

**Shri Priya Gupta:** The Preamble covers the whole country. Why is it that while some remain hungry others get plenty? Is that equity?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri Priya Gupta:** What about hoarding? Why is hoarding allowed?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. He sits down and then he thinks of hoarding.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I would like to know whether it has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that the cost of imported foodgrains, especially wheat under PL. 480 which is being distributed through fair price shops in Uttar Pradesh, in those areas where there is statutory rationing like Kanpur, has been increased and the increase in price is being borne by the consumer; if so, I would like to know whether this question has been taken up to see that any increase in the price of imported wheat should not fall on the consumer.

**Shri Govinda Menon:** There has been no increase in the price of wheat.

The subsidy is being reduced gradually.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** If the subsidy is reduced the burden falls more on the consumer.

**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** The hon. Minister just now said that this subsidy is being ultimately passed on to the consumer. I would like to know whether Government is considering any proposal to see that a similar amount of subsidy is also provided to the farmers as a price incentive so that the farmers, with this incentive, would put more efforts to increase agricultural production?

**Shri Govinda Menon:** The Agricultural Prices Commission is looking into the question of cost.

**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** I am not asking about the Commission. I want to know whether Government has got any proposal at this time or not.

**Shri Govinda Menon:** We are acting on the advice of the Agricultural

Prices Commission regarding the economic cost of production and the price to be given to the producer from time to time.

#### Incentives for Agricultural Production

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\*277. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**

**Shri Bagri:**

**Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

**Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:**

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give economic incentives to farmers to increase agricultural production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether subsidies and loans will also be included in such incentives?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde):** (a) to (c). Economic incentives by way of remunerative prices and loans and subsidies are already being given to farmers for accelerating agricultural development. Price support policies are being pursued for important agricultural commodities including foodgrains, sugarcane, cotton and jute. Subsidies are being given at present for selected minor irrigation and soil conservation schemes as also on inputs like improved seeds, agricultural implements, pesticides, certain types of fertilisers and plant protection equipment. Short, medium and long term loans are provided for agricultural development. The Cooperative structure is being supported and strengthened to render increasing help to farmers.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या मंत्री महोदय बता सकते हैं कि इस मामले में जबकि चारों तरफ अकाल है, उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने जो पच्चीस परसेंट लगान बढ़ाया है और 25 परसेंट ब्रावपाशी की दर को बढ़ाया है, क्या

सेंटर ने उसकी कोई ऐसा अनुमान नहीं है कि इस तरह से पंचायत पंचायत परमिट दरों को बढ़ा कर खेत की रंगवार भाया जायगी और उत्तर प्रदेश और ज्यादा सखा हो जायगा।

**Shri Shinde:** The Government has no information about the subject matter the hon. Member is referring to. If he addresses a specific question to me I would try to get the information from the State Government.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या सरकार ने सोचा है कि आज किसान का जो लोन दिया जाता है वह उसका हैसियत को देखकर दिया जाता है, उसकी जरूरतों को देख कर नहीं दिया जाता है और ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये? हैसियत को देख कर तो माहूकाम भी दे देना है, बैंक भी दे देता है। क्या सरकार का यह फर्ज नहीं है कि सरकार उसकी फसल को देव कर, उसकी जलियों को देव कर उसको लोन दे?

**Shri Shinde:** May I submit for the information of the hon. Member that a credit scheme has been adopted now and that is based on the requirements of the farmers on the basis of their individual production plans. May I also submit that during the last one year more than Rs. 375 crores have been advanced by way of medium and short term loans to farmers and about Rs. 50 crores by way of long term loans.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** What the farmers want is a remunerative and integrated price for their produce. Whatever impact these indirect subsidies are making is taken away by the administrative cost. May I know whether the Government is thinking of abolishing land revenue so that the farmers may get enough money to invest on their land instead of these indirect subsidies which are not helping the farmer in any way?

**Shri Shinde:** I am not prepared to concede that the subsidies are not helping the farmers. The hon. lady Member has gone much beyond the

purview of the question—remission of land revenue and other things.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question hour is over.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** I could not hear the answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Minister says that the hon. Lady Member has over-stepped the limits prescribed in the question.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Sir, I do not think you agree with the Minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** She has enquired what the Minister has stated; not my view. My opinion was not solicited. I have only repeated the answer.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** But you have over-ruled the question because of that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now the question hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Rice Ration in Kerala

\*273. **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri Warior:**

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of increasing the quantum of rice ration in Kerala has been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been found possible to raise the rice quantum of ration in Kerala.