

Tapsi Committee are concerned, the hon. Member is aware that we have accepted all the major recommendations of that committee and orders have been issued to the railway administration to implement those recommendations.

Export of Sugar

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Shri Goray:
 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
 Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri. Kodiyan:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Parkash Vir Shastri:
 Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
 Shri Damani:
 Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
 Shri Assar:
 Shri Achar:
 Shri B. Das Gupta:
 Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
 Shri Bishwanath Roy:
 Shri Morarka:
 Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
 Shri Sarju Pandey:
 Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 Shri Khushwaqt Rai:
 Shri Dinesh Singh:
 Shri Subbiah Ambalam:
 Shri Sugandhi:
 Shri Agadi:
 Shri Wodeyar:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri P. G. Deb:
 Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda:
 Shri Supakar:
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
 Shri Hem Barua:
 Sardar Iqbal Singh:
 Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
 Shri B. C. Mullick:
 Shri Rajendra Singh:
 Shri Chuni Lal:

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

(a) the total production of sugar in the country during 1960-61;

(b) how much sugar is surplus in the country at present;

(c) whether it is a fact that sugar will be exported to U.S.A., Pakistan, Iran, Indonesia and other Middle East and West Asian countries;

(d) if so, the details of terms, period of export and mode in currency payment and quantity to each country;

(e) the estimated earnings of foreign exchange on such exports;

(f) the total amount of subsidy or otherwise, shown on such exports to the State Trading Corporation and the mill-owners;

(g) whether prices at which sugar has to be exported to various countries have been fixed;

(h) total loss which Government will have to suffer on account of this export;

(i) whether there is a proposal to entrust the work of export of sugar to the State Trading Corporation and Indian Sugar Manufacturers' Association; and

(j) if so, the details of the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):
 (a) and (b). Sugar production during 1960-61 (November-October) is estimated at 29.8 lakh tons. The surplus at the end of the year after providing for normal carry-over and exports, will be 6 to 7 lakh tons.

(c) and (d). It is proposed to export before December 1961, about 1.87 lakh long tons to U.S.A. and about 30,000 tons to other countries largely Federation of Malayan States. The payment will be in dollars and sterling respectively.

(e) About Rs. 12 crores.

(f) and (h). The total amount of loss to be borne by Government is estimated at about Rs. 5.5 crores.

(g) No, Sir. It is not possible to fix export prices as these depend upon

the prices and conditions prevailing in the U.S. and world markets at the time of sale.

(i) and (j). Exports are being canalised through the Indian Sugar Mills Association.

Shri Goray In view of the fact that we are almost facing a sugar crisis in this country because there is so much of production which we cannot use, may I know what steps Government are contemplating to reduce the cost of producing sugar and what steps they propose to take in order to facilitate export of sugar not only to U.S.A., but other countries like Pakistan and Indonesia also?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): Regarding the last part of the question about exporting sugar to Pakistan and other countries, the House should know that when we have accepted a quota of 225,000 short tons from the U.S.A., it is on the basis that we must join the international sugar agreement. There is benefit in joining that agreement and we shall join. There is an additional quota—may be 200,000 tons—as part of that agreement that can go to any agreement countries; not only U.S.A., but there are any number of countries in the international sugar agreement. That brings the quota to somewhere about 4,25,000 tons or even a little more. Having done that, we are not free to sell our sugar outside that agreement or to any other country. So far as this year is concerned, we have already sold quite a lot of sugar and what remains to be sold is to the Malayan States, as we have stated. So, the question of selling to other countries does not arise.

So far as reducing the price of production is concerned, that is a very large question, because the prices have mounted up as a result of the protection policy and the money that we give to the agriculturists. Therefore, the Government and this House will have to take a decision whether we should not give that much price. It is a large question which would

come at its proper time. But we should see that in no sense the agriculturist should suffer.

Shri Achar: What is the amount of subsidy that has to be paid on each ton of sugar exported and what is the foreign exchange earned per ton?

Shri A. M. Thomas: This is answered in the main question. My senior colleague has answered before that the cost of production will come to about Rs. 800 per ton. For the exports made to US, we get about Rs. 560 per ton f.o.r. In the world market, it will be much less. Probably we will have to incur a loss of Rs. 13 to Rs. 14 whereas in our exports to America, we have to incur a loss of a little over Rs. 8 a maund.

