

**MR. SPEAKER :** He is giving the view of the Government.

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :**....because, there is an assured supply to them. But, as I have said, when the situation improves, it is always subject to review. As I have said, it has been used only as a strategy.

**SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI :** I asked whether the Government thinks that this zonal system makes for greater integration of India.

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :** I am not going into that question. I said, it is a strategy.

#### PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

\*633. **SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received the figures of procurement of foodgrains and demands for allotment from the various States for the year 1968-69;

(b) if so, what are the demands of each State and how much of it is likely to be met from procurement from the country; and

(c) whether these demands would be adequately met taking into consideration the next year's foodgrains import programme?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) :** (a) The 1968-69 marketing season has not yet started and the question of supplying figures of procurement for that year does not arise at this stage. The demands for allotment of foodgrains for that year have not also been received from any State so far.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा :** देश के विभिन्न प्रान्तों में सरकार ने जो प्रोक्वोरमेंट की

कीमत सुकरिर कर रखी है, उस में खरीद पर कितने फीसदी खर्च डाला जाता है तथा मेल-प्राइस और परचेज प्राइस में कम से कम और अधिक से अधिक कितना अन्तर निश्चित किया गया है? क्या सरकार को ऐसी शिकायतें मिली हैं कि इम्पोर्टेड व्हीट और कन्ट्री व्हीट में 30 पैसे में 40 पैसे किलो का फर्क कीमतों में रहा है?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** In fact this question does not arise out of the question asked by the hon. Member.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Yes, this question relates only to procurement of foodgrains and demands from various States.

**श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, वह तो इमी से उत्पन्न होता है। मैंने तो बड़े साफ़ तौर पर पूछा है कि किस भाव पर खरीदते हैं और किस भाव पर बेचते हैं।

**MR. SPEAKER :** The hon. Member is asking about the price of imported wheat etc. which has no relevance to this question. Let him ask the second question.

**श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले साल की तरह इस साल भी किसी सूबे में अनाज की कमी नहीं होगी और न ही भाव चढ़ने दिये जायेंगे और वे भारत सरकार से जितने अनाज की मांग करेंगे उतना अनाज उनको दिया जाएगा? क्या इसका भरोसा आप दिलाते हैं?

**श्री जगजीवन राम :** पिछले साल की अपेक्षा अवस्था अधिक संतोषप्रद रहेगी, यह निश्चित बात है। लेकिन यह कहना कि जितना मांगेंगे उतना दे दिया जाएगा, ऐसा नहीं बल्कि जो मुनासिब होगा वह दिया जाएगा।

**SHRI HEM BARUA :** The progress of procurement by most of the States is slow and sluggish. Even the State of Assam has fulfilled only one-third of the procurement target. At the same time, the Government propose to build a buffer stock of foodgrains, partially by

imports under PL 480 and partially by food procurement in this country. In this context, since the progress of procurement in most of the States has become slow and sluggish, do the Government think it right to create a buffer stock with imports from abroad under PL 480?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** The rate of progress in general is very encouraging in the country as a whole and we have crossed the 2 million tonne mark by the end of February. But, of course, as the hon. Member has rightly pointed out, here and there are certain pockets, certain States in the country, where the trend of procurement is not very happy and we have drawn the attention of the State Governments concerned to this.

**SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :** May I ask a question which has been repeatedly asked in the country, about the assessment of 100 million tonnes this year, which shows an increase of 22 million tonnes as compared to last year, when we required only an import of 10 million tonnes of foodgrains. Now we are expected to import 4 million to 7 million tonnes during this year. Is it due to the failure of the distribution machinery or the food habits of the people that much more food requires to be imported this year? Or is it because of our desire to build a buffer stock? May I also ask the Government whether they expect a rise in the seasonal price of foodgrains in the country this year?

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :** I do not think any new information has been sought for. This has been replied to so many times in this House.

**SHRI D. N. PATODIA :** So long as the zonal restrictions continue, the farmer will be deprived of a fair price and he will always be reluctant to part with his stock and the procurement programme is bound to fail. It is not enough that we have a buffer stock of an adequate quantity out of the marketable surplus for mobilisation of resources. The hon. Minister has stated just now that he will not allow India to be one zone. Will he at least give this assurance that he will divide India into

four regions and not more than that so that procurement will be easy?

**MR. SPEAKER :** This point can be made during the food debate.

**SHRI D. N. PATODIA :** Let him give an assurance that this will be done.

**MR. SPEAKER :** It is a very good suggestion, I assure you.

**SHRI D. N. PATODIA :** Let him give a reply to this. They are meeting on the 16th. May I know whether this particular aspect will also be considered in that meeting?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** Various aspects regarding the Rabi procurement rate will be considered in the Chief Ministers' Conference.

