

(x) Need for railway lines in Jammu and Kashmir and early construction of the line connecting Jammu and Udhampur.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Railways offer tremendous advantages to the places reached by them. The Jammu and Kashmir State has remained deprived of the advantages that flow from Railways development except that Jammu is connected with Delhi by rail. More than four-fifths of the State remains outside the ambit of the beneficial influence of Railways. Five years before the plan for connecting Jammu with Udhampur was completed and early this year, i.e. in April 1983, the Prime Minister inaugurated the construction of railway line at Udhampur. One can imagine the progress on this project when one notices that against a sum of Rs. 70 crores, only Rs. one crore have been allotted for the project since when it was inaugurated. As for construction of railway line between Udhampur and Qazigund, no survey has yet been done. The laying down of railway line between Qazigund and Baramulla was long back surveyed but no project has so far been devised for the construction of the railway line there. This shall have to be done.

13.28 hrs.

DISCUSSION ON STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTER OF FINANCE ON PRICE SITUATION

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now discussion under Rule 193. Shri Subramaniam Swamy.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Sir may I have a Point of Order ?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Under what rule ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : About the discussion on price situation, I have a suggestion.

MR. DUPUTY-SPEAKER: Then don't say Point of Order say some suggestion.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : You allow one person from the Ruling Party and one person from the Opposition. It is a good system. But between the Opposition there is a section called back-benchers because of their party strength.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Say, small parties.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : They get the time late in the evening. So, could you devise a method whereby the persons from the front benches alternate with the persons from the back benches, otherwise even if we have good ideas, we cannot express them.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a matter that can be discussed in the Business Advisory Committee or in the Rules Committee. There is some practice. I cannot suggest anything.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : You are fully competent to decide, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I cannot suggest. If all the parties sit together and you come out with a proposal, the Speaker will definitely accept it.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : But because of the Party, I am a back-bencher.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is all right but all parties may please sit together, discuss it and come out with a unanimous proposal. The Speaker will definitely accept it I can give you that assurance.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have to discuss them with your parties, all the other parties, and come out with a proposal.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : It is a very good proposal.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I want that everybody should get a chance. If the hon. Members who speak first do not take much time.....

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : You do not give chance to the back-benchers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In view of what Prof. Soz. has said, the mover will take half an hour and the other hon. Members will take not more than 15 minutes. If this is strictly followed, I definitely think that every hon. Member will have a chance. So, there will be half an hour to the mover and 15 minutes to other hon. Members.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA (Calcutta North East) : How can it be done ? You go according to the strength of the party. Suddenly you are changing the rule.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is why I said you can discuss it among the parties.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : You cannot overnight change the rule like that.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Those who have spoken should not be allowed to leave the House. Now the bigger party leaders take all the time and no time is left to us. The result is that we are called at 11 O'Clock in the night. There should be a rule that they shall not leave the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a nice suggestion. Whenever any member speaks, then he should not leave the House immediately.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : He can leave with the permission of the Minister:

SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR (Gwalior) :

The convention is that he has to be present when the reply is being given.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Sometimes when the reply is given by the Minister, he will not mention the names of the members who are not present. I have myself said that if the members are not present, then the Minister need not reply to their points; he can send a reply by post, because they are not in the House. Dr. Subramaniam Swamy is starting now at 13.32. He will finish it by 14.02.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : (Bombay North East) : I will speak only according to the points. So I do not think I will take even half an hour.

I must start by saying that the ruling party has always been describing the opposition as irresponsible and not being in a mood to help the Government to run the country. In this important debate it is pathetic to see row after row of empty benches on the ruling party side.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : What about it ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : That is exactly the point. You accuse us of being irresponsible. So, we are taking you at your word. What is it that you are presenting here to the nation ? This is a question which is really important and the Finance Minister in his speech has very graciously said that he would like the members to give him suggestions to bring about improvement. I wonder whether they would even consider them seriously, in view of the fact that the whole debate has been devalued by the total absence of ruling party members.

As a part of the gentleman's agreement, I will not raise the question of quorum. But you know that if I were to raise it, or any of us were to raise it, you will be in big trouble.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Without quorum, what is the value of your speech ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Why should I ? You raise it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is the lunch hour.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : The statement presented by the Finance Minister reflects an idle hope and, in my opinion, it is a camouflage of a hope. For the incompetence of the Government in maintaining the prices, all that we have in the statement here are excuses. But the Finance Minister does not explain why he went wrong. He does refer to his earlier statement, but in his earlier statement what did he say ? There was a discussion on that statement also on the 25th of August. On 18th he made a statement and on 25th of August there was a discussion in this House. The Finance Minister said that the price situation was satisfactory and within control. That was what he said on 25th of August. Then in October he addressed the Forum of Financial Writers in which he said, 'Well, the price situation has not been satisfactory, but from November prices will start falling'. This is what he said before a group of journalists who have constituted themselves into a Forum of Financial Writers, and this was published in the press. Now, he comes and says, 'Well, periodic debates on price situation will give benefit to the Government and to me personally as it provides me an opportunity to hear the impressions of the distinguished Members. Now, what do I do ? Here is the Finance Minister who comes to the House or goes before the responsible body and he says ..

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER ; Actually he did not read like that. He read in a different form.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Well, I am bringing the matter to focus the attention of the House because the

object of the Government is to camouflage, to confuse you and they think that everything is OK. So, I am trying to unravel it for you and show what is the heart of it. The Finance Minister has been giving periodic assurances to this House and to responsible bodies that price situation will be controlled, prices will be brought down and then he is not accountable for it. On no occasion has the Finance Minister come and said, 'I was wrong, I am sorry, I have not been able to understand the situation and these are the things that went wrong, now these are the things I am going to do and if I do not control the prices, then honourably I will resign and go away.' That is the way in which I could take him seriously. Otherwise there will be just a repetition of statement and a discussion with all these absentees. This is an absentee government that we have today. They are all in the *tamasha* of international meetings while the people of India are suffering under the crushing burden of rising prices.

