

ing them that the scooters have not yet arrived. Has this come to the notice of Government? In Bangalore these things are happening for a long time. Allottees are not getting the scooters in time even though the scooters are available with the agent. Would Government make an inquiry into this matter and take steps in this connection?

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOU-DHURY: The question was relating to the higher price charged by the dealer and the manufacturer.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: They are asking for higher prices.

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOU-DHURY: The information given to me by the hon. Member is with regard to the agents withholding scooters and not selling them. Certainly, I will take the information from the hon. Member and look into this aspect of the matter.

रेलवे की खान-पान व्यवस्था के विभाग की हानि

*1084. **श्री गेंदा सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेलवे के खान-पान व्यवस्था विभाग को वर्ष 1970-71 में कितनी हानि हुई और इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ख) रेलवे के खान-पान विक्रेताओं की सहकारी संस्थाओं को ऐसे ठेके न दिये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Departmental Catering on the Railways did not incur any loss in the year 1970, on the other hand, they earned a profit of Rs. 26.12 lakhs approximately.

(b) When it is proposed to appoint a new catering or vending contractor at a station, allotment of contract to Cooperatives run by railway staff or of vendors or voluntary social organisations, is favourably considered, subject to conditions, namely 1. reasonable rates;

2. quality of foodstuff; and 3. satisfactory service. Where no such organisation is available capable of rendering satisfactory performance, the vacancy is advertised and filled up by allotment to a suitable contractor.

श्री गेंदा सिंह: जो डिपार्टमेंट के हाथ में केटरिंग है उसमें 26.12 लाख रुपये का मुनाफा हुआ है। इसमें तो यह सही है कि तरक्की हुई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ क्या इस बात की तरफ भी आप का ध्यान है कि खाने का जो सामान है उसमें भी कुछ तरक्की हो ? मेरी जानकारी में यह आया है कि उसमें तरक्की नहीं हुई है।

सहकारी संस्थायें जो आवेदन पत्र देती हैं उन पर मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि सहानुभूति-पूर्वक विचार किया जाता है। इस बात को निम्न करने के लिए क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि कितने आवेदन पत्र आए थे और उनमें से कितनों पर सहानुभूति के साथ विचार करके सहकारी संस्थाओं को केटरिंग का काम दिया गया ? संख्या बतलाने की क्या मंत्री महोदय कृपा करेंगे ?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Regarding the quality of food I receive several complaints that at various places the service is not satisfactory. In some places the service is satisfactory. We are continuously watching so that improvement may be made. We have taken strict measures. We have decentralised the controlling authority so that the man on the spot can continuously check. This is a question where food preparation is done daily. Sometimes it is not up to standard. I am aware of it. We are continuously trying to improve it.

So far as the second question is concerned, I have not got the figures here of the number of applications received and the number granted because it pertains to all the rail zones all over India. If the hon. Member is particular, I will collect the figures and supply to him.

श्री गेंदा सिंह: यह सूचना है कि सहकारी संस्थाओं के जितने आवेदन पत्र आये, उन पर

सहानुभूति के साथ विचार नहीं हुआ। क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बारे में केवल सूचना ही न देकर यह जांच भी करायेंगे कि ये आवेदन पत्र स्वीकृत क्यों नहीं हुए ?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : Several Members are aware that when they made representation regarding cooperative societies in Punjab and Haryana, I have conceded the request. If my hon. friend has got any particular application in view, I will consider it provided he brings it to my notice.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि रेलवे कैंटीनों में काफी लाभ हुआ है। लेकिन जो प्राइवेट लोग भोजनालय चला रहे हैं, उनसे रेलवे को उतना फायदा नहीं हुआ है, जितना कि उन प्राइवेट ठेकेदारों को। इन ठेकों के लिए लाखों रुपये की रिजर्वत ली जाती है। बम्बई और दूसरे बड़े बड़े नगरों में यही स्थिति है। क्या मंत्री महोदय यह प्रथा चालू करेंगे कि इन भोजनालयों के लाइसेन्स नीलाम किये जायें और सबसे अधिक पैसा देने वालों को ही दिये जायें ? इन भोजनालयों में जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं उनका भविष्य बिल्कुल अन्धकारमय है। उनको ठीक तनख्वाह नहीं मिलती है और न उनकी सर्विस की कोई गारण्टी है। क्या मंत्री महोदय उन कर्मचारियों की स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए कोई व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : On the recommendation of a Committee long time ago, we introduced departmental catering. If I understand him correctly, he wants that departmental catering should be abolished. That is not the intention of the Government. So far as the price and other things are concerned, as and when we received information, we deal with it. Also, there is a vigilance department which makes *suo motu* enquiries. We are doing these things.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने यह भी पूछा है कि इन दुकानों पर जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं, कई साल काम

करने के बाद भी उनको निकाल दिया जाता है। एक ठेकेदार उनको रखता है और जब दूसरा ठेकेदार आता है, तो वह उनको निकाल देता है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन लोगों की सर्विस पक्की हो, इसके लिए मंत्री महोदय क्या व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं।

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : The hon. Minister said that the food and servicing also is good, not very bad. But so far as our knowledge goes, while servicing might be good, the quality of food is deteriorating day after day as can be seen the way in which the kitchens in the dining cars are run. In view of this, will the Government consider to serve food in packets as they are serving in Rajdhani Express and in aeroplanes also ?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : In fact, that is a suggestion which has already been accepted and they are going to implement that suggestion.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : I would like to know....

MR. SPEAKER : You should have caught my eye.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : Shall I put the question ?

MR. SPEAKER : You have already started it. It is all right.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : Thank you.

As the nation is expecting that the cooperatives should be encouraged, may I know what is being done by the Railways to make special efforts to see that catering is slowly decentralised and given to the cooperative societies ?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA : I have already answered that.

Ajoy River Project

* 1087. **SHRI A. K. SAHA :**

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the necessity and urgency to take up the Ajoy River Project Scheme between Burdwan and