

## BYE-PRODUCTS OF SUGAR INDUSTRY

\*692. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how far it has been possible to develop during the last ten years bye-products of the sugar industry and thereby benefit the consumer by reducing the price of sugar?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 61]

**Shri Punnoose:** May I know whether Government are aware that the Pamba River factory, a firm owned by Parry and Co., Ltd., in Travancore-Cochin in producing alcohol and neither in fixing the price of sugarcane nor sugar the huge profit got out of this manufacture is taken into account?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to have notice of the question.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** In view of the fact that bye-products are now not taken into consideration in fixing the price of sugar, have the factories been given a free hand and free discretion to sell sugar at the rates they like?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We have lifted control on movement as well as prices, and we believe that as a result of the measures we have taken, the prices are fairly satisfactory.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** The statement only gives the upper limit of the extent of development of by-products. May I know the lower limits also?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not know what specific portion in the statement the hon. Member refers to. If he clarifies what he means, I will answer him.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** I refer to line 2 under molasses, line 2 under bagasse and line 2 under pressmud.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to have notice of it.

सेठ भ्रवल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि यू० पी०

गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी के कारण खंडसारी का व्यापार रोज बरोज घटता जाता है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस वक्त तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उस के काफी ऊँचे दाम देने पड़ते हैं ।

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know, Sir, if the price of sugar is determined after taking into consideration the price of sugarcane, and also the by-products that are produced in the factories?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. And this is contained in the statement that I have placed on the Table of the House.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know, Sir, whether any research has been carried on for the use of bagasse, and if so, the results thereof?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Experiments have been carried on for a long time, and I am glad to say that it is possible to use it for newsprint making and other paper making.

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION  
(COMMITTEE)

\*693. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state which assumptions made in the calculation of the cost and economics of the Central Tractor Organisation were considered by the Planning Commission to need re-examination?

(b) When is the Committee set up for the purpose likely to submit its report?

(c) Are any new tractors proposed to be purchased by this Organisation during the year 1953?

(d) If so, (i) how many, (ii) at what cost, and (iii) from which country or countries are they going to be purchased?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The Planning Commission have not suggested re-examination of any particular assump-

tions made in the calculations of the cost and economics of the Central Tractor Organisation. The Commission, however, intimated that the whole question of cost and expenditure involved in various activities of the Organisation should be examined.

(b) The Committee under the chairmanship of Col. B. H. Zaidi, M.P., which is looking into various aspects of the working of the Organisation, has made considerable progress, and it is expected that it will submit its report within a few weeks.

(c) and (d). 30 tractors were ordered during 1952-53 and these are expected to be received shortly. The cost of these tractors is Rs. 28,61,800, and they are being obtained from U.S.A.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What factors are considered in fixing the rate per acre for the work done by this organization in different States?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We have made the calculation taking into account all the expenditure involved. I may add that we are likely to revise the rates because we have not been able to work at the prevailing rates.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Is it a fact that in 1951 Rs. 52 per acre was charged, and in the year 1952 it was reduced to Rs. 32/-? What is the reason for this?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to have notice of this specific question, but I think Rs. 52/- was the charge which was made.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** May I know why this Committee was appointed by Government when the Estimates Committee of this House was seized of this question? Why was this Committee appointed by the Government of India over the head of the Estimates Committee?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We were not aware of the Estimates Committee coming in between because the Estimates Committee is going through the whole Ministry. We thought this specific question with specific terms of

reference was necessary to be investigated by a few M. Ps. bringing their own judgment to bear upon the matter.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात मालूम है कि बहुत से ट्रैक्टर बेकाम इसलिये पड़े रहते हैं कि उन के अतिरिक्त हिस्से नहीं मिलते और जो अभी इस सवाल की धारा (सी) और (डी) के सम्बन्ध में माननीय मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया कि इतने ट्रैक्टर और आ रहे हैं तो क्या जहाँ से ट्रैक्टर मंगाये गये हैं वहाँ पर इस बात का भी वादा ले लिया गया है कि उन के हिस्से जब भी जरूरत पड़ेगी वे भेज दिये जावेंगे ?

**डा० पी० एस० देश मुख :** यह तो बड़ा लम्बा सवाल है, मैं इस का नोटिस चाहूंगा, संभव है वह कमेटी उस प्रश्न को भी डील करेगी ।

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन के अतिरिक्त हिस्सों के सम्बन्ध में क्या होगा, क्योंकि अतिरिक्त हिस्से न मिलने से ट्रैक्टर बेकाम पड़े रहते हैं, स्पेयर पार्ट्स न मिलने के कारण ?

