

(b) The required information is given in Statements laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. Ser. No. LT-4627/73].

(c) Yes.

(d) A copy of the Chief Personnel Officers' Letter dated the 7th July, 1970 is at Annexure 'J'. The proposed modification has not been finalised for want of replies from the unions.

Rest rooms for relieving Assistant Station Masters on Railways

4927. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rest Rooms are provided at Stations for the Running and Checking staff but no rest rooms are provided for the relieving Assistant Station Masters; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such discrimination?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b). Running Rooms are provided for the use of running staff at junction and terminal stations.

Relieving Assistant Station Masters are generally required to serve stations within a short radius of their Headquarters stations, to which they can return for rest after performing relieving duty. Rest rooms have, however, been provided at a few stations for the use of relieving staff including relieving Assistant Station Masters.

12.00 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED SALE OF ROTTEN MILK POWDER AND GHEE RECEIVED UNDER WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

SHRI HARI SINGH (Khurja) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

The reported sale of rotten milk powder and ghee received under World Food Programme to the poor.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola) : Sir, I have not been given a copy of the statement.

MR. SPEAKER : It was circulated much in advance.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : Attention of Government has been drawn to the news articles published in the Press recently, expressing concern about the reported sale, with permission of Government, of rotten milk powder and ghee received under the World Food Programme to the Poor.

Government is implementing a project for stimulating milk marketing and dairy development called 'Operation Flood' estimated to cost Rs. 95.40 crores to be granted from the sale of 1,26,000 tonnes of skim milk powder and 42,000 tonnes of butter oil being received as gift from the World Food Programme. The Indian Dairy Corporation, Baroda, a public sector undertaking, acts as agent of Central Government in receiving these commodities and for their sale to the public sector milk plants in the four major cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras, for recombination into liquid milk. All these commodities are thus supplied to the public sector liquid milk plants excepting certain quantities which are

[Prof. Sher Singh]

considered unsuitable for recombination into liquid milk because of their physical and chemical qualities. Although unfit for milk recombination, a good proportion of these commodities are quite suitable for human consumption.

From the inception of the project in July, 1970, about 31,000 tonnes of skim milk powder and about 10,000 tonnes of butter oil were sent to India by World Food Programme. Out of these, 4084 tonnes of skim milk powder and 742 tonnes of butter oil, which on arrival on Indian ports, were found unsuitable for recombination into liquid milk

were not accepted by the Corporation for project use and would be replaced by the W.F.P. These damaged commodities, which are the property of WFP, if otherwise suitable for human consumption, could be allocated to other WFP projects or supplied to other dairy plants or food processors, etc. The commodities unfit for human consumption could be disposed of by World Food Programme for manufacture of casein or animal feed etc. Accordingly, the damaged commodities were disposed of by World Food Programme in the following manner:—

	Skim milk Powder (tonnes)	Butter Oil (tonnes)
(1) Transferred to WFP emergency operation 948 (refugees' relief) being considered fit for human consumption.	3134	519
(2) Transferred to WFP Project 572 (Maharashtra Forest Dev. Board) being considered fit for human consumption	92	46
(3) Transferred to WFP Project 259 (Rajasthan Canal Project) being considered fit for human consumption	Nil	149
(4) Transferred to Hyderabad Dairy Plant being considered fit for human consumption.	Nil	10
(5) Sold to bakeries & 'Halwas' being considered fit for human consumption.	25	18
(6) Sold for casein making being unfit for human consumption.	391	Nil
(7) Sold for animal feed being unfit for human consumption	417	Nil
(8) Losses including destruction by Port Health Officer	25	Nil
TOTAL	4084	742

Out of the commodities accepted by the Indian Dairy Corporation for project use, 566 tonnes of skim milk powder and 155 tonnes of butter oil were also subsequently found unsuitable for recombination into liquid milk. Out of these 414 tonnes of skim milk powder and 155 tonnes of butter oil which were suitable for human consumption were sold by the Corporation to the bakeries, confectionaries and 'halwas'. The remaining 152 tonnes of skim milk powder were sold as animal feed.

