

श्री किशन पटनायक : लघु सिंचाई पर पैसे का सदुपयोग होता है या नहीं इस के बारे में कहां, कहां जांच हुई थी और कब हुई थी और उस की क्या कोई रिपोर्ट है और वह किस एजेंसी के द्वारा हुई थी ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से खास ज्वाइंट टीम जाती है, हर एक प्रान्त में जा कर वह मालूमात करती है और फिर अपनी रिपोर्ट देती है . .

श्री किशन पटनायक : कोई रिपोर्ट है क्या ?

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, سوال का जवाब तो पूरा आना चाहिए ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बैठ जाइये ।

Shri C. Subramaniam : There are periodical reports, at least once a year.

Shri Ranga : May we request the Government to place on the Table of the House the annual reports that they receive from the States and also from the inspection teams that they send round the States in order to ascertain to what extent these moneys are being utilised properly or improperly or not yet adequately utilised? Otherwise, we would get no idea at all.

Shri C. Subramaniam : I shall find out whether it could be placed at least in the Library.

Shri Sinhasan Singh : May I know whether these minor irrigation projects are carried out by the Food and Agriculture Department directly or they are carried out through the agency of the Community Development organisations in the Blocks, and if they are carried out by the Community Development organisations in the Blocks, whether your Department make any investigation, in view of the question put by my hon. friend Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad whether they are paper wells or they are real tubewells and

if there are real tubewells, whether the boring has been done properly and whether. . .

Mr. Speaker : There should not be such a long supplementary with so many "whethers" and "ifs".

Shri Sinhasan Singh : I want to know whether these minor irrigation projects are carried out directly by the Agriculture Department or they are carried out by the agency of Community Development in the Blocks.

Mr. Speaker : If the supplementaries are so long and the answers are also long, then, only a very few questions could be completed during the Question Hour.

Shri C. Subramaniam : I shall be brief. Essentially, this is a programme of the State Governments. We scrutinise their programme and make money available to the State Governments to undertake these projects. Therefore, it is the agency of the State Government which functions. The State Governments, in their turn, may have the P.W.D. or the Community Development administration and in some States there are special divisions to take care of these minor irrigation projects.

Shri S. Kandappan : The implementation is ineffective.

Price Stabilisation Board

- +
- *1151. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri Chandak:
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:

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

(a) whether Government have examined the question of creating a National Price Stabilisation Board to suggest a consistent price policy taking into account all aspects of the economic and social activities;

(b) the assurances given to the farmer that he would receive a fair deal and shall have a surplus to invest and improve his living; and

(c) the other incentives given to the agriculturists to increase savings and channelise investments according to plan priorities?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). Yes Sir. The Government of India have set up an Agricultural Prices Commission. A copy of the terms of reference of the Commission is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4336/65].

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether the Government has taken into account the economic factor that the limits of effective price fixation are set by the efficacy of control over the distribution method and also the organisation in reaching the commodities to the consumers and, if so, what has been done in this matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): These are two aspects, one with regard to the production and the other with regard to providing sufficient incentives to the farmer for producing more and more. It is for the purpose of giving proper incentives to the farmer, to fix a remunerative and incentive price, that the Agricultural Prices Commission has been appointed and it is yet to submit its Report and I am hoping that it will submit its Report very soon. With regard to aspects, like distribution etc., we have set up the Food Corporation of India which will take care of those things.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: While determining the strategy of development, the main task is to shift the price burden, which is an accompanying factor of the developing economy, from the weaker to the richer sections. What has been done by Government in this regard?

Shri C. Subramaniam: That is a much bigger question which cannot be answered during the Question Hour on a question like this.

Shri A. P. Sharma: May I know the names of the members of the commission and whether at the time of the setting up of the commission, it has been ensured that all the interests concerned are represented there?

Shri C. Subramaniam: At present, three permanent members have been appointed; the chairman is Mr. Dantwala; there are two other Members, namely Shri Raj Krishen, and Shri S. C. Chaudhuri.

As far as the growers' interests are concerned, as I have already stated, a panel of farmers has been appointed for the purpose of advising the Agricultural Prices Commission, and the commission will take full advantage of the recommendations which this panel would make.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know the names of the agricultural commodities which have been taken up by the commission in connection with their first report?

Shri C. Subramaniam: The first report is expected within the next two months.

श्री युद्धवीर सिंह : पिछले एक साल में एक बार नहीं, बल्कि कम से कम हजारों बार 95 प्रतिशत मेम्बरो के द्वारा यह प्रश्न उठाए जाने पर कि अन्न पैदा करने वाले किसान को ठीक कीमत मिले, सरकार ने श्रीर सरकार के मंत्री श्रीर उपमंत्रियों ने बीसियों बार इस सदन में श्रीर बाहर भी इस बात का भरोसा दिलाया है कि अच्छी पैदावार के लिए यह निहायत आवश्यक है कि खाली कन्व्यूमर्स के हितों की बात ही ध्यान में न रखी जाये। मंत्री महोदय जानते होंगे कि पंजाब में, जो गेहूँ पैदा करने का सब से बड़ा मंडार है, पिछले एक महीने में गेहूँ की कीमतें कितनी नीचे गई हैं। इस अवस्था में क्या वह उम्मीद करते हैं कि किसान अच्छी तरह से अन्न पैदा कर सकेगा? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस सिलसिले में क्या कदम

