the whole question is under consideration, and we are hoping to take a decision within the next two or three weeks.

Shri Kapur Singh: What are the real causes for the shockingly high rise of prices in the matter of pulses and mustard oil—63·7 and 104·7 per cent respectively?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Decrease in production.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : यह बात सब देशी घी खाने वाले जानते हैं कि गाय और भैंस के दूध से पैदा होने वाले घी की कीमतें बढ़ी हैं। क्या इसका कारण यह नहीं है कि गाय और भैंस के कत्ल पर सरकार की ओर से कोई पाबन्दी नहीं है ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Various reasons can be adduced, but during the last year, there was less of production of milk throughout the country and that is why the ghee prices have gone up. Unfortunately, last year seems to have been a very extraordinary year in regard to production; in every sector there was less production.

Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: May I know why the Government's measures have been ineffective in holding the price-line?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is a major question. I am sure the hon. Finance Minister will deal with this question in the budget debate.

Shri D. J. Naik: May I know whether there are any representatives of the agriculturists on the Agricultural Foodgrains Price Commission which has been just now set up?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No, Sir. We have not filled up all the places in the Agricultural Price Commission; we are considering that aspect.

Kharif Crops

*199. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

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

(a) whether Government are in a position to indicate the latest figures about the production of rice and other cereals during the last Kharif season; and

(b) how do these compare with the corresponding figures for the last year?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Firm estimates of production of rice and other Kharif cereals have not yet been furnished by the States. However, indications are that the production of rice may be around 38·5 million tonnes as compared to 36·5 million tonnes in 1963-64; that the production of other kharif cereals may be higher than last year's by a million tonnes.

श्री यशपाल सिंह: क्या सरकार यह बतला सकती है कि जब कि आंकड़ों के अनुसार पैदावार बढ़ी है तो क्या कारण है कि चीजों के दाम चढ़ गए हैं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : माननीय सदस्य को पता है कि इसके कई कारण हैं। कुछ तो ऐसा खयाल है कि कुछ लोग होरडिंग कर रहे हैं। कुछ लोग कहते हैं कि किसान माल को मंडी में नहीं ला रहा है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : जो लोग होरडिंग कर रहे हैं या जो लोग मंडी में माल नहीं ला रहे हैं, उनकी इस राष्ट्र विरोधी कार्रवाई को रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): In the previous question, we have enumerated all the measures that we have taken.

Mr. Speaker: What is being done against the hoarders?

Shri C. Subramaniam: The Defence of India Rules are being applied.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : अभी माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया कि खरीफ की फसल के उत्पादन के आंकड़े उनके पास अभी तक नहीं आए हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या केन्द्र प्रशासित राज्यों के भी आंकड़े उनके पास नहीं हैं। यदि नहीं हैं, तो क्यों नहीं हैं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : फिगर अक्सर फरवरी के आखिर में आने शुरू होते हैं। उम्मीद है कि दो चार हफ्ते के बीच सारे फिगर आ जाएंगे।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि अनुमानतः जो वृद्धि उत्पादन में हुई है वह लगभग दो मिलियन टन है और खरीफ की फसल में एक मिलियन टन की वृद्धि होने का अनुमान है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार की इतनी मेहनतों और कोशिशों के बावजूद भी जो इतनी साधारण सी उत्पादन में वृद्धि हुई है वह क्यों ? क्या सरकार ने इस कारण को जानने की कोशिश की कि किसान को इतनी मदद देने के बावजूद भी इतनी कम वृद्धि क्यों हुई ? इस के मार्ग में जो कठिनाइयां हैं क्या उनको दूर करने की सरकार ने कोशिश की है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : यकीनन हम उन कठिनाइयों को दूर करना चाहते हैं और कर भी रहे हैं। किसानों के लिए सिंचाई की सहूलियतें फराहम की जा रही हैं। उसी के साथ साथ उनको फरटीलाइजर दिए जा रहे हैं, पैस्टीसाइड दिए जा रहे हैं और कर्जा दिया जा रहा है।

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : लेकिन अफसोस है कि इन तमाम कोशिशों के बावजूद भी उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ रहा है।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि खरीफ की फसल में अधिक उत्पादन होने का अनुमान है फिर भी विभिन्न राज्यों में इस अन्न के दाम अलग अलग हैं, इसका क्या कारण है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : उसकी नकली हरकत पर कुछ पाबन्दियां हैं।

श्री ह्रा० ना० तिवारी : यह कहा जाता है कि इस साल चावल की उपज बहुत अधिक हुई है। क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि फिर चावल का बाजार भाव पिछले साल से अधिक क्यों है, पिछले साल चावल एक रुपए का एक सेर 12 या 14 छटांक मिलता था, पर इस साल एक सेर और चार छटांक ही मिल रहा है ?

एक माननीय सदस्य : अब किलो की तोल हो गयी है, भाव नहीं बढ़ा है।

Shri C. Subramaniam: After all, we cannot take rice prices alone in isolation, when all the other prices have gone up. As a matter of fact, even now economists say agricultural prices have not reached parity with the industrial prices.

Shri Ranga: That is the truth.

