

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: How long after the view was expressed by Mr. G. L. Mehta was his view corrected and who was the wiser man who corrected it?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It was not the Minister. It is a question of collective consideration and collective wisdom prevailing over individual wisdom. That is exactly what has happened in this case.

श्री प० ह० भील : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जापान के अलावा और किन किन देशों से बातचीत आपने की है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जापान के अलावा कुछ बातचीत जर्मनी से हुई है। इसके अलावा बात हुई है यू० के० से। एक आध शिपयाई अमरीकन था और उन्होंने भी इस में इंटेरेस्ट दिखाया। लेकिन आजकल जैसा हम जानते हैं शिप बिल्डिंग में जापानी जो इंडस्ट्री है, उद्योग है वह सब से आगे है, सब से अधिक शिप वे बनाते हैं और उनका टेक्नीक भी ज्यादा डिवेलप्ड है। वे सस्ते जहाज भी मुकाबलतन बनाते हैं।

Regarding Starred Question No. 115.

Shri Yashpal Singh: 90.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Q 115 may also be taken up.

Mr. Speaker: That is a separate one. If the Minister thinks it is allied, he may answer, otherwise not.

Closure of Sugar Mills

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- *90. {
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri M. L. Diwedi:
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
 Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 Shri K. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Heda:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Madhu Limaye:
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Food and Agri-

culture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to irregular and inadequate supply of sugar-cane, sugar mills in U.P. and Punjab are likely to be closed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the short supply of sugar-cane; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to avert such crisis?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Some sugar factories in certain districts of Western U.P. e.g., Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur, Bijnore, Moradabad and Bulandshahr may close earlier than usual.

(b) The reason is diversion of sugar-cane to gur and Khandsari manufacture;

(c) Central Government has banned inter-State movement of 'rab' and the State Government has increased the purchase tax on sugarcane purchased by sugar crushers and khandsari units in reserved areas of factories from 25 paise per quintal to 50 paise per quintal. The affected factories have also raised the sugarcane price to some extent.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि केन क्रश करने वाले तीन रुपये मन गन्ना खरीदते हैं और सरकार सस्ते दामों पर गन्ना खरीद रही है और उत्पादकों को पूरा मूल्य नहीं मिल रहा है। बाद में मिल वालों ने अपनी मर्जी से 52 नए पैसे बढ़ा दिये लेकिन सरकार ने एक बार भी कीमत बढ़ाने के लिए नहीं कहा ?

श्री बा० रा० बहाण : कुछ लोगों ने बढ़ाये हैं।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : सरकार के पास क्या इस तरह का कोई हिसाब है कि कितना

नुक्सान चीनी के खाते में हुआ है और किस तरह से इसको पूरा किया जाएगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उनका मतलब यह है कि जो पैदावार होनी चाहिये थी वह नहीं हो सकी और उस में कितना नुकसान हुआ है ?

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: What about 115?

Mr. Speaker: It is a separate question.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): It is true that in western U.P. production has gone down when compared to the production in the corresponding period last year, but generally, taking the country as a whole, there is increase in production.

श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी : गन्ने के खण्डसारी की तरफ चले जाने के कारण जो शक्कर के उत्पादन में कमी हो रही है उत्तर प्रदेश की शक्कर की मिलों में उसके बारे में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार के प्रयत्नों के फलस्वरूप क्या इन मिलों में उत्पादन बढ़ेगा, यदि नहीं, तो और क्या उपाय किये जायेंगे ताकि उत्पादन इनका बढ़े और मिलें बन्द न हों ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: There is keen competition between the gurkhandsari manufacturers and the factory sugar manufacturers in western UP particularly. That competition will have to be faced and that is why I said there has been a decrease in production in this particular area, that is, western UP. In all the other areas, the sugar production has been much more than what it was last year.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: My question was whether the production will increase.

Mr. Speaker: What are the measures taken by the Government; would there be any increase in production in those factories or would the same thing continue?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I do not think they will reach the targeted figure during this year; there will be a decrease.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the sugar millowners have consulted the Government and whether they have also recommended that the price of sugarcane in that area must be increased so that the factories may not be closed?

Shri C. Subramaniam: There has got to be a uniform price throughout the country. We cannot increase sugarcane prices for western Uttar Pradesh alone. This price of Rs. 2 per maund has been fixed on an all-India basis and the sugar manufacturers will have to work within this price. But it is open to sugar factories to pay more to them, but they cannot expect an increase of sugar price on that account.

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : चीनी के उत्पादन में कमी का कारण सिर्फ यह नहीं है कि बहुत सा गन्ना खण्डसारी की ओर चला गया बल्कि इसके अन्दर अन्य भी कारण हैं, क्या यह बात सही है ? अगर यह बात सही है तो उन अन्य कारणों को दूर करने के लिए सरकार कौन सा उपाय सोच रही है ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: For the present, this competition is the only reason. The other reason is we should have better cane and all those things. That has to be developed; it is a long-term programme.

Shri K. N. Tiwary: The hon. Minister said that in western UP, the millowners will not be able to reach the targeted figure. May I know what was the target fixed and how much is the shortfall?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I am sorry I cannot give the figure for the whole year, but for the corresponding period last year, the production was round about 5.2 lakhs; they have reached only 4.2 lakhs, this year.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : गुड़ में ज्यादा गन्ना चला जाता है क्योंकि गुड़ की कीमत अधिक होती है। इसलिए सरकार के सामने क्या कोई योजना है कि गुड़ की कीमत और चीनी की कीमत दोनों कीमतों को एक साथ ऐसे जोड़ें कि किसी किस्म की कोई दिक्कत न हो और लोगों के सामने यह बीज न रहे कि गुड़ में अधिक पैसा मिलता है इसलिए गुड़ की तरफ जायें या चीनी की तरफ अधिक पैसा मिलता है, इसलिए चीनी की तरफ जायें ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: All these matters have been referred to the Sen Commission, and they are considering the entire aspect of production and price of sugar in the factories also and within a few months the report should be available..