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :** I would like to say that the hon. Member has made an assumption that in the food zones the farmer does not get a reasonable price. But he has not said what he should have said, that the traders do not get the opportunity. That was his real intention. He can rest assured that we will see that the farmer gets a reasonable price in every State.

**SHRI HEM BARUA :** Sir, on a point of order. Under rule 41 the purpose of the question hour is to elicit information. When a question is asked, the Minister has to give a reply. He cannot go into assumptions of the Member who has asked the question.

**SHRI KARTIK ORAON :** The object of family planning is wholly misunderstood and misinterpreted.

**MR. SPEAKER :** This is the question hour. He cannot traverse the whole world. I will call some other hon. Member.

**SHRI KARTIK ORAON :** Sir, it is very relevant.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He cannot do it. This is not the time for joking.

**SHRI KARTIK ORAON :** I will ask one question.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Ask about food, not about family planning.

**SHRI KARTIK ORAON :** If you know the question, you will not say I am joking.

It is misunderstood and misinterpreted also and even in the field of industry, they are doing family planning, instead of increasing production, they are cutting down production. I am coming to the question proper....

**MR. SPEAKER :** If this is the way, I can tell you that in future you will not catch my eye.

**SHRI KARTIK ORAON :** Under the forced circumstances in the grip of famine, people in Chota Nagpur have to go through the process of family planning just for Rs. 15 or Rs. 18... (Interruption).

**MR. SPEAKER :** Order, order. I have disallowed the question. Will he kindly sit down? In spite of my repeated request, he is doing it. Shri Swell.

**SHRI SWELL :** I would like to know whether it is a fact that some States are procuring foodgrains in the open market and, if so, what are those States and how the prices they pay in the open market compare with the prices that the Government is paying to the producer. In view of the very good crop this year, will the Government adopt the policy of allowing every State to procure foodgrains in the open market?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** As far as procurement is concerned, the mode of procurement has been left to the discretion of the State Governments and in some States, of course, according to State Governments, procurement is being made in the open market as such. But, as has been assured in the House, the trend of prices is on the lower side, and wherever the prices are going down, we are taking steps so that the foodgrains are procured at procurement prices.

**SHRI SWELL :** My question has not been answered. I have asked, specifically how the prices that the Government is paying in the open market compare with

the prices that they are paying to the producer directly.

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** In the open market, the procurement prices are fixed. Even where the purchases are made in the open market, they are made at the procurement prices.

**SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU :** Is it a fact that the imported rice costs Rs. 1,350 per tonne when it lands in India and is it a fact that the Andhra Government supplies rice at Rs. 700 per tonne excluding Rs. 150 charged by the Food Corporation as handling charges? Is the Government prepared to pay the same amount to the Andhra farmers? Secondly, I want to know whether it is a fact that the Andhra farmers have refused to give their rice for export to other States in view of the Central Government's discriminatory policy in cutting down the Central assistance to the lowest and also preaching sermons whenever the State Government approaches them for any financial aid which is humiliating?

**SHRI D. C. SHARMA :** He is preaching a sermon!

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :** It contains a fair proportion of sermon as well.

**MR. SPEAKER :** The first portion about the price may be answered.

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :** So far as the price of rice is concerned, the procurement price of paddy or rice in Andhra Pradesh has been fixed in consultation with the State Government and we are procuring at that price. So far as the assistance to Andhra Government for agricultural purposes is concerned, I may assure the hon. Member that we are giving something for Nagarjunasagar project.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He wanted to know whether the indigenous price is lower than the imported price.

**SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM :** Our indigenous price is lower than the imported price.

श्री राम सेवक यादव : मैं मंत्री महोदय से दो जानकारी चाहता हूँ। एक तो यह कि क्या

मंत्री महोदय को पता चला है कि राज्यों में जो अन्न उगाही योजना चल रही है उसमें छूटे किसानों में जबरन वसूली होती है, वे नहीं देते हैं तो उन पर मुकदमे भी चलते हैं और जो बड़े किसान और यांत्रिक फार्म हैं वे अधिकारियों में मिल कर छूट जाते हैं ? दूसरे जहां तक दामों की बात है, अन्न के दाम तो गिरे हैं लेकिन जो दूसरी जातों-योगी वस्तुएँ हैं, जिन्हें कल कारखाने पैदा करते हैं, उनके दाम अभी घटे नहीं हैं तो क्या इस चीज को ठीक करने के लिये उनके पाम कोई योजना है ?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** As far as the complaints against procurement are concerned, it is for the hon. Member to refer them to the State Government concerned. As I have already submitted, the particular mode of procurement that has to be followed by the State Government is entirely at the discretion of the State Government. If the hon. Member brings to my notice any specific complaint, I am prepared to forward it to the State Government concerned. As far as the price level is concerned, I do not think that the question covers that.