Shri Subodh Hansda: The hon. Minister stated that the increase in production of paddy is 2 million tonnes. I want to know whether this increase in production is due to increase in per-acre production or due to increase in the acreage under cultivation in the country in comparison to last year?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is as a result of the combination of various factors.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the incentives that were given during the first and second plans have proved fruitless and if so, what more encouragement is to be given to the farmers for more production?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Nothing has proved fruitless. But as the House is aware, the weather and climatic conditions play a very important part in the aggregate production of food crops in the country. Whenever there is adverse climate or weather, the production goes down. But the efforts that we have made are beginning to pay us good dividends.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या यह सही है कि किसान की पैदावार इसलिए कम हो रही है कि जो चीजें किसान पैदा करता है उनके दाम तो कम हैं लेकिन जो चीजें किसान को अपना उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए लेनी पड़ती हैं उनके दाम ज्यादा हैं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : ऐसा नहीं है । अब तो यह शिकायत है कि जो चीजें किसान पैदा करता है उनकी कीमत बहुत ज्यादा है ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मिनिस्टर महोदय खुद गन्ने के खेतिहर हैं । वह बतायें कि उस से कितनी आमदनी होती है ।

Shri Ranga: Sir, one is not able to reconcile with the other—the Deputy Minister and the Minister. One says that the prices are not sufficiently higher and that they should be given remunerative prices. The other Minister says that the prices are already too high.

Shri C. Subramaniam: No, no. They are already high, but whether parity has been reached or not is the question.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: So they will all be competing in the blackmarket.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : जब दो मिलियन टन चावल ज्यादा हुआ है और इसके सीरियल्ज के प्रास्पेक्ट्स भी अच्छे हैं, तो फिर बढ़ती हुई कीमतों का कारण जोनल कंट्रोल और दूसरे कंट्रोल हैं । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार जोनल कंट्रोल हटाने के बारे में विचार कर रही है ; यदि हां, तो वह उन को कब तक हटाएगी ।

Shri C. Subramaniam: That I have already answered. There is no proposal to remove zonal restrictions on rice during this year.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether the producer-price of wheat has been fixed for kharif crop and what is the rate of growth that Government anticipate for production of wheat during next year?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is too early to forecast production of wheat. It is expected to be round about 11.5 million tons to 12 million tons during this year. The producer-price has already been announced two or three months back.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: The hon. Minister, Shri Humayun Kabir, in one of his speeches has suggested about the insurance of kharif crop for the benefit of the farmers. May I know whether Government is considering this matter?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We are having a pilot programme in Punjab for the purpose of finding whether crop insurance can be effected; if so, what should be the method for it.

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : श्रभी माननीय मन्त्री जी ने बताया कि किसान बाजार में गल्ला कम ला रहे हैं इसलिए खरीफ़ की फ़सल होने के बावजूद बाजारों में गल्ला कम आया है । क्या इसका कारण यह नहीं है कि चूंकि सरकार ने गल्ले का दाम कम तय किया है इसलिए किसान बाजार में गल्ला नहीं ला रहे हैं ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No, Sir. The price fixed is quite fair, but they expect higher prices during the lean season and whoever has holding capacity holds on so that they may get higher prices.

Shri Ranga: What do you mean by 'holds'? The farmers are not hoarders?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I said: "holds on".

श्री तुलशीदास जाधव : अभी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि काश्तकारों को ज्यादा दाम मिल रहा है। अगर यह सही है तो फिर काश्तकार ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करने के लिए कोशिश क्यों नहीं करते हैं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : वे तो पूरी पूरी कोशिश कर रहे हैं ।

श्री तुलशीदास जाधव : तो फिर अनाज क्यों कम पड़ता है ?

Simplification of Voting Procedure

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*200. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh**
Shri Yashpal Singh
Shri M. L. Dwivedi
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad
Shri D. C. Sharma
Shri P. R. Chakraverti
Shri P. C. Borooah
Shrimati Savitri Nigam
Shri Sivamurthi Swamy
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently the Election Commission convened a meeting of representatives of all the political parties in the country to evolve a code for governing election expenses, elimination of corrupt practices and simplification of voting procedure; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) and (b). The Election Commission did not convene a meeting of representatives of all political parties in the country. It, however, convened a meeting of the leaders of various groups in Parliament on the 12th September, 1964 and discussed topics of general importance relating to election expenses, elimination of corrupt practices, simplification of voting procedure etc. The meeting decided that the parties should send to the Election Commission a detailed memorandum giving their views on certain questions discussed at the meeting. The Election Commission, will, on receipt of the memoranda from the various parties, consider the views expressed by them and forward its recommendations, if any, to the Government of India.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Is it a fact that in September or October last the Election Commission sent a team of experts to the United Kingdom to study the working of the election machinery in that country and also to study the manner in which they keep the election expenses down to the minimum; if so, may we know whether that team of experts learned any useful lessons there and whether any of those lessons are giving to be put into practice in this country?

Shri Jaganatha Rao: The Election Commission was one of the teams that went to watch the election in the United Kingdom. The practice prevailing in the United Kingdom is entirely different and I am afraid we cannot copy them out *in toto* in our country.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Why did you send the team?

Shri Jaganatha Rao: Just to learn.

Mr. Speaker: Just to learn that their method is different.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Has a suggestion come forward from some quarters to the Election Commission and the Government that the gram panchayat should be treated as the basic unit for the location of polling booths in future in order to avoid unnecessary and excessive use of motor cars during election times?

Shri Jaganatha Rao: That is one of the proposals made.