

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding alleged sub-standard flour being distributed in fair price shops of Tripura.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

The people of Tripura are passing through hard days in the last four months of BJP-IPFT alliance Government. Most of the workers do not have any work to do. Agricultural workers have nothing to do in the agricultural field. The petty shopkeepers have to wait the whole day to sell a little portion of their stock. Even the *chaiwala* is selling only a few cups of tea. Earlier, workers used to have work and were earning minimum of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per day. As there were plenty of job opportunities in the State, workers from other States were interested to come and engage themselves in Tripura to earn their proper livelihood. Now-a-days they are leaving Tripura and the workers of Tripura are getting only Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 only.

Why, in these four months, are people not in a position either to do work or to sell their commodities for their daily earning? Earlier, at the time of the Left Front Government in the State of Tripura, people used to get 80 to 90 days of MGNREGA work. Not only that, Forest, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments used to engage people to do development work. Maximum number of tribal, dalit, OBC and poor people of other sections used to earn plenty of money to maintain their daily food and lodging requirements. Enough money was in circulation throughout the State which made their lives proper.

As there is no money in the hands of hilly and village people, today in the Fair Price Shops also dealers are waiting for selling rice and flour for so many days. Rotten food is being distributed in the Fair Price Shops of the State. I am having some sample of rotten flour collected from a hilly Fair Price Shop of Khamting ADC village of Sinaicamipara. Now, I am

having this sample with me. This is rotten flour. Insects are loitering hither and thither. If you want I can give you the sample.

HON. SPEAKER: This is not proper.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA : Please see whether this can be eaten by people or not. Even animals are not eating this type of rotten flour and rice.

I strongly urge upon the Central Government that the Centre should allocate adequate money to the State of Tripura for MGNREGA and other Department works and supply good quality food to the State of Tripura. Otherwise, starvation will ruin the people and the State of Tripura. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER:

Dr. Kulmani Samal,

Shri Jitendra Chaudhury, and

Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Sankar Prasad Datta.