

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANATH RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A blacklisting order continues to remain in force until it is actually revoked. If a firm is acquitted honourably by a Court of the offences for which the blacklisting orders were passed against that firm, it is permissible under the code to consider the revocation of the blacklisting orders in that case.

(c) No, Sir.

False Reimbursement Charges in Madras

*1649. **SHRI BABURAO PATEL**: Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of doctors, chemists and Government employees in Madras State who were searched or arrested on alleged charges of cheating the Central Government by claiming false medical reimbursements and the action taken against them;

(b) whether the amount of such fraudulent medical reimbursements exceeded Rs. 3 crores in two years in Madras State alone;

(c) the names of 12 top officers in the Central Government who were involved in these fraudulent transactions and the steps taken against them; and

(d) the steps which are being taken to unearth this racket in other States, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1183/68].

Food Supplied in Hospitals in West Bengal

*1651. **SHRI RABI RAY**: Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item appearing in the *Hindustan Standard* of the 10th April, 1968, that the standard and quality of food supplied to the patients in the Govern-

ment Hospitals in West Bengal have much deteriorated;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) to (c). Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item. Diet is being supplied in the Government Hospitals according to the sanctioned scale. Of late some hospitals have experienced difficulty in the matter owing to the rise in prices, and the question of enhancing the diet rate is under consideration.

Catering contract for Curzon Road UNCTAD staff hostel, New Delhi

*1655. **SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES**: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the contractors who received the contract for catering at the Curzon Road U. N. C. T. A. D. staff hostel with terms and conditions of the contract;

(b) whether any tenders were invited before allotting the contract;

(c) the total amount paid and/or due to the contractor; and

(d) the tariff which the contractor had for the various meals, snacks and other services?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANATH RAO): (a) The Catering contract was awarded to M/s. Volga Caterers, New Delhi. The main terms of the Catering contract were that he will supply bed-tea, breakfast, provide room services, bed linen, blankets, soap, towels etc. and heaters in the Dining hall and lounges.

It was also the condition of the contract that while he will be charged rent for the geysers and pantry tables, he will be provided rent-free the dining hall and accessory accommodation but will pay for electricity and water.

(b) Yes.