श्री लुशवक्त राय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो और दूसरे देशों के नाम लिये गये हैं उनमें जो चीनी भेजी गयी है वह अब तक कितनी भेजी गयी है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : मैं यह मानता हूँ कि सब कुल मिला कर मेरे पास आंकड़े नहीं हैं लेकिन इधर करीब सवा लाख टन या डेढ़ लाख टन चीनी तो हमने भेजी होगी। शायद सम्भव है कि उनको २ लाख टन का कोटा मिले लेकिन थोड़ी तो रखनी भी चाहिए। ३०-४० हजार टन रही है और वह मलायन स्टेट्स फेडरेशन को जायगी। सब मिला कर करीब २ लाख टन मिलेगी।

श्री लुशवक्त राय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिला।

Mr. Speaker: Shri Bibhuti Mishra.

श्री लुशवक्त राय : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स आफ अमेरिका के अलावा सरकार जो चीनी एक्सपोर्ट करने जा रही है वह कितनी है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : वह सब मिला कर २ लाख टन होगी जिसमें से डेढ़ लाख टन चली गयी है।

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. If I have called another hon. Member and if the same hon. Member persists, the Minister need not answer it. I am not going to ignore the hon. Member; I will call him again.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : चीनी के एक्सपोर्ट पर सरकार को जो ५.५ करोड़ रुपये का कुल घाटा होगा तो जैसा कि मंत्री जी ने अखबार में स्टेटमेंट दिया है क्या सरकार उस घाटे को गन्ने की कीमत घटा कर किसानों से वसूल करना चाहती है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : अभी तो गन्ने की कीमत घटाई नहीं है। अभी जो कीमत है उसको घटाने का इरादा नहीं है वह तो चल गयी है। आयन्दा के लिए अलबत्ता यह चीज रक्खी है और यदि कभी उसकी आवश्यकता महसूस की भी गई तो वह चीज पार्लियामेंट के सामने आयेगी।

Shri P. K. Deo: In view of the larger demand for sugar, is there any proposal to put up more sugar factories in the country

Shri A. M. Thomas: We have considered applications which have been received up till March 1960, and we have licensed up to a capacity of 31.5 lakh tons. We may be in a position to produce about 35 lakh tons out of this capacity already licensed. For the present we are not considering the question of issuing any further licences.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: According to a press report, the hon. Food Minister stated in Bombay recently that he would persuade the cane growers to accept his formula of a price cut for one-fifth on their production; may I know whether Government consider it to be an appropriate and adequate measure to tide over the immediate crisis?

Shri S. K. Patil: This is not for tiding over the immediate crisis. If the exports have got to be stepped up in the future, everybody has to make

some sacrifice. There is nothing wrong in persuading even the cane growers so far as the export part is concerned. I am talking of internal consumption, and that is a matter which will have to be considered.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Referring to the prices of sugar the hon. Minister said that the prices have mounted up because of the price that they pay to the agriculturists. May I know what is the proportion of price given to an agriculturist in Cuba and Indonesia and the proportion which is given to him in India? Is it not lower than the price given in those countries?

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not know the exact figures; I will give them to the hon. Member. In the first place, 70 per cent of the price is the price of the cane. So far as sugar is concerned, the price that is available in the market is much less than the price of production anywhere in the world.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That is not my point. What is the price that is given to a grower in Cuba and Indonesia and also other countries compared to the price of sugar, and how does it compare with the price given here?

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not know about Cuba and Indonesia. I know about the United States. United States give 50 per cent more than the world market price because they have to pay for their sugar at that price. I have not got the information about other places.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know what percentage of the price of sugar form the price of cane.

Shri S. K. Patil: I began my answer saying that it is round about 70 per cent.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Is that so in Cuba?

Shri S. K. Patil: I have not got the figures for other countries.

Mr. Speaker: What is it so far as our country is concerned?

Shri S. K. Patil: It is 70 per cent. I am talking of India.

Mr. Speaker: About Cuba he does not know.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The price of sugar here is Rs. 32 per maund, whereas the price of cane is Rs. 1.25 naye paise at the gate and Rs. 1.52 naye paise at the field. So it can never be 70 per cent.

