

Short Notice Questions and Answers

JAGDISH SUGAR MILLS, KATHKUYIAN (U.P.)

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

(a) Whether the Central Government have recently taken over the administration of the Jagdish Sugar Mills, Kathkuyian, Deoria District, U.P.;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether they have sanctioned the continuance of the services of the old authorised Controller;

(c) whether Government are aware that due to the mismanagement of this mill by the authorised Controller the Mill had been put to heavy loss and has incurred enormous debts;

(d) whether Government are aware that the public in the area and surrounding areas is greatly agitated at the reappointment of the Controller of the Mill;

(e) whether Government are aware that the reappointment of the Controller has caused great resentment in the minds of the labourers in the Mill;

(f) whether Government are aware that the labourers in the Mill have not been paid their salary for a number of months now;

(g) whether any request was made to Government by the local Co-operative Society, Cane Development Board and the Mazdoor Union that the Mill should be permitted to be run under the control of the local Co-operative Society;

(h) if the answer to part (g) above be in the affirmative what is the decision on the request;

(i) whether Government are aware that the Secretary of the local Mazdoor Union has been on hunger strike since the 22nd November 1952 demanding that the arrears of the wages should be paid immediately; and

(j) what steps Government propose to take to concede this demand and restore the normal life of the Mill?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) An authorised Controller has been appointed to run the Mill.

(b) Yes. The authorised Controller appointed by the Central Government is the same person who was acting as authorised Controller under the orders of the U.P. Government.

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(c) and (d). The Government has no such information, but is sending the question to the State Government for a report on the two points.

(e) No.

(f) Yes.

(g) and (h). Only on the 6th December, 1952, the U.P. Government was approached by U.P. Co-operative Cane Unions Federation Ltd. to investigate the possibility of the Federation being appointed as an Authorised Controller. The matter is being examined by the State Government.

(i) Yes. Shri Guneshwar Singh who started fast on 22nd November, 1952 broke the same on the 5th December, 1952.

(j) The State Government are taking all possible steps to ensure a smooth running of the concern.

श्री रामजी वर्मा : गवर्नमेंट इस साल कोआपरेटिव फ़ेडरेशन को दे दे तो उसे क्या आपत्ति है ?

साहब तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री किदवई) : स्टेट गवर्नमेंट इस पर गौर कर रही हैं और उस की रिपोर्ट आने पर ज़रूरी कार्यवाही की जायगी ।

श्री रामजी वर्मा : लेकिन अगर इस सीजन में मिल नहीं दी जा सकेगी तो मैं समझता हूँ कि केन प्रोवर्स वहाँ केन नहीं गिरायेंगे, और लेबरर्स काम नहीं करेंगे जिस से बड़ा नैशनल लास होगा, इसलिये अगर इस सीजन के पहले गवर्नमेंट कोई निर्णय कर ले और आथराइज्ड कंट्रोलर को बदल दे तो अच्छा होगा ।

श्री किदवई : अगर कोई ऐसी बात पैदा होगी तो गवर्नमेंट फ़ोरन उसका इन्तज़ाम करेगी ।

Shri R. N. Singh: May I know when and why control of this factory was taken over by the U.P. Government?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got the date.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Has the hon. Minister any idea as to the arrears of wages of labourers to be paid up-to-date?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am sorry this information has not been asked for.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: May I know what was the nature of the mismanagement?

Shri Kidwai: The factory was taken over by the U.P. Government last year or year before—that I do not know exactly. Now, under the Central Act that we have passed here, the U.P. Government had no authority. Therefore we simply have confirmed what they have done. In this question some complaints were obvious, and therefore we have referred them to the U.P. Government and are waiting for their report. Whatever is possible will be done.

Shri R. N. Singh: Is it a fact that the first authorised Controller invested about Rs. 4 lakhs, that that money is still unpaid, and that a civil suit is pending for its recovery?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If the hon. Member wants to know up to July 1952 the amounts that were due from the mills, they are as follows:—

Amount due to the Society:
Rs. 4,17,032-15-5.

Cane cess for 1951-52:
Rs. 1,14,478-14-0.

Salaries and wages to workers:
Rs. 1,28,000.

Shri R. N. Singh: What were the reasons that led to the reappointment of the very authorised Controller?

Shri Kidwai: As I explained, this gentleman was appointed authorised Controller by the U.P. Government. Formally we have now taken over. As we now have to appoint the Controller, we have confirmed the appointment. But now that complaints have been received against him, the matter will be investigated.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if the company owes any money to the cultivators who supplied cane during the last season?

Shri Kidwai: Every factory in U.P. owes some money to the cultivators. And as the sugar is being sold out that money is being paid out.

Shri R. N. Singh: Is it a fact that this Controller lives at Lucknow almost permanently?

Shri Kidwai: I am thankful to the hon. Member for the information.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What steps are being taken to pay the arrears of wages to the labourers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are all details of management. Every step will be taken.

REPRESENTATION FROM SUGAR-CANE GROWERS OF VISWESHWARIYA CANAL AREA OF MYSORE

Shri Shivananjappa: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of India have received any representation from the sugar cane growers of Visweshwariya Canal Area of Mysore requesting Government to continue 1951-52 cane price for sugarcane supplied to Mysore Sugar Company till the end of March 1953 since planting and crushing seasons differ there from the rest of India?

(b) In view of the fact that the cane which is being supplied to Mysore Sugar Company was planted in 1951 when cost of cultivation and transportation was very high and the cane grown in the same crop year gets two rates, do Government propose directing the Mysore Sugar Company to give 1951-52 rates till the end of next March out of its profits?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether Government are aware that the cane which is to be supplied to the Mysore Sugar Company till 1953 was planted in July-August-September 1951?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is already contained in clause (b) of the question "In view of the fact that the cane... was planted in 1951". Why another question?

Shri Shivananjappa: Is it under the contemplation of Government to consult the representatives of growers while fixing the cane rates at least for next year?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We are aware of their demand and request, and the matter is being considered.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether Government has received complaints regarding the prices of cane from this area alone or from other parts of India also from the cane growers?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Government has received complaints from other areas also, but particularly about this Government has received complaints. It has always been the practice to fix the price of cane sometime in October or November. And the prices were for 1st November because the control was mostly in Northern India. When the