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Minister has already replied to the question. He has said this Committee will go into this matter.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** नहीं, समापति जी, मैं समझता हूँ कि अतिरिक्त हिस्सों के बारे में कई बार सवाल उठाया गया है और पूछा गया है कि क्या नये ट्रैक्टर और मंगाए गये हैं । तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ से नये ट्रैक्टर मंगाए गये हैं या भविष्य में मंगाए जाने वाले हैं उन के अतिरिक्त हिस्सों के बारे में भी कोई प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है कि जिस से वे हमेशा वहाँ से मिल सकेंगे ।

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I said I would like to have notice of the question.

**Several Hon. Members** rose.—

**Mr. Chairman:** If so many Members stand up at one time, I cannot call all of them. Shri Barman.

**Shri Barman:** May I know whether this Committee was appointed after the sub-committee of the Estimates Committee was looking into the matter, or was it appointed before that?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I may assure my hon. friend we had no intention to duplicate the work—I at least did not know that any specific sub-committee of the Estimates Committee had been appointed.

**Shri Velayudhan:** With regard to (c) and (d) may I know, Sir, whether the huge quantity of spare parts of these tractors now lying idle in the Pusa Institute or in the forest is being utilized or is being wasted?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There are some spare parts which have not been used, but every effort is being made either to use them or to dispose of them. None of them is being wasted or allowed to deteriorate.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, what are the terms of reference of this Committee that has been appointed?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Essentially the Committee has been appointed to find out how the expenditure per acre works out to be, and whether, on taking a review of the working of the whole organization, it is in the national interest to continue this organization, whether it is profitable both for the cultivators and the Government.

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know what is the system by which these new tractors are being purchased, whether some officer has been sent to place orders there, or any tenders were invited or any other method was adopted?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** These are all transactions of the past. None are being purchased at the present time.

**Shri Gidwani:** Because I know lakhs of rupees are being spent.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** All this has been investigated by the Estimates Committee also.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know whether Government is aware that there is a feeling in the public that there is much scandal about this tractor organization?

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to reply to this question. There is some misunderstanding in the minds of the people, and I am prepared to say that there were...

**Shri Gidwani:** I want some information.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. When the hon. Minister is on his feet replying to a question, the hon. Member should not interrupt.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There have been probably some mistakes committed, but it is very wrong to suggest that there is anything which can be termed as scandal, and I think, on the whole, the organization has discharged its duties well, and contributed to progress.

**Several Hon. Members:** No, no.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Is Government aware that the Estimates Committee of the House of the People has fully gone into this question of the Tractor Organization, that a sub-committee of the Estimates Committee has gone into a field investigation of the activities of this organization, and that the report of the Estimates Committee is to be presented any day to this House?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I learn so, Sir.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Is the Minister aware that the appointment of a Committee consisting of certain Members of this House to investigate into the same question would detract from the

value of the report which the Estimates Committee might make to this hon. House?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is very wrong to say that it will detract from it. We respect both the Committees, and if my friend wants that the Estimates Committee should be respected more, I am prepared to do it.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** You yourself, Sir, is a Member of the Estimates Committee .....

**Mr. Chairman:** There is no occasion for argument now. We cannot go deeply into this question at this stage. The Question Hour is only devoted to eliciting information from the hon. Minister, and therefore, I cannot allow this argument.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** I am not discussing, Sir. A vital question of privilege affecting this hon. House is involved in this particular question and answer.

**Mr. Chairman:** What is the point? Let the hon. Member kindly explain?

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** I have already notified the Chair in a formal letter last week, drawing attention to this particular fact, that the appointment of committees by the Government, when statutory committees of this House are investigating questions is a very serious matter. It has happened in the case of the Public Accounts Committee also. You would recall that the Hirakud question was taken over by one particular investigator. That is the point I am raising, and I hope the Chair, in due course, would give a ruling on this matter.

**Mr. Chairman:** At this stage, it does not arise. The matter will be looked into. As the hon. Member has already sent a letter, it shall be replied to, and the point looked into.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know whether the tractors that are being purchased at the present time, presumably in the United States, are being purchased by any individual officer of the Ministry sent there, or

through the India Supply Mission, Washington?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I would like to have notice of the question. I would also like my hon. friend to specify the particular set of tractors which he has in mind.

**Shri Raghavachari:** May I know whether the Government propose to stop the functioning of this new committee which they have appointed, over and above the Estimates Committee?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Until a ruling is given.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** There is no conflict, I do not think that we are trying to make this other committee which we have appointed, sit in judgment over the Estimates Committee. In all probability, they will be complementary committees, and not conflicting ones.

**Shri Velayudhan:** The hon. Minister stated that the C.T.O. is working very well. May I know whether an officer at the head of the C.T.O. was dismissed before, for certain defalcation in the purchase of tractors, or something like that?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think anybody was dismissed, but I would like my hon. friend to give me notice of this question.

#### POST OFFICES

**694. Ch. Lakshman Singh Charak:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state how many post offices are in the Jammu and Kashmir State at present?

(b) What is the average monthly income and expenditure of the village post offices in Jammu and Kashmir?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Urban 31.

Rural 269 as on 31st March, 1953.

(b) Information is not readily available.