There is no substance in the newspaper report that Government had permitted the sale of rotten milk powder and butter oil unfit for human consumption which was received under the World Food Programme

to vulnerable sections of the society with the label "Buyers Beware" or "Unfit for human consumption." Out of a large quantity of about 31,000 tonnes of skim milk powder and about 10,000 tonnes of butter oil imported by the World Food Programme, only 960 tonnes of skim milk powder, found unfit for human consumption were sold to the *bonafide* manufacturers specifically for the manufacture of casein, animal and poultry feed. In order to ensuring, *inter alia*, that quantities unfit for human consumption do not find their way to the open market, it has been recently agreed between the Government and the World Food Programme that, in future, the disposal of damaged and rejected commodities, would be arranged through the Indian Dairy Corporation.

श्री हरी सिंह : हिन्दुस्तान के लिए दूध और घी के रूप में जो पाउडर दिया गया है वह ज्यादातर यूरोपियन देशों ने दिया है । आप जानते ही हैं कि यूरोप के देश अपने को नैतिकता में और आदर्शों में बड़ा ऊंचा मानते हैं और एशियाई लोगों को पिछड़ा हुआ मानते हैं । मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब होता है कि यूरोप के देशों ने ऐसा सड़ा हुआ और गंदा पाउडर हिन्दुस्तान को दिया जो कि यहाँ के नागरिकों के लिए बहुत ही खतरनाक था, उनके स्वास्थ्य के लिए बहुत ही खतरनाक था क्यों उन्होंने ऐसा दान दिया यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया । मुझे सरकार पर भी हंसी आती है कि उसने ऐसा सड़ा गला हुआ पाउडर स्वीकार किया । आप तो जानते ही हैं कि दान की बछिया के दांत नहीं देखे जाते हैं । मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ मंत्री महोदय से कि आखिर क्यों इस तरह के दान को स्वीकार करने की जरूरत आपको पड़ी? हिन्दुस्तान बगैर सड़े गले दूध और घी के पाउडर के भी जिन्दा रह सकता है और रहेगा । ऐसी सड़ी गली हुई चीजें स्वीकार करके और उसको लोगों को खिला कर आपने हिन्दुस्तान के चेहरे पर कलंक का टीका लगाया है और उसके स्वाभिमान, उसकी सैल्फ रिस्पेक्ट पर चोट की है और उसकी एक खराब तस्वीर दुनिया के सामने पेश की है । आपने हिन्दुस्तान को एक भिखारी के रूप में दुनिया के सामने पेश किया है । आखिर हम हिन्दुस्तान के लोग दूसरों के बचे खुचे सड़े गले हुए दूध और घी के पाउडर पर कब तक निर्भर रहेंगे ? क्या सरकार ने विचार किया है कि ऐसा करके क्या हिन्दुस्तान की दुनिया में इज्जत बढ़ती है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सड़े गले हुए पाउडर को मार्फिट में देने से पहले या रिफ्यू-

जीज को देने से पहले कृषि विभाग के अधिकारियों ने या दूसरों ने जांच क्यों नहीं की ?

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय, हिन्दुस्तान की जो नीकरशाही है यह बहुत भ्रष्ट है । यह हिन्दुस्तान के नागरिकों के जीवन से खिलवाड़ करने के लिए वलंड फूड प्रोग्राम के अधिकारियों से मिल गई प्रतीत होती है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस सब की जांच करने के काम को आप उच्चाधिकार प्राप्त व्यक्तियों को नहीं बल्कि जनता के नुमाइंदों जिन में संसद् के सदस्य भी हैं, सौंपेंगे ? यह जो सामान दिया गया है यह पिछड़े हुए लोगों को दिया गया है, उन से बांटा गया है । जो भरते रहते हैं जो पिछड़े रहते हैं उनको ही यह सड़ा गला सामान दिया गया है, उनके ही मत्थे इसको मड़ा गया है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछड़े हुए लोगों तथा दूसरों में भेद क्यों किया जाता है ? क्यों नहीं यह सामान दूसरों को दिया गया और केवल पिछड़े हुए गरीब लोगों को ही दिया गया ? यह जो सड़ा गला पाउडर आया इसको हलवाईयों को दिया गया, डबल रोटी बनाने वालों को दिया गया, उनको दिया गया जिन से मजदूर खरीद कर अपना पेट भरता है और काम पर चला जाता है । यह जो बाहर से दूध घी का पाउडर आया इस से लाखों इन्सानों का हिन्दुस्तान में स्वास्थ्य गिरा है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वे कौन से देश से जिन्होंने यह सड़ा गला सामान हमारे देश को दिया ? यह मालूम होना चाहिए कि सूखा दूध और घी किस देश ने किस तादाद में दिया था । भारत सरकार को कहना चाहिए कि चूंकि आपने सड़ी गली चीज दी है इसलिए आपने से कोई चीज नहीं लेंगे । इसलिए भिखारीपन

