

and generators for these power plants?

**Shri Alagesan:** There is the plant at Bhopal and three more are coming.

**Dr. K. L. Rao:** The Minister said that a unit is working in the CWPC for these plants. May I know whether the Government is aware that that unit is not sufficient and it has got to be strengthened immediately, because we are incurring very heavy cost? Will Government take immediate steps to see that the unit is strengthened very much?

**Shri Alagesan:** We shall certainly do that.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** May I know whether the foreign exchange components that are mentioned in the statement are given for immediate release and by what time it will be possible for the Government to start these plants?

**Shri Alagesan:** The foreign exchange mentioned here has been released. The various dates when they will be commissioned are also given in the statement.

#### Reduction in Cane Prices in U.P. Sugar Mills

+

\*1509. { **Shri B. Verma:**  
**Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:**

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

(a) whether Government are aware that some of the sugar mills of U.P. have reduced the cane prices on the plea of less percentage of recovery of sugar;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to depute some of our chemists to examine this fact; and

(c) what immediate steps Government are taking to safeguard the interests of peasants?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shinde):** (a) Yes, Sir. The

deductions have been authorised by the Government.

(b) and (c). Appointment of Chemists is not necessary. Purchase of cane and production of sugar are supervised respectively by Officers of the State Government and the Central Excise Department.

**Shri B. Verma:** May I know whether the sugar mills consult the Government before effecting a cut in the prices?

**Shri Shinde:** The Government was consulted regarding that. Even the State Governments were there for consultation etc.

**Shri B. Verma:** How is it that the cane of a particular area gives out different percentages of recovery?

**Shri Shinde:** It is, after all, left to the State Governments for actual implementation of the formula. But, as is well known, the recoveries from cane from different areas necessarily differ, and as the formula is based on different recoveries naturally the prices are bound to differ.

**श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** श्रीमन्, क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि रिकवरी में प्रतिशत की कमी का बहाना ले कर शुगर मिलों ने गन्ने के मूल्य में जो कमी की है, वह कितनी है और क्या उत्तर प्रदेश की सभी मिलों ने वह कमी की है, अथवा थोड़ी मिलों ने की है ?

**साक्ष तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटिल) :** उस में बहाना तो नहीं मालूम होता है, क्योंकि यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से यह चीज आई कि इन दिनों में, यानी जून में, रिकवरी थोड़ी कम होती है। इस लिये यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट और मिलों, इन सभी की राय ले कर वह चीज बनी है।

**श्री त्यागी :** कितनी मित्रों ने रिकवरी कम दिखा कर गन्ने की कीमत नी है ? क्या मेहरबानी कर के उन के नाम पढ़े जा सकते हैं ?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** This is all with the U.P. Government. Unless they refer the matter to us, we are not seized of that question.

**श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** श्रीमन्, मैंने यह जानना चाहा था कि रिक्की में प्रतिशत की कमी के आघार पर मूल्य में जो कमी की गई है, वह कितनी है। मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या शुगर मिलों की यह आदत पड़ गई है कि वे पिछले समय में गन्ना कम लेती हैं और मई-जून में रिक्की में प्रतिशत की कमी दिखा कर मूल्य कम देती हैं।

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** All aspects were carefully considered. The representatives of the State Governments were also here. The hon. Minister even had consultations with the Chief Ministers of both Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. What has now been authorised is this. In U.P., Bihar and Punjab, sugar factories are permitted to deduct from the minimum cane price 1.5 nP. per maund of sugarcane for every decimal one per cent fall in recovery below 9 per cent with effect from 1st May 1962. This deduction is subject to a maximum of 19 nP. per maund of sugarcane which could be increased to 25 nP. in case it became absolutely necessary.

**श्री तुलसीदास जाधव:** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यूपी० के कारखानों में गन्ने का जो भाव (रेट) है, उस में और हिन्दुस्तान के दूसरे गन्ने के क्षेत्रों के रेट में क्या डिफरेंस है।

**Shri Shinde:** What the hon. Member contends is not true. The rates are declared by the Government of India. Of course, there is a slight variation in respect of regions which are in the south, but that variation is due to higher recoveries obtaining in the south.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** The hon. Minister just now stated that

this arrangement has been arrived at in consultation with the State Governments and the representatives of the mills. May I know who are representing the interests of the agriculturists?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** The interest of the agriculturists is to see that the entire cane is crushed. We have taken all steps necessary to see that the entire cane is crushed.

**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** May I know whether this formula regarding recovery of percentage of sugar is for all the varieties of sugarcane or for particular varieties?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** In fact, the question of low recovery is engaging the attention of the Government. The prices will have to be linked up to recovery because there is the question of higher and lower recovery. Because there was an order that there would be a 10 per cent cut and I had given a promise in this House, if you will remember, that we shall not allow the crop that is standing to dry up, some remedies had to be found out. Therefore, in consultation with the State Governments we came to a formula and it operates. It is a very small percentage that is cut, but that is with a view to avoid the greater consequences, namely, the possibility of the cane being not crushed at all.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether the U.P. and Bihar Cane-growers' Association have lodged their protest against the decrease in rates and, if so, what steps have been taken by Government to consult them before a final decision is taken?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** That consultation is a matter between the State Government and the cane-growers. We do not come into the picture.

**Shri Tyagi:** In the past, whenever any such reduction was effected, technicians used to be sent to examine the recovery to see what was the reduction. Then only it used to be accepted. I wonder whether that procedure has been given up. This

time did we depend upon the reports of the sugar mills or did we send our technicians to examine whether the recovery has gone down?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The whole formula is so precise and mathematically worked out that the prices are slightly reduced to the point of 0.1, as is the rate here. It shows that there is a general formula for reduction, and that is done after examination. To the extent to which the recovery is less, the price is reduced.

**Shri Tyagi:** Who examines this?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The officers appointed by the Government.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Procedure for Promotion on Southern Railway

\*1492. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a rule that Railway employees above 45 years of age should not be called upto to sit for a written examination for the purposes of promotion; and

(b) whether this procedure is followed on the Southern Railway?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

##### Dredging Brahmaputra for Inland Transport

\*1497. **Shri R. Barua:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the river Brahmaputra has undergone topographical change after the last earthquake;

(b) whether inland transport along the river Brahmaputra has been affected by this change necessitating sufficient dredging of the river at places to ease mounting transport difficulties;

(c) if so, whether the Government

have taken any steps in the matter; and

(d) the details thereof?

**The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes. The earthquake of August, 1950 brought enormous quantities of silt and detritus into the Brahmaputra. In consequence, the river bed has risen in its upper reaches and become shallow, wide and more unstable than before. Shoals have formed at several places and erosion has increased.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). The river is maintained in a navigable condition by the following action:—

(i) Bandalling, i.e., deflecting the flow of the river into selected channels by fixing rows of bamboo mats in the river at selected points.

(ii) Marking the course of the deep channels.

(iii) Scouring the shoals.

At present conservancy work is being done by the Joint Steamer Companies, who are the principal operators on the Brahmaputra. Since 1958-59, they have been receiving grants from the Central Government for this purpose.

Since the scouring of the shoals is not effective without a dredger, the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board is purchasing a 14" cutter suction dredger at a cost of Rs. 21.49 lakhs. It is expected that the dredger will be available for use within a year.

##### Per Capita Consumption of Electricity in Andhra Pradesh

\*1504. **Shri Laxmi Dass:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the per capita consumption of electricity of 15 K.w.h. in Andhra Pradesh at the