

Will you permit him or create hurdles in its way? Will the elected Government not take care of this machinery? Then we cannot solve the complaints received against the police. People do not go to police station for this. They approach the elected Government. Has the Chief Minister of Delhi full authority to set up such a complaint centre?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He has certainly the right to do so. Besides we are going to order the Chief Ministers of concerned states to form a public body of this type in their respective states where complaints can be lodged. They will have full right to enquire and give report in this regard.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER : The next question is on Tripura and I thought that you would ask your question on Tripura.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : No, Sir. I would like to put my supplementary on this question.

Sir, Delhi is very very near to U.P. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is your question about Tripura?... (Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : No, my supplementary question is on question no. 224.

Your concept of Police Complaint Authority is welcomed by all the Members. In view of your statement in U.P. that there is political anarchy, social chaos and destructive economy, which should be taken care of by all the parties, will that Committee take care of this situation in Delhi?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If such a situation is obtaining in Delhi, I would like to hear about it from the hon. Member first.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You know better than me. The number of killings, murders, dacoities, kidnappings, rapes is the highest in Delhi. You can ask all Members. Everyday it is there in the newspapers. Your analysis of political anarchy, social chaos and destructive economy is absolutely fitting in the case of Delhi.

So let us know what he has been doing.

SHRI RAM NAIK : If you can bring it under Rule 184, probably he will reply to your Question.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What you people are thinking! Now we know where the shoe is pinching. You take that chance. Make it equal. Why are you worried? We will be open like this.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, the hon. Member has made more than one reference to my statement. That statement was particularly about the state of affairs prevailing in Uttar Pradesh. It was not about Delhi or any other State.

[Translation]

Subsidies to Agriculture Sector

*226. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for enhancing the rate of subsidies being provided to the agriculture sector in the country is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) There is no proposal under consideration at present to enhance the rates of subsidies being provided to agriculture sector as the Eighth Plan is coming to a close on 31.3.1997. However, farmers are being subsidies through input prices of fertilizers, electricity, irrigation and credit. Besides, several concessions, incentives and assistance are also granted in other forms like seeds mini kits, machine tools, plant protection, soil conservation, drip & sprinkler irrigation and training through various plan schemes.

The rates of concessions, including those announced recently on 20.2.97, on phosphatic and potassic fertilizers under the ongoing scheme of the 'sale of de-controlled fertilizers with concessions to the farmers' over the period, are given below :

Rates of concession on phosphatic and potassic fertilizers

(Rs. per tonne)

Product	upto 5.7.96	6.7.96 to 31.3.97	From 1.4.97
Indigenous DAP	1000	3000	3750
Imported DAP	-	1500	2250
Muriate of Potash (MOP)	1000	1500	2000
SSP (16% P)	340	500	600
Indigenous Complexes	435-999	1304-2633	1149-3320

The details of other subsidies being provided under various schemes are given in the enclosed *Annexure*.

Annexure*Details of subsidies provided under various schemes for Development of Agriculture*

Items	Pattern of Subsidy
1. Tractors and other matching implements including trailer and seed-cum-fertilizer drill	Subsidy @ 30% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs. 30,000 is available for the purchase of tractors upto 30 power take of Horse Power for farmers, their groups, registered cooperative societies, Agriculture credit Societies and Multi-purpose farming societies.
2. Drip Irrigation	
(a) Drip Installation	A subsidy of 90% of the total cost of the system or Rs. 25,000/- per ha. to SC/ST/Small marginal/women farmers. 70% to farmers of other categories subject to the same ceiling.
(b) Demonstration	A subsidy of 75% of the cost subject or Rs. 22,500/- per ha. for installation of drip irrigation with area limit of 1 hectare.
<i>Integrated Cereal Development Programme</i>	
3. Sprinkler Irrigation	
(a) Small and Marginal farmers, SC/ST and women farmers	Rs. 25,000/- per hectare subject to 90% of the total cost.
(b) other farmers	Rs. 25,000/- per ha. subject to 70% of the total cost.
4. <i>Seeds Distribution</i> (upto 15 years of release)	
(a) rice, wheat and barley	Rs. 200 per quintal
(b) Hybrid rice	Rs. 500 per quintal
(c) Jowar, Bajra and other millets (non-hybrid)	Rs. 400 per quintal
(d) Hybrid Jowar and Bajra	Rs. 1000 per quintal
(e) Cotton	Rs. 400 per quintal acid delinted
(i) upto 10 years of release	Rs. 300 per quintal mechanically delinted
(ii) upto 10-15 years	Rs. 250 per quintal
(f) Jute	Rs. 600 per quintal
(g) Distribution of certified seeds and pulses	Rs. 300 per quintal to all certified seeds.
5. Sustainable Development of Sugarcane- implements	
(a) Bullock drawn	An amount of Rs. 1,500/- per unit subject to 50% of the total cost.
(b) Tractor drawn	Rs. 10,000/- per unit subject to 25% of the total cost.

