

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : That is a deficit State.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : It is rice that is deficit(Interruptions). But your data does not demonstrate it. People of Bihar also do the same thing. Food production in Bihar is very good. They take from us but do not contribute to the Central pool. If you sell in High powers then tomorrow it will be Punjab or others....(Interruptions)

SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Rice of Bengal(Interruptions) goes to Bihar, therefore, ... (Interruptions) therefore, it does not contribute to the Central Pool in spite of producing so much rice.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : You are our brigade(Interruptions) We shall rely on M.P. Shri Indrajit will rely on police. We rely on you. You must stop them.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Minister have just now talked about the agriculture of the other countries of the world. May I know from him whether he is aware that all the developed countries of the world have provided all kinds of facilities for preservation of foodgrains and they provide large amount of subsidy to preserve their edibles because it is believed that the countries which are dependent on other countries for their edibles lose their independence soon. If we talk of giving subsidy in our country then our Finance Minister says to a foreign professor that we are going to reduce the subsidy. You talk of providing subsidy while the Finance Minister talks of minimising it. Whatever is happening today with the wheat-growers will divert them to producing other things in their fields. Not only you but other departments also are encouraging the production and export of flowers. Col. Rao Ram Singh will tell you that farmers in large numbers in Haryana are producing flowers and in Punjab farmers are producing other things.

11.59 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Farmers in U.P. have started producing potatoes. One of my friend was saying that production of potatoes was so much in excess in Faizabad that it has no takers. The Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Finance and Minister of Horticulture make divergent statements. Do the Government have any National Policy and if so, then how can they provide subsidy? What will happen when Parliament session is going on and the Minister of Finance gives an assurance outside the Parliament to a foreign professor to reduce subsidy.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever has been said by the Minister of Finance, we have read it in the newspapers only. That is a different matter.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : How is it that different matter(Interruptions)

SHRI HARBHAJAN LAKHA : This is not a different thing. That is his point(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Whether the Government has collective responsibility? Discussions are held in the Cabinet.....(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Only the decisions taken by the Cabinet are collective. Otherwise if anybody speaks that is not the point.... (Interruptions). I am replying to the Hon. Member.

[Translation]

We are dead against the import of foodgrains. If we have to import foodgrains then I will think myself as an incapable Minister for Agriculture. But if the traders compel us then we cannot allow people to starve. Perhaps the Finance Minister had this in mind when he talked to the foreign professor. I agree with you on the second aspect that a farmer in America is given subsidy of 27 thousand dollars, we cannot provide that much subsidy because we are a poor country but we shall do our best to increase our production.

[English]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Sir, in the entire question hour only two questions were taken up. This is unfair for other Members. Most of the Hon. Members are giving statements and not asking questions. It is going on continuously.....(Interruptions). In the entire hour only two questions were taken up.

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have raised a very important question.....(Interruptions).

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

High Powered Committee on Sugar Sector

*423. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since set up a high powered committee to study all the aspects of sugar sector including rules and regulations prevailing in other sugar producing countries as directed by the Allahabad High Court on December 11, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the committee and the schedule prescribed for the submission of its report; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the Resolution of Government dated 14.3.1997 is enclosed as statement

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
Part I, Section 1.
Government of India
Ministry of Food
(Department of Food)

New Delhi,
14th March, 1997

Resolution

No. 5-2/96-SD. III - In pursuance of a judgment delivered by Allahabad High Court in which the court directed the Central Government to set up a high-powered committee to study the development and growth of sugar industry in India vis-a-vis other sugar-producing countries and suggest modifications, amendments or repeal of any existing law and controls in order to increase production and efficiency through modernisation, the Government have decided to set up a high-powered committee consisting of the following persons:

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| 1. Shri B.B. Mahajan,
Retired Food Secretary. | Chairman |
| 2. Chairman,
National Federation of Coop.
Sugar Factories. | Member |
| 3. Chairman,
Indian Sugar Mills Association | Member |
| 4. Representative of Confederation
of Indian Industry | Member |
| 5. Shri Chandra Pal Singh,
Chairman,
U.P. Cane Union Federation | Member |
| 6. Prof. Ishwari Prasad,
Retd. from JNU,
42, Vidya Vihar, Pitam Pura
New Delhi - 110032. | Member |
| 7. Shri R.L. Srivastava,
Executive Director, IFCI | Member |
| 8. Secretary (Incharge of Sugar),
UP | Member |

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| 9. Secretary (Incharge of Sugar),
Maharashtra. | Member |
| 10. Secretary (Incharge of Sugar),
Karnataka. | Member |
| 11. { To be nominated by the Ministry
12. { of Agriculture, representing
13. { Agricultural Research & Edn. &
Cane Farmers. | Members |
| 14. Joint Secretary (Sugar)
Deptt. of Food. | Member |
| 15. Representative from Commission
for Agricultural Costs and Prices. | Member |
| 16. Representative from Bureau of
Industrial Costs & Prices. | Member |
| 17. Shri J.J. Bhagat,
Mission Director,
Sugar Technology Mission. | Member Secy. |

2. The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:

- (i) To study the development and growth of sugar industry in India vis-a-vis other sugar - producing countries.
- (ii) To study the laws and rules and regulations relating to sugar, sugarcane and sugar industry in India and other sugar-producing countries.
- (iii) To suggest modifications, amendments or repeal of any existing law and controls with a view to ensure healthy growth and development of the sugar industry, and building healthy relationship between the farmers and the industry.
- (iv) To suggest ways and means to increase production and efficiency through modernisation so that sugar is available to the general public at reasonable prices.
- (v) To suggest methods for increasing productivity of sugarcane and ways to ensure fair and remunerative prices to sugarcane growers.

3. The Headquarters of the Committee shall be in New Delhi.

4. The Committee will be required to submit its report to the Ministry of Food within six months of the date of the Resolution.

ORDER

ORDERED that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all concerned and that it be published in the Gazette of India.

Sd/
(ARUN SINHA)
Secretary to the Government of India