

Gauhati Station. These programmes consist of news bulletins, Commentaries, Press reviews, Indian and Tibetan music, etc.

(d) Yes, Sir, whenever possible.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : In view of our cultural, spiritual and political relations and in view of the fact that when a South American State brought the issue of Tibet before the U. N. at the time when the Chinese threatened to seize Tibet, it was at the instance of late Pandit Nehru that the motion was withdrawn on a categorical assurance by China that Tibetan autonomy will be respected—but the tragedy that occurred afterwards is known—I want to know from the Government whether Dalai Lama, who is the sovereign authority of the independent Tibet, has been given any opportunity to speak on All India Radio to address the people in defence of the freedom of the people of Tibet.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : The hon. Member has raised a question which pertains more to the Ministry of External Affairs, He can address this question to the Ministry of External Affairs . . . (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : The question was whether Dalai Lama has been given an opportunity to speak on All India Radio.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : I would require notice for this.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : What notice is required for this ? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI HEM BARUA : Dalai Lama was never invited by the All India Radio.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : The question was whether Dalai Lama has spoken from All India Radio or not . . .

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : Why was he not invited to speak from All India Radio ?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : I have not said 'yes' or 'no'. I have said that I would require notice to check up whether he was

invited or not. At the moment, I do not know.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Whether Dalai Lama who represents the people of Tibet has been given an opportunity or not has not been ascertained by the Minister.

My second question is whether Government will give Dalai Lama opportunity henceforth to speak from All India Radio, and secondly, whether the special Bulletin for the people of Tibet will be broadcast from Srinagar, Lucknow and Patna, along with Siliguri Station.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : At the moment we are transmitting the Tibetan programme from the three stations that I have indicated. Very soon the super power transmitter will go into service from Calcutta and we will use that also for that purpose. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : Sir, I want to know whether he will invite the Dalai Lama to broadcast over the All-India Radio. He has not given a reply to that question.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : This is a suggestion for action.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Spurious Drugs Racket in Delhi

+

SNQ. 7. **SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :**

SHRI KIKAR SINGH :

SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA :

SHRI DEVEN SEN :

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Police unearthed a big racket of spurious and stolen drugs in Delhi on the 24th February, 1969;

(b) if so, the number of persons

(c) the value of goods seized by the Police; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K.K. SHAH): (a) it has been reported by the Delhi Administration that their Drugs Control Department unearthed large stocks of suspected spurious and stolen drugs on 22nd and 23rd February, 1969.

(b) Two persons have been arrested.

(c) The approximate market value of the suspected spurious and stolen drugs seized by the Drugs Control Department of Delhi Administration is as follows:

Suspected spurious drugs	Rs. 10,000
Suspected stolen drugs	Rs. 5,000

(d) The details of the goods seized are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library Sec. No. LT. 417/69*]

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the distribution of spurious drugs is a deadly problem and I am rather surprised by the transcendental complacency of the Minister, in dealing with this problem. Thousands of people are now facing health hazards because of the distribution of spurious medicines and a few racketeers are allowed to play ducks and drakes with the lives of the people. Sometime back a person took poison to commit suicide. But he did not die because the poison was spurious. That is the state of affairs in this country. Today we have more than 2,000 drug manufacturers in the country. Is he going to exercise control? I do not know how on earth he is going to exercise control. In the United Kingdom this problem was brought into focus by a body of experts and they suggested the formation of a Commission and this Commission has taken shape in the United Kingdom. From their experience, I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. Has the Government under consideration any proposal to set up a Medicines Commission in this country

with statutory powers for the licensing of drugs, for acquiring powers for their safety and for marketing and advertisement of the drugs?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: Perhaps my hon. friend does not know what organisation is working at present. There is a Central organisation. There are States organisations. Licenses are given by the States. Prices are fixed. Prices are controlled. The laboratories have been set up where these things are being attended to. There are various reports from different States. Unluckily it is true that we have not been able to check in Delhi, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. The reports are as follows: In Andhra Pradesh spurious drugs manufacture has decreased. There was one police raid made. In Assam, it is not increasing. In Gujarat, there are no cases of manufacture of spurious drugs reported. In Kerala, the production of spurious drugs is not increasing dangerously. In Madhya Pradesh there is no incidence of manufacture of spurious drugs. In Madras, it is not increasing. In Maharashtra, the incidence of spurious drugs is declining.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN: The trouble is, he does not understand this question. I asked whether Government is thinking of having an independent Medicines Commission, not a Governmental agency, but an independent Commission. Spurious drugs were hauled up in Delhi. They disappear in Delhi and they appear again in Kerala, Orissa, Madras and other places. I would like to point out that more than 2,000 drugs manufacturers are there. In view of the fact that the private enterprise is only interested in profit-motive, will the Government take steps to streamline the drug manufacturing industry in this country, by nationalising it, and find a permanent solution to this problem?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: A committee was appointed in 1965, known as the Drugs and Equipments Standards Committee. There were two Members of Parliament on this committee. Their report is that the incidence of such drugs was not of a considerable magnitude.

