

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Wednesday, March 23, 1960/Caitra 3,  
1881 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Price Fixation of Agricultural Commodities

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- \*1038. { Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri Pramathanath  
Banerjee:  
Shri Vajpayee:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Bilbhuti Mishra:  
Shri Radha Raman:  
Shri A. M. Tariq:  
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:  
Shri Tangamani:  
Shri Rami Reddy:  
Kumari M. Vedakumari:  
Shri P. G. Deb:  
Shri Arjun Singh  
Bhadauria:  
Shri Morarka:  
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state at what stage is the scheme to constitute a Statutory Board to fix prices of all crops including sugarcane?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): The matter is still under consideration.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know by what time it is expected to be finalised?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yesterday, the hon. Minister has made it very  
437 (A1) LS—1.

clear about the question of appointing a price fixation committee. I have nothing more to add to what he has said yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: Only yesterday this was discussed.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Recently there was a news item in the *Hindustan Times* saying that there was some tussle over this matter between the Minister and the Planning Commission and that the Planning Commission said that there should not be any representative of the farmers on such a committee. May I know the position now? The Planning Commission is alleged to have said that if the farmers' representatives were there on this committee, they would ever be pressing the Government to increase the price of the agricultural commodities. May I know the position now?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): There is nothing of that kind. I do not say the report is right or wrong. Sometimes newspapers help the thought in the country. But there is nothing wrong in that. There may be any opinion, not of the Planning Commission, but individual opinion, as to what is good. But ultimately I am convinced that there ought to be some kind of organisation sitting from day to day and concentrating on this business. Therefore, that would be done; there would be no difficulty in that.

श्री लुशबक्त राय : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस कमेटी को नियुक्ति में जो इतनी देरी हो रही है, उसका मुख्य कारण क्या है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : नियुक्ति में देरी इसलिये हो रही है कि ऐसी चीज बार-बार नहीं बनती है। एक दफा बनी तो वह १० वर्ष

या २५ वर्ष तक चलेगी। इतनी महत्व की चीज है, इसलिये थोड़ी देर लगेगी। तभी मैं मानता हूँ कि क्योंकि यह आवश्यक चीज है, इसलिये जल्दी में ऐसी चीज न बने जिस से बाद में पछताना पड़े।

**Shri P. R. Patel:** May I know whether the Ministry of Agriculture has submitted the proposal for such a committee to the Planning Commission?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Of course, we have; that is what I have said. We have submitted such a proposal and the proposal is under consideration.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** May I know what are the main features of the proposal?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The proposals of Government become proposals when they are accepted by Government.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether Government has prepared any list of crops which are not fetching even a fair or economic price, or even the cost of production, to the agriculturist?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I have dealt with this yesterday and I need not repeat the whole thing. As I mentioned yesterday, the responsibility of these crops is to the tune of Rs. 2,100 crores; it is so vast that even if nothing was wrong, then also, such an organisation becomes necessary.

**Shri P. R. Patel rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is not a party to this question, though there are so many other names. I have allowed him two questions and still he goes on rising.

**श्री बिभूति मिश्र :** ग्रामी मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि करीब २ हजार करोड़ रुपये की क्राप का सवाल है। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम कौश क्राप का दाम तो कमेटी निश्चित करे। फूड क्राप्स का न करे लेकिन कौश क्राप्स का करना चाहिये जैसे जूट है, हल्दी है, मिर्च है, झालू है।

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** इसमें ऐसा होता है कि एक क्राप का दाम निश्चित होने से उस का असर दूसरी क्राप्स पर पड़ता है। वह एक इंटिग्रेटेड योजना है। इसलिये मेरा प्रोपोजल है कि चन्द रोज के लिये नहीं बल्कि हमेशा के लिये ऐसा आर्गनाइजेशन होना चाहिये ताकि वह सब चीजों की देख-भाल करे। न केवल प्राइस की देख भाल ही करे बल्कि उसका पैटर्न क्या हो, फर्टिलाइजर वगैरह की चीजें हैं, इन सब चीजों को देखने के लिये कमेटी की जरूरत है।

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Who will be the constituents of the Board, according to the proposals made by the Ministry?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** That is still in a fluid condition. As I said, it has not yet been finally decided. But some kind of participation by the farmers in some way or other would be there in that committee.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The hon. Minister said that some Members of this House will also be included. May I know whether some of the Members of this House who have some connection with agriculture will also be included in that committee?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I would really welcome such a thing, because those Members of the House who have really experience of agriculture would be of great help to me in this business, because they understand the responsibility of the country as a whole also.

**Shri Tyagi:** Have Government any proposals or measures under consideration which would reduce the cost of production in this country?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Again if I may refer back, the very fact that we materially increase the yield per acre would have also a component of reduction in the price.

**Shri Tyagi:** I was anxious to know about the cost of production by way

of things which he buys—steel, cement, etc. which the peasant buys at high cost. If the requirements of the peasant are supplied to him at a cheap price, the cost of production will be cheaper.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** That is true; you do it either by general price support, giving some subsidy, etc., or increase the production in a manner that the impact on all those things would be met by this. These are matters which are under consideration.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कमीशन के पास जो आपने भेजा है तो कमीशन की राय फाइनल होगी या गवर्नमेंट की राय फाइनल होगी ।

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** कमीशन, कमेटी, बोर्ड कुछ भी उसका नाम हो, लेकिन वह ऐडवाइजरी कर्पोसिटी में है । राय तो गवर्नमेंट की ही होगी ।

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** I meant the Planning Commission.

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The Planning Commission also, hon. Members know, is an advisory body.

**श्री सिंहासन सिंह :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि वह कब तक बन जायेगा क्योंकि इससे काश्तकारों में काफी आशा बन्धी है कि इसके बन जाने के बाद उनकी क्राप की कीमत बढ़ेगी ? हमें इस बोर्ड के बनने की आशा ही बन्धी रहेगी या उसके बनने की उम्मीद भी है ?

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** अगर इस तरह की उम्मीद होती है कि प्राइस बढ़ाने के लिये यह चीज बन रही है, तो मैं इस तरह का इम्प्रेसन नहीं देना चाहता ।

**श्री सिंहासन सिंह :** मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि वह कब तक बन जायेगा क्योंकि इससे काश्तकारों को अपनी क्राप को अर्रेंज करने का आधार मिलेगा कि कितना गेहूँ बोयें,

कितना जौ बोयें । यही कारण है कि मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह बोर्ड कब तक बनेगा ।

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** हमारी कोशिश है कि जल्दी से जल्दी बन जाये । हमारी तरफ से श्रीर मिनिसट्री की तरफ से दो महीने पहले एक पर्चा तैयार हो गया है । लेकिन वह सब के पास जाता है, सब की राय उस पर होती है । इसलिये इसमें थोड़ा विलम्ब होता ही है ।

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know whether the State Governments have been asked in this respect and, if so, whether any indication is available as to their reaction to these proposals?

**श्री स० का० पाटिल :** वह तो मैं मानता हूँ कि वह स्टेज तो आती ही है । इस तरह पूछा है लेकिन फार्मली पूछा गया हो वह तो मुझे मालूम नहीं ।

I think the hon. Member asked the question in English. By mistake I have answered it in Hindi.

**Shri Kalika Singh:** May I know whether the prices will be fixed according to the current money value or according to the price of some particular basic year?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** It is very difficult to say. I could even say to the hon. Member that on the same acre of land one farmer may produce something which the other farmer in the same area may not be able to produce. That will exactly indicate to you the complications of this very difficult problem.

**Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** May I know whether the final decision will be taken before the end of the Second Plan?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I hope it will be done very much earlier.