

envelopes will be introduced in all the States, I would like to know whether this will improve the delivery system of express delivery letters or will the letters be delivered in the same way as the express delivery letters are treated today in the rural areas.

Shri Bhagavati: For delivering express delivery articles and letters we have separate messengers; so, they are not mixed up. For sorting and transmission we hope this will make much improvement.

Shri Subodh Hansda: I want to know about express delivery letters.

Mr. Speaker: Dr. Singhvi.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Do Government propose to consider any suggestion for introducing the acknowledgment due procedure for express delivery letters also; if it has already been considered, what is the reaction and if it has not been considered already, will Government be willing to consider such a move?

Shri Bhagavati: If we introduce this system, it may delay delivery. At present the postman or the messenger who goes to deliver express delivery letters takes signature of the person to whom the article is delivered.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the Government have received complaints regarding the delayed delivery of express delivery letters; if the answer is in the affirmative, what action is being taken to see that express delivery letters reach in time?

Shri Bhagavati: I have already stated that in 1962-63 there were 31,805,916 express delivery articles and out of that the number of complaints that we received was 8,430. The percentage is less than 1; it is .26 only.

श्री राजबिहारी मेहरोत्रा : क्या एक्सप्रेस डिलिवरी लेटर्स को ब्रांच पोस्ट आफिसेज से डिलिवर करवाने का भी इन्तजाम किया गया है ?

Shri Bhagavati: We have no separate messengers here; they are ordinary postmen. They take these express delivery letters also.

Price of Sugarcane

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*97. { **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Daji:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Uttar Pradesh and some other State Governments have requested the Central Government to fix the price of sugarcane for the next crushing season (1964-65) at a flat rate of Rs. 2 per maund instead of fixing it on the basis of recovery; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes Sir, the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

(b) Government consider that on the consideration of relevant factors, the price already announced is appropriate and no change is called for.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : क्या सरकार मिल मालिकों के विरोध करने पर फ्लैट रेट निर्धारित न कर के रिकवरी के आधार पर कीमत रखना चाहती है ।

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Swaran Singh): The formula of fixing the price based on recovery is not opposed by States as such. It is quite another thing that they want a fair price, but there is no opposition as such to the fixing of

the price of sugarcane based on recovery.

श्री विद्यनाथ पाण्डेय : क्या कीमत को निर्धारित करने के लिये सरकार यह विचार कर रही है कि एक कमेटी बने जिस में गन्ना बोने वाले किसानों के प्रतिनिधि रहें, मिलों के प्रतिनिधि रहें और सरकार के भी प्रतिनिधि रहें ।

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : ऐसा कोई विचार नहीं है कि इस तरह की कमेटी बनाई जाये ।

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: From which States has Government received the request that the price of sugarcane should be increased and which organisations have strongly recommended that the price should be increased as the price of sugar is also increasing?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have already stated in the main answer that representations have been received from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Of course, some organisations have also represented to us, including the Indian Sugar Mills' Association, stating that the minimum price should be Rs. 2.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि सारे देश में गन्ने की क्वालिटी कमो बेश एक ही है लेकिन रिक्वरी में फर्क इस लिए पड़ता है कि कोई फैक्ट्री पुरानी है और कोई फैक्ट्री नई है । जो नई फैक्ट्री होती है उस में अच्छी रिक्वरी आती है और जो पुरानी फैक्ट्री होती है उसमें कम रिक्वरी आती है । तो क्या सरकार किसानों को उन के हित की दृष्टि से एक तरफ से २.६० मन कीमत देना चाहती है ।

Shri A. M. Thomas: Though there are certain limitations, in fact, this linking of the price with recovery has worked well. It was because of that that even after the abolition of the price linking formula sugarcane growers were enabled to get more than the minimum price that has been fixed.

ed. For example, although the minimum price is Rs. 1.75 in Bihar, because of its being linked with recovery the sugarcane grower in Bihar will get on an average Rs. 1.96 which would have been impossible had we stuck on to the minimum price only.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: My question is not answered. In some sugar factories because of new machinery there is better recovery and in some others with the old machinery the recovery is poor. Therefore in the best interests of the grower I want the price of sugarcane to be fixed at Rs. 2.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have said that there are some limitations. If the machinery is modern, of course, the recovery would be better and if the machinery is worn out, the recovery would be less. But in spite of all these things, it is always better to link the price with recovery and the sugarcane grower only stands to benefit by such a procedure.

Shri A. P. Jain: No, no.

Shri K. N. Tiwary: Keeping in view the shortage of sugar this year and in the next year also, there is a possibility that sugarcane may go for manufacture of gur and khandasari if the price is less than Rs. 2. In that case, is Government considering fixing the minimum price at Rs. 2 so that the situation which arose this year may not arise next year also?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members go on arguing and asking long questions.

