

it implemented by the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the final decision of the Central Government in this matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): No final decision has yet been taken.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that most raw materials will be available there and is the Government going to take an early decision in the matter?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Originally the raw material was expected to be coke-oven gas available there but it is found now that gas will not be available. Therefore, other raw materials which could be used are coal or naphtha. We are making an assessment of their availability and shall consider where it can best be located.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितन समय तक अन्तिम निर्णय की सम्भावना है ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : बहुत शीघ्र ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : बहुत शीघ्र से कोई मतलब नहीं निकला ।

Shri C. Subramaniam: My colleague Shri Hamayun Kabir will soon take a decision, I hope.

Shri Subodh Hansda: If the private partly has failed to implement this project, may I know whether the licence will be cancelled?

Shri C. Subramaniam: They have now given up the licence and have asked the Government to take it up.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I would like to know whether the West Bengal Government has failed to take a decision on this fertiliser plant or they expressed certain inabilities or whether they desired that the Centre should come to their rescue in some matter. What is the correct position?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It was expected that West Bengal Govern-

ment will be a minority participant in this project. Therefore they have now written to us that it should be taken up in the public sector by the Central Government and that is under consideration.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Now that there has been a failure on the part of the private sector, may I know whether there is collaboration in the equity participation between the West Bengal Government and the Central Government?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No; they want this to be taken up as a project of the Fertilizer Corporation.

Shri K. C. Pant: May I know why the coke oven gas which was expected to be surplus is not available? Was it an error in calculation or has any of it been utilised elsewhere?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It looks like it: it is an error in calculation.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: What action is taken against those companies which take the licence and delay the production and cause a lot of difficulties to the Government? What particular action is being taken?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We cancel the licence and perhaps when they apply for further licences we may take this into consideration.

Shri Venkatasubbalah: Is it a fact that coke oven gas is being utilised for manufacturing naphtha, and it is not being utilised at present because the demand for naphtha is not there and it is actually not working?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Coke oven gas is different from naphtha. Coke oven gas is not available, and therefore we are considering whether it should be coal-based or naphtha-based.

Jute Purchasing Centres

+

{ Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Dhaon:
*127. { Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Shri B. P. Yadava:
 Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 Shri Heda:
 Shri B. K. Das:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jute purchasing centres opened by the State Trading Corporation in the interior primary producing markets;

(b) the quantity of jute procured; and

(c) whether there was any appreciable improvement in the primary producer's ability to gain a better price?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The State Trading Corporation purchases through the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd. and its constituent State Apex Co-operative Societies working in 89 centres in the principal secondary markets and 300 primary centres for the purchase of jute.

(b) 18,277 quintals so far.

(c) The price support measures adopted by Government are designed to assure a fair economic price to the primary producer. Judging from the trend of prices in the Calcutta as well as in the mofussil markets, this objective has been achieved and the offerings to the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation and other purchase agencies of the State Trading Corporation have therefore been small both in the mofussil centres and at Calcutta.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether there has been any review undertaken as to the price which is now being availed of by the State Trading Corporation in the secondary markets, that is, right down at the village level? What is the price?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The prices have been fixed in conformity with the main price support measures. The price is Rs. 30 for Assam bottoms at Calcutta. The derived prices are all being maintained in the primary markets.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: My question has not been answered. My question is, in the secondary market, the village market, what is the average price which the peasant is getting.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is Rs. 22, Rs. 23 or Rs. 25, according to the derived price based on the price of Rs. 30. All these centres are given a schedule of prices below which prices should not be allowed to sag and the offerings are all at the higher prices.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether these local purchasing centres are opened in Orissa as well as in Andhra and whether the price support policy extends to them also?

Shri Manubhai Shah: In Orissa it has been done. From Andhra no complaint has come. As a matter of fact, the report from Andhra is very good, and therefore, no purchase centres have been opened there. But, if the hon Member finds that there are any pockets, we shall certainly open.

Shri Ranga: What about the price support policy?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes it is price support for the whole country.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Is the Minister aware that this derived price for the purchasing centres which was announced has subsequently become unreal due to the exorbitant rise in the price of paddy in West Bengal which had prevented the jute cultivator from holding on to his jute stock and therefore this price needs a further upward revision? Otherwise, he does not get them.

Shri Manubhai Shah: This price support policy has the full support of this hon. House and the price is much higher than that of our competitor, Pakistan, by almost 100 per cent, but

we cannot have a price unrelated to the international price of jute goods. Therefore there is no possibility of any revision in the price support scheme.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: My question was this. What I said was the derived prices which were announced and fixed actually became unreal. The peasant does not get them because of the rise in the price of paddy.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The two questions are simple. The price support is for jute. That was fixed; derived price means no reductions or no commissions. The actual railway freight plus godown charges etc. are the only charges deducted and given to the peasant in that form. What has the paddy price to do with the derived price of jute? It has no commission or profit. If the hon. Member's view is that compared to the paddy price the present jute prices fixed are low, to that I have already given the answer. I think the peasant is getting more than the certified derived price according to the actual expenses to be deducted out of the price support.