**श्री राम सेवक यादव :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मंत्री महोदय ने मन्‍यों के बारे में कहा था इसलिए मैंने वह प्रश्न पूछा था कि जव अन्न के दाम गिरे हैं और अन्य चीजों के दाम नहीं गिरे हैं तो, वह उस रिश्ते को कैसे ठीक करेंगे . . . . .

**MR. SPEAKER :** No, no. Mr. Mahida.

**SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA :** While replying to the question asked by Shri Hem Barua, the Minister of State agreed with him that some of the States are sluggish and slow in procurement. In that context, may I ask the hon. Minister to name the States which are slow in the procurement of foodgrains ?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** It is so in some of the States. For instance, in West Bengal, procurement is not pro-

gressing very satisfactorily, though compared to the last year the procurement is better. In Kerala also, we wish that the procurement should be more. There are a few other States also where the procurement is not. . . . . (Interruptions).

**SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR :** Why should he make such a statement in this House ? In Kerala they had fixed a target and they have exceeded the target, but he goes on slandering the State Government like this. . . . . (Interruptions).

**MR. SPEAKER :** Is it a fact that in Kerala they had fixed a target and they have exceeded the target ?

**SHRI E. K. NAYANAR** rose—

**MR. SPEAKER :** He will sit down. I have myself asked that question on his behalf.

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** Provisional targets were indicated by the Agricultural Prices Commission, and I am speaking with reference to the target indicated by the Agricultural Prices Commission. The State Governments are making endeavours to see. . . . . (Interruptions). Some State Governments have brought down the targets. They thought that it might not be possible to reach the target indicated by the Agricultural Prices Commission. I was speaking with reference to the target indicated by the Agricultural Prices Commission.

**SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :** In Kerala they have exceeded the target. Why is he saying. . . . .

**MR. SPEAKER :** I have myself got the clarification. He will sit down. The others also must get a chance. He has clarified the position very clearly. The target fixed by the Agricultural Prices Commission is something different from what the State Government has fixed. He has made this very clear.

**SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR :** Do the State Governments fix the target or does the Central Government fix the target ? (Interruptions).

**SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :** The Kerala Government have exceeded the

target by 5,000 tonnes. Why is he hiding the facts? (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order Mr. Madhok.

श्री बलराज मधोक: अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि इस बार फसल अच्छी हुई है और इसलिए प्रोक्वोरमेंट भी अधिक हो रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि फसल अच्छी होने के कारण ऐसे कौन कौन राज्य हैं जो कि पिछली बार डैफिसिट थे और अब की बार वह सैल्फ सफिशिएंट होंगे और कौन से राज्य इस बार भी डैफिसिट में रहेंगे?

जब अनाज का प्रोक्वोरमेंट करना है तो उस के लिए स्टोरेंज चाहिए और देश के अन्दर प्रोक्वोरमेंट का जितना आपने टार्गेट तय किया है उतने अनाज को स्टोर करने की क्या आप के पास कैपैसिटी है? क्या यह सत्य है कि आपने इस साल के बजट में केवल 2 करोड़ रुपया स्टोरेंज के लिए रखवा है और जाहिर है कि इस दो करोड़ रुपये में वह तमाम अनाज स्टोरेंज की कैपैसिटी नहीं बन पायेगी और अगर वह नहीं बनती है तो आप का प्रोक्वोरमेंट अनाज है उस में से बहुत काफी अनाज जाया हो जायेगा इसलिए इस प्रोक्वोरमेंट अनाज को ठोक ढंग में स्टोर करने के लिये आप ने क्या पग उठाये हैं?

श्री जगजीवन राम: फसल अब की बार अच्छी है और बहुत से राज्य जो पिछले साल दुरवस्था में थे उन की अवस्था अच्छी हो गई है। मध्य प्रदेश बराबर से एक ऐसा राज्य रहा है जो दूसरे राज्यों को देता है लेकिन पिछले साल उस राज्य को भी केन्द्र से अनाज देने की आवश्यकता पड़ी थी। इस साल उन के यहां से मेरा अन्दाज़ है कि कोई 5-6 लाख टन अनाज मिल सकेगा। बंगाल डैफिसिट रहेगा, केरल डैफिसिट रहेगा। मैं मसूर एक मारजिनल तरीके से डैफिसिट है लेकिन इस वर्ष तीन, चार जिलों की हालत

