

already explained that the main proposal is of the Government of Maharashtra. There are also other proposals which will have to be considered.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: It was found that the national highways in certain States are maintained very nicely. National Highways passing through black cotton soil are not so good. May I know what is the criteria of giving maintenance grants to these States? Is it a flat rate or does it differ from structure of the land in different States?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN: It is good that he has raised this issue. There are certain broad criteria. In addition to that, there also, some weightage is being given. There have been complaints about certain types of soil that high monsoon fed areas are not getting adequate support. This is a problem which we have raised in the Planning Commission. We hope, the Planning Commission would consider this sympathetically.

Milk Power Plants

*339. **SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of milk powder plants in different States which are not working to full capacity;

(b) the names of longlife tetrapak plants either not working fully or lying idle;

(c) whether some of the State Governments have requested the NDDB to take corrective measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Milk powder plants set up under Operation Flood are primarily meant to convert surpluses arising out of seasonal variation in milk procurement by the dairies. Keeping this perspective in view, of the 50 powder plants established under Operation Flood the utilisation during December, 1989 and January, 1990 was 76.08% and 81.98% respectively. Of these 23 plants operated at levels ranging from 75% to 10% plus, 13 plants operated between 50% to 75% of their capacity and 14 operated below 50% of their capacity. The names of the powder plants that operated below 50% of their capacity are Guntur and Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh; Patna and Begusarai in Bihar; Bangalore in Karnataka; Latur, Pune and Sangli in Maharashtra; Jullundhar in Punjab; Bikaner, Ganganagar and Jodhpur in Rajasthan; Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh and Darjeeling in West Bengal.

(b) to (d). No tetrapak plant is lying idle and the initial teething problems inevitable in any new technology have been resolved. Fuller utilisation of capacity for Tetrapak plants can only be achieved over time as demand picks up. However, there is likely to be near doubling of the quantity of aseptic milk packed in 1989-90 as compared to 1988-89.

SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am happy to note that we have a new Deputy Prime Minister now.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: He has already taken my permission, you make your point.

[*English*]

SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: First of all, I seek your protection. The question is specific and the answer has not been given in the statement. The most important point is, in Part 'B' of the question, I have specifically asked;

"(b) the names of long life tetrapak plants either not working fully or lying idle; "

The answer indicates that almost all the plants are either not working fully or are lying idle. They have not been listed out. That is against the normal rules. If they want to give answer they must give the answer fully. I seek your protection. Otherwise there is no meaning in having a question Hour at all. Then why have the Question Hour? Let them answer whatever they want. Then there is not need to have questions at all.

Similarly, in Part 'C' and 'D' I have asked specific questions as to what the State Government have demanded or requested to take corrective measures and also, if so, the details thereof. These questions have not been answered. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You put the question. He must have come prepared to answer that. In the meantime, he might have the answer. You please put the question.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It cannot form part of my supplementary. I will ask the supplementary if they answer the question. Let them first answer the question. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Questions are always answered like that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRHDA: There are about 47 Tetrapak machines in our country. I am prepared to give their names if the Member so desires. In Sugam Dairy at Baroda, there are two tetrapak plants; in NDGB at Jagudal, there are two plants, in fruit juice sector, there are four plants, in Salem Union, there are 3 plants, in Surat union, the number is 4, in Krishna Union, Vijayawada, it is 3 and in Allepey Dairy it is 2.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection. The question put

to hon. Minister is not being replied.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you shouting?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down ..(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: In Anand, the number is 3, fruit and vegetable sector in Delhi, the number is just one...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA : Please ask the Minister to come prepared. What is this? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I would like to request the Minister to inform this House whether a new sachet milk plant is being started under the Haryana Dairy Milk Federation which is really a replacement of the plant that was there under the Mother Dairy in Delhi and was closed down thereby rendering nearly 250 people unemployed. You reopen another plant now in Haryana because we have hon. Minister of Agriculture from Haryana and ensure that 250 people have who are employed illegally on a contract basis remain terminated, even though you have given an assurance in the Supreme Court that as and when you open the plant again you would re-employ these 250 people. I would like to know specifically whether this sachet milk plant which was originally in Delhi, which used to supply milk in the Delhi Union Territory is being indirectly shifted to Haryana now, whether you plan to open the plant there and supply milk packets

