

in respect of funds given by us, then the commission of inquiry will go into the matter and give its finding, and we can later on take action on it.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Meanwhile, they have given them the community hall. What sort of oblique under-hand method is this of helping them?

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Unless questions of this nature are permitted, there is no point in having the Question Hour. What are the terms of reference—if they are going to read out only that, then it is just a matter of two seconds. Then, why have supplementary questions on it at all?

MR. SPEAKER: Before the hon. Member came, these questions had been asked. He came a little later only.

SHRI PILOO MODY: There is a specific charge being made here, Government have stopped giving funds to the Bharat Sewak Samaj because of financial irregularities. But then Government are handing over to them institutions like the community hall etc.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member may kindly listen to me for a while.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Unless we get an opportunity to expose it in this manner, when else shall we do it? But I find that my hon. friends opposite are sitting smug and smiling about it. Shameless fellows!

MR. SPEAKER: There is no harm in smiling. The hon. Member should also smile.

SHRI PILOO MODY: You should be as indignant as we are about this.

**Relaxation enjoyed by India in the matter of Fertiliser Shipment from U.S.A.**

783. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present India enjoys a relaxation

whereby 50 percent of the fertiliser shipments is not being made in U.S. bottoms as is required under the agreement reached;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of U.S.A. have now asked for a cessation of the concession hitherto enjoyed by us; and

(c) if so, what would be the additional cost on the transport of fertilisers and whether this will push up the prices upto the consumer level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) No, Sir, under the term of aid received from U.S.A. for the purchase of fertilisers at least 50 per cent of fertilisers procured have to be carried in U.S. flag vessels. When U.S. Flag vessels are not available, U.S. Government allow fixtures under non-U.S. flag vessels in excess of 50 percent limit. Thus, under the aid agreement India has the right to carry 50 percent of the fertiliser procured in non-American flag vessels.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: With regard to the fertilisers carried by the U.S. flag vessels, may I know whether it is a fact that the Government of India are paying considerably higher rates of freight as compared to the freight rates available from other competitive lines, and if so, whether the additional cost to India because of the higher freight rate is reimbursed in some form or the other to India by the U.S.A.?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: It is true that relatively, the freight paid to the U.S. flag vessels is higher than that paid to the non-U.S. flag vessels.

There is a condition in the agreement relating to the loan that has been given for the purchase of fertilisers that 50 per cent of the total quantities of fertiliser purchased from the U.S.A. will have to be shipped in U.S. flag vessels.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Part (b) of my question is whether it is a fact that this additional cost borne by India becomes an additional cost for India or whether it is reimbursed back to India by the U.S. Government in some other form.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: First of all, the credit which is available from the U.S.A. is very cheap credit. The terms of payment are as follows. We have to repay the loan within a period of 40 years, and for the first ten years, the rate of interest is Rs. 2 and for the rest of the 30 years it is Rs. 3. This is one of the cheapest credits that have been made available to India. There is only one more country, namely Canada which has given relatively cheap credit to India.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: My question was whether the additional cost was being reimbursed to India in some form or the other by the U.S. Government.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: No, we have to meet the cost, and the cost is naturally included in the cost of the pooled fertilisers.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: May I know whether after taking into account the freight incidence on fertilisers, the cost of imported fertiliser still works out to be considerably cheaper than the cost of manufacture of indigenous fertilisers and whether the fertiliser marketed by the Government of India is much higher in price as compared to the imported fertilisers, and if so; how Government justify the violation of certain guidelines given by the Finance Ministry in respect of public sector projects that prices will have to be within the framework of the imported cost of such products?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: That is much beyond the purview of the main question.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: It is not beyond the purview of the main question which relates to freight charges and the resulting cost of imported fertilisers. My question is whether it is a fact that compared to the cost of imported fertilisers, the price at which fertiliser is being marketed is very much higher, and if so, is it not a violation of the guidelines provided by Government under which they are not expected to charge any price higher than the imported cost?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: My answer would be 'No'.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: What is this 'No'?

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot explain. The hon. Member may ask the hon. Minister.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: It is not a violation.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Does he mean to say that there is no such guideline? He is making a contradiction. Here is the brochure published by Government, in the Finance Ministry. It is a contradiction.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): The hon. Member may read that brochure again.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सस्ते मूद पर और कई-सालों के लिये कर्जा जो अमरीका ने दिया है और उस की वजह से आप ने जो ऊँचे भाड़े पर फर्टिलाइजर वहाँ से मंगाया है, यहाँ आ कर अल्टीमेटली वह और मुल्कों के मुकाबले तेज पड़ा है जो किसान से वसूल किया जायगा, तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि किसान को आप नकद बेच कर और विदेशों से फर्टिलाइजर उधार ले कर क्या सरकार फर्टिलाइजर के

उधार वाले षंघे को पी०एल०-480 की तरह से अपने बजट की आमदनी का एक जरिया बना रही है क्या ?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE:** Only a part of the fertilisers is imported from the USA; the rest of the imports are from East European and West European countries, Japan and Canada. As far as the current year is concerned, in the case of nitrogen, only 24 per cent would be imported from the USA and that has nothing to do with PL-480.

### Decontrol of Sugar

- \*784. **SHRI G. C. NAIK:**  
**SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:**  
**SHRI S. XAVIER:**  
**SHRI R. K. AMIN:**  
**SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM:**  
**SHRI J. H. PATEL:**  
**SHRI D. R. PARMAR:**  
**SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:**  
**SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA:**  
**SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:**

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Sugar Manufacturers Association in their recent meetings in New Delhi have demanded complete decontrol of the Sugar Industry;

(b) whether Government have studied their demands;

(c) whether an initiative is being taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE):** (a) The Association pleaded for a freer sugar policy, with the ultimate objective of decontrolling sugar on a long term basis.

(b) to (d). The sugar policy to be adopted for the next year is under consideration of the Government.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I want to bring one thing to the notice of the House. Very often, the number of members whose names are clubbed together in one question is large. In the previous question it was 8; in this one, it is 10. Even if two or three supplementaries are asked by the member who actually puts the question and at least one question is allowed to the others, it takes up a lot of time by this system. So if you would agree, I would remit this matter to the Rules Committee for review.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Yes.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Several hon. members have approached me in this connection, saying that they do not get their turn. It is for the Rules Committee to decide.

**SHRI LOBO PRABHU:** You kindly apply the rule of relevance and repetition.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** You know that previously one question was signed by many members. Now it is done separately. It is not signed by many. Fortunately, great men think alike and naturally their names are clubbed together and certain questions come in that way. It will be an injustice to us if our names are removed.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Kindly discuss it in the Rules Committee.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** There is the Rules Committee. How can this House supersede everything I cannot understand.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has not followed me. A number of hon. members approached me in my chamber saying that they do not get their turn because of the large number of names clubbed together in one single question. I said I was helpless, this was the practice already allowed by the Rules Committee, if at all anybody could change it, it was the Rules Committee and I had nothing to do with it.