

willing to take up this highly important project which is likely to cost Rs. 50 crores provided adequate subsidy, help or loan is available from the Central Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the hon. Member want information from the hon. hon. Minister or does he want to give information to him?

**Shri Nath Pai:** I want to know what the reaction of Government will be to this information.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I will not dispute the utility of such a big and ambitious project. It is very good. It will definitely help the economy of the country and will, of course, help to relieve the traffic congestion in Bombay. But everything depends on finances that are at our disposal.

**Crushing of Sugarcane**

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- Shri Shree Narayan Das:
- Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
- Shri Rameshwar Tanti:
- Shri D. N. Tiwary:
- Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
- \*289. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
- Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
- Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
- Shri K. N. Pande:
- Shri K. M. Tiwary:
- Shri B. Varma:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to crushing of sugarcane in various States of the country;

(b) whether indications are available that all the standing sugarcane would be crushed by the mills or otherwise in all the States;

(c) what part of the total would remain uncrushed and in which part of the country; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the situation?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas):**  
 (a). Sugarcane crushed by factories in various States upto 31st March 1962 totalled 56.8 crores maunds.

(b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know whether the sugar factories in the States of Bihar and UP have offered to crush the remaining quantity of cane if certain concessions are made and the cultivators are agreeable to receive the price of sugarcane on the basis of yield of sugar?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** In the case of Bihar the factories are stated to have agreed to crush cane on a no-profit-no-loss basis. The details are not available. In fact, the Cane Commissioner of Bihar and the Secretary came and discussed this with our officers and have gone back saying that definite proposals will be placed before the Central Government. It is a matter for the State Government to remit the cane cess and give other incentives in order that the entire cane may be crushed.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know whether the State Governments had urged the Central Government to help them in the matter of giving concessions?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** In this matter the Chief Minister of Bihar has addressed a letter to the hon. Minister and it is receiving attention. If cane cess is remitted, that will compensate for lesser recovery to the extent of even 1 per cent and the cane cess will come to three annas per maund. The Bihar Government is also stating that they will require some remission in the matter of excise duty. That is a matter which has to be considered further. I may state that if the State Government, the factories and the sugarcane growers' associations come together, it would be possible to crush the entire cane.

**Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** What has been done to protect the interest of the cane growers?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I have stated that as far as the Central Government is concerned, it has allocated the shortfalls of other factories to the other areas where there is surplus cane. So far as the Central Government is concerned, at present it has nothing to do in this matter.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if only the State of Bihar is under consideration or the other States of India are also under consideration and, if so, in what respect?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** It is only as far as the States of Bihar and U.P. are concerned that this problem has arisen. In the South this question does not arise because there may not be any question of lower recovery. As far as the U.P. Government is concerned, we are told that they are proposing to remit the entire cane cess so that the entire surplus cane may be crushed. The Bihar Government, as I said, are considering a scheme of crushing cane on no-profit-no-loss basis.

**Shri Heda:** May I know whether the Government is aware that the Nizam Sugar Factory in Andhra Pradesh is refusing to crush all the cane or equal to the quantum of cane that they had crushed last time as they say that there is a directive from the Central Government for a 10 per cent cut?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** There is no directive from the Central Government at all. In fact, we have now told the factories that they would have to crush all the cane that is surplus and that no cane will be left uncrushed. The only question that arises is of lower recoveries so that it may be difficult for certain factories to crush all the cane and they may refuse to take the cane. That will arise only in the case of Bihar and U.P.

**Shri S. Swamy:** May I know whether in the Hospet and Kampli

sugar factories only 75 per cent of the sugarcane is being crushed and so the standing crop is being wasted?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** That is not wasted. In fact, I am personally looking into all the cases so that sugarcane growers may not be prejudicially affected. When shortfalls have been declared from other factories in Mysore we have reallocated it to Kampli and Hospet factories.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The Deputy Minister stated that the U.P. Government have decided or are taking a decision to remit the cane cess so that all the surplus cane may be crushed. Huge arrears of cane cess have not yet been paid by the employers. I want to know whether the Central Government has permitted the State Government to remit the cess.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** The cane cess is due to the State Government. It is for the State Government to remit the cess or do whatever it likes. The Central Government has absolutely nothing to do with it.