Sir, you know I know and anybody knows if he goes and talks to people that this was the worst Diwali that took place in the living memory—Never has there been such a subdued Diwali as this time, never has there been so much unhappiness amongst people for not being able to afford, which they were normally able to afford in the past. Diwali, everybody knows, this year was the worst and that itself is a proof, you don't need statistics to show this. But statistics itself is alarming. What does the statistics show ? I have been a Professor in Economics with specialisation in Statistics. So, this Minister cannot fool me. But at the same time I cannot talk with all the sophistication of statistics because I think this will pass over the heads of most people not over the Finance Minister's head, but he will also exploit this. This factor has to be put in general terms. I cannot put it in specific terms but I must say his statistic, the way he presented, hide the truth. I will say that the statistics presented should be like this. In 1981-82, by the Finance Minister's own admission earlier, the price rise in the wholesale index was 2.4 per cent. In 1982-83 it

[Dr. Subramaniam]

was 6.2 per cent—it has gone up. The year 1983, of course, is not over calendar-wise, but if you take the period March-October and compare it with the last year's March-October, i.e., in March the Budget came and from March to October, take this period. In the last year's period of March-October the price rise was 8.2 per cent, i.e., 2.4 per cent in 1981-82, 6.2 per cent in 1982-83 and 8.2 per cent if you take the period March-October—the period after 1982-83 period. And if you take this calendar year 1983, January-October, then the rate of inflation is 10.6 per cent. That is the rate at which it is going. So, the most significant part of today's price situation is the rapid acceleration that is taking place in the prices, in the wholesale prices themselves, which the Finance Minister is hiding away from the House and from the people in general. This is the thing that he has to answer firstly: Why is this acceleration in 1981-82, 1982-83 and the calendar year of 1983? And there seems to be no scope of its decline. This period is supposed to be a period of decline and the Finance Minister himself says that the seasonal decline in prices which begins around the second half of September has been relatively weak this year. That is, when in fact the prices should be declining, you find in the case of most of the commodities that it is not declining, and where there is a decline it is a weak decline. So, you can imagine that by the time February-March comes what kind of an explosive situation is going to be there. Already it is 10.6 per cent for yearly rate of growth of prices and by March it will accelerate further and this acceleration process cannot be stopped, and this is the first thing that today the price situation is out of their control and it is accelerating and ultimately it will gallop.

The second thing which worries me a lot is the difference in the rate of growth of prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index and the wholesale price index. He says in his statement: The consumer price index is down on account of food items.' Then why don't you prepare an index of retail prices? Why is it that this Government and all the legacies that

he claims of the past governments, of Congress governments, after all having been in power for such a long time—only two-and-a-half years there was an interregnum as they call it—why don't they prepare an index of retail prices? Till that time we have to go by the consumer price index. And what does that show? That shows a growing gap in the rate of growth of wholesale price index and the consumer price index. That gap is now 25 per cent. That is, consumer price index is going up much faster than the wholesale price index. In other words, while the prices are rising, while the people are suffering what do we find? We find that the traders are also making enormous profits. I do not know whether they have a soft corner for traders or not, whether Sudh Vanaspati is a symbol or symptomatic of the situation or not. But this is a fact which he cannot deny that 25 per cent gap has now emerged between the consumer price index and the wholesale price index and this gap is growing, which means, that the people are facing much greater inflation than he is telling this House through the wholesale price index.

I would say that if you look at his own statement, he says. 'Since then up to the end of October in the wake of the excellent khariff crop'—of course, there he cannot claim credit because the rains are on time, because when the rains do not come on time they blame God and say, 'The rains did not come on time and that is why there is drought, this and that', and so when the rains come on time they cannot claim credit. If they claim that somebody else is responsible for rains not coming on time, they cannot claim that the rains coming on time is due to their good effort and the Government 'that works'. What does he say? He said :

“Since then, up to the end of October in the wake of an excellent khariff crop, price of rice, wheat, and fruits and vegetables have come down by 3.1 per cent, 0.02 per cent, 7.3 per cent respectively, and the price of grain etc. has declined.”

I want to know where this decline is. When he says 'prices', again it wholesale prices. About retail prices nothing of that kind has happened. In fact the price of wheat has gone up. He can see the newspapers, they have all quoted in great details, the latest *economic times* has given data after data for major cities the price of wheat has gone up, the price of rice has gone up, the price of oil has gone up and the price of everything has gone up. When he says that the price has come down and there has been a decline, again he is misinforming you. He is telling you things which are not true. That is, we are interested as a consumer, we are not interested in what the wholesaler is paying, may be the wholesaler's margin is increasing, but the retail prices have not come down.