[Translation]

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking my supplementary question very briefly. Every Government in India is concerned for farmers and villagers. Now a days fortunately a poor farmer is the Prime Minister. As such I want to ask him although I won't believe, because when senior Ministers change their statement then believing - this Government will be a mistake...*(Interruptions)* Had these been a bit of morality, it could have been relied upon when there is no morality as well, there can be no trust. Therefore, my first question is as to the steps being taken by the

Government to see that the subsidy being given to farmers in the country reaches their and the farmers get the benefit of it.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the existing system subsidy is given to manufactures and manufacturers pass it on to the farmers. The State Governments certify it us that so much of subsidy has reached then, and it was sold at such and such. Besides of the Hon'ble Members have any suggestion by which subsidy can reach the farmers direct then we will welcome it. At least he believes that subsidy is given. He may not believe the Government. If there is doubt, please tell us.

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out that on the basis of subsidy given to them, the farmers must have made progress economically, but we find that the condition of farmers has been deteriorating day by day. I want to ask whether there is any such program through which purchasing power of farmers could be implemented?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for improving the condition of farmers the first thing we have to do is to increase the produce and productivity of the cultivable land of farmers...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : I am asking about the programme. All can make suggestions. I am asking about the programme. Is there any programme?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : If you will have produce I will tell you. I said that efforts are being made to increase the produce and productivity. For that we are trying to provide them subsidy. We are trying for provide irrigational facilities to them. We are trying to see that they get hybrid seeds...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : What is cheap subsidy? You just said that cheap subsidy is being provided?

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : This is not the reply to my question. If wheat of Indian farmers is purchase @ Rs. 4.15 per kg. and wheat of foreigners is purchased @ Rs. 6.35 per kg., then it is not going to help Indian farmers. If this is done then it is the reply to my question. Either you say that I am telling a lies or say that I am not a leader of farmers or reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER : Listen, Professor Saheb, first hear the reply.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have never said to hon'ble member that he tells a lie. He always speaks the truth. Why should I say that he tells a lie? I did never say so. We are constantly increasing the minimum support price to see that the farmers get remunerative price.

So the price of wheat was increased by Rs. 35%. But we increase so much so that the poor consumers do not face any crisis. Whatever prices are increased, the Government is very much concerned for that. Therefore, prices are increased keeping in view the interests of both the farmers and consumers.

[English]

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : The system of subsidy is found to be iniquitous in that the quantum of subsidy given to a big farmer as well as to a small farmer is the same. If a small farmer has got two acres, he gets one bag of urea and if a big farmer has got 200 acres, he gets 20 or 30 bags of urea. The beneficiary is going to be the rich farmer. I feel that the subsidy system itself is pro-rich farmer and iniquitous. Has the Government got any proposal to extend or to evolve some differential rate of subsidy to benefit the poor farmers?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can think of it, but the trouble in this country is that the small and marginal farmers are not well-organised. Whatever things meant for them are sent, they are being taken away by the others. If the Members can guarantee that, I am willing to have a differential rate; I am willing to do that. But the target group must be helped and in the name of small and marginal farmers, the others should not take this. That must be guaranteed.