SHRI KIKAR SINGH: (*Spoke in Punjab*)

SHRI NARENDRA KUAMAR SALVE : It is a double-Dutch for him; both the drug and the language are foreign to him.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister can read it later on and give him information as to what has been done. If he has understood it, he may answer.

SHRI KIKAR SINGH : I would like to have it in detail from him, and I shall send a reply to him.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : नकली डाक्टर और नकली दवाइयाँ और अब तो नकली संसद सदस्य भी हो गए हैं। असली संसद सदस्य को तो कोई पूछता नहीं है लेकिन नकली संसद सदस्य सुपर बाजार में जाता है आठ हजार का माल ले आता है सब चीज नकली हैं। मंत्रिमंडल भी नकली बैठा हुआ है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि दवाइयाँ अस्पतालों से भी चोरी गई थीं और उनमें मिलावट करके, उनमें नकली पदार्थ डाल कर अस्पतालों को ही बेच दी गई? यह रिकार्ड है कि विलिंगडन अस्पताल में जो भी एम पी गया वह वापिस नहीं आया। लोहिया जी गए वह वहाँ मर गए। कोई जिन्दा वापिस आया ही नहीं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि नकली दवायें और नकली इजेक्शन जिन जिन फर्मों ने वितरित किये और जहाँ जहाँ बाटे गए और जिन डाक्टरों ने इनको तथा कंप्यूथ को काम में लाया, उन सब के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की गई और वे डाक्टर कौन कौन थे। विलिंगडन, अविन तथा दूसरे अस्पतालों में जहाँ इन इजेक्शनों वगैरह को काम में लाया गया, उन के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की गई? जो इतना भी नहीं जानते कि ये नकली हैं या असली हैं, उनके सर्टिफिकेट कैसेल करो।

SHRI K. K. SHAH : My hon. friend probably does not know the facts. We had private information. The CID was, therefore, keeping a watch. As soon as these drugs were sold by the sellers in UP, they were caught hold of. Simultaneous raids were carried out in Delhi also on the 22nd and

23rd, and people have been arrested. They have also made inquiries from the hospital from which the drugs were stolen. No substituted drugs have been replaced there. It is true that they have been stolen. Therefore, the question of using them also does not arise, because we were very careful.

श्री बेवेन सेन : पिछले दो तीन माल में यह पाया गया है कि एक सिरप में एक स्पाइडर पाई गई। मैडीमिन की एक बोतल में एक डंड फलाई पाई गई। अभी दिल्ली प्रशासन की तरफ से जो छापा मारा गया दिल्ली में एक दूकान पर क्या यह सही नहीं है कि वहाँ पर लेबलज आफ वॉलनोन मैनुफैक्चरज पाए गए थे? क्या यह भी सच नहीं है कि ज्यादातर वहाँ जो दवाइयाँ पाई गई वे दिल्ली के अस्पतालों से चोरी गई हुई दवाइयाँ थीं? यह जो लिंक है, इस लिंक की तरफ ध्यान देकर मंत्री महोदय इसको तोड़ने की कोशिश करेंगे? क्या वह ऐसा अफसर या ऐसा एक कमिशन मुकर्रर करेंगे जोकि सारे लिंक की खोज करे और इस बीमारी को दूर करे? नहीं तो जैसा डा लोहिया का निघन हुआ था बिना दवाई के ऐसे ही और भी निघन होने वाले हैं।

मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहाँ करीब 120 बड़े दुकानदार हैं, जिनमें से 60 दुकानदार अस्सी परसेंट माल एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं। दवाइयों के कारोबार में मानोपली है।

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member is making a speech on the Demands of the Health Ministry. He should come to the question now.