Some of these prices are also rising due to some of their misdeeds. For example, the price of ghee has gone up. Now, I am told it is Rs. 42 per Kg. Why it is so? Because they allowed even the tallow to come and go into vanaspathi: So people have stopped buying vanaspathi and the price of ghee has gone up. People do not want to risk that. (*Interruptions*). It has been improved, but they are not able even to buy that. So, this another aspect. We must thank him for one thing. Previously he used to come and say that prices are a global phenomenon. 'Foreign hand' and 'global phenomenon' are two favourite phrases and for this occasion he has not said that. He says, 'The behaviour of prices in our country is a complex matter,'—well, not due to international factors. It cannot be due to international factors. In fact the price of gold, for example, in the international market is coming down, but in India it is going up. They made such a big thing about prices of gold during the Janata period; it was something like Rs. 850 for 10 grams. But today it is Rs. 1800, Rs. 1900/-. It has gone up while the international prices have come down. During Janata Party Government prices of gold went up because international prices went up. But we did not say about the international phenomena and all that. But in this Government, the international prices of

gold have come down, whereas the price of gold in this country is going up. So, I find that this is another aspect which has to be explained. One of the most disturbing aspects is even where production is rising, prices are rising. Sir, I do not know whether you have studied Economics or not. If anybody who has been taught Economics the first thing taught in Economics in the Law of Demand and Supply is if production rises, prices fall. But Shri Pranab Mukherjee has turned Economics also upside down. Here the production of sugar has gone up from 64 lakh tonnes to 84 lakh tonnes. They claim that production has gone up, but what about the price of sugar? The price of sugar which was Rs. 2.20 per kg. during Janata rule to-day is Rs. 6/- a kilo. I have never heard of this phenomenon anywhere in the world—production goes up this way and price also goes up this way. The laws of Economics have been turned upside down. This is something which he has to explain. When he says the price of gur has gone up, the price of tea has gone up, why? why is this so?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whereas production goes up, we also produce more and more population.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Even after subtracting that it should not be so. You may not be strong in arithmetic. I shall explain that to you. Production went up from 64 lakh tonnes to 84 lakh tonnes so far as sugar is concerned. Population did not increase in the same ratio.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is increase of 2.2 crores every year.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : You are wrong. There is not increase of 2.2 crores every year. It is 2.2% every year. I know you often confuse crores and percentage. This is 2.2% per year or 1.4 crores per year.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The population has to be fed.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Increase from 64 lakh tonnes to 84 lakh tonnes means nearly 1/3rd i.e. 33 1/3% ? increase. Has the population gone up in five years by 33 1/3% ? (*Interruptions*).

I allow for that. I am saying to-day the cost of producing 1 kilo of sugar after paying for sugar cane, after paying for processing, after paying for everything and including taxes is Rs. 3 per kilo. It is being sold at Rs. 6 a kilo. Somebody is earning fat profit. We do not know whether Dr. Bhoi has also share in that or not ?

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur) : I am a small man.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
It is happening in your time. In our time the price of sugar remained at Rs. 2.20 per kilo. You can have the cushion of increase in population. I want to know how this phenomenon has come. I will explain to you how this phenomenon has come up. This is most surprising thing in the price situation—production is going up, output is going up, even then the prices are rising. This phenomenon has not been witnessed in the world. But in India it is being witnessed under the lordship of Shri Pranab Mukherjee. Personally I have very high regard for him but he is in the wrong place. So, he is bound to do wrong things.

I will not go into standard reasoning for this. Money supply also has gone up. Of course, money supply has gone up. They have tied their hands to the International Monetary Fund, that they will not raise money supply beyond certain point. They have played tricks with the International Monetary Fund also. They have told the public sector organisations to return the loan, the Central Government gave them and told the Public Sector that you borrow that amount from the capital market in India. This is a very strange way of operating. Rs. 800 crores of money supply is being increased just by this trick by the Central Govern-

ment calling back loan to the public sector and *public sector being told* compensate for it and borrow the same amount in the private capital market. So, I would not go into that. Yes, there has been a substantial rise in money supply. But this is not the real reason. There is also another factor—the Sixth Five Year Plan is now in doldrum. We have not discussed the Sixth Plan here. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister says that we do not make any constructive suggestion and we do not discuss. We have been demanding discussion time after time on the Sixth Five Year Plan. But they have no idea of discussion because if we have a discussion, their complete incompetence, failure and all will stare in the face. They have put a modest figure of 5.2% in the growth rate of national income. That is, national production as measured by national income was to grow at 5.2% per year. Now, they have reviewed the Five Year Plan and come to the conclusion that they cannot achieve the growth rate unless in the coming two years, they grow at the rate of 8.8% per year. This has never happened in our history—8.8%.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Which document you are quoting ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : I am talking of the Five Year Plan based on your targets.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : 8.8% growth rate from which document you are quoting ? Is it from Plan appraisal?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Yes. I got it from your Plan appraisal. According to your appraisal, in order to reach the targets of 1985, you have to grow at 8.8% per year for the remaining two years to cover up the shortfalls in these three years. So, this is a fact. The Sixth Five Year Plan is in doldrum. They talk too much about planning but they are not planning. They want to celebrate Jawahar Lal Nehru's birthday every year with great pomp and show. But where is the Sixth Five Year Plan? Nehru was

known for planning. In the economic area, he is all for planning. Now, what are the targets for the Sixth Five Year Plan? I hardly see the Planning Minister, here. There was a time when the Planning Minister used to dominate the show, here. Today, I do not even know who is the latest Planning Minister. We do not even know what are the targets for the five year plan. There is no discussion. There used to be time when the Plan was discussed sector by sector—where was the shortfall, what was happening etc. Now, it is all dissension that is going on. So, this is another aspect, namely, failure of Plan production. The failure of the Sixth Five Year Plan is one of the biggest blows to one of our established traditions in our economy.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : For your information, the Planning Minister is Shri S.B. Chavan.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Thank you, Sir. But he is today or yesterday. (*Interruptions*).

Another aspect is, we in Janata formulated some of the programmes. We did control prices which they may not like. But it is a fact. The wholesale price index which Shri Pranab Mukherjee quotes was 185 when the Janata went out of power—that is Janata-proper. And today, it is somewhere around 300.

SHRI C.M. BANATWALLA (Ponani) : That was Janata-proper and this is Janata-improper ;

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Will he admit in today's Muslim League Mohammed Jinnah ? (*Interruptions*.) What I said was at the caretaker government of the Lok Dal period also, it was said as Janata. That is why, I said Janata-proper. Now that he has understood. I have also explained to him about Israel and he has understood that also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Both of you are in Bombay and you can talk with each other.