in Delhi, whether you are going to employ these 250 people if you are opening this plant whom you terminated under the Mother Dairy Scheme. I want to know specifically whether the assurance given to the Supreme Court in this regard would be maintained by this Government or not.

SIR VASANT SATHE: Answer the questions directly.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this supplementary of the hon. Member is not at all related to the question.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please take your seat. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER You please sit down; why are you shoutingYes, Now Shri Nathuram Mirdha ji.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA : Mr Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is requested to give proper notice for this question; I would give reply in detail.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, you have asked him to answer the question. But the Minister has given the ruling.

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: We want the Agriculture Minister to speak because this Minister is not prepared to answer the questions. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I would categorically go on record that this question is with regard to milk powder plants and packaging. Tetrapak is a packing equipment. Categorically I have covered the arena of all packaging in milk and this is not outside milk'. I said, sachet milk plant and categori-

cally asked the questions. If the Minister is not prepared he should be honest enough to admit in this House that he has not got the papers and that is why he is in no position to answer the questions. He should give the answer. If he does not, then there is no need to have the Question Hour in the House (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, are you satisfied with the answer ? (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER : Mr. Kundu, you may please take your seat.

Now, Shri Kumaramangalam may put his next Supplementary.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. Now, Shri Kumaramangalam.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I will put the second Supplementary, Sir. But, I expect it to go on record - I object to the Minister's statement. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: I have a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order is allowed in Question Hour. Please sit down.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked Shri Kumaramangalam to put his second supplementary.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: My Second Supplementary—I would like to inform the Speaker—is a part of the original Question itself. That is, I would like to know

from the hon. Minister as to which are those tetra-pack plants which are not working to full capacity; which are those which are lying idle; and what are the demands that have been made by the State Governments to the NDDB to ensure that these plants work.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: Milk powder and liquid milk are prepared in a composite plant. As milk is a biological product, its production varies from season to season. When production of milk is higher, milk powder is prepared from it. However, priority is given to supply liquid milk in urban and rural areas. Preparation of milk powder receives second priority. When production of milk falls short of demand, the demand of milk is met by augmenting the quantity of milk with the help of milk powder which is added to the fresh milk. Thus it is not necessary that all machines are utilized all the time. These are utilized as per the requirement.

[*English*]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I would like to know as to whether you are satisfied with the answer given. I think, you are not (*Interruptions*) Sir, if you do not protect me, then who will protect? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowed. Now Shri Bhajan Lal.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow Shri Bhajan Lal to put his question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I would like to put a supplementary to the hon. Minister with regard to the main question. I would like to know the total capacity of the milk plants in the country and how much milk is produced in the main season as against its total requirement of milk in the country. I would also like to know per capita availability of milk in

the country. Hon. Minister forgot to mention that buffalo also gives milk.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: We have a capacity 663 metric tonnes of milk powder daily.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Development of Fishermen Co-operative Societies in Kerala

*340. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Central assistance given to Kerala for the development of fishermen co-operative societies;

(b) whether the co-operative societies so established are functioning successfully; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) The National co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) has released so far an amount of Rs. 500.42 lakhs against the sanctioned amount of Rs. 1563.51 lakhs from 1985-86 towards development of Fishermen Co-operative Societies in Kerala.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, during the time of the previous Government headed by Mr. Karunakaran, a survey was conducted to find out who were the traditional fishermen. A list was prepared which was accepted by all the political parties. On the basis of this list, 82 fishermen welfare societies were constituted. These were the societies which looked after the welfare activities