[श्री हरी सिंह]

को प्रवृत्ति को छोड़ कर अपने पैरों पर हमें खड़े होना चाहिए, और दान मांग कर भारत की तस्वीर को विदेशों में न बिगाड़े। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि किन अधिकारियों ने इस की जांच की थी कि यह खाने लायक है, और उन अधिकारियों के प्रति आप ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

श्री० शेर सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य के दिमाग में एक बड़ी गलत फहमी है, और मैं समझता हूँ कि वह बहुत लोगों के दिमाग में है कि वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम से हम ने दान लिया है और हम भिखारी हैं। वह बिल्कुल गलत है। वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम एक मल्टीलेटरल प्रोग्राम है, और एक ऐसा प्रोग्राम है जिसमें विकसित देश और विकासशील देश, दोनों ही, शामिल हैं। भारत भी उसका मेम्बर है, और अगर यह नहीं कि भारत केवल लेता ही है। भारत देता भी है। इसलिए यह कहना कि दान मिल रहा है यह गलत है। वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम में सभी मुल्क शामिल हैं और सभी मुल्क उस में अपना हिस्सा डालते हैं। भारत ने 1971-72 में इसी वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम में चाय दी। एक लाख 94 हजार डालर के करीब चाय मुफ्त में दी है। इसी तरह से सुगर, कैंड फल दिये हैं, साल्ट ट्राइ क्रिश भी दी है और कुछ नगद रुपया भी दिया है, कोई एक मिलियन डालर के करीब वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम में भारत ने भी दिया है। जो चीजें हमारे पास नहीं हैं वहाँ से लेते हैं, जो चीजें दूसरे देशों के पास नहीं हैं वह हम दूसरे देशों को देते हैं। इस-

लिए यह जो गलत फहमी फैलायी जा रही है कि हम भिखारी हैं, यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है। यह हमारे देश का अपमान है। इस लिए मैं साफ कर देना चाहता हूँ कि वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम मल्टीलेटरल प्रोग्राम है जिस में हम हिस्सेदार है और उस में हम भी देते हैं।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हम जब लेते हैं तो यह नहीं कि हम हर चीज को मंजूर कर लेते हैं। 31 हजार टन स्किम्ड मिल्क पाउडर में से 4 हजार 84 टन हमने रिजेक्ट किया इसलिए कि वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम के पास जो हमने स्पेसिफिकेशन भेजा था कि इस डग का स्किम्ड मिल्क और बटर आयल घ्राना चाहिए जिस में हम रीकंबीनेशन कर के फेश मिल्क बना सकें, वह उस स्पेसिफिकेशन का नहीं था। इसलिए हमने रिजेक्ट कर दिया। तो जो हमारे परपञ्च के लिए ठीक नहीं था उस को रिजेक्ट किया और वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम को वापस दे दिया उन्होंने यह मंजूर किया कि जो हम ने रिजेक्ट किया है वह दुबारा हम को उतनी ही क्वा-न्टिटी और भेजेंगे स्किम्ड मिल्क पाउडर की जो उन का कमिटमेंट है एक लाख 26 हजार टन का, और जो अगले पांच सालों में देना है, तो वह उन को पूरा करना है। इसलिए हम कोई भिखारी की शक्त में उन के सामने नहीं हैं। और वह भी नहीं कि हम ने रिजेक्ट न किया हो। जो रीकाम्बीनेशन के लायक नहीं था उस को हमने रिजेक्ट किया और उस के बाद वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम के पास चले गए। वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम से