Dr. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Luckily we do not meet very often

The Janata has brought some special programmes like Antodya, Food-for-Work, Adult Education and a variety of things which would put the purchasing power in the hands of the people and at the same time generate goods. Here, we find all these have been scuttled. In fact, in the mid-term appraisal, we find that all these allocations have been in real term reduced. This, in my opinion, is a very serious situation.

13.54 hrs.

[SHRI R.S. SPARROW *in the Chair.*]

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : In fact, there is an article by Dr. Raj Krishan and J.D. Sethi in the newspaper which the hon. Finance Minister might have seen. They have shown how the fantastic rubbish has been given in the form of statistics in the revised five year plan. So, this one other aspect. The Minister does not mention these reasons. I mention them.

You scuttled these good programmes which were generating goods and increasing the purchasing power for people like Food-for-Work. You scuttled it. That is one of the reasons for inflation.

Another reason which I consider as very important will explain why production is rising and prices are rising at the same time. I have told you this is typical Pranab Mukherjee's phenomenon. It is happening in his tenure. I do not blame him for this. In fact it is Cong. (I) phenomenon. Whenever Congress (I) is in power, prices go on rising. 'Production rises or falls prices go on rising. What is this? During Janata rule it did not happen. Why is it happening now? It is because of this new phenomenon of Commission collecting on every transaction. When I went to England recently, all the prominent people there told me that it is a matter of great disgust to us that on

law is there but it cannot become null and void.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Dagaji is enthusiastic about what ?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Another unusual suggestion has been made by Mr. Patil who said that the victim must be given half of the property. If the person who has committed a rape. A suggestion was also made in the case of gang rape that death sentence should be awarded. But what we fear is that if capital punishment is prescribed, then there is a real danger that the rapist may even kill the victim.

SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR : That is exactly the report earlier.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Death is ultimate and if a rapist finds that he is going to the gallows, he may not spare the victim. And it is for this consideration it was felt that instead of death, life imprisonment should be provided. (*Interruptions*) I do not know how Islam could say that this was a capital punishment. Whether life imprisonment comes under the capital punishment or not I do not know because I am not a lawyer. Therefore, you must tell me. (*Interruptions*) Sir, some suggestion has been made that seven or ten years imprisonment is not enough. But, I would like to emphasise on hon. Members that the imprisonment of seven and ten years is only a minimum punishment—not the maximum punishment. The maximum punishment can go to any length.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ram Jethmalani said that even seven years punishment is too much. His argument is also there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Rape by economic domination, it is a very very difficult concept. What is meant by rape by economic domination I am not able to know. (*Interruptions*) Sir, we have taken certain types of rape such as custodial rape as very very heinous crime and we have prescribed ten years to be the maximum punishment for such people. Under custodial rapes, several institutions have been

brought under this description. We have clearly made a definition. Beyond that if we want to expand the scope by saying that rape by economic domination is also punishable as custodial rape, it will be counter-productive. Also there will be instances where some unscrupulous women may take advantage of it and try to blackmail or may do some character assassination of such people. So, one should be very careful in this matter. Even then, we have prescribed a minimum punishment. Under custodial rape, the minimum punishment is 10 years. It has also been suggested that the punishments for the offences under 376B, 376C etc., should be the same as for rape. Sir, this is not fair. The hon. Members will appreciate that Sections 376B, 376C and 376D are new offences to discourage the concerned authorities from sexual exploitation of women under their control. No sexual intercourse between two adults with consent, even if there be seduction or inducement, can be equated with rape and, therefore, it would not be fair to provide the same punishment for rape, and for illicit intercourse, not amounting to rape. At the same time, we want to discourage a tendency in men in authority to exploit women under them either by seduction or inducement. And that is why this provision has been made. I shall also go through some of the suggestions made by hon. Members while participating in to-day's debate. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the observations made by the hon. Members are more or less on the same lines excepting in a few cases. Our hon. friend, Shri Ram Jethmalani has also made several suggestions. And, our friend, Shri Shejwalkar, has also mentioned about several offences which are being committed on women. With regard to harassment of women because of dowry and all that, there is a separate Bill. With regard to cruelty to women in our society, there is a separate Bill. So, Sir, as I have already said, taking into consideration all these factors, since there are several Bills to deal with offences other than rape, we should wait for the provisions made in those Bills. (*Interruptions*).

श्री रामलाल राहौ : वेश्यावृत्ति को रोकने के बारे में नहीं बताया ।

my belief that these people even if they were told how to control the prices, would not do it. They would not control prices. I also believe that they know how to control prices because the Janata Government showed them the way. The way the Janata Government controlled the prices is the way for them to control the prices too. Whatever it is, whatever it is by pleasing the industrialists or by pleasing the CIA or by pleasing the KGB, the people of India want essential goods at cheap and low prices and should be easily available. This is what the people want.

14 hrs.

I can give many suggestions in that regard. The Finance Minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, also wants these suggestions. He says, "I shall again seek the cooperation of this House in our continued efforts to contain inflation." He talks of "continued efforts." What efforts have they made? They have all failed. They have not given any explanation why they have failed. Now he says, what to do? I can tell him what steps to take.

Step No. 1. Publish all the names and addresses of commission agents in international transactions. If they can do that, then half the battle is over.

