

WEATHER BULLETINS

*419. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state through how many coastal radio stations, weather bulletins for shipping are issued by the main meteorological offices?

(b) What are the special works done by the Weather Centre at Poona for the guidance of naval vessels?

(c) When was the scheme of floating meteorological observatories for furnishing reports launched?

(d) How is it working at present?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) 3, namely at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

(b) The Weather Centre at Poona issues India Fleet synoptic messages twice daily specially for the use of naval vessels. In addition, India Weather Bulletins and surface and upper air analyses issued by this centre are also available for use by such vessels.

(c) In 1948.

(d) The scheme has proved useful in providing reliable meteorological observations from the ocean area. 92 ships of different categories are at present reporting weather observations.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to start more coastal radio stations in India?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We have been relaying these messages from other centres, and they relay in turn.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the number of floating meteorological observatories has increased since 1947?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We are making efforts to enlist the co-operation of more ships, for this purpose.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether there were any complaints that the forecasts were usually on the wrong side?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am afraid the hon. Member has not followed the question. There is no question of forecast at all here.

Shri Velayudhan: Is it not weather forecast?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is not weather forecast. We obtain the data regarding the conditions in the sea, and we pass them on to the vessels. There is no forecast at all. It is just a reading of the conditions there.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many warnings were sent to the ships, regarding cyclonic weather in 1953?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I require notice.

VANASPATI

*421. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the steps, if any, taken by the Government of India to avoid adulteration of pure ghee with hydrogenated vegetable oil;

(b) the effect thereof; and

(c) whether the Government of India have been able to find out any edible harmless colour for colourisation of the hydrogenated vegetable oil to eliminate its chance of adulteration with pure ghee?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The Government of India have taken the following steps to check adulteration of pure ghee with vanaspati:—

1. It is obligatory to add at least 5 per cent. of sesame oil in vanaspati. This incorporation of sesame oil in vanaspati makes it possible to detect, by means of a simple chemical test, the adulteration of ghee with vanaspati.

2. Each batch of vanaspati produced by a factory is required to be certified by the factory chemist to the effect that the same conforms to the required sesame oil test. The factories are also required to maintain a

record of sesame oil test of each batch of vanaspati produced by them for inspection and check.

3. No colour or flavour resembling the colour or flavour of ghee can be added to vanaspati.

4. The State Governments have been asked to instruct the local bodies to make extensive use of this chemical test to detect adulteration of ghee with vanaspati.

5. It is an offence to stock or sell vanaspati on the same premises where ghee is stocked or sold.

(b) The use of vanaspati as an adulterant of ghee would appear to be on the decrease.

(c) Not yet. Research for a suitable colour continues.

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात मालूम है कि इस सम्बन्ध में जो कार्य अब तक हुआ है उससे खुद भी मैं वनस्पति का मिलाया जाना रुक नहीं रहा है, और इसका क्या कारण है कि अब तक रंग की खोज नहीं हो सकी जबकि वैज्ञानिकों ने ऐटम बम के सदृश बाम्ब भी अब तक निकाल लिये हैं ?

कृषि मंत्री (डा० पी० एस० देशमुख) : शायद यह वैज्ञानिकों की कमजोरी है कि वे इस विषय में हमें कोई अच्छी सलाह नहीं दे सके हैं। यह तो मालूम है कि एडल्टरेशन बहुत कम हो रहा है। रुक जाने की भी सम्भावना है। मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसा हो जायगा।

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : यह कब तक आशा की जाती है कि रंग की खोज हो सकेगी और यह खोज कितने दिनों से चल रही है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : माननीय मेम्बर साहब ने खुद बतलाया कि एक तरफ तो ऐटम बम बन रहा है मगर यह खोज नहीं

हो रही है। मैं नहीं कह सकता कि यह खोज कब तक हो सकेगी।

Shri Dabhi: Will the Government give some facts and figures to show that there has been decrease in adulteration, and may I also know.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many questions in one question? Only one question at a time.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have no facts and figures here, Sir, but I believe that the steps that we have taken are so important and so effective that there has been a decrease.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether it is a fact that the Dehra Dun Research Institute has manufactured chlorophyll from vegetables etc., which can be used to colourise vanaspati? May I know whether Government have experimented it because it has been manufactured long ago?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir, we have experimented and found it unsuitable.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir, whether this work has been undertaken by any Research Institute of our Government, and if so, with what results?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The Institute just now mentioned has undertaken it and there are other places also where it is undertaken.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know considering the fact that facts and figures are not available with the Minister, how he bases his belief that adulteration is on the decrease?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have already stated, Sir, that we have made it compulsory that a certain amount of sesame oil should be added to vanaspati with the result that it is now very easy to detect adulteration. State Governments have also been asked to make use of this test so as to detect adulteration. I think this is a sufficient deterrent from which we

could conclude that there has been decrease.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether it is not a fact that the hon. Minister himself once replied to my question that adulteration was going on on a large scale?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The situation has altered since, Sir.

सेठ गोविन्द दासा, एक सवाल न और पूछना चाहता हूँ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I am sorry. Next question.

RE-IMBURSEMENT OF MEDICAL CHARGES

*422. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (c) of Starred Question No. 1895 asked on the 6th May, 1953 and state what decision has been taken to recognise the female section of the Government Civil Hospital, Ajmer for purpose of reimbursement of medical expenses incurred on the treatment of family members of Railway employees working on the Western Railway at Ajmer?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): It has been decided that the women's section of the Victoria Government Civil Hospital, Ajmer, should not be recognised for the purpose of reimbursement of medical expenses incurred on the treatment of the members of the family of railway servants of the Western Railway at Ajmer, as this Hospital is not a 'Government Hospital for Women' but a general hospital.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know, Sir, what alternative arrangement has been made for the treatment of the members of the family of railway servants in Ajmer?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. There is a railway hospital at Ajmer with 58 beds. Also there is a Government Women's Hospital in Ajmer which is available.

HOSPITALS IN RUSSIA

*423. **Shri P. C. Bose:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether she visited any hospital in any industrial area in Russia?

(b) If so, what are the distinctive features of such hospitals in Russia?

(c) What are the special diseases for which they go to the said hospitals?

(d) Are the hospitals in Russia as full as in India?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) Hospitals in Russia are run by and large, on the same lines as those in other European countries. Thus, every hospital has medical and surgical sections, X-Ray and laboratory services, special departments like Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, Skin, Dentistry and more especially, full-fledged facilities for physiotherapy. Indoor accommodation varies according to local needs.

(c) There are no diseases peculiar to Russians.

(d) The hospitals visited by me were quite full. But I never saw a large number of people waiting for examination as is the case in all our hospitals in India.

Shri P. C. Bose: What is the size of the hospitals—the number of beds?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It varies according to the locality and needs.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know if the hon. Minister visited any mental hospitals in Russia? If so, what is the nature of the maladies treated therein?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The nature of the malady is madness.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The hon. Minister mentioned about the distinctive features of the hospitals. Is the Minister aware of the prophylactic section in the hospitals which is a very distinctive feature of Russian hospitals?