

13.08 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Incentives to Sugar factories for
undertaking early sugarcane crushing
during the 1990-91 sugar season**

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA) Sir, during the past few years, consumption of sugar in the country has been rising at a faster rate than the indigenous production and, therefore, it sometimes became necessary for us to resort to imports of sugar. During 1989-90 sugar season, the production of sugar has been showing encouraging trends and upto 7th April, 1990, the total production of sugar has been around 86.7 lakh tonnes as against 77.7 lakh tonnes upto that time last year. This encouraging trend is expected to be continued and, given normal weather conditions, it is expected that the sugar production during 1989-90 season would be an all time record and may reach 104 lakh tonnes, which would be much higher than the maximum production of 91 lakh tonnes achieved so far during 1987-88 season. India will also become the largest producer of sugar in the world. Such a record level of production has been possible, amongst other things, by providing a package of incentives to sugar mills to produce more sugar in early crushing period, crush sugarcane from larger distances during the normal crushing period and crush more cane during late crushing period right upto July.

While it is too early to estimate the sugar production during the next season, our preliminary assessment is that given normal weather conditions, both the area under sugarcane and its production would be higher than the current year. It will,

therefore, be in the interest of sugarcane growers that as much cane as possible is crushed during the early period i.e. between 1st October to 15th November so that their land is vacated in time of growing rabi crops and they save additional expenditure in nursing that quantity of sugarcane during high temperatures in May and June. It will also be in the interest of the country to maximise sugar production during this period to ensure better availability in the market and increased total production. To achieve this, the sugar mills will have to be induced to undertake production during this period by compensating them for higher cost of production caused by lower recovery of sugar during this period. It has, therefore, been decided to provide following incentives during the early crushing period from 1st October to 15th November, 1990 —

- (i) In case of factories which commence their production during next sugar season on or after 1st October, 1990, freesale quota at the rate of 75% will be allowed as against the normal 55% on their entire production during the period 1st October to 15th November, 1990,
- (ii) In case of new factories which are getting 100% freesale quota, the production during the period from 1st October to 15th November, 1990 will not be included in the ceiling for grant of normal incentive and on this production, to the extent of excess of the total production during the season over the ceiling, freesale quota at the rate of 75% will be allowed, and
- (iii) In case of factories which are in receipt of incentive freesale quota as an expansion project, the option may be given to either (a) claim incentive for the production during 1st October to 15th November, 1990 at the deducted from the total production during the

season for working out the additional production over the pre-expansion period for calculating the incentive under the incentive scheme for expansion factories, or (b) they may not claim the early crushing incentive for production during this period, in which case this quantity will be included in the production during the season as usual for determining the additional production over pre-expansion production.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister on the statement made by him in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no convention of seeking clarifications in this House. As such, Mr. Joshi, no clarification can be sought in the House after a statement. Please take your seat.

13.14 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SIXTY-SIXTH AMENDMENT) BILL

[*Translation*]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move*—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a

Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The Motion was adopted.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I introduce the Bill

[*English*]

13.15 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

- (i) **Need to nationalise the circus and to provide pension and insurance facilities to circus artistes in the country**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): Circus is a traditional performance for which Indian artistes were at one time highly acclaimed. But this art is now slowly dying in our country. This art has a strong base in Tellichery town in Cannanore District of Kerala.

The performance achieved by some of our artistes is indeed stupendous. But rarely do they receive due recognition. Running and maintaining circus is also becoming increasingly expensive for the owners in spite of the concessions in transport charges and rents etc. granted by the Central Government.

I request the Government to come forward and nationalise the circus so that the art can be saved from degenerating. I also request the Government to study the pathetic condition of circus artistes and to provide pension and insurance facilities to them.