Step No. 2. There are number of areas where they can bring in major tax reforms, not just reducing the price of fertiliser. They have reduced the price of fertiliser by 7.5 per cent. What was the price during the Janata regime. It was Rs. 74. Today, it is Rs. 125 and you do not get it. In some places, it is even more. They have raised prices where there is no justification. Take, for example, petrol. They have increased the price by 10 p. The price of oil in the international market has gone down plus self-sufficiency of India has increased. We are producing more oil percentage-wise than what we were producing before. Oil bill has come down. Everybody

knows, that. Even then, the Government has increased the price of oil. That is true of cement; that is true of everything else. You have bring about major tax reforms. You are doing it for Television. I am not a objecting to that. Whom does it serve? Why not a tax reform for sugar, for edible oils, for petrol, for kerosene, the things which are used in agriculture and the things which the common people want. There is no major tax reform. The Government has got reports of various committees. They have not done it.

Step No. 3. Remove the dual pricing system. You have got a buffer stock of sugar. You remove the dual pricing system. Let the prices find equilibrium themselves. The prices will come down. But the sugar mill owneres will not like it. We committed a mistake of not having a buffer stock of sugar. The moment we removed the dual pricing system, the prices came down. It did not affect the profitability of sugar mill owners. At that time, the cost of sugar production was Rs. 2/- and the market price was Rs. 2.20. Still they were making a profit, not profit like 200 per cent which they were making before, but only 10 per cent profit. The mill owners went to the farmers saying, "We will not buy sugarcane." The farmers had to burn sugarcane in the fields. That had nothing to do with our policy. We were busy fighting amongst ourselves. We did not go to the farmers. I admit that. So, it blew up. Next time, if we get a chance, we will see that it does not blow up. It has got nothing to do with the policy. We cannot say that the removal of dual pricing system was wrong. When you have got so much surplus, the control should go. Otherwise, there will be corruption. Today, the sugar mills are earning huge amounts of profit. We do not know whom it is benefiting. The Government has got 90 lakh tonnes of sugar. You remove dual pricing system.

Step No. 4. You remove food zone system, That is corrupting the police.

[Dr. Subramaniam Swamy]

The food is moving. The food zones are not preventing movement of food-grains.

There are a number of reforms you can do. If you do it, the prices will come down. But your party may become poor and impoverished. And that, in my opinion, is in a nutshell the reason why the prices are not coming down. That is why the Finance Minister comes here with this kind of an insipid statement without making an apology for having misled the House and that, after promising to control the prices, he has failed to do that. These are only pious statements. We cannot expect anything from them. The Government has failed to control the prices and, we think, that the Government cannot bring about the control of prices.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Mr, Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Finance Minister's statement is a frank document which admit of price rise phenomenon and also gives some indication of what steps the Government has taken to control it. In his usual way, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy has evaded the issue and talk of all irrelevant things. He said that the prices were very much controlled during the Janata regime. At what prices were the onions selling then ?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : What is the price of onions today ? You please tell the House.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : You link it to the general price index. At that time, other commodities were cheap, but the prices started going up. He has admitted that they lost power because of their infighting, because they were busy elsewhere and they were not controlling the prices. Whether they were fighting or not that is no concern of ours. Our concern is the price situation in the country.

It is important and also significant that the price rise has accounted for an

erosion of the Plan investment. According to one study, the Sixth Plan has also suffered from some erosion. One expert has put it at 34 per cent. I do not know whether this figure is correct or not. I am quoting from a study conducted by the Institute of Economics, in Delhi. It also says that the private investment in the Plan is going to be shorter by 18 per cent. All these factors are to be taken into account while discussing the price situation.

The projected growth rate of 5.2 per cent may not be achieved. But we are sure that it will be around 5 per cent anyway.

Also, in reply to the discussion which this House had on 18th August, the Finance Minister was good enough to tell us the measures the Government have taken. Dr. Subramaniam Swamy has brushed aside everything saying that nothing has happened; everything is because for corruption as if there was no corruption during the Janata regime. This is no way of dealing with the issues on an economic front.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : He is putting a very weak defence.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : The point is that we do not believe in all these commission agents, etc. which our friend is believing in.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : You publish their names.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Today, he was hinting about his wishful thinking. Their time has gone. It is his wishful thinking that his party will come to power and they will have the chance of rectifying the mistakes committed by them. It is not within their reach. Let me assure him that the days are gone and now the people have understood them as to what type of infighting they are having and what type of wrong policies they are capable of evolving.

The Finance Minister has himself admitted that there is a rate of moderation in the increase of prices. He has said that from the middle of May, 1983, to the end of July, 1983, there is noticeable moderation in the rate of increase in prices in this period and, similarly, he has also accepted that the whole price index increased by 1.4 per cent in the month of August, 1983. Therefore, the noticeable aspect of the statement is that he has brought out clearly what is the factual situation. He has not tried to hide anything.

He has mentioned the five measures that the Government has adopted.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Which have failed.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : These were enunciated by him in the statement made in reply to the debate on 18th August. For refreshing his memory, I would read them out :

- (1) decision to import rice and wheat;
- (2) stepping up the release of food-grains; sugar and edible oils through public distribution system;
- (3) reduction in fertiliser prices;
- (4) increase in the cash reserve ratio from 7 to 8.5 per cent; and
- (5) to intensify efforts to achieve the maximum output.

The prospects are bright and the outputs are likely to be achieved. We are hopeful that the production on the agricultural front is going to be achieved on the expected lines.

Similarly, there are other items also in his statement. For example, he says that the Reserve Bank of India has announced further steps for reducing excess liquidity with the banking system.

These are some of the concrete measures which the Government has taken. They will require some time to have some impact.

It is also an unforgettable fact that the worst victims of this price rise are the salaried classes. They have to bear the brunt because the rich people generally do not have much to bother about the price rise. They generally can absorb the price rise. They are having flexible economies and they are able to absorb these shock. But the salaried classes feel the pinch.

The most important thing today is that we have to streamline not only our production but also the distribution system.

The friends on the opposite side are resorting to various political gimmicks which are responsible to some extent for the rise in prices which ultimately lead to shortfall in investment in the plan expenditure and ultimately the instability on the price front affects the general planned economic development, of the country.