और प्रोग्राम भी चलते हैं, जैसे रिप्यूजोड का प्रोग्राम था, महाराष्ट्र और राजस्थान का चला है, उसमें पहले भी वह देते रहे हैं।

जो भी सामान आता है उसकी जांच करायी जाती है, लोबोरेट्री में टेस्ट किया जाता है। जब भी कोई कन्साइनमेंट बम्बई, मद्रास, कलकत्ता में आता है तो पोर्टस के ऊपर जो हमारे लेबोरेट्रीज के आदमी हैं वह जाते हैं और उसको टेस्ट करते हैं, और टेस्ट करने के बाद जो ठीक नहीं होता उसको रिजेक्ट कर देते हैं। जो ह्यूमन कंजंपशन के लायक और रीकाम्बिनेशन के लायक था उसकी इजाजत दी गई वह दूसरे प्रोजेक्ट में इस्तेमाल हो सकता है, और खुपक को चीजों में इस्तेमाल हो सकता है। जो घटिया दर्जे का था, जो पशुओं के लिए ठीक था उसकी इजाजत दी कि वह जानवरों के लिए इस्तेमाल हो। केसीन बनाने के काम में आ जाय। और जो बिल्कुल खराब था जिसमें से बद्बू आ रही थी, 25 टन के करीब उसको समुद्र में फेंक दिया। इसलिए जो बार बार यह कहते हैं कि देश पर कलंक है, मैं कहता हूँ कि जो इस बात को दोहराते हैं कि हमारा देश मांगता है, भिखारी है, वह देश को कलंकित करते हैं। यह देश वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम में हिस्सेदार है, उसमें हम भी देते हैं, और जो चीज गलत थी उसको रिजेक्ट किया।

श्री बल्लभ साठे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने बड़े ध्यान से मंत्रीजी का बक्तव्य सुना, पर दुर्भाग्यवश मेरा समझान नहीं हुआ है। यह ठीक है उनका कहना कि हमने कोई दान

के रूप में नहीं लिया है, और हम भी वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम में हिस्सेदार हैं, और यह ओपरेशन फ्लड उस पर शुरू करने वाले हैं, यानी यह भी, दूध की गंगा इस देश में लाने वाले हैं। एक जमाना था कि हमारा देश प्रसिद्ध था कि इस देश में भी, दूध की गंगा बहती थी, अब क्या प्रदेश से भी और दूध आयेगा इस देश में गंगा के रूप में, यह हमारी योजना है? आप दूध का पाउडर लाये, अब आप उसमें बड़ा फ़ाइन डिस्टिक्शन कर रहे हैं, अध्यक्ष जी, आप को याद होगा कि कि जब माइलो का सवाल आया था तो उस वक्त भी यह कहा गया था कि आखिर थोड़े से धतूरे से क्या नुकसान होता है? तीन दाने एक किलो माइलों में हों तो कोई तकलीफ नहीं है, फायदा ही हो सकता है, और खासकर आदिवासियों को दे दिया जाये तो कोई नुकसान नहीं। माइलों के बाद अमरीका के लोगों ने कह दिया :

“Who asked you to purchase this? This is a cattle feed. It is pigs' feed in our country. You wanted it. Take it if you like and take it wherever you want”. This is what the Americans said to you. Now, again the same is the case with regard to this milk supply and what a fine distinction you have made—whether it can be converted into milk or not or mixed with it or not. I want to know it cannot be made into milk, then in what form you have distributed it to people living in the Rajasthan canal area to the Gujars in Maharashtra, the Advasi people and the backward people? In what form do they take it? Would they mix it in water and drink it as milk? There, it can be milk but for you, big dairies, it cannot be made into milk?

