

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: May I make one submission? After all, we are interested in getting answers to our questions and in getting information, Government are collectively responsible. Therefore, it must be possible for any Minister when he is dealing with a particular question, even though the question is not addressed to him originally, if he is present, and if he is prepared to answer, to answer it in the House, and we must have that. That is what I would submit.

MR. SPEAKER: I have absolutely no objection. But on the next occasion when the hon. Member demands and the hon. Minister is not in a position to answer, there should be no objection to it.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: If he is prepared to answer the question, then in that case, we may get the answer.

MR. SPEAKER: I have absolutely no objection. I agree that Government are collectively responsible, but next time, the hon. Member should not say 'No, I do not want this Minister to answer, but I want some other Minister to answer'.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: I do not want to take any Minister by surprise.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with the hon. Member that Government are collectively responsible. But on the next occasion, if the hon. Minister says that he is not in a position to answer, then hon. Members should not demand that he should answer.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: In this case, the hon. Minister was good enough to get up and answer but you had stopped him.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: We shall follow it next time.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: Government have appointed an Agricultural Prices Commission to fix the prices of agricultural commodities with a view to stabilising the prices, but there is no commission to fix the prices of the inputs of the farmers

and there is no co-ordination between the prices of the agricultural commodities and the prices of the inputs. Are Government thinking of instituting any commission to stabilise the prices of the inputs of the farmers and to effect coordination between the prices of the outputs as well as the inputs with a view to obtain some parity between the two?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: This is far beyond the purview of the main question.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: The hon. Minister was prepared to answer my question earlier. If I write to you or if I write to him, I hope he can answer this question later.

MR. SPEAKER: I have absolutely no objection.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: Does the hon. Minister agree?

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: Yes, he may write to me and I shall reply.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: Why is he avoiding my question? My question has not been answered.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

Special Area Development Scheme for Orissa

*246. SHRI A. DIPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many representations have been made to the Central Government by the Government of Orissa for the financial assistance for special area development scheme for Phulbani, Bolangir and Kalahandi Districts in that State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Central Government have not taken any decision in that regard, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which decision is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (c). In the context of the Special Areas Development Programme of the Department of Rehabilitation, it was suggested to the Government of Orissa in May, 1964 that certain areas or districts in Orissa could be considered for inclusion in the Programme. After protracted correspondence on various aspects of this question, the Government of Orissa forwarded a Master Plan for the development of Phulbani district, estimated to cost about Rs. 12.65 crores, in February, 1968. This was considered to be a tentative plan and, in consultation with the Planning Commission, the State Government have been requested to send the district plan for Phulbani on the lines indicated by the Planning Commission. It will be examined when received.

2. No specific request for financial assistance for the development of Phulbani, Bolangir and Kalahandi Districts has been made by the State Government so far.

SHRI A. DIPA: May I know whether Government of India has made any assessment as to the needs of the under-developed areas of Phulbani, Bolangir and Kalahandi districts with a view to help the State Government under the Special Area Development Scheme, if not, what is standing in the way of the Government of India help the State Government to come to the rescue of the under-developed areas?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: The latter part of this question has already been replied to in the course of the answer to the main question.

As regards the question whether any assessment has been made concerning Phulbani, a quick survey of

the area was made some time back concerning its potentiality for being taken up for the accelerated development programme under the Special Areas Development Programme of the Ministry of Rehabilitation some time back and it has come to the notice of the Survey Committee that about 62,000 acres of land would be available there for reclamation and resettlement of the migrants.

SHRI A. DIPA: May I know whether on the basis of the note submitted by the Orissa Government to the Government of India, the Central Government would be agreeable to provide some financial assistance for the implementation of the Special Area Development Scheme; if so, by what time this assistance is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): Under this scheme, no special financial assistance is given in that way, but a particular area is taken up for development by the Rehabilitation Ministry. A tentative plan of Rs. 12 crores was sent by them. We have requested them to let us have the plan of the districts, and to indicate how much could come under the normal plan and how much additional we would have to give. As soon as we get the district plans, we shall consider the whole matter.

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: May I know whether the Special Areas Development Programme consists only of reclamation of land or it consists also of the general development of the people who are mostly Adibasis and Harijans? Other than this rehabilitation, what other plans and programmes are executed under this Special Areas Development Programme?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: Under the Special Areas Development Programme, an area that is selected is taken up for integrated resources development; the programme includes

all aspects of development, such as the development of irrigation, roads, building of culverts and bridges reclamation of land and settlement of the migrants, and financial assistance for carrying on agricultural operations and so on.