To one of my questions, the Minister of Railways replied that more than 100 trains, including goods trains, had to be stopped or slowed down because of the Punjab situation and you can see the result. Similarly in Assam. Similarly in other parts.

If Mr. Jyoti Basu gives a threat that he would start an agitation on the price rise... ..

(Interruptions)

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : You will see the difference between Brahmachari and price rise. Kindly explain to them the difference between Brahmachari and the price rise because Brahmachari is not under discussion.

(Interruptions)

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : The point is that the Karnataka

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Government also appointed a three-man committee to control the price rise.

The friends on the Opposition start saying that they will launch an agitation. It is not through agitation or by appointing a Committee that you can bring down the prices, but it can be done by suggesting some concrete measures.

Therefore, the Minister of Finance has called for your cooperation. What are the new suggestions that you offered? They just amount to nothing. There is no suggestion because they simply believe in wish-washing everything and the whole thing is gone.

An effective distribution system should be evolved and it should be the responsibility of the Government in association with the elected representatives of the people to see that these things are there in the fair price shops. We have a large number of fair price shops. A network of fair price shops are spread throughout the country.

But there is not enough competitiveness. Japan has been able to achieve growth rate because of the competitiveness in every field.

But here what happens is that some of the dealers of the fair price shops enter into collusion with other dealers. The result is things are missing from fair price shops and they are available at the other shops. Why this phenomenon? It is a matter of serious concern for us even though Government is taking some action to solve this problem.

I would plead with the Hon. Minister to see that the items which are reserved for the fair price shops are available in adequate quantities at all places. There are areas which are becoming inaccessible for six months in a year. There are areas which are becoming inaccessible due to drought and floods. What happens in such areas is the stockist manages to have stock of these essential items in his own

shop. The stockist will be able to do this because the fair price shops will enter into collusion with him. The result will be that we are at a loss on the point of checking the price rise.

Time and again, the trade unions launch threats of strike and that results in some sort of reduction in production which also accounts for price rise.

We should evolve a mechanism by which these matters can be settled without resorting to the weapon of strike.

For example, in Japan and other countries when the workers have any demands to make, they only wear black badges. There is no strike.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: In Japan, nobody can be dismissed from his job.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: You assure the House that you will persuade your parties to do this.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: You assure permanent jobs to everybody, that nobody will be removed and that social security will be given. We will get what you want.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: You will say this here and outside you launch a big morcha on any issue whether you want to lead the public or mislead the public.

Any good suggestion coming this side is an enigma to them. They would just criticise for the sake of it. What I was saying is that in countries like Japan which they are fond of quoting also, they have a system of wearing black badges to voice their grievances but the work does not stop and everybody goes to work in schools, colleges, factories and everywhere and the result is that there is no loss of production. Here, the mills are closed down, the factories are closed and even hospitals are closed and things happen like that and for days together. Even

banks and LIC employees who get fat salaries also resort to strike. The result is that there is a set back to the economy. Therefore, we would plead for some sort of a mechanism in which there is an agreement with all trade union leaders also that for the sake of stability in prices and for the sake of rise in production, for the sake of sound investment in plan and for the ultimate aim of planned economic growth, we should not resort to the weapon of strike and thereby, we can continue to be up in the method of production.

Similarly, in agricultural production, what are the hindrances now? We think of this and of that. There are river water disputes. In Punjab and Haryana they are fighting over the river waters—that they will not give one cusec of water to the other. The result is that there is a scare among the people that they will not get enough water they require. Though Himachal Pradesh has been put to an inconvenience by harnessing all the waters into the channels of Punjab and Haryana, we have never grumbled on that score. Yet, it is not being utilised. People would prefer to let the water flow to Pakistan than to agree to utilise it in Haryana or Punjab. After all, it is a part of the country. So irrigation projects like the Rajasthan Canal, the Sutlej-Yamuna link canal and projects which are so essential, may be inter-State or multi-State in nature, should be immediately taken up for construction so that agricultural production which is 142 million tonnes at present as indicated by the hon. Minister in his speech, goes further up and there is no need to import foodgrains and we are able to export it and thereby earn money. Increased production both in the industrial and agricultural sectors and an effective system of distribution through vigilance, through public representation and through checks which are essential is to be evolved and also we should have some mechanism for trying to see that our disputes, our political differences do not get reflected in the economic distortions of our country and ultimately result in a burden on the consumer.

Similarly, there is another suggestion which I want to make. In our country there is a large pool of intellectual talent which is available in the Universities and in the Research Institutes. Why not associate them with the mechanism to control the prices to see that our economy is brought on an even keel? Their services and their talents can all be pooled together and suggestions can be invited. It is no use saying that our Planning Commission and our Advisers will have the final say. Even people who are working in the Universities on this constant theme can also be associated with it and their suggestion can be sought. And also we should have a system of co-operatives in which the weaker sections also have a role to play. Our co-operative movement and the consumer co-operatives at the moment in the villages have a feudal component and the result is that they corner all the things to themselves and the weaker sections of the society do not have it within their reach and do not derive the advantages from the co-operative society or the consumer store. The result is that he is left high and dry. So we should streamline the working of these co-operatives in order to bring the essential commodities within the reach of everybody.

Price rise is one thing and the availability of the essential commodities is also very much important. I would request the Finance Minister to pay some attention to this also that areas which are far away from the reach of the transport infrastructure of the country, areas which are hilly, desert areas and areas which are drought-affected and areas which are beyond the snow-line those areas also belong to the nation and the nation has to have some concern for them. So the entire distribution system should be so designed and streamlined in such a manner that various items reach them also.