Shri S. K. Patil: The price per maund minus excise duty is not Rs. 32 it is something very much below that.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I might add that in other producing countries the internal price of sugar is much more than the price of exported sugar. So every country incurs a sort of subsidy on the export of sugar.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the internal price of sugar in Ladakh and at what price they are selling their sugar?

Mr. Speaker: They do not know.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is it not a fact that the stocks in Punjab have not been included in the export quota so far, if so, may I know what steps are being taken to clear up the huge stocks accumulated there?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The stocks in Punjab are also included in the export quota.

Shri Tyagi: Is it not a fact that despite sugar being surplus in India its distribution is restricted to a few selected agents who draw some commission and it is not freely sold with the result that it is only through these selected agents who have been appointed that sugar can get out into the market?

Shri S. K. Patil: The distribution of sugar is entirely—100 per cent—the responsibility of the States. We issue so many thousand tons, or whatever is available. We issue even much more than what they want. The House would be interested to know that we issue about 200,000 tons of sugar every month. A little portion

of it is not even sold, may be due to the defective system of distribution. We are in consultation with the State Governments to liberalise the process of distribution so that the bottleneck should be removed.

Shri Mohan Swarup: Is it a fact that the State Trading Corporation which was assigned the task of exporting sugar failed to settle the price with Pakistan and Iran, with the result that those countries were compelled to have the matter settled with other countries?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is not correct. What happened with regard to the deal with Pakistan is, we agreed to supply at £23 f.o.r. Attari per ton. That was accepted by the Government of Pakistan also. The acceptance was conveyed to us on the 27th of June 1961. We informed them that we would be making the supplies in the first week of August. Whether those terms were acceptable to them or not they did not communicate to us, and instead of that they cancelled the deal and entered into an agreement to purchase sugar of Cuban origin. No deal was in fact concluded with Iran.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Government will do anything to reduce the overhead charges on the export of sugar to other countries so that the loss that is going to accrue to the Government to the extent of Rs. 5.5 crores is lessened?

Shri S. K. Patil: I have not worked out the figure of overhead charges on the export of sugar. If that is so, surely an attempt will be made to reduce it.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: If hon. Members are willing I am prepared to sit for an hour this evening and let them discuss this question about sugar.

Some hon. Members: Yes, yes.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Sir, I want to raise a point of privilege. The other day, one of the Ministers

made a statement at Poona that no more sugar factories will be given licences. That fact was not brought to the notice of this hon. House. Before this House was informed about it and a decision taken by the Parliament on it, it was given to the Press and wide publicity given.

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not think, Sir, we have to wait for the Parliament to meet for everything. This is something done in the normal routine business of the Ministers.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of privilege.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to put one question.

Mr. Speaker: He can reserve it for this evening. Immediately after the normal work of the House for the day is over we will take up this matter about sugar. All hon. Members can clear up their doubts then.

Shri Goray: We must have at least the note that has been prepared by the hon. Deputy Minister. At least that should be made available to us. We do not have the figures now. We can wait for a day or two.

Mr. Speaker: If it is the desire of the House that the note should be circulated before any effective discussion can take place, I have no objection. What does the Minister say?

Shri S. K. Patil: Yes, Sir. Every information with the Government will be made available to hon. Members. We shall circulate the note.

Mr. Speaker: Let him place the Statement on the Table and I will circulate it. Instead of this evening we can have the discussion tomorrow or the day after.

Some hon. Members: Tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: Let it be circulated today and we will have the discussion tomorrow. All hon. Members can clear their doubts then.

Hotels and Motels around the Capital

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*90. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Tourism has suggested to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to release land in suitable areas for new hotels and motels in and around the capital; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Although it is not the normal policy of the Government of India to allot land by negotiation for any commercial purposes like hotels etc., the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply have agreed, as a special case, to consider individual proposals on merit.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how many proposals have been received by the Ministry so far for construction of hotels and motels in Delhi?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This question, so far as it relates to the allotment of land on reasonable rates is concerned, was first discussed as far back as September 1960 in Shillong. Then we circulated a letter to the Chief Ministers and the Minister for Works, Housing and Supply. We have only recently received their replies and I do not think that people interested in hotels or motels could have taken advantage of it so soon.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how much land the Minister for Works, Housing and Supply is prepared to release?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply has indicated that most of the land in and