

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Extension of Tea Gardens

Tuesday, September, 4, 1962/Bhadra  
13, 1884 (Saka).

\*767. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to allow extension of tea gardens; and

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

(b) if so, on what terms and conditions such extensions will be allowed?

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MEMBER SWORN

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Secretary may call out the name of the Member who has come to make and subscribe the oath or affirmation under the Constitution.

**Secretary:** Shri N. G. Ranga:

STATEMENT

**Mr. Speaker:** The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may introduce the Member to the House.

Government have never restricted the establishment and/or extension of tea gardens. In the context of the production targets of 900 million lbs. for the end of the Third Plan period for the tea industry, the tea Planting Rules, governing grant of permission for extension of the tea cultivation have been further liberalised so as to bring about an increase in production of tea. The provision under the Rules as obtaining today and as proposed to be amended is furnished below:—

**The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** Sir, I have great pleasure in introducing to you and through you to the House Shri N. G. Ranga who was returned to Lok Sabha from Chittoor constituency of Andhra Pradesh in the vacancy caused by the vacation of seat of Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.

**Shri N. G. Ranga—Chittoor.**

Permissible acreage of estates at the commencement of each five year period	Present ceiling for extensions	Proposed ceiling for extensions
Upto 10 hectares . . . . .	40% of the area	10 hectares
Above 10 but not exceeding 60 hectares	40% of the area	100%
Above 60 but not exceeding 200 hectares.	25% upto 120 hectares 15% of the area above 120 but not exceeding 200 hectares.	60 hectares
Above 200 hectares . . . . .	15%	30% of the permissible.

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**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether the Government is considering to introduce a compulsory extension scheme of the present gardens where land is available?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Compulsory extension is not necessary. But voluntarily we have allowed every garden to expand as per the formula. If any particular garden wants to expand more than that, we shall be prepared to consider the case.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether the plantation loan has been finalised and, if so, what has been the response from the planters and what are the terms and conditions under which such loans will be given?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Plantation loans scheme has been finalised, but the hon. Member will be glad to know that in the last few months more than Rs. 4 crores under the replantation loans, extension loans as well as hire purchase schemes have been granted to the tea industry.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** May I know what is the amount allotted for new plantation?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The monies have not been given specifically, because extension, really speaking, means new plantation or replantation. Both go hand in hand, and there is no separate classification maintained for the two.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that there are smaller uneconomic gardens which are suffering for want of land; if so, whether the Government has any proposal to ask the State Government to see that such uneconomic gardens are settled with the waste lands where they are available?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** If the hon. Member is referring to the question of consolidation of holdings, I may say that that has not been contemplated. Whatever agricultural consolidation is there can very well be applied and taken advantage of. As such, what

we are trying to do is to see that wherever the gardens are small more favourable terms for loan assistance are being given.

**Shri Abdul Ghani Goni:** May I know whether any survey was conducted recently in the State of Jammu and Kashmir to find out the possibility of replantation; if so, what recommendations have been made by that survey team?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** They have given their recommendations in their Economic Survey. Like all surveys, it is rather on the more vague side. But if proposals come up in the actual manner from planters interested in tea expansion in Kashmir, we shall give them a special priority.

**Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** May I know whether Government has conducted any survey with regard to these areas where extension can be possible?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** No survey is necessary, because the planters know it. There has been the report of the Plantation Commission. The demands have been steadily coming up. What is more necessary is, if I may draw the attention of the House, the question of raising the productivity per acre rather than all the time going in for more extension.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Since the tea planters very often complain that the cost of production compare unfavourably in the world market, do Government propose to have any advice or recommendation before they allow them the voluntary extension?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This matter has been very carefully gone into and the planters and the Tea Board have been allowing very liberal use of synthetic fertilizers. As a matter of fact, their full requirements have been met this year. Also, they are now resorting to what is called artificial irrigation for which another amount of about Rs. 3 crores to 4 crores is being considered.

**Shri Kunhan:** May I know whether the Kerala Government has asked for

any financial assistance from the Central Government for expansion of the tea gardens in Kerala?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The State Government does not come into the picture. The Kerala planters are represented and they take advantage of the schemes—UPASI and the Kerala planters.

#### Bund on River Gandak

\*768. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an approach was made by the Central Government on behalf of the State of U.P. to the Government of Nepal seeking latter's permission for the construction of a Bund by the State of U.P. to save a large area of Gorakhpur district from being flooded by the waters of the river Gandak; and

(b) if so, what were Nepal Government's reactions to this proposal?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):** (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal for an eight-mile long bund—known as Nepal bund—was mooted in 1954. The scheme is now a part of the Gandak Project. The Government of Nepal were approached in April this year for permission for the construction of this bund.

(b) The Government of Nepal generally welcomed the proposal and gave permission for detailed survey of the bund area. They have instructed the District authorities to give such assistance and help as the Indian survey team may require in connection with their work.

**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** May I know when will the construction work be taken up?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The work will be taken up after the current flood season.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** If this bund has become a part of the Gandak

Project what is the necessity for asking for fresh permission and fresh survey, especially when the Gandak scheme has been surveyed in detail?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** This special bund does not form part of our territory. It is within Nepal territory. Therefore, we have to get fresh permission of the Nepal Government. It also needs acquisition of land from Nepal Government.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् गंडक बांध के निर्माण में पछले दिनों उत्तर प्रदेश के दो इंजीनियरों को नेपाल में गिरफ्तार कर लिया गया था। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या अब स्थिति में सुधार हुआ है और क्या ऐसी कोई अड़चन आने की आशंका नहीं है ?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The hon. Member is not quite correct. They were not arrested. They were stopped from going in because they did not have proper identification papers.

**Shri Sihanasan Singh:** Government have stated that the Nepal Government have given permission for bunding. Was this permission given long before the flood arose or just now after the flood has arisen?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The whole matter was placed before the experts' committee which met on April 9th and 10th this year. Now the proper survey will be made and according to the recommendations the work would be started.

**Mr. Speaker:** When was the permission given?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** Very recently, after the King's visit to India

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बांध को बनाने में कितने दिन लगेंगे और कब तक ईस्टर्न डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में आ रही बा को रोका जा सकेगा।