Then I come to the banking system. Yesterday, the Indian National Trade Union Congress have given this opinion. They have passed a resolution that the banking system in our country is not doing justice to the economic growth of

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our country. The banks also have a role to play. To-day we have more than 41,000 bank branches in the country. But what happens? When it comes to the system of getting a loan, people find it difficult. Generally, the poor people find it difficult to get a loan because the system is such that they have to offer various types of guarantees. And yet various programmes have been launched. So, I would suggest that these programmes which the banks have for the people, for the benefit of the poor people, for the benefit of the unemployed, for the benefit of the artisans, for the benefit of the weaker sections. These should be contained in a handbook and that handbook should be printed in all the regional languages of India and should be distributed at the Panchayat level because whenever I see the bank branch being opened in the countryside, there is generally a big show by the bank people saying that we have supplied this book or that book. Beyond this, there is nothing so that when a young man approaches a bank to find out what are the schemes of the banks, he does not get that. So, the banking sector has a vital role to play in the economic development and the production would increase if the banking component such as the aid that is supplied to the agriculturists, to the artisans by the banks, is also streamlined along proper lines. It is a happy thing that the hon. Minister has noted that there is an increase in the cash reserve ratio from 7 to 8.5 per cent in two phases and an intensive effort to maximise the kharif output. Along with the increase in credit ratio, cash reserve ratio is also to be raised. Our banks are co-operating. But, they are cooperating only at the national level. They are co-operating at the State level. The bank people are very happy with the State Governments and the Central Government. But, it is the farmer in the village, it is the young artisan and it is the small industrial entrepreneur who is an unemployed young man, a matriculate young man, who has to be assured that the bank has a smile for them that they are able to have a branch of a bank. It has to have a dialogue of welcome and pros-

pect of welcome to this. So, the prices can be controlled and they can be stabilised. But, we cannot say that they would be reduced drastically. My hon. friend. Dr. Subramaniam Swamy would imagine because he believes in miracle. But, we do not. (*Interruptions*). If the prices were brought down, the people were happy with them and they also brought down along with the price fall. (*Interruptions*). We are not referring to the infighting. We are referring to the electoral verdict of January 1980. The people were so much impressed by the statistics given by them about the fall in the prices registered in their regime that they were also brought down by the people. They have only a fallacy which they are projecting before the country that they were able to do this thing or that. But, they were not able to do anything because it is the people who are the best judges. (*Interruptions*). We did not rise the prices. Who raised this bogie? Sir, I have a charge to make of the big sharks who are blackmailing us. They were not able to do anything—Dr. Subramaniam Swamy and his friends.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
No, no.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : They generally want to blackmail us further. The boot is on the other leg. (*Interruptions*). They are not in the Janata but they are hand in glove with you. That is the point. So far as puolishing aim is concerned, let them publish their own distribution and let them come out with that. (*Interruptions*). They wan't do anything. They only try to bifurcate the economy into rural and urban. Chaudhuri Charan Singh pleaded for the rural areas while Mr. Desai pleaded for the urban areas. The result of it is that we are, where we were today. My point is that every sector of the management has a proper place in this vital task. Therefore, in the management of distribution, the people's representatives should be associated. They should be associated so that there is increase taking place in the industrial and agricultural production. This limiting of

the credit ratio in the banks should be there and, above all, the psychology among the workers and labourers that they also belong to the country, should also be there. So, if we have some kind of harmonious relationship, of all types of industrial relations, that is, farmer's contribution, banker's contribution etc., then Government would also play its due role. That would ultimately result in a stable economy and a stable price.

With these words, I appreciate some of the steps the Minister has taken and I welcome this statement of his to-day.

SHRI SATYASADAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South) : What about the administered prices ?

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : I know what the administered prices are. You believe what the States claim in the administered prices. I tell you that all States are for more powers to be given to the States. Can you ever agree to ask the bigger states to contribute something to the smaller States ? They would only say 'no'. They want to speak about the Central Government. This is the point that I want to reply. Whereas the Central Government has taken over the responsibility of backward areas and under the Gadgil formulae the planned economy is being manned in such a manner that the backward States are given a chance to come up. Sir, if their scheme of things comes into operation and the Centre becomes weak then the big States would like to become bigger and bigger and the smaller States of the country will suffer and they will have no place under the sun. Sir, I must also tell my friends that about administered prices they have an ample opportunity of going before the Sarkaria Commission and plead their case before him.

So, Sir, for stability in prices there should be a proper atmosphere and it is the atmosphere in which if the Opposition parties feel the pinch we in the ruling party are in no way isolated from the people and we also feel the pinch. But

how to reduce this pinch is the concern of the whole House and as such, I would request my friends in the Opposition to cooperate with us as the Prime Minister has also called for their cooperation.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA (Calcutta North East) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Prof. Parashar along with the Finance Minister have asked for cooperation of the Opposition but this is no way of asking for cooperation. You are running the government. You are shaping the fiscal and monetary policies. You are controlling everything in this country as a result of which if there is price rise then you have to explain as to why the price rise has taken place. We do not have to explain. If you do not accept the alternate policy which we have been advocating then there is no question of cooperation between the Opposition and the Government. You have ignored the alternate policy which we have been advocating and having ignored that when you are confronted with the situation of rising prices then again you blame the Opposition and having blamed the Opposition you go on—as a political gimmick—asking for cooperation from the Opposition. It will not work.

Anyway, Sir, before us we have the statement of the Finance Minister regarding the price rise which to say the least smacks of smug complacency. I am sorry to say but then it should be stated that everytime when Finance Minister comes out with the statement regarding price rise he will specially select certain periods—fraction of a year or may be three, four or six months—which will suit his convenience and then go on giving statistical data in order to confirm his conclusions and say that the prices are under control.

