government have co-operated with it in the matter of research and finance by way of grants so far?

Shri Satish Chandra: The entire question relates to that. We are considering the matter.

Naga Hostiles

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*1620. { **Shri Amjad Ali:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a column of Assam Rifles raided Naga Hostiles' Camp

near Moilong close to Assam border on or about the 19th March, 1961, and

(b) if so, what casualties were suffered by either side?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri J. N. Hazarika): (a) and (b). On the 19th March last, a column of Assam Rifles carried out a successful surprise attack on a hostile Naga camp near Moilong in Mokokchung District close to the Assam border. Eleven hostiles were killed in the attack. One of our Riflemen is reported missing.

Shri Amjad Ali: Could we have an idea as to how many camps of Naga hostiles are there in Nagaland, and how many such raids have been carried out by the Assam Rifles?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not think it is possible to give any number about the camps, because this is a changing number and a moving number—geographically moving. If I may say so, one of our difficulties has been that they function on this side and on the other side of the Burma border. We cannot, naturally, cross over to the Burma Border. But they just cross over when they are in difficulties; and sometimes, possibly, they store things too, which we cannot get; and they are constantly moving about. So we cannot possibly say what the number is.

Shri Amjad Ali: Can we have an idea as to how many encounters, during this year and the last, were made by the Assam Rifles on the Naga hostiles?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That would depend also on what an 'encounter' is, how it is defined to be: it may be a biggish encounter or a very minor one, a skirmish. Anyhow, I have not got the information here.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the arms and ammunition

which were left over after the last World War and which the Naga hostiles are using must by now have rotted and rusted, may I know whether Government have tried to ascertain the sources from which they are getting fresh supplies of arms and ammunition so as to be active?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have tried to find out, and to some extent we have got the information. They have been getting these from various leakages in Burma, sometimes in India.

Shri Hem Barua: I could not follow what the Prime Minister said.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I said that we know of some cases where they have been able to get some arms from across the Burma border, that is, they get them from people who possess arms on the other side, or sometimes from the Indian side too they have been able to get. I do not know if the hon. Member is thinking of any foreign country supplying them with arms. We have no information on that basis.

Shri Hem Barua: This is a very serious thing which the Prime Minister has said, that they might be getting arms from our side also. May I know whether that source of supply of arms to the Naga hostiles, the source located in our country, has been established or not?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We try to do that. I merely said that, sometimes, not to a very large extent, from individuals or groups, sometimes it has so happened, because what you call the Village Guards that we have built up there, of Nagas, are as a whole a fine body of men, but, nevertheless, sometimes some of them have misbehaved in this way and handed over their guns to the other side.

Shri Basumatari: Since this new set-up of Government has been formed there, may I know whether

these Naga hostiles have decreased or increased in number?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think that they have increased, but it is difficult to take a census of them.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Hem Barua: I would beg of you to permit me to ask one supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions. Why should he beg of me? Next question.

Scarcity of Salt in U.P.

*1621. **Shri Radha Mohan Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute scarcity of salt in the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the causes thereof and the steps being taken by Government to make salt available immediately?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No conditions of scarcity of salt in the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh have been reported to Government recently.

(b) The question does not arise.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि इस प्रकार की खबर निकलने के कारण व्यापारी लोग फ्रायडा उठाते हैं और ज्यादा दाम चार्ज करते हैं ? अगर यह खबर गलत थी, तो उस को कांटाडिक्ट करने के लिये सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही की ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : बहुत सी गलत खबरें निकलती हैं । हम तो देख लेते हैं कि वहां सप्लाई हो रही है या नहीं । हम ने फ़ौरन इतिला दी और फ़ौरन रेलवे की मूवमेंट भी हुई है । सब कुछ वहां पर काबू में है ।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : क्या यह सम्भव है कि हर एक ज़िले में कुछ स्टॉक रखा जाये, जोकि ऐसी खबरें फैलने पर और स्केयर होने पर बाहर लाया जा सके ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वही उत्तर प्रदेश की स्कीम है कि हर ज़िले में एक क्वोटा एलाटमेंट दिया जाता है और उस का स्टॉक रखा जाता है ।

श्री भ० बी० मिश्र : क्या यह ठीक है कि मेधा नमक का देश भर में अभाव है, जोकि सर्वश्रेष्ठ नमक कहा जाता है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : राक साल्ट तो हिन्दुस्तान में जितना बनता है, उतना है । बहुत कम है । बाकी सब पाकिस्तान से आता था, इसलिये उस की कमी तो है ही ।

Coffee Industry

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*1623. { **Shri Warior:**
Shri Jinachandran:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri M. K. Kumaran:
Shri Kodliyan:
Shri Punnoose:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the crisis facing the coffee industry in view of the huge exportable surplus of coffee and the steep fall in export price by 40 to 50 per cent; and

(b) if so, what steps Government and the Coffee Board are taking to secure adequate price and to save the industry?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). The exportable surplus of coffee is fixed with reference to the total production, internal requirements and the need to step up exports.