आप उन को दूध के रूप में नहीं दे सकते। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बात

[श्री वमन्त साठे]

सही है कि इस दूध पाउडर में बदबू आती थी, धी में भी बदबू आती थी, इसको आदमी खा नहीं सकता था इसलिये आपने उसको कंठम किया था ? फिर इस तरह का दूध का पाउडर श्रीर धी आप ने गरीबों को क्यों दिया ? किसने यह जांच की कि यह गरीबों को दिया जा सकता है ? गरीब और अमीर में आप कैसे भेद करते हैं ? फिर क्यों नहीं दिया आप ने डरीज को, शहरों को और बड़े लोगों के बच्चों को ? वहां क्यों नहीं दिया ? गरीबों को आप सब देते हैं क्योंकि वह आब्जेक्शन नहीं कर सकते। यह जो डिस्टिंक्शन है कि वह इसको मिस्र कर सकते हैं या नहीं, यह ठीक नहीं है। इसके बाद आप गिफ्ट की बात को नोजिए। कल आप ने स्टेटमेंट दिया है जो अखबारों में आया है।

"Shri Sher Singh stated that there was no question of foreign exchange payment since these supplies were gifts. Mrs. Purabi Mukherjee, one of the Congress General Secretaries, angrily asked; even if it were to be a gift, why should Government stoop to the level of accepting anything like this?"

गिफ्ट कह कर एक आघ्र चीज आती है, फ्री आती है, इसलिए किसी भी तरह से उसको हम ले लें, यह वृत्ति ठीक नहीं है। मेरा कहना है कि इसके बारे में पूरी जांच होनी चाहिए यदि किसी के भी मन में जरा भी शंका आती है कि वह एक दर्जे का दूध नहीं है, चाहे वह गिफ्ट हो या कैसा भी हो। वह वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम की प्रापटी है वह किसी को भी उसे बेच सकते हैं।

If you reject it, can they give it to somebody else in this country? If your Corporation says it is not acceptable, it must not be given to anybody else in this country in any form. That must be your attitude, gift or no gift. That is why I would humbly submit that you clarify this position; Would it be your stand or not that any such milk powder or ghee which is not acceptable to the Dairy Corporation will not be taken in this country in any form, whether as caseine or as cattle feed or anything else? Are you short of cattle food in this country? Why do you want to utilise such stuff and open the door for mischief?

Therefore, I would humbly request the Minister to clarify this position whether you are going to have this policy of accepting only standard and good quality products in this country.

PROF. SHER SINGH: I made it amply clear that we conveyed to WFP that these are the specifications of skimmed milk powder and butter oil which we will expect. When they sent certain skimmed milk powder and butter or which was not up to the quality, we rejected it. But then the question arose, how to dispose of it, whether to give it back or not. They were running some other projects also in this country. They transferred some quantity which was found suitable for human consumption—it was analysed in the laboratories; duly tested—though it may not be suitable for recombination.....

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI (Shajapur): The question is of nutrition.

PROF. SHER SINGH: That was transferred to other projects of WFP, not that we allowed them to use it for weaker sections of the population for Adivasis or for Rajasthan people. In fact, the WFP was already running these other projects also

They transferred some quantity of the skimmed milk powder and butter oil which was fit for human consumption to those projects, not that we selected them and said it should be given to Maharashtra or Rajasthan. There were some other programmes of WFP going on. They transferred some quantity of milk powder and ghee which was suitable for human consumption to these projects.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : He is again and again emphasising 'suitable'. What does he mean by it, in nutrition content, in taste, in what form? Or is it because only your technical laboratory said so.

श्री हुकम खन्व कछवाय (मुरेना) :
वह आदमी के खाने लायक नहीं था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप उनको बोलने दीजिए। जो कुछ आप लोगों को कहना था आप ने कह दिया।

PROF. SHER SINGH : The laboratories tested it.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : (Serampore) : Which laboratory?

PROF. SHER SINGH : We have to believe somebody. The experts have to be believed. They tested and analysed it in the laboratory and made it clear that such and such quantity is suitable for human consumption. Only that was distributed, not others. That which was not found for human consumption, was given for animal food or for caseine production. The quantity which was found unsuitable even for this purpose was thrown away. I have given the breakup of all these and I have made the position amply clear.