Shri Swaran Singh: If I might remind the hon. Member, the production this year is in spite of the fact that the minimum price was Rs. 2 all over, particularly in Bihar and UP. Therefore, this will be oversimplification to say that the fixing of the minimum price at Rs. 2 in these areas will in any way increase the availability of sugarcane. This year the reports that we have received so far are that sowings are good; larger area is under sugarcane cultivation and depending

upon the weather conditions and the like, we should, I think, watch the situation. The decision that has been announced has been announced after giving very careful consideration to the various factors. That, I think, should be broadly acceptable.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की सरकारों ने गन्ने की कीमत बढ़ाने के लिए जो केन्द्रीय सरकार को लिखा है उस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार के निर्णयों से कहां कहां असहमति प्रकट की है और उन्होंने अपने निर्णय को बनाये रखने के लिए क्या क्या युक्तियां दी हैं ? उस की मुख्य मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह: कोई नई बात नहीं है और यहां माननीय सदस्य सब उन को जानते हैं। उस के बारे में हमारे सदन में बहुत दफ्तर् चर्चा हुई है। उन की इच्छा है कि केन्द्र-प्रोत्सर्ग को उनकी प्रॉड्यूस की ज्यादा कीमत मिले। अब गन्ने की कीमत किसानों को जब आप ज्यादा देने के बारे में फैसला करना चाहते हैं तो उस में यह भी विचार करना पड़ेगा कि उस का शक्कर की कीमत पर क्या असर पड़ेगा।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : यह तो कोई उत्तर नहीं हुआ कि उसके बारे में सब जानते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की सरकारों ने गन्ने की कीमत बढ़ाने के बारे में उन को लिखा है कि अगर गन्ने की कीमत नहीं बढ़ाई गई तो उस का गन्ने के उत्पादन पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ेगा जहां उन्होंने यह लिखा है वहां और भी कुछ उन्होंने लिखा होगा, अपने रीजंस और भी दिये होंगे और भारत सरकार ने भी उस बारे में उन को अपना उत्तर भेजा होगा लेकिन माननीय मंत्री महोदय का यह कह देना कि सब जानते हैं यह तो कोई उत्तर उन्होंने नहीं दिया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो बाद में आयेगा।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that in the absence of proper machinery to know the percentage of recovery, this particular formula has proved to be a failure and, if so, why does the Government hesitate to fix Rs. 2 as the minimum price of sugarcane to increase the sugar production?

Shri Swaran Singh: I do not accept that the formula has proved to be a failure. It is as a result of this formula that the sugarcane growers, where the recovery is high, are getting a price much above Rs. 2. It should not be forgotten that the growers of sugarcane in Maharashtra and in certain other parts in the south and elsewhere are getting a price which is more than even Rs. 2, and it is on account of the application of this formula of linking recovery to the price. It will be wrong to suggest that the formula has failed. What the hon. Members want is that irrespective of recovery, even if it is very low, the minimum price of Rs. 2 should be fixed. That is something which has wider implications. The main reason is that that becomes the base and over that the price has to be increased all over the country and that will push up the price of sugar everywhere. Although last year, to meet a special situation, a high price was given irrespective of recovery for Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, this year, if there is going to be any change, it will have to be on some uniform basis and that will push the prices all over the country. That is the main consideration.

Shri D. D. Puri: May I know if the Government has worked out as to in how many factory areas, the grower gets a lower price than that he received during the 1963-64 season?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have worked it out. I have not got the figures with me at the moment. As far as many factory areas are concerned, they get more than Rs. 2.

श्री मा० ला० वर्मा: अलग अलग किसान का अलग अलग टाइप का गन्ना आता है तो उस की रिक्वरी के बारे में कौन जांच करेगा ?

Shri Swaran Singh: The formula is well-known. The optimum period is taken into consideration in working out the recovery. It is that period when the recovery is supposed to be the maximum that is taken. It is true that we cannot carry it to separate grower. Some sort of an approximation will have to be there, *inter se* with regard to growers who supply sugarcane to the factories.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : क्या यह सही नहीं है कि जब से गन्ने की कीमत रिक्वरी की बेसिस पर तय करनी शुरू की गई है हर एक फैक्टरी की रिक्वरी जो पहले थी उससे हर साल कम होती जा रही है ?

श्री स्वर्ण सिंह : यह ठीक नहीं है ।

Shri Krishnapal Singh: Is it a fact that the tests to find out the percentage content of sugar are carried out by sugar chemists who are employees of the sugar factories?

Shri A. M. Thomas: There are so many checks and counter-checks. For example, there is the staff and then there is a strong labour organisation. Apart from the bonus, other things also depend upon the sugar recovery. Apart from the tests that are being made in the factories, there are other checks also. There are Government agencies within the factories themselves.

Shri Swaran Singh: I am prepared to consider any further checks which the hon. Members may have in their mind. They can pass their suggestions to me and we will ensure that the check is a fair one and a proper one.

Second Shipyard

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{ **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Gokaran Prasad:

*98. { **Shri Dhaon:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri D. D. Puri:
Shri Y. D. Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian delegation went to Tokyo to discuss the proposal for a second shipyard to be built at Cochin;

(b) whether any agreement in this regard has been signed; and

(c) whether any details of the project have been finalised in the light of the report submitted by M/s Mitsubishi and Company?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A delegation consisting of the officers of the Government is leaving for Tokyo shortly for discussions with the Mitsubishi Group with a view to finalise an agreement on the project.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know what will be the approximate cost of this and its foreign exchange element?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The total estimated cost as per the latest scheme is Rs. 8.67 crores and the foreign exchange content is Rs. 2.67 crores.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether any other foreign collaborators will be approached by the Government for this?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The negotiations with the Mitsubishi Group have reached a stage where this question hardly arises.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether negotiations with other foreign collaborators, apart from the Mitsubishi Group, were also held?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The negotiations were held not only with the Mitsubishi Group in Japan but with many other shipyards in other countries too.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : हवाई जहाज का जो पहला शिपयार्ड बना हुआ है क्या