

कि राज्य सरकारों को अग्रिम धन दिया जाए ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is not the money that is standing in the way; it is the availability of food-grains. As the hon. Member himself pointed out, they are going through a condition of scarcity during the last two years and it is not the time when a buffer stock can be built up.

श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा : राज्य सरकार के पास धन ही नहीं है। बफर स्टॉक बहुरख ही नहीं सकती है।

Applied Nutrition Programme

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- *3. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri Umanath:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri Laxmi Dass:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to bring an additional 1,000 Community Development blocks under the applied nutrition programme within the next few years;

(b) if so, the details of the programme and the time-table for its introduction in the additional 1,000 Community Development blocks; and

(c) whether Government propose to lay a statement on the Table giving details of the distribution of Community Development Blocks in different States?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) It is proposed to cover an additional 1,000 blocks under the

Applied Nutrition Programme during the Fourth Plan period.

(b) The programme aims at increased production, at the village level, of various protective foods like fruits, vegetables fish, poultry and milk and the training and education of the villagers in the production, preparation, preservation and consumption of these foods.

The number of CD Blocks to be covered under the programme is respectively 150, 200, 250, 250 and 150 during the first and each succeeding year of the Fourth Plan period.

(c) The statewide coverage of the programme is being currently worked out in Fourth Plan discussions with the States.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how far this applied nutrition programme is going to solve our food shortage problem and, if it is going to do so, in what way?

Shri Shinde: I may state for the information of the hon. Member that this is a very moderate programme. As is well known, the Indian diet predominantly consists of cereals and there are too many deficiencies in the Indian diet. It is an attempt in various directions to improve the dietary habits. It takes quite a considerable time to change the dietary habits. May I say for the information of the hon. Member that the Estimates Committee of this House went into this problem and the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission also went into this problem? They have made a number of suggestions and said a good word in appreciation of the programme.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I think, the per capita intake of calories in the countries of the world is, on an average, 3000. May I know what is the average intake of calories in this country and how far this programme will step up the intake of calories in this country?

Shri Shinde: The average intake also differs from State to State. In a State like Punjab, it is much higher than the all-India average while in some of the States, specially the tribal-inhabited areas, the average intake of calories is very low, that is, below the average of 2100 calories.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether the aim and the purpose of this programme is also to wean away people from vegetarianism, to change food habits to see that the people give up vegetarianism for various kinds of other supplementary food that is available, and, if so, whether this does not conflict with the declared policy of the Government not to interfere with the basic living pattern of the people?

Shri Shinde: I do not agree with the contention of the hon. Member that this programme is directed against vegetarianism as such. In fact, even in regard to non-vegetarian foods, dietary habits can improve and better technology can be utilised.

Shri Umanath: I would like to know whether this programme was formulated at the instance of any foreign experts or in consultation with any foreign consultants and, if so, from which country the foreign experts were consulted.

Shri Shinde: There is a misconception about the programme. In fact, the programme is very much formulated by our own experts, though in the initial stages, the UNICEF, the WHO and the FAO came to help. The programme has been formulated by the various State Governments and the Centre and Planning Commission. For the information of the hon. Member, I may say that as far as the Fourth Plan projections are concerned, we expect to spend about Rs. 40 crores out of which Rs. 20 crores are to come from the Plan provisions of the State Governments, Rs. 10 crores from the Central sector and about Rs. 10 crores from the UNICEF and other international agencies.

श्री विश्व नाथ पाण्डेय : अभी उत्तर में बताया गया है कि एक हजार और सामुदायिक विकास खंडों में व्यावहारिक पोषाहार कार्यक्रम चालू करने का सरकार का विचार है। अभी भी देश के अन्दर बहुत से विकास खंड हैं जिनमें व्यावहारिक पोषाहार कार्यक्रम चल रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसके ऊपर कितना धन लगा है और उसमें कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

Shri Shinde: The average expenditure per block is about Rs. 1.25 lakhs per year. The normal schemes relate to the development of horticulture, poultry, fisheries and there are various production programmes and some of the programmes also come under the Food Department, that is, under the Food and Nutrition Board wherein development of technology, better preservation of foods, etc., come in. The expenditure per block is not more than Rs. 1.25 lakhs.

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : सरकार कभी ब्लाक्स तोड़ती है और कभी खोलती है। पहली दूसरी और तीसरी योजनाओं में हमारी खाद्य समस्या हल नहीं हुई है और ब्लाक पर ब्लाक खुलने लग गये हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप किसानों को सस्ता पानी देने की भी व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं ताकि खाद्य समस्या हल हो ?

Shri Shinde: This has no relevance to the Question which has been put.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : सरकार ने कहा है कि वह एक हजार ब्लाक्स को और प्लाइड न्यूट्रिशन प्रोग्राम के अन्तर्गत लाने की सोच रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन-जिन ब्लाक्स में बिजली की सुविधा है उस उस ब्लाक्स में क्या सरकार कोल्ड स्टॉरेज लगा कर, ग्राम कटहल, प्याज, आलू आदि चीजों को प्रिजर्व करने की सुविधा प्रदान करगी ताकि न्यूट्रिशन बना रहे और लोगों को खाद्य पदार्थ मिलते रहें ?

Shri Shinde: The criteria which have been applied for selection of the blocks are mainly nutritional backwardness and economic backwardness. Of course, the other things like training facilities, lands available for community schools, gardens, etc., are taken into consideration. It is mainly the nutritional backwardness that is taken into consideration while selecting the blocks.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Is there any fixed criterion in terms of which these particular blocks are selected for the extension of the scheme? Is there a matching grant to be raised locally?

Shri Shinde: As I have already submitted, the conditions in different parts of the country differ radically from one another, but the broad criterion that is made applicable is the nutritional and economic backwardness and on this basis, the blocks are selected.

As far as the matching grants are concerned, the amounts which are provided for various plans for the development of poultry, fisheries and horticulture, the amounts are made available for these programmes from the State sector. Then there is a provision in the Central sector, to be shared equally between the Centre and the States. The rest of it, i.e., about 20 to 25 per cent is from international sources.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there is already an unchecked and unlimited drainage of public moneys by the Block Development Officers? I want to know the circumstances under which another financial aid has been given to this Department.

Shri Shinde: I do not agree with the hon. Member. Moreover, the expert organisations which have gone into this problem, as I have already mentioned, have said good words of appreciation about the programme. It is mainly connected with schools....

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I shall repeat my question. There is a feeling in the country.....

Mr. Speaker: He says that he does not agree. What should I do? He has said that this is not correct.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He has mentioned only about the programme.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question.

Survey of Man-hours wasted at Bus Stops

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*4. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Transport, Delhi has conducted a survey to assess the average time a passenger has to wait at a bus stop and to determine the number of man-hours wasted at bus stops;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey; and

(c) whether similar surveys have been made elsewhere in the country and if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Aviation (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) and (b). Yes. The survey which was conducted on an *ad hoc* basis revealed that during the peak hours of traffic the average waiting time at a bus stop in Delhi ranged from 10 to 40 minutes. No calculation of man-hours lost was made.

(c) The requisite information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: It is a known fact that there is an appalling national wastage in terms of millions of man-hours being lost because of long stoppages at various bus-stops. May I know whether the Government propose to bring together various State Governments—their skills and experience—to see that this wastage is averted?