खराब हो जाने के कारण उन की जरूरत पिछले साल से कुछ ज्यादा हो गयी है। आंध्र प्रदेश सरप्लस है ही। महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात दोनों डैफिसिट हैं लेकिन वर्ष की अपेक्षा इस साल उन को कम अनाज की आवश्यकता पड़ेगी। उत्तर के प्रदेशों का जहां तक तात्लुक है उन में पंजाब, राजस्थान को पिछले साल कुछ देने की आवश्यकता पड़ी थी लेकिन इस साल उन के यहां से भी हम को कुछ अनाज मिलेगा। इस तरीके से पंजाब और हरियाणा तो सरप्लस हैं ही हिमाचल प्रदेश को भी अब की बार कम आवश्यकता पड़ेगी: उत्तर प्रदेश बिल्कुल माजिनल डैफिसिट है लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि इस बार उस को भी बहुत कम अनाज की आवश्यकता होगी। दिल्ली तो हमेशा डैफिसिट रहेगा ही उसके सरप्लस होने का तो कोई मवाल है ही नहीं। बिहार की भी पिछले साल की अपेक्षा हालत अब के बहुत अच्छी है।

अनाज के स्टोरेंज के लिए देश में हमारा और राज्य सरकारों का करीब 5 मिलियन टन का प्रबन्ध है और हम उसे जल्दी से पूरा कर लेंगे।

श्री रणधीर सिंह: मैं आप की मार्फत मिनिस्टर साहब से पूछना चाहूंगा कि जो स्टेट्स हैं उन में खास तौर पर बावजूद प्रोक्वोरमेंट प्राइसिंग मुकरर होने के और बावजूद प्रोक्वोरमेंट नारमली इनफोर्स होने के वहां पर कीमतें 100 फीसदी गिर गई हैं और किसानों की कमर टूट गई है उस के लिए सरकार ने क्या कड़े कदम उठाये हैं ताकि कीमतें और न गिरे? सरकार को वहां पर इम्मीजिएटली इंटरफीयर करना चाहिए ताकि किसानों को हिम्मत बंधे और वह ज्यादा पैदावार करें।

श्री जगजीवन राम: यह बहुत ही महत्व का प्रश्न है लेकिन मैं उन से कहना चाहूंगा कि दाम गिरे जरूर हैं लेकिन प्रोक्वोरमेंट प्राइस से नीचे नहीं गिरे हैं? अब बत्ता

पिछले वर्ष जो अकाल और सूखे की स्थिति में अनाजों के दाम आसमान छू गये थे वह अब कुछ जमीन की तरफ आ रहे हैं इसलिए किसानों की कम्बर नहीं टूटी है। प्रोक्वॉरमेंट प्राइस जो हम ने ठीक की है हमारा बराबर यह प्रयत्न रहेगा कि उस से नीचे दाम न जायें और जो दाम निर्धारित किये गये हैं उस के लिये "एजेंसी" प्रबन्ध रहेगा उस दाम पर खरीद करती रहेगी।

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** हमारे देश में इस साल गल्ले की स्थिति बहुत अच्छी होने वाली है। अतः इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए भारत सरकार ने बफर स्टॉक बनाने के लिए क्या कोई योजना निर्धारित की है और अगर की है तो उस योजना की रूपरेखा क्या है ?

(ख) क्या राज्य सरकारों ने गल्ला वसूली की कोई योजना बनाई है, अगर हां तो वह किन-किन राज्यों में बनाई गयी है और उन की रूपरेखा क्या है ?

(ग) बिहार के संयुक्त मोर्चे की सरकार ने गल्ला वसूली की एक योजना बनाई थी परन्तु वह सरकार अब नहीं है, दूसरी सरकार है। इस सरकार ने उस योजना को समाप्त कर दिया है। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस के सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** He is asking so many supplementary questions. The hon. Minister may answer any one of them.

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** I shall answer the question regarding procurement. The general procurement programme was discussed at the last Chief Ministers' Conference and taking into consideration the good prospects of crop, the States are expected to see that the maximum quantity is procured.

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**SHRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :** May I know whether it is a fact that the procurement price in the Madras State is lower than that in the neighbouring States and whether it is a fact that the Central Government have refused to give more price to the Madras State ?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** It is not so. In fact, the procurement prices are fixed in consultation with the State Governments.

**SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD :** Representations are being received from farmers of Andhra Pradesh saying that the Food Corporation of India is procuring fine paddy from them but giving them only the rates fixed for coarse paddy? Therefore, may I know whether the Central Government would instruct the Food Corporation of India to pay proper rates to the farmers? They are procuring paddy of the first variety but paying them at the rate fixed for the fourth variety.

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** The prices at which the Food Corporation of India is procuring are fixed in consultation with the State Government, and it is ensured that the farmers get the reasonable prices.

**SHRI S. S. KOTHARI :** What has been the procurement for 1967-68? By what percentage will the target of procurement for 1968-69 be higher? And do Government have an adequate number of silos for storage of the food-grains ?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** The target for the current year has been broadly indicated, and we should be in a position to procure about 7 million tonnes of kharif cereals and one million tonnes of rabi cereals. That was the broad target indicated by the Agricultural Prices Commission.

But to what extent it will be possible to reach it depends actually on to what extent the States are in a position to exert themselves to procure the maximum.