In 'Operation Flood', we are generating funds out of the sale of this skimmed milk powder, etc., which we are getting. This will be utilised in expanding the processing capacity of our milk plants so that we can create a market for the production of milk and also produce more milk so that we may not have to import skimmed milk powder

in future. In the next five years, we want to increase our milk production and also create a market for the milk. These are the purposes for which this Rs. 95.4 crores have to be utilised—the fund generated by this.

श्री हुकम खन्व कछवाय - बाहर
मे दूध मगवा कर आप यहा दूध की गंगा बहाना चाहते है ?

प्र.० शेर सिंह : यह लोग यहां पर गंगा की बात तो कहते है, लेकिन करते कुछ नहीं हैं। रोज गंगा का नाम लेते है लेकिन जब पशु मरते है तब कोई बहा पर नहीं जाता। राजस्थान मे जब पशु मरते हैं तब वहा कोई जनसंघी नखर नहीं आता, गुजरात मे मरते है तब वहां कोई जनसंघी नखर नहीं आता। आज सारी मुसीबतो को दूर करने के लिए एक ही रास्ता है कि हम अपने देश में दूध ज्यादा पैदा करे। कितने शर्म की बात है कि हमारे देश मे लोगो को दो छंटाक दूध भी नहीं मिलता जब कि दूसरे देशों मे इतना मिलता है ?

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : (Mahendragarh) : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated—'it is a shameful thing—that there is not enough milk in the country, not even two ounces per head is available.' I would like to know who is responsible for this shocking state of affairs. Now, after 25 years since getting Independence, we are still depending upon charity in the matter of things like butter and milk in a vast agricultural country like ours. We have done nothing to implement the directive principles of State policy under article 48 of the Constitution which says that the State would develop agriculture and animal husbandry scientifically and that milch cattle would be protected.

[Shri Birender Singh Rao]

It is not a question of foreign countries giving us rotten food intentionally. These things can happen, and I am not very much perturbed about certain quantities being substandard. But the question that I would like to ask is, what is the intention behind this food aid to India by the World Food Programme. What are the conditions under which this food is made available to be used in this country?

The hon. Minister has stated that out of the sale of these items supplied to India, about Rs. 100 crores would be realised and this would be spent on the development of dairies. If the development of dairies in India depend upon this kind of aid only, then we are doing nothing to develop dairies and animal husbandry in India. So, I would like to know whether this food programme also covers the supply of similar things from bodies like CARE or the Christian Missions.

I would like to ask specifically whether it is not the intention behind this free aid to India that it should be utilised for the undernourished people, for the destitute, for the poorer sections of society in India. It appears that all this aid is being used by the Government to make money. I would like to call it a "black trade" in poverty. It is just like getting some poor people or destitutes paraded in the bazars for collecting alms, and then some hoodlum snatching their earnings of the day. If this is the situation in India, it is really disgraceful.

Would the hon. Minister please clarify these points as to what is the intention behind this aid; whether this is really meant for Government making profits over this and utilising it for the development of dairies and if this was found unsuitable for human consumption through the Corporation set up by the Government in making milk preparations and butter, why was it allowed to be sold to *halaais*?

Was it not meant for human consumption when it was given to *halaais* and others?

The responsibility for this should be accepted by Government. The Minister cannot get away by merely saying that the World Food Organisation had set up its own organisation through which they can sell it. If it is to be sold to private people, they should have consulted the Government. Why was the permission given, if they had obtained it to sell it to the private people and if it was unfit for human consumption? Sir, these are various points which have perturbed the people's minds and I would like the hon. Minister to give an assurance in this House that this aid is being utilised for the purpose for which it is being received. Why is it not being utilised properly and why is the Government making money in the name of the poor people by disposing of such huge stocks received as aid by Government? Is it being done just to fill up its own coffers and for implementation of its own programme? Cow slaughter should be banned. What steps have they taken to increase production of milk in the country?

He should state as to how much time would it take for this country to become self-sufficient in the matter of milk and butter? What concrete steps are being taken to carry out the directives embodied in Article 48 to put an end to the slaughter of milch cattle? What is to be done is to develop dairies on scientific and modern lines.