श्री रवि राय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, लेबर एण्ड रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्टरी के मातहत उड़ीसा में दण्डकारण्य का जो प्रोजेक्ट हुआ है उस सिलसिले में मैं लेबर एण्ड रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्टरी पर इलजाम लगाना चाहता हूँ कि दण्डकारण्य प्रोजेक्ट में उड़ीसा सरकार ने जो सैकड़ों एकड़ जमीन दी है उसके चलते हुए वहाँ उड़ीसा में कोरापुट जिले के लिए जो कहा गया था कि उसको डेवलप किया जायगा लेकिन वैसा नहीं किया गया। इस प्लटभूमि में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज से तीन साल पहले इस इलाके में कालाहांडी में भ्रकाल पड़ा था लेकिन अभी तक उस इलाके का स्पेशल एरिया डेवलपमेंट स्कीम के मातहत विकास नहीं हो पाया है, तीन साल गुजर चुके हैं। थोड़ी देर के लिए मान लीजिये कि उड़ीसा सरकार इस डेवलपमेंट कार्य को सम्पन्न करने में जल्दी नहीं कर रही है तो मैं चाहूँगा कि हमारे हाथी साहब खुद वहाँ पर जाय और उस तमाम इलाके का दौरा करके क्या वह एक निश्चित अवधि के अन्दर उस इलाके में जो डेवलपमेंट स्कीम चल रही है उसको लेने के लिए सदन को आश्वासन देंगे ताकि यह काम जल्दी ही पूरा हो जाय ?

श्री राय : मैं वहाँ पर गया था। उड़ीम चीफ मिनिस्टर साहब को मैंने बुलाया था और हम दोनों वहाँ दण्डकारण्य गये थे और हमने फिर यही बात उन्हें कही थी कि आप डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लान बना कर भेजिये ताकि हम जल्दी से यह काम कर सकें।

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Is it not a fact that during the serious drought in Kalahandi and Bolangir in 1965 . . .

SHRI RANGA: Even now.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: . . . already a programme and

scheme for Special Area Development in Kalahandi, Phulbani, Bolangir, Koraput and all those areas inhabited by the tribals and scheduled caste people, who constitute one-third of the total population of the State, was submitted and that has been pending since 1964 when the Congress Government sent that proposal? If so, since 1964, what special steps have been taken to see that these areas are taken up for development?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: As a matter of fact, when the whole of this area was affected by drought in 1964-65, a Central team was constituted by the Government of India to go into the matter to probe into the scarcity-affected areas and make their assessment. That team made certain recommendations. They said *inter alia* that the State Government should submit a comprehensive plan for the development of the backward areas to the Planning Commission. The State Government as a result made a comprehensive proposal to the Planning Commission which is now under the consideration of the Commission for inclusion in the Fourth and Fifth Plans.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI: As it appears, this project has been delayed because the Orissa Government has taken four years to submit a scheme about it, but now it has gone to the Planning Commission. May I know whether the Government of India want to implement it immediately? If it is with the Planning Commission, how much time is the Commission going to take in this matter. Also, before this entire integrated scheme is finalised, as part of the Dandakaranya project are Government going to take up land reclamation and resettlement programmes in these areas also?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: So far as Phulbani is concerned, just no I said we are in a hurry. As a matter of fact, we made a recommendation to the State Government that we should go ahead with this programme in re-

gard to Phulbani, but because the proposal that was submitted by them was lacking in certain essential details, we have requested them to submit a district plan for the development of Phulbani, which we are now awaiting. As a matter of fact, the Master Plan was submitted in February, 1968. We are now deciding to have an inter-departmental Team after the district plan is received and we have asked them to take it up on a priority basis and send it as quickly as possible.

(Re: S. Q. No. 247)

MR. SPEAKER: Next question—Shri Tapuriah.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: May I submit that as many aspects of jute are dealt with by the Commerce Ministry, this question had better be answered by that Ministry? I had addressed it to that Ministry but do not know why it has been transferred to the Food and Agriculture Ministry. If you would allow this to be postponed till the 6th August for answer by the Commerce Ministry, I believe proper answer will come. Take, for instance, (c) the steps taken by Government to mitigate this shortage and to ensure that this largest export earning industry is not adversely affected, an aspect which can be dealt with only by the Commerce Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: He addressed it to the Commerce Ministry, but it has been transferred to the Food and Agriculture Ministry?

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Yes, I do not know why it has been so transferred.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): We have also no objection.

MR. SPEAKER: When both of you have no objection, how can I have any objection?

