

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 25, 1964/Phalgun 6,
1885 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Crop Insurance Scheme

+

- *278. { Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Dr. P. N. Khan:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agri-
culture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme to intro-
duce crop insurance in certain parts
of the country has now been imple-
mented; and

(b) if so, where and what are the
main features of the scheme?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Food and Agriculture
(Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). Crop In-
surance has so far not been introduced
anywhere in the country. The pro-
posal is under Government's consi-
deration.

Shri Maheswar Naik: In view of the
fact that the agricultural yield is very
precarious in this country, may I
know what is the basis on which the
proposed insurance scheme is going to
be formulated and what steps the
Government have taken to see that
the premium rates fixed will be acces-
sible to all agriculturists, both big
and small?

Shri Shinde: The scheme is at a
preliminary stage and a pilot scheme
to be applied in Punjab is being for-
mulated. The idea about the premiums
is like this, that the premiums receiv-
ed over a number of years may be

2199 (A) L.S.D.—1.

expected to balance the amount to be
paid during the bad-crop years and
the premiums are to be recovered with
the land revenue. The scheme was
examined on the pattern of that of
the Ceylon Government, because a
deputation from the Punjab was sent
to Ceylon and the experts from other
countries were also consulted in re-
spect of this scheme.

Shri Maheswar Naik: This question
has been hanging fire for the last one
or two years so far as Punjab is con-
cerned. May I know why it has not so
far been introduced?

The Minister of State in the Mini-
stry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.
M. Thomas): The hon. Member would
have noticed from the Vice-President's
Address that the Indian Crop Insu-
rance Bill is intended to be introduc-
ed in Parliament. That legislation has
been, more or less, finalised and it
would be introduced in due course.
Central legislation is necessary for
undertaking crop insurance because
'Insurance' is a Central subject.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Am I cor-
rect in understanding that no State
Government can introduce this scheme
unless the Parliament passes a Bill
on that?

Shri A. M. Thomas: There must be
a Bill passed by the Parliament.
'Insurance' is entry 47 in the Union
List and if it is to be made compul-
sory in any particular area, necessary
legislation has to be passed by the
Centre.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know
when this idea of crop insurance
emanated and whether it was sug-
gested that it should be included in
the general insurance?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The question of
introducing crop insurance was moot-
ed from the year 1947 and it has since

been under consideration. The idea is to introduce it in the State of Punjab in certain selected districts.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether the States have agreed to implement the scheme that is proposed to be introduced and whether Rajasthan is one of the States to give effect to a scheme of crop insurance in that State?

Shri Shinde: The scheme was circulated to all the States some years back. But only the State of Punjab agreed to accept the scheme as a pilot scheme. As far as Rajasthan is concerned I think, due to the financial difficulties involved, they could not come forward.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Ranga.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Have they not accepted?

Shri Ranga: May I know what has happened to the Government of India's own scheme for insurance against natural calamities on an inter-State basis and State basis also?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, in course of time, the scheme would perhaps cover the entire country. We want to make a beginning in the State of Punjab. Of course, the necessity for this insurance is being felt. But you have also to take into account the financial implications too. We want to make a beginning in Punjab because that State has come forward with this and it is prepared to implement the scheme.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : हमारे देश में खुराक के प्रबन्ध की जिम्मेदारी केन्द्र पर है और किसानों की हालत यह है कि कभी सूखा पड़ता है और कभी बाढ़ आती है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार और सभी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने क्राप इन्शोरेंस के सिद्धान्त को मान लिया है ; यदि हाँ, तो सरकार इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

Shri Shinde: As far as the principle is concerned, that has been accepted

by the Government of India, and there is no difference of approach, as far as even the State Governments are concerned, but the problem is one of the magnitude of the financial outlay involved and other such things. All these technicalities are being examined, and after the pilot scheme has been successful in a particular area, it would be extended all over the country.

गुड़ में मुनाफ़ाखोरी

+

{ श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :
श्री यशपाल सिंह :
श्री धवन :
श्री बिशनचन्द्र सेठ :
*२७६. श्री भी० प्र० यादव :
श्री दी० चं० शर्मा :
श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा :
श्री बछ्वाय :
श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :
श्री नाथपाई :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली सेन्ट्रल कोऑपरेटिव स्टोर द्वारा गुड़ में मुनाफ़ाखोरी की जाने की जांच पूरी हो गई है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस के क्या परिणाम निकले;

(ग) क्या उक्त स्टोर के कार्यबहन के बारे में अन्य अनियमितताओं का भी सरकार को पता लगा है; और

(घ) क्या सरकार इन भारी अनियमितताओं के होते हुए भी इस स्टोर को चालू रहने की अनुमति देगी ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री के सभा-सचिव (श्री शिन्दे) : (क) जी हाँ ।