उठाने जा रही है कि पंजाब में गिरती हुई कीमतों को रोक दिया जाये और उन को उस स्तर तक ले जाया जाये, जिस से किसानों का हिसला बरकरार रहे ।

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is true that the prices in Punjab have fallen down recently and that is why we are now organising that at the support price Government should be prepared to purchase whatever quantities are offered to them. The Food Secretary has gone to Punjab only yesterday and is there even now, and arrangements are being made for the purchase by Government so that there may not be any drop below the support price.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : क्या कोई हाथ से हल चलाने वाला किसान भी इस कमीशन का सदस्य है और क्या उस से पूछा गया है कि बीज, पानी, मालगुजारी, नौकर-चाकर और उस के जो बाल-बच्चे बिना मजदूरी काम करते हैं, उन के सम्बन्ध में उस का कितना खर्चा आता है ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Just now, I have answered that a panel of farmers has been constituted for the purpose of assisting the commission.

Shri P. R. Patel: The hon. Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, has given a promise to the cultivators of the country that representatives of the farmers will be included on this commission. Am I to understand that Government do not want to accept this promise given by the Prime Minister?

Shri C. Subramaniam: The panel will advise the commission, and, therefore, there is no question of the farmers being left out. It is not a question of including one farmer. One farmer certainly cannot represent the various aspects of production. In that case, I should have at least one hundred farmers to represent the various crops and the various regions and the various interests concerned. Therefore, what is

important is that the commission has to be assisted properly by a panel; in addition to that, the commission might make sufficient investigation at an expert level to find out the cost of production and on that basis they can make their recommendations. And ultimately, there is also Government who also have to go into the matter. For, it is only a recommendation which the Agricultural Prices Commission makes. Therefore, Government also have to ensure that the prices recommended is a really remunerative and economic price. Therefore, there is no question of the interests of farmers being ignored. On the other hand, I can give the assurance that every step will be taken and it will be ensured that the interests of the growers are properly protected.

Shri P. R. Patel: My question was different. The Prime Minister assured the people that a representatives of farmers will be included in this Commission. I want to know whether Government want to implement that assurance or not?

Shri C. Subramaniam: The Prime Minister did not say that there will be a farmer-member in the Commission (*Interruptions*). He said proper representation would be given to the farmers for the purpose of ensuring that the Prices Commission came to a proper decision. It is in consultation with the Prime Minister also that this idea of a panel consisting of a fairly large number of farmers has been mooted and a panel constituted for the purpose of assisting the Commission. Government in taking a final decision will take into account the recommendations of the panel also.

Shri Somavane: Are Government aware that the prevailing poverty in the rural areas is mostly due to the uneconomic price for foodgrains that the farmer gets? Has the Commission been informed that the present black-market prices, and *ad hoc* prices fixed by various governments are at great variance?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I am sure they will take into account every aspect of it, first of all, the cost of production, then parity of prices within the agricultural sector and then parity of prices between the agricultural sector and the industrial sector.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप की ट्रूटि इधर नहीं जाती है—ज्यादातर उधर ही जाती है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर ऐसी बात बही जाये, तो मुझे अफसोस है । मैं दोनों तरफ के माननीय सदस्यों को बुलाता हूँ ।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : आप मिला लीजिए कि कितना समय उधर दिया जाता है और कितना समय इधर दिया जाता है । आखिर हम भी तो उन की तरह मेम्बर हैं ।

Shri Shinkre: Such objection should not have come from Shri Bibhuti Mishra.

Shri Kapur Singh: Have Government scrutinised the true causes of the recent slump in agricultural prices in the Punjab? If so, apart from price support measures, do they propose to take any punitive action against those responsible for this?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I do not see how any responsibility can be fixed when the prices slump because of the production there being sufficient perhaps, and traders not coming forward to purchase at that price. That is why Government are taking responsibility now to provide price support to the farmers.

Shri Kapur Singh: You give me the authority. I will fix the responsibility.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He has given a challenge.

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो सवाल है

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं ने माननीय सदस्य को बुलाया नहीं है । जब तक मैं किसी मेम्बर साहब को न बुलाऊँ, तब तक मैं उन को बोलने की इजाजत नहीं दूँगा, चाहे वह इधर के हों और चाहे उधर के । मुझे इस बात का बड़ा अफसोस है कि ऐसे रिफ्लेक्शनज किये जायें कि मैं एक तरफ को ज्यादा वक्त देता हूँ और दूसरे के साथ डिस्कमिनेट करता हूँ ।

श्री बागड़ी : मैं समय के बारे नहीं कह रहा हूँ । आप चाहे उधर ही ध्यान दें । मैं तो मंत्री महोदय के जवाब के बारे में कह रहा हूँ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब तक मैं आप को न बुलाऊँ, तब तक आप न बोलें ।

श्री बागड़ी : मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं आप को इजाजत नहीं दे रहा हूँ ।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Shri Bibhuti Mishra must withdraw the remark he made.

श्री बागड़ी : जिस तरह मानसिंह डाकू पिस्तौल दिखा कर डाका डाला करता था, उसी तरह सरकार कानून के द्वारा किसानों पर डाका डाल रही है—सरकार और व्यापारी किसानों को लूट रहे हैं ।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Shri Kapur Singh issued a challenge. Has it been accepted? It was drowned in the little hubbub that followed the Food Minister's answer.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Land Management and Development Board

*1152. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some States propose to establish Land