PROF. SHER SINGH: The hon. Member has raised three questions. The first question is that out of 1,26,000 pounds of skimmed milk powder that were sent from the W.F.P. how much of it was utilised for the purpose for which it was meant. He further asked whether this was misutilised and whether Government made some money out of that. I would like to make it clear. What is obtained under this programme is not just like what is given from CARE and other agencies. This programme is for a specific purpose and the money generated through this is used for the purpose of improving our dairies. It is also used for increasing the production

of milch cattle. All these points have been made clear in my statement also. The question raised by the hon. Member is very pertinent. He raised a question as to why should we allow the World Food Programme people to sell these rejected milk powder and ghee to private parties.

In fact, from the statements that I put before the House, the hon. Member would find that 25 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 18 tonnes of butter oil did go to the private people. These were given by the World Food Programme. Now we have objected to this. I made it clear in my statement also that in future whatever things are to be disposed of, that would be done through I.D.C. and not by them. We find that they have sold some quantity even though small to the private parties. Therefore we took objection to that.

About the quality also, we took objection. We brought it before the International Committee which met in Rome. We also made it clear to the various countries who are contributing this that they should not supply us these sub-standard things. They should supply only standard things. Those countries have appreciated that. When the Executive Director came here recently, we made it clear to him. We have been discussing these things at the international level. There is some improvement, but as for the sub-standard products still, we are rejecting it. When we are not getting things upto the standards, we are rejecting them. So, we are taking all the care in this regard. The third point that he raised is as to what we are doing about stopping the slaughter of cows. Regarding this point, we have written to all the States. Most of them have enacted legislation. There is a Committee which is going into the matter. And after the report of the Committee is received, we shall take some action.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik. He is absent. Prof. Dandavate.

4078 LS—9

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject on calling attention notice is about the rotten milk powder that we have received which is unfit for human consumption. Please permit me to say that the statement of the hon. Minister made in this House is also unfit for human consumption.

The Green Revolution was distorted by wrong priorities, faulty policies and mal-administration. Even the White Revolution which we are seeking to usher in through import of milk powder from other countries, I am sure, is also getting distorted because of wrong priorities, faulty policies and mal-administration. In quick succession after the milo episode, we are having this episode. There is an element of similarity in both. The former dealt with purchase of certain commodities. In this case we are dealing with the so-called gifts. In both cases, we find foreign agencies have treated human life in India with scant respect. In both cases it is contended that what is unfit for human consumption can be used as animal feed, assuming we discriminate in India between human life and animals.

We find there are certain discrepancies as far as this problem is concerned. The Indian Dairy Corporation, a public sector undertaking, acts as the agent of the Central Government in receiving commodities like milk powder from abroad and their sale to public sector milk plants. It was made clear by the Minister that these were received as gifts. There is so much of discussion about *dan*. It has been interpreted in different ways but to give a more respectable interpretation, once Vinobha Bhave said that *dan* does not mean gift; it means equitable distribution. He quoted Shankaracharya: दानम साम्यदाय : I do not know whether the hon. Minister wants to put the same interpretation on the word '*dan*'. Whatever be the interpretation, I would like to pose this question. In the form of gifts if we go on getting such rotten and poisonous

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate] stuff and saying it is unfit for human consumption, if it is passed on to bakeries and halwais, what will happen? The minister said that a portion of it is not fit for human consumption but others have been found to be fit for human consumption. Therefore, I want to know how it is sold to bakeries and halwais and for other purposes? I would like to give a warning. When you pass on these materials to others, through malpractices there will be loopholes through which the sale of these materials will take place. In the case of the rag scandal, a similar situation had developed. Under a certain interpretation, certain types of clothing were described as rags. They came as rags and they were not supposed to be fit for human consumption. But there are human beings in this country who feel even the rags can be worn because they consider it to be the natural clothing of many people in this country where 40 per cent of people live below the poverty line. I am sure the same type of malpractices will take place here. If you ask for a gift and try to sell it in the hope that you will be able to generate a certain income which you will utilise for processing your projects, that may be the pious intention of Government but in reality a lot of malpractices will take place.