**श्री बड़े :** क्या सच नहीं है कि चूकि आज कल नई शुगर फैक्ट्रीज स्टार्ट करने के लिये परमिशन नहीं मिलती है इसलिये मध्य-प्रदेश में शुगर केन अनक्रशड पड़ा रहता है ?

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** नई फैक्ट्रीज तो बहुत हैं सदर्न रीजन में । उस को परमिशन मिलती है । मैं मानता हूँ कि वहाँ शुगर प्रोडक्शन बढ़ा है, कम नहीं हुआ है ।

**श्री बड़े :** मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि चूकि मध्यप्रदेश में शुगर फैक्ट्रीज के लिये लाइसेन्स नहीं मिलते हैं इसलिये वहाँ शुगर केन अनक्रशड पड़ा रहता है, यह सच है या नहीं ।

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** इस तरह तो आज कल किसी को परमिशन नहीं मिलती है क्योंकि हमें १० लाख टन शुगर ज्यादा मिली है । तब भी कभी-कभी ऐसे केसेज होते हैं कि कोआपरेटिव फैक्ट्रीज लोगों को खोलनी

होती है, साथ ही ऐसे रोजन होत हैं जहां पर रिकवरी अच्छी है या जहां गन्ना ज्यादा होता है उन में अगर मध्य-प्रदेश आयेगा तो उस को भी इजाजत मिल जायेगी।

**Shri D. D. Puri:** The hon. Deputy Minister stated that the problem arises only in the case of U.P. and Bihar. Have the Government received any representation from the Punjab.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil):** So far as these orders of 10 per cent cut is concerned, we have informed the States that as far as possible, the standing crop wherever it exists, whether it is Punjab or any part of India, shall not be allowed to dry. Therefore, wherever the question arises, we step in and come wherever the shortfalls are or do something else. I can assure the House that the standing crops shall be crushed.

#### Production of Wheat

\*290. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated production of wheat in the country this year;
- (b) the Government's procurement programme; and
- (c) Government's present stock of wheat from abroad and procured from country?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food (Shri A. M. Thomas):** (a) Information regarding production of wheat during 1961-62 is expected to become available only in June, 1962.

(b) The Government of India have not hitherto been purchasing wheat from internal markets. They have only been importing wheat from abroad for distribution in the country. No programme of internal procurement has, therefore, been drawn up.

(c) The stocks of wheat with the Government on 1st April, 1962, were

as follows:—

		(in '000 metric tons)	
		Imported Indiginous	
In Central Depots .	1,323		
With State Govern- ments	82		2
TOTAL .	1,405		2

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know if the Government is expecting a bumper crop this year?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Last year's production was in metric tons 10.8 million tons. The expectation is that this year's production will be a little over 10.8; may be round about 11 million metric tons.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know if the Central Government has discussed this matter regarding procurement with the State Governments?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** We have, as the hon. House knows, fixed a minimum price for wheat, that is, for superior farm variety Rs. 14, white variety Rs. 13 and red variety Rs. 12. If the prices go below that level, we are prepared to step in and purchase the quantity.

**श्री० गोविन्द दास :** जब कि इस वर्ष आशा है कि हमारी गेहूं की फसल बहुत अच्छी होगी तो क्या इस बात का विचार किया जा रहा है कि हम बाहर से गेहूं उस से कम मंगायें जितना पिछले साल मंगाया था, और कब तक यह आशा की जाती है कि हमें बाहर से गेहूं न मंगाना पड़ेगा ?

**बाबू तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटिल) :** बाहर से गेहूं इसलिये आता है कि जो हमारा पुराना कंट्रेक्ट है चार वर्ष के