श्री बेवेन सेन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार कोई एनक्वायरी कमीशन बिठायेगी, जो इस मामले के सब पहलुओं की जांच करे और इस प्रकार इस बीमारी को दूर करने की कोशिश की जाये।

SHRI K. K. SHAH : According to the information received from the police, not

only the seller has been arrested, but even the place where these fake drugs were prepared has been unearthed and the man has been arrested. As regards the question about Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, we are very sorry that he died, but we had flown medicine from Germany also. Therefore, it cannot be said that we were not careful.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE :

We have received a circular in which it has been stated that the dead bodies of MPs, Ministers etc. would be flown free to their home-towns. May I know if the issue of this circular has any nexus with the spurious drugs being purchased by the Willingdon Hospital and whether he believes in the principle that prevention is better than cure ?

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : आज-कल नवली दवाइयां बनाने वालों का टेकनीक बहुत साफिस्टिकेटिड और आर्रेशन का तरीका बहुत माइंटिफिक है। यह रैकेट केवल दिल्ली में नहीं है, बल्कि यह रैकेट उत्तर प्रदेश और पंजाब वर्यरह स्टेट्स में भी चल रहा है और यह एक इन्टर-स्टेट रैकेट है। इस रैकेट को खत्म करने के लिए सरकार ने अभी तक जो कार्यवाही की है वह ज्यादा इफेक्टिव नहीं हुई है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह इस रैकेट का पता लगाने के लिए सी० बी० आई० द्वारा एनक्वायरी करायेगे और क्या वह इस बात का भी पता लगायेंगे कि अस्पतालों में कौन कौन लोग ऐसे थे, जिन्होंने यह चोरी की। सरकार का इंसपेक्टरेट इस काम में मिला रहता है। क्या मंत्री महोदय उस के खिलाफ भी कोई कार्यवाही करेंगे और उस को रीइनफोर्स करेंगे ?

श्री के० के० शाह : माननीय सदस्य को जान कर खुशी होगी कि सेंट्रल थ्यूरी आफ इनवेस्टीगेशन की मदद से ही इस रैकेट का पता लगा है और सम्बन्धित लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। दिल्ली स्टेट की फ़ाइम ब्रांच इस में मदद कर रही है। इसी लिए हम यह फ़ैक्टरी चलाने वालों को गिरफ्तार करने

में सफल हुए हैं। दिल्ली में फ़ाइम ब्रांच को हम स्ट्रॉन्ग कर रहे हैं। हम ने पंजाब और यू० पी० को रिक्वेस्ट किया है कि वे भी अपनी फ़ाइम ब्रांचों को स्ट्रॉन्ग करें और इस में मदद करें। हम ने उन्हें कहा है कि जैसे हम ने इंसपेक्टर रखे हैं, वे भी रखें।

श्री शक्ति भूषण : मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या दिल्ली जाली दवाइयां बनाने और बेचने का सब से बड़ा केन्द्र है। क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बात के लिए तैयार हैं कि जो लोगों जाली दवाइयां बनाते हैं, उन को गिरफ्तार कर के उन की सारी जायदाद को जब्त कर लिया जाये उस से जो रुपया मिले, वह मरीजों में बांट दिया जाये ? क्या वह ऐसे लोगों को मरुत सजा देने के लिए तैयार हैं ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The Act was amended in 1955. Now, the maximum sentence is 10 years, and the minimum is one year. As regards the fines also, if I give the figures, my hon. friend will be satisfied ..

MR. SPEAKER : He need not read out all those figures.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : The fines as well as the punishments have gone up considerably, and the police are also very alert in detecting such cases.

श्री शक्ति भूषण : जो लोगों की ज़िन्दगियों से खेलते हैं, उन्हें कम से कम बीस साल की सजा देनी चाहिए।

श्री मधु लिवडे : क्या सरकार का ध्यान इस बात की ओर गया है कि जाली दवाइयों का सिलसिला इस लिए बड़े पैमाने पर चलता है कि हमारी दवाइयों के दाम बहुत ज्यादा हैं और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दामों के मुकाबले में हमारी दवाइयां तीन चार, पांच गुना ज्यादा कीमती हैं और इस लिए जाली दवाइयां तैयार करने वालों को बड़ा मुनाफ़ा रहता है; यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार इस दृष्टि से प्रयास करेगी कि

भसली दवाइयों के दाम गिराये जायें और उन को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लाया जाये ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : Price of drugs are regulated under the Drug Prices Order which is administered by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. An inter-departmental committee examines applications for price fixing on the basis of cost data and approve suitable prices. The committee consists of representatives of the Ministries of Petroleum, Industry and Health. I will convey his suggestion to them.

SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK : This is no reply.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : क्या यह कोई जवाब है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : इसका मतलब यह है कि सरकार जाली दवाइयों का मिलसिला खत्म नहीं करना चाहती है ।

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : Drugs meant for free distribution or public consumption in hospitals are stolen because of some defects in the recording and accounting. This is due to collusion of the hospital staff in this malpractice. Are Government considering taking more stringent measures so that accounts are properly kept and in regard to drugs meant for free distribution, there is sufficient check on their distribution-which I do not think exists now-so that these drugs do not find their way to the market ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I am in touch with the Delhi Administration. I have requested them to check up.

SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Among spurious drugs are certain drugs and syrups, for instance, *arishias*, which are used in the manufacture of illicit liquor. This is being sold to a considerable extent in Tamil Nadu. Will Government come forward with suitable amendments to the Drug control Act to prevent this malpractice which goes against the prohibition policy of the Government ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : If my hon. friend sends the suggestion to me, I will convey it to the Tamil Nadu Government for consideration.

SHRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : The Drug Control Act is a Central Act. Will the Central Government come forward to amend the Act to put a stop to this malpractice ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : After consulting them.

SHRI HEM BARUA : In relation to trade in spurious drugs in Assam, the Minister said that it is not increasing. If it is not increasing, it is not decreasing either.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI : How does he know ?

SHRI HEM BARUA : I must congratulate the Minister because he knows a lot about trade in spurious drugs.

AN HON. MEMBER : Is he 'spurious' Minister ?

SHRI HEM BARUA : I do not think so.

He says that Assam maintains *status quo* so far as trade in spurious drugs is concerned. What steps have Government taken to disturb the *status quo* in this trade ? Secondly, is the Minister aware of a suggestion made in the Central Hall that if you want a bye-election, send an MP to the Willingdon Hospital and you will have it ? If so, does the hon. Minister propose to maintain the tradition of Willingdon Hospital or to disturb it so that there may not be bye-elections on that score ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I will do my best to see that the Willingdon Hospital is run properly.

SHRI HEM BARUA : What about Assam ?

श्री सिध नारायण : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रश्न

90 परसेंट मेम्बर्ज तो विलिंगडन हास्पिटल में नहीं जाना चाहते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : ठीक है।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : In the light of what has happened in that hospital, I had said in this House that if you want a bye-election, send an MP there and within six months you will have it.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is about spurious drugs.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It is because of spurious drugs that this happens in the Willingdon Hospital. Have orders been issued to hospital authorities and the public not to sell in the open market those drugs or bottles or ampoules which are purchased in bulk and used in the manufacture of spurious drugs ? Is there any provision in the Drugs Act, or has any rule been framed to prohibit such a thing ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : Not only are these vials destroyed after use in hospitals but we have set up non-official organisations also to see that patients who purchase these vials do not give the empty ones to anyone but destroy them.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Film Distribution Office

* 606. **SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Film Finance Corporation in collaboration with the New Cinema Movement have set up a Film Distribution Office to release low-budget quality films;

(b) if so, the number of films released so far or proposed to be released;

(c) whether Government have given any financial assistance to set up the Distribution Office,

(d) if so, the amount of money so far given; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). The Film Finance Corporation have entered into an agreement on an experimental basis with the Organisation called the New Cinema Movement for the distribution in the Bombay territory of the film 'Do Dooni Chaar' produced with the help of loan from the Corporation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The agreement stipulates a suitable percentage for the services of the New Cinema Movement and therefore there is no question of any financial assistance.

पत्रकारिता पर विदेशी प्रभाव

*607. श्री रणजीत सिंह :

श्री बृज भूषण लाल :

श्री जगननाथ राव जोशी :

श्री सुरज भानु :

श्री रा० बक्ष्मा :

श्री नि० र० लास्कर :

श्री हरबयाल बेचगुरा :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण तथा संचार मंत्री 4 दिसम्बर, 1968 के प्रतारकित प्रश्न संख्या 3212 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विदेशी पूंजी द्वारा भारत में पत्रकारिता पर प्रभाव डालने के लिए किये जा रहे प्रयत्नों के बारे में जांच पूरी हो गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो जांच के क्या परिणाम निकले हैं और इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?