After this episode, have you affixed responsibility on certain officials for failure to supervise and check this material in time? The same question was posed during the milo episode and here also the same question I want to pose. A cursory reference has been made. On 18th March, *Patriot* carried a big report under the caption, "Beware buying stuff unfit for human consumption". He said that that report is not correct if such a report has appeared in *Patriot*. But why is it that such a report remained completely uncontradicted till a calling attention notice was tabled in Rajya Sabha? Till this day publicly in the press such a dangerous report has not been contradicted at all. It means probably you connived at it and your conscience itself

told you that there is an element of substance in it.

This episode has occurred now. We find that certain portions of the material brought over here are rotten milk powder, not fit for human consumption. I would like to know whether at an earlier stage a similar episode had taken place, whether it acted as a warning for future but it went unheeded.

I would like to pose this question also: Is there any collusion that has taken place between the Indian officials and certain officials operating at the level of WFP? Very often we find that whenever such malpractices occur, there is some sort of collusion between the authorities at international levels and the authorities here. I would like the minister specifically to reply to the specific questions I have raised.

PROF. SHER SINGH : On the 18th, when this news appeared in *Patriot* I read it and at once marked it to my officers to supply me all the facts. Naturally it takes time because we have to collect it from Baroda, the headquarters of the Indian Dairy Corporation. In the meantime we received notice of this calling attention and therefore I thought contradicting it outside the House would have been a breach of privilege of this House and I did not want to make that mistake, even though I got the information.

MR. SPEAKER : Even if it were poison, you would not have made a statement?

PROF. SHER SINGH : I would have. He asked, did you take care to see that what was declared fit for human consumption was really fit for human consumption? In fact, we got it tested by the laboratories. In future, I assure the House that we would take more care. If something is rejected, we will take double care and get it examined more than once.

He asked about collusion. The very fact that our officers rejected such a huge quantity *prima facie* does not show there could have been collusion. We had one doubt. After some 4084 tonnes were rejected, again subsequently 566 tonnes of milk powder which was declared fit for recombination by the IDC officers were subsequently recommended for rejection. May be due to passage of time, delay, mishandling, etc., something might have happened. But we have asked for the explanation of the IDC why after they accepted all that quantity, after some time they say that 566 tonnes of skimmed milk and 155 tonnes of butter oil were subsequently found unfit for recombination.

We had to send again. We have asked for the explanation of IDC—to explain why this thing has taken place. We asked them in February, I think, I do not remember the date. When we came to know, we asked about it. If we find that some officer is responsible for this, we will take action against him, we are not going to spare anybody. (Interruptions). When we reject it at the port, it becomes the property of WFP because they have to replace it. If it is rejected after we have accepted, then it becomes our property. As I have said, we have asked for the explanation. We have asked them to explain why, after accepting that quantity, another 566 tonnes of skimmed milk powder was found unsuitable, what was the reason.

As for the definition of 'dan' by Acharya Vinobha Bhave, actually it is give-and-take; we give and we also take. For the quantity, we do not pay as such, but we pay in other ways. This, we received as gift in the sense that we do not pay for it in foreign exchange. In other forms, we also give those things which we have in plenty to others.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Just a clarification. You have said that a part of

this milk powder has been sent to Maharashtra Forest Department and also to Rajasthan Canal Project. You might be knowing that weaker sections are connected with this Department and Project. Are you sending it to the vulnerable sections of the society?

PROF. SHER SINGH: I made it clear at that time also. The World Food Programme is running projects in the Rajasthan Canal Project and also in the Maharashtra Forest Development Board. They had their projects running there already. It is not that a new project has been started just to give this milk powder or butter oil to the vulnerable sections of the society. They were already having some projects there.

12.49 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

FORTY-EIGHTH REPORT OF LAW COMMISSION AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT AND ANDHRA PRADESH CHARITABLE AND HINDU RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AND ENDOWMENTS ACT.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of Forty-eighth Report of the Law Commission on some questions under the Code of Criminal Procedure Bill, 1970. [Placed in Library Sec. No. LT-460/73].

(2) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 11(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th January, 1973 making certain amendment in Schedule IX to the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1966 in respect of the State of Tamil Nadu, under sub-section (a) of section 9 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 [Placed in Library. Sec. No. LT-460/73].