[Translation]

SMT. BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : The hon. Minister told about the remunerative prices. You will find after enquiry that no farmer gets remunerative price for any of his produces. The farmers must get remunerative prices for their produces. It has been replied that 90% of the total cost of the system i.e. Rs. 25,000 is subsidy for marginal farmers, small farmers and female farmers. There is a mention of females in and female farmers, in it. What is the criticism for determining the share of females. Have you ever thought about it? Because female farmers are also involved in it, but they have no base so that they could have good agriculture. Therefore, are you going to steps for providing 100% subsidy to women?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Women are the only criterion for women-there is no other criterion for it. We have started giving 90% just now we have not thought about 100% If provision for 90% is made and the house recommend more funds, then we will provide the benefits to maximum women. At present we suggest that we are benefitting, a very few whereas we want to provide this to more.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : In order to see that farmers get remunerative price of their produce they must be provided necessary inputs like fertilizers, seeds and electricity and that too at reasonable rates. While we increase the prices these inputs prices of produces is not increased in that rate. Will the Government set up a Committee to conduct a survey to find as to what were the prices of fertilizer, electricity and seeds in 1950 and the prices of agricultural produces vis-a-vis their present prices. This will help the farmers get remunerative prices. Are the Government doing something in this regard?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said earlier that we determine prices keeping in view the poor consumers. Only one factor is not taken for this. While answering previous question I said that we want to help farmers the other way and are doing so. We are helping them in the form of subsidy. No matter whether the fertilizers are indigenous or imported, we constantly increase the subsidy and control the price, we also give subsidy and control the price. we also give subsidy on electricity and irrigation.

If the hon'ble Member wants I will give him the figures. We provided Rs. 1350 crore on imported

fertilizers. Rs. 4743 crore on domestic fertilizers Rs. 1674 crore on controlled fertilizers, Rs. 15329 crore on electricity and for irrigation I do not have the latest figure with me but in 1994-95 we have given them subsidy for Rs. 6828 crores. It is also a method so that their production expenditure can be met with.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : I wanted to know the differences of rates of various inputs and produces like wheat in 1950 vis-a-vis their rates prevailing now. There should be a parity between both the prices ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Where is the time? We have taken too much time on this question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, the hon. Minister has very nearly answered this question. Subsidy is a very important aspect of the Budget. It is generally stated that it is the poor who get the subsidy. In fact, we know that the exporters and the industrialists get the subsidy by not paying taxes. In the economy, as a whole, various sectors and primarily the rich get subsidy in terms of export concessions and in terms of backward district concessions, etc. So, what is not known is the figure for subsidy, whether explicit or implicit, given to the poorer sections of the population and agriculture *per se*. I want a full estimate from the hon. Minister of Agriculture as to what is the total amount of subsidy provided for agriculture. Can he differentiate between the poor and the rich? I ask this question for one reason. In the earlier Budget it was proposed that if a marginal farmer buys a tractor, he will be given a huge subsidy ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, you are going beyond your promise about a pointed question.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, distribution of land is already imbalanced. Small and medium farmers have 32% of the total area and rest of the land is with others. People having more land will take more fertilizer and if you want balanced land then we will appeal to communist parties to make more efforts for that. Besides what can we do? Secondly targetted group should be given more we are thinking in this direction, I have said earlier also. But the problem is that their organisation is not that strong so that we can give them. If communist people will help them we can help more...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip) : Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister is not very clear. Though he has mentioned about the percentage of subsidy given to the small and marginal farmers, he has not specified about

the percentage of subsidy farmers, he has not specified about the percentage of subsidy given to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. SPEAKER : I do not know.

[English]

Cotton Growers

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*227. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the woes of the cotton growers in different parts of Gujarat following inadequate sale and fall in the prices of cotton;

(b) whether the State Government has also not provided the assured amount of Rs. 100 crore to the cotton co-operatives for helping the cotton growing farmers; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed by the Government to improve the plight of cotton growers of the State?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The cotton prices in Gujarat in the current year are lower compared to the last year but these are ruling well above the minimum support prices. However, the State Government has asked the Gujarat State Cooperative Federation Ltd. to stop up purchase of cotton from the farmers and has undertaken to bear losses, if necessary. With State Government's assurance, the State Cooperative Bank has given the loan of Rs. 28 crore and a further Rs. 25 crore loan is awaiting NABARD's permission. Accordingly, the GUJCOT purchased 1.38 lakh bales of cotton amounting to Rs. 129.50 crore so far after arranging credit facilities to the institutions.

(c) The Government has been taking various steps to help cotton growers :

- (i) Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of various varieties were announced before the start of the season.
- (ii) Export quota of 12.20 lakh bales of cotton has been released during the current year of which one lakh bales of cotton is allotted to GUJCOT. In addition a spill-over quantity of 6.90 lakh bales (approx) from the export