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: But it must be on priority.

MR. SPEAKER: Same priority. Next question.

SHRI YASH PAL SINGH: 248.

SHRI TULSIDAS JADHAV: I request that 249 and 250 may also be taken up.

श्री हृक : अब कछवाय : उड़ीसा राज्य एक बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ और अ विकसित इलाका है। इसमें अधिकांश एरिया आदिवासी एरिया है। यह आदिवासी लोग बेरोजगार हैं। उनके वास्ते जमीन नहीं है, कोई रोजगार नहीं है और उनकी इस गरीबी और मजबूरी को देख कर उनका बहुत बड़ी तादाद में धर्म परिवर्तन किया जा रहा है तो क्या सरकार इन आदिवासी लोगों को वह जमीन जो कि बहुत काफ़ी वहाँ पर बेकार पड़ी हुई है उन्हें वह जमीन जोतने के लिए देगी या उन्हें कोई कारखानों में काम या धंधा दिलाने की कोशिश करेगी? यह जो दण्डकारण्य स्कीम है इस डेवलपमेंट स्कीम को शुरू हुए दो, तीन साल हो गये हैं लेकिन उनके बारे में अभी तक कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है। केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा उस क्षेत्र में डेवलपमेंट कार्य कराने का आश्वासन देने पर भी कोई विकास कार्य में वहाँ प्रगति नहीं हुई है तो क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इस दिशा में कोई विशेष क्रम उठाने का विचार कर रही है?

SHRI HATHI: As regards giving land to the Adivasis from that reclaimed land 25 per cent of it will be given to them and 75 per cent will be given to the migrants. We wanted to start reclamation and do all that work, but without water mere reclamation would not be feasible. That is why the Orissa Government said that all this should be taken up together. Therefore, we have asked them for a comprehensive plan.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him answer 248.

Forward Trading in Sugar

*248. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether forward trading is rampant to sugar trade;

(b) whether this is causing undue hardship to the common people; and

(c) the steps being taken to stop this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार को यह पता है कि व्यापारी लोग जो 190 रु० क्विंटल तक का सीदा कर रहे हैं उसमें व्यापारियों में किसी को लेना देना नहीं पड़ता है। करने वाले भी वही हैं, लेने वाले भी वही हैं और देने वाले भी वही हैं, जैसे एलेक्शन में डमो कैंडिडेट खड़े कर के सरगना लोग कहते हैं कि 50 हजार रु० दे दिये जायें तो कैंडिडेट बैठ जायेगा। बैठने वाले भी वही हैं और खड़े होने वाले भी वही हैं। उसी तरह से आज चीनी की जो स्थिति हो रही है वह इसलिये कि व्यापारी लोग करने की कीमत को कम करके किसानों को परेशान करना चाहते हैं। 60 फ्रीसदी तक जो सरकार ने अपने कन्ट्रोल में कर रक्खा है अगर उस के ऊपर से कन्ट्रोल हटाया जाये तो काश्तकार के गन्ने का काफी दाम बढ़ जाये : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस गड़बड़ी को रोकने के लिये क्या कर रही है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as forward trading in sugar is concerned, I have already submitted in the main part of my reply that it

is legally banned under two orders. We have the Sugar Control Order under the Essential Commodities Act under which it is illegal to enter into any forward contract, and also according to the Forward Contracts Regulation Act, 1962 it is illegal. If anybody has entered into it, it is entirely illegal, and he becomes liable for prosecution.

श्री यशपालसिंह : क्या सरकार यह बतला सकती है कि व्यापारियों की इस चाल से गन्ने की कीमत कम नहीं दी जायेगी और किसानों को वही कीमत मिलेगी जो पिछले साल मिली थी ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. member is aware that we have been very sympathetic to the cause of the farmers.

SHRI SHASHI RANJAN: About the free sugar that the Government allowed, nowadays we find that there is a good deal of scarcity of sugar in the market. May I know from the Government if they will insist upon the mills and other stockists clearing their stocks as soon as possible, so that they do not hold it up and charge higher prices from the consumers.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: We have a rigid limit of 30 days from the date of the release order within which the manufacturer or factory owner has to release the sugar available to the trade. The present trend of sugar prices is downward. It is very good development.

श्री एस० एम० बीशी : चीनी के दाम जो नीचे ऊपर जा रहे हैं उस पर लोग सट्टा करते हैं खास करके जब कितनी चीनी खोलनी है इस पर सरकार यह निर्णय लेती है तब सट्टा करने के लिये अवसर मिलता