

Government is considering to enhance the price.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: It was just now pointed out by the hon. Minister that the inquiry was ordered and that the CBI has not submitted its report. But, so far as I know, the CBI has inquired into the matter and the CBI has found the cooperative societies as take and a number of irregularities therein. In spite of that, no action has been taken. So, what action is going to be taken by the hon. Minister.

There are nine unauthorised and illegal plants which are working here and they are producing the milk products like *paneer*, *Khoya* and other things. They are consuming half of the total requirement of Delhi, that is ten lakh liters per day. This is against the Municipal Law, the Central Law and the Anti Pollution Laws. In contravention of all these laws, the unauthorised and illegal plants are working. So, what action is going to be taken by the Minister to stop the working of all these plants so that milk will be supplied sufficiently and the loss will also be contained?

SHRI K.C. LENKA: Sir, the verification of cooperative societies as to whether they are genuine or not, is not our subject matter. There is the Registrar of Cooperative Societies to look into it as to whether the societies are genuine or not. We have also not received any report from the CBI. As soon as we get the report, we will certainly take action.

Regarding the unauthorised plants, that have come up, we have received the allegation that around Delhi and inside Delhi some unauthorised plants have come up. We have given instructions to the Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi to take action against those plants which are unauthorised. I do not know and I have no information as to how many unauthorised plants have been punished.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: The Minister has stated in his reply that the requirement of milk is 25 lakh liters per day and the production is about 11 lakh liters. Is the Government considering to increase the

capacity of DMS as well as that of Mother Dairy?

SHRI K.C. LENKA: There is a proposal to increase the capacity of DMS from five lakh liters to seven lakh liters. The Government is considering that.

Development of Horticulture

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*414. **DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:**

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up an action plan for development of horticulture in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to establish a National Research Centre for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the proposed location thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Government have tentatively drawn up a plan the development of horticulture as a priority sector during the Eighth Plan period. The thrust will be to increase the production and productivity of horticultural crops with special emphasis on promotion of export oriented horticulture production and development of post harvest infra-structure.

(c) and (d). The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have proposed the following National Research Centres at tentative locations as indicated below:-

i) National Research Centre on Arid

- Horticulture Bikaner (Rajasthan)
- (ii) National Research Centre on Banana - Kumulur near Trichy (Tamil Nadu)
- (iii) National Research Centre on Onion and Garlic's -nasik (Maharashtra)
- (iv) National Research Centre on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants - Anand (Gujarat).
- (v) National Research Centre on Orchids Darjeeling (West Bengal)

It is also proposed to set up two national Research Centers one on Grapes and the other on Oil-palm. Locations have not yet been considered.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH: I want to know from the hon. Minister about the development of horticulture in the country. Himachal Pradesh leads the apple cultivating State with one lakh hectare area, followed by Jammu & Kashmir and UP. It is estimated that 20 per cent of the crop is comparable with the established international varieties and can make a successful dent in the world market. Is the hon Minister considering ways to boost or export production in this ?

Secondly, I want to tell the hon. Minister that considering the large scale production, apple should be utilised for processing, as there is also a wide market for apple juice within the country. I would also like to add..

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, it is not the way Jagmeet Singhji you are supposed to ask only one question.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI BALARAM JAKHAR): I may inform the hon. Member through you that I am intending to cultivate new varieties of apple, to introduce dwarf varieties, high yielding varieties. I have asked the Agricultural Universities and agricultural scientists to come to the aid of the farmers. Naturally, it is a quite disgusting feature that when we can produce about 20 tonnes, we are producing about four to five tonnes. It is rather very much disgusting. So, I think we will use tissue culture methods and introduction of new varieties. I also want the diversification to which, I have already given my intention to. We are going to have diversification in the field of horticulture, that is, packaging, grading, marketing, processing, transportation, cold storage and also the export of fresh fruits to the foreign plac. This is going to be one of the major earning points for the farmers in the country.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH: Sir, the hon. Minister of Agriculture happens to be a Krishi Pandit himself. I want to know about the development of horticulture as far as Punjab is concerned. It has contributed wheat production almost 71 per cent to the country. The farmers of Punjab are now shifting towards horticulture. In the last three to four years, the grape cultivation has taken a considerable leap forward, especially in those districts of Punjab which were considered to be barren districts of Malwa region. Due to the inadequate infrastructure for the post-harvest handling, accompanied by imbecile market network, the farmers suffered a lot during these four or five years.

I want to know from the hon. Minister is there any scheme with the scientists so that lab-to-land programme could be implemented in a big manner?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Actually, the hon. Member is perfectly right. I was the pioneer in grape cultivation. I introduced grapes for the first time in 1960. I am the first man to cultivate. The cultivation has taken up

very large. Now, I think, we have got 25,000 acres under grapes alone. But I should say that the variety is not so much good. When it was less, it was marketable. Now we have to change the varieties.

I have asked my scientists to give us some varieties which can sustain transportation, etc. All these things will have to be considered.

I have introduced a scheme of 50:50 marketing-50 per cent Centre and 50 per cent State- if they can do it like this. We have given such support to the kinnoo and also to the grape cultivation plus on other vegetables also.

We have to do something to have this progressive outlook on the processing of grape- juice or grapevine, whatever may be the case. But it can be done when they change the varieties like that.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWRLU: Sir, Andhra Pradesh is the largest producing area. It is second to Uttar Pradesh as far as horticulture production is concerned. Particularly in the case of mangoes, grapes and also palm oil, a large-scale production is there. Is the Government considering locating a national horticulture research station either in mango or grape or palm oil in Andhra Pradesh?

SHRIBALRAM JAKHAR: Naturally they are under consideration from time to time. We do it. We have been putting up a new national research center for onions in Nasik. Other things are also going on. We have got our universities there. And it is always under consideration.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government is proposing to start two national research stations one on grapes and the other on palm-oil.

Maharashtra is the largest producer of grapes. Not only that, it even exports. Can Maharashtra, particularly Pune, be selected as a site or location of this centre?

SHRI BALARAM JAKHAR: Yes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Muzaffarpur is famous for *Lichi* in the whole country.

MR. SPEAKER: This question relates to the country and not to a State or a city. This is not the way. Think properly before you ask your question.

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: The previous Government had proposed to set up a development Centre for the development of *Lichi* in Muzaffarpur. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether action has been taken to set up a research center in this regard?

SHRIBALRAM JAKHAR: '*Lichi*' attracts everybody, we would take it into consideration.

[*English*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Sir, oil-palm cultivation is very suitable for the soil of Orissa. Is there any proposal with the Government of India to set up a research centre for oil-palm cultivation? Besides this, the Pipala root which is produced in Padawa and Koraput districts of Orissa and also in Padeiru of Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh has medicinal value. I would like to know whether there is any proposal with the Government to set up a research centre in Orissa for the cultivation of Pipala root and oil-palm.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: We have started oil-palm cultivation in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh and we have got big plants for that. There is no such centre still envisaged for Orissa.