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether the contention of the cane-growers behind their demand for increased cane prices is that the lion's share of the proceeds goes to the millowners and may I know whether the Government have any proposal to refer the matter to the Tariff Commission to find out the cost structure of sugar production and distribution?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I have just now said that it has been referred to the Sen Commission.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether it is a fact that a quota has been fixed for the supply of sugarcane to the sugar mills in Punjab and, if so, what has been the percentage and what is its effect upon the sugar position?

Shri C. Subramaniam: In Punjab they have taken action prohibiting the crushing for gur or khandsari in the factory area, and that has given the sugarcane factories some relief, and they are able to get the sugarcane from them.

श्री मधु सिन्हा : पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के इलाके में कुल कितनी मिलें जल्दी बन्द हो गई हैं या होने जा रही हैं और पिछले

साल उनकी जो पैदावार थी और इस साल उनकी जो पैदावार रहेगी, उस में कितना फर्क रहेगा ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: With regard to the difference in price, I have already given the figures up-to-date. But how it is going to end, it is too early to say. With regard to the dates by which they may be closed, it is too early to predict.

श्री विष्णु प्रसाद : माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि पश्चिमी जिलों में मिल मालिकों ने 52 पैसे केन की प्राइस में बढ़ा दिये। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये 52 पैसे पर क्वंटल कहां से मीट किया जाएगा ? इसके लिये क्या गवर्नमेंट कुछ सबसिडी देगी या खुद अपने पैसों में से वे मीट करेंगे ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: As I already stated, the taxes on the purchase of cane have been increased for the purchase of cane for sugar. In addition to that, Government have given some excise duty concessions for excess production during the season. They are taking advantage of it to give this increased price.

Shri Himmatsinhji: In many parts of the country sugar is already in short supply, particularly in those States which depend on the supply from other States. Would the crisis in this industry affect the sugar supply in the deficit States?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I have already stated that even though there is a decrease in this area, the overall position in the country is much better than last year and we hope to reach the target of 30 lakh tonnes during this year.

श्री तुलशीदास जाधव : साउथ इंडिया में जो कोम्पारेटिव शुगर फैक्ट्रीज हैं वहां यह दिक्कत ज्यादा नहीं पैदा होती है जब कि नार्थ इंडिया में इंडिविजुअल फैक्ट्री प्रोनर्स के कारण यह दिक्कत पैदा होती है। तो इस को इंडिविजुअल प्रापर्टी प्रोनरशिप से

निकाल कर कोआपरेटिव बेसिस पर किया जाये इसके बारे में क्या सरकार कोई विचार कर रही है ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: All the new mills would be in the cooperative sector.

श्री के० बे० मालवीय : क्या सरकार यह नहीं समझती है कि अब वह समय आ गया है कि गन्ना उत्पादन करने वालों, चीनी उत्पादन करने वालों और चीनी बेचने वालों, सब को एक ही संस्था में ला कर सहकारिता के या किसी दूसरे जन-मिलकियत में सारे उद्योग धन्धे को नेशनलाइज कर दिया जाये ।

Shri C. Subramaniam: There is no immediate proposal to nationalise the sugar industry. But all the new mills will be in the cooperative sector.

श्री बूटा सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि पंजाब में गन्ने की उपज के कम होने के मुख्य कारण हैं अच्छा बीज न मिलना, किसान को गन्ने की फसल के लिए खाद न मिलना और गुरदासपुर बोरर नाम की जो बीमारी गन्ने में लगती है उस का न हटाया जाना । अगर हाँ, तो क्या सरकार उन का कोई उपाय कर रही है और किसान को कोई और ऐसी सहूलियतें दे रही है जिन से गन्ने की उपज ज्यादा हो सके ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We are taking steps to give better seeds, so that per acre production may increase and the sugar content of the cane also might increase. Regarding fertiliser, it is the total availability which is affecting the use of fertiliser for sugarcane, because it has to be used for foodgrains also. But to the extent possible, we are making it available.

Shri D. D. Puri: The Minister stated that steps have been taken in Punjab to regulate production of *gur* in the factory areas. May I know what the steps are, because the industry does not seem to be aware of it?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I am told the Punjab Government have prohibited the crushing of sugarcane within the factory area. That is regulated and it can be done only with the permission of Government.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether Government will stick to the policy of linking price with recovery rather than adopt a different standard for different sugar mills in the country, so that some of the sugarcane growers may not be put to a disadvantage so far as the price is concerned?

Shri C. Subramaniam: This year a change was made. Formerly the basic price fixed for 9.4 per cent recovery was Rs. 1.86. But now Rs. 2 has been fixed for any sugarcane below 10.4 per cent recovery. This change has been made because a demand has been made particularly from U.P. and Bihar that the minimum price should be Rs. 2 per maund. But as I have already stated, all these matters are under the consideration of the Sen Commission and we may be able to rationalise the whole thing after the receipt of the report.

Unemployment Insurance Scheme

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- Shri Yashpal Singh;
 - Shri Mohammad Elias;
 - Shri S. M. Banerjee;
 - Shri M. L. Dwivedi;
 - Shri S. C. Samanta;
 - Shri R. S. Tiwary;
 - Shri Onkar Lal Berwa;
 - Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaia;
 - Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath;
 - Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda;
 - Shri Subodh Hansda;
 - Shri Bade;
 - Shri Vishram Prasad;
 - Shri R. S. Pandey;
 - Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha;
 - Shri R. Barua;