

of the following Notifications under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (i) G.S.R. 501 dated the 30th April, 1960.
- (ii) G.S.R. 805 dated the 14th July, 1960 making certain amendment to the Sugar (Movement Control) Order, 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2261/60].

AMENDMENT TO INDIA AIRCRAFT RULES

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 559 dated the 21st May, 1960 making certain further amendment to the Indian Aircraft Rules, 1937, under sub-section (3) of Section 5 of the Indian Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an Explanatory Note thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2262/60].

12.16½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE: DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS, 1957-58

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): On behalf of Shri Morarji Desai I beg to present a statement showing Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1957-58.

12.16¾ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SIXTY-SIXTH REPORT

Shri Jhulan Sinha (Siwan): I beg to present the Sixty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.17 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

DELHI MILK SCHEME

Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The allegations of adulteration of milk supplied under Delhi Milk Scheme”.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): As the House is aware, the Delhi Milk Scheme started functioning on 1st November 1959. It made a humble beginning with the sale of 150 maunds of milk per day through 32 depots and 16 institutions. The work has gradually increased and at present out of a total demand of 7,000 maunds per day for the entire City, the Central Dairy handles 1500 maunds of milk. The number of depots has also increased to 280. Thus, at the moment, the Scheme is meeting more than 20% demand of the City.

From the very beginning a well-equipped Quality Control Laboratory has formed an integral part of the Scheme so that the quality of milk as it passes through several stages of handling and processing can be ensured after proper tests. No adverse report had been received regarding the purity of the milk. We were, therefore, somewhat surprised when the proceedings of the Delhi Municipal Corporation dated 12-7-60 containing allegations of adulteration of milk supplied under the Delhi Milk Scheme reached us on 15-7-60. We immediately ordered a thorough investigation in the matter.

The facts as reported to us are as follows:—

Between February and June 1960, the Delhi Municipal Corporation authorities took 8 samples of milk

[Shri M. V. Krishnappa]

sold under the Scheme. 5 of the samples were of toned milk and 3 of whole buffalo milk. 7 of these samples were taken from the hospitals to which milk was supplied in cans and one sample was taken under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act by a Food Inspector of the Corporation from one of the milk depots in the City. The result of the tests by the Public Analyst disclosed that only one sample of toned milk was below standard with regard to its fat content—it was 2.4% whereas it should have been 3%. All the other samples had a higher fat content than the minimum prescribed under the Act. The position in regard to solids-not-fat content, however, was that 4 samples, 3 of buffalo milk and one of toned milk were found to be below standard as they contained from 0.31% to 0.35% less in case of buffalo milk and 0.09% less in case of toned milk.

The deficiency in these cases has been attributed by the experts to the fact that milk is kept in cold store for 12—18 hours during which period cream rises to the top of the can or gets concentrated on the sides. It is necessary to mix it well to achieve uniform homogeneity before the sample can be called a representative one.

As I say, no adverse report had been received from the Quality Control Laboratory of the Central Dairy. Nevertheless, in order to satisfy ourselves further, we had a meeting with the Minister of Health and his Technical Advisers on 22nd July 1960. They were fully satisfied that the milk supplied under the Scheme was of good and pure quality and that there was no evidence of adulteration. The Ministry of Health also issued a Press statement to this effect on 23rd July, 1960.

It would appear that the allegations of adulteration are baseless. We regret to say that a good deal of

criticism is based on the propaganda done by interested parties. The Delhi Milk Scheme is doing good work in spite of the odds that it has inevitably to face in its nascent stage.

I can assure the House that we are most anxious to maintain the highest possible standards in order to ensure supply of pure milk. We are evolving in consultation with the Ministry of Health a uniform procedure for taking milk samples for testing. We are also taking steps to improve the administrative set-up of the Scheme so that any complaints as to quality are looked into carefully and quickly with a view to taking suitable remedial measures.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if the health authorities of the Delhi Municipal Corporation who made these allegations are satisfied with the explanation given by the Minister and whether they have dropped the idea of prosecuting the persons who are manning the Delhi Milk Scheme?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Our officers blame the Delhi corporation officers, because, they are allowing 90 per cent of the milk in Delhi which is adulterated up to 60 per cent. All the cream is taken and only the milk is sold as pure milk in Delhi. Our dairy cannot compete with such milk which is 60 per cent adulterated. Our officers asked the Delhi corporation officers to enforce strict measures in the case of other people. Delhi Administration says, your milk is adulterated 1 per cent. Where is 60 per cent, and where is 1 per cent adulteration? During the summer months, sometimes, the adulteration is even higher. If the Delhi authorities look to preventing the other milk that is adulterated up to 60 per cent that is brought into the Delhi city, we will be very grateful to them.