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : क्या सरकार को यह मालूम है कि जिस फंडरेशन से सरकार अभी अधिकांश जूट खरीद रही है, उसकी शाखाएं अभी प्राइमरी मार्केट्स में न होने के कारण किसानों को जो राहत पहुंचाने की व्यवस्था सरकार ने की है वह नहीं मिल रही है और अगर यह बात हो तो फिर सरकार इस के लिए क्या उपाय कर रही है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह: यह ठीक है। मैं कोई ५०,००० मार्केट्स को कवर नहीं कर सकता। थालरडी ४०० मार्केट्स को कवर किया है। जो प्राइस सपोर्ट का सामान्य फारमूला होता है उससे सारे एरिया के अंदर के प्राइस गुड्स घा जाते हैं सूकिन कोई भी एसा सेंटर हो जो कि माननीय सदस्य के खयाल में हो कि जहां डिराइट प्राइस से कम मिलता हो तो मैं उसे जरूर देखूंगा।

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether information has been received by the Minister to the effect that in some of the purchasing centres

fixed by the Government, there is no agency of the State Trading Corporation and cultivators are receiving Rs. 20 per maund?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As far as our information goes,—we get telegraphic information periodically from all the centres—so far there was only one centre, Murliganj, from which there were complaints. Immediately we set up the organisation there. I would very much invite the cooperation of hon. Members in this matter to let us know which particular area is depressed. Otherwise, the general information is that the prices are more than well-supported.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : अभी प्रैस रिपोर्ट है कि जूट का एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ा हुआ है और ७२ करोड़ से बढ़ कर ८२ करोड़ हो गया है, ऐसी हालत में क्या गवर्नमेंट यह विचार कर रही है कि जूट गोअर्स को अभी जो प्राइस दी जाती है उससे बँटर प्राइस उनको दी जाय ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह: यह दोनों बातें रिलेटेड इसलिए नहीं हैं कि हमने जो एफर्ट की एक्सपोर्ट के अंदर वह महत्वपूर्ण है और इंटरनेशनल प्राइस के गिरत हुए ३३ परसेंट एक्सपोर्ट हमारा बढ़ा है। यह इस वजह से नहीं है कि जूट की प्राइस कम है और जूट गुड्स की प्राइस ज्यादा है। जूट गुड्स का इंटरनेशनल प्राइस में २० परसेंट का कटौती हुई है क्योंकि पाकिस्तान के कम्पट्रिशन में आज की प्राइस को सस्टेन करना मुश्किल हो गया है।

Shri K. C. Sharma: May I know whether it is marginal cost price and economic profit or whether it is merely a subsistence price?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The price was fixed by judging the international price of the jute goods, so that the commodity can bear it and we have tried to give the maximum benefit to the grower in the price concession.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: Is the hon. Minister aware that the Indian Central Jute Committee has fixed a price for jute which, when compared to the price of paddy, is three times the

price of paddy and that is not observed anywhere in West Bengal?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have already said that the jute price has been fixed on its own merits. If there is any question of comparison with paddy price, a separate question may be tabled and that will be looked into.

Attorney-General

*128. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to permit the Attorney-General to take up private cases;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been objected to by Bar Associations; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) and (c). A proposal to permit the Attorney-General to take up private cases has been considered and it is decided that he may be permitted to advise and hold briefs for bodies and institutions like Universities, Municipalities, Government Companies, Port Trusts, Government aided or managed hospitals.

(b) No objection to the proposal has been received from any Bar Association.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether a similar restriction will be placed in the case of the Solicitor General and Additional Solicitor General also?

Shri A. K. Sen: These restrictions do not apply to the Solicitor General or Additional Solicitor General.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the restrictions will be imposed on them also?

Shri A. K. Sen: There is no such contemplation.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that the retainer of the Attorney General, Solicitor

General and Additional Solicitor General is being increased by Rs. 500 or so and if so, whether Government would place a restriction on their taking private cases of the kind which the hon. Minister explained, so that they may take the Government cases more seriously?

Shri A. K. Sen: The restrictions with regard to the other two are that they are not to deal with any case which directly or indirectly concerns the Government or Government undertakings.

Shri Nath Pai: May I know whether the Government have abandoned the idea with which they were toying for sometime, that is amalgamating the office of the Attorney General with the office of the Law Minister and, if so, the reasons for that?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The question is about private practice.

Shri Nath Pai: The question is about the office of Attorney General.

Mr. Speaker: He is taking up old things.

Shri Nath Pai: No, Sir; not old things. This is a very legitimate question.

Shri A. K. Sen: So long as I hold the office of Law Minister, the idea will not be mooted.

Shri Daji: The hon. Minister said that they are restricted from taking up cases against Government. Does Government also include State Governments or it means only Central Government?

Shri A. K. Sen: I think it is the Central Government. Generally the State Governments brief either one of these three law officers. But in many cases what some of the State Governments have done is that they have arranged for their own local representation here like what the Madras Government has done. There are one or two other States also who have done that, which we have not appreciated very much ourselves because