Sir, this statement of his is also an example of this sort of inverted logic. Regarding wholesale price index let me tell you that if we compare 1983-84 prices with 1982-83 prices in the first six months of 1982-83 the rise was 4.6 per cent and in the current year the rise registered is 8.1 per cent. If we take the calendar year, that is, 1982 and 1983 you will find in the

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first threequarters in 1982 the rise was 3.9 per cent whereas in the current calendar year the rise is 10.7 per cent. Now in the first three quarters of 1983 foodgrains have registered an increase of 11 per cent. Fruits and vegetables—37.6%. Other food articles—43.7%, sugar, khaandsari and gur—32%, edible oil—16.3%, cement—17.5% and the most interesting of all is the jute industry which is ailing, with sickness and gasping. The Jute Industry of West Bengal has somehow or other managed to pick up the prices and the price rise in respect of jute textile has been, in these three quarters of the current calendar year is to the extent of 18%. Whatever the figures the Finance Minister has given in his statement, are not actually the reflection of the hard realities in the market. Take for example the spiralling prices of wheat and rice in the market. In the year 1970-71 which is taken as base year, it was 100. In 1981, so far as rice is concerned, the price was 220.8, in 1982, it was 243.2, in the current year, its price is 296.6. Now, taking the same year, that is, 1970-71 as base year, in 1981 the price of wheat was 184.8, in 1982, it was 191.3 and in 1983 it is 210.0.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): All these years, you the consumers have been exploiting the farmers and the cultivators. The farmers are now awake and you have started paying them a little more. You were enjoying at the cost of the farmers.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Prof. Ranga, you don't know the fact. Whatever the Government are paying to the farmers, it is at the price fixed by the Government. The Government has raised the issue price of rice and wheat and they are earning more than what they are paying to the farmers. This is the hard reality at the moment which you cannot face. This is one side of the picture. When actually you try to measure inflation you come to your conclusion, notwithstanding the fact that there are protests from our side. Since the present Government came to power, they always

take the whole-sale price index as the yard-stick to measure inflation. Here also, in the current year, in the present statement of the Finance Minister, this has been done. For the benefit of the Finance Minister, I will read out a few sentences from the World Bank Report which says something about measuring inflation: It says—

“In their areas however Government policies in the industrial countries marked a definite break with the past. In particular, their monetary stances became more restricted, which has helped bringing inflation down sharply, Having risen 10.6% in 1980, consumer prices (measured by the deflator for private consumption) now measured by OECD countries rose by 8.6% in 1981, by 6.8% in 1982, and at an annual rate of 6.0% in the first quarter of 1983.”

In the context of the inflation while trying to measure inflation, they are talking in terms of consumer price index. In our country, whenever the question of measuring inflation comes, they would always resort to this whole-sale prices. What is the state of affairs in the consumer price index? What is the actual state of affairs in the market? Now, I had been to a Delhi market—Sarojini Nagar market—and there I came to know that onion was selling at Rs. 4, not Rs. 8 per kilogram, potatoes Rs. 3.0 per kilogram, cauliflower at Rs. 3 per Kg. Mooli—Rs. 4 per kg.; tomatoes—Rs. 6 per kg., peas—Rs. 12 per kg.; brinjal—Rs. 4 per kg.; mustered oil—Rs. 20 per kg.; Dalda—Rs. 69.70 for 4 kgs.; Coconut oil—Rs. 30 per kg.; and til oil—Rs. 20 per kg. These are today's market prices as I have collected them from the Sarojini Nagar market.

Let us now go to the consumer price index. I would only invite the attention of the Finance Minister to one feature. In the current calendar year from January to August, the price index rose by 59 points. Excepting when our inflation rate was as high as 28% in the year 1974, it

never happened earlier in this country. In January 1983, the consumer price index with 1960 as the base year was 495, and according to the latest figures available for the month of September, it is 554. That means that in a matter of 9 months, the all-India consumer price index with the 1960 as the base year has registered an increase of 59 points. It had never happened in the past. This being the position today, one can easily understand the seriousness of the price situation. Today, the entire country, specially the weaker sections of our society, are groaning under the crushing burden of price rise. What is the Government doing about it? What are the reasons for this? Even the Finance Minister in his statement has not denied the fact that the price rise has become an endemic feature and is also causing anxiety. What are the reasons for this?

Now, we are constantly raising the administered prices of different commodities. Take for example the petroleum and petroleum products. Between 1982 and 1983 you have raised the price of petrol and petroleum products four times. By petrol and petroleum products we mean 24 sub-groups beginning from petrol, diesel oil, kerosene right upto drugs and other pharmaceutical products. In the last three years having increased the price four times, you have levied an additional burden on the people to the extent of Rs. 5500 crores; it is only in a matter of two and a half years or three years. This means that the price of petrol, diesel oil, kerosene and all other products has gone up tremendously.

Then cement. If you take 1970-71 as the base year, in March 1982 it stood at 366 in terms of index number; in March 1983, it was 400.

Let us take fertilizers. On 8-6-1980, the Government increased the price of fertilizer by 38%. Again on 11-7-81, they increased it by 17.5%, and then very magnanimously, the Finance Minister reduced the prices by 7-1/2% the other day. All the same between 1980 and 1983, the fertilizer prices went up by 48%.

Then we come to railways headed by Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan Choudhuri. I am not talking of passenger fares; let them groan under the burden of the increasing fares. In 1980-81, the freight charges were increased by Rs. 130.91 crores; in 1981-82, these were increased by Rs. 286.22 crores; and in 1982-83 by Rs. 88.55 crores; in 1983-84, the freight charges were increased by Rs. 310 crores. All told, between 1980 and 1983, additional freight charges levied were to the tune of Rs. 815.98 crores. What do you expect? If after these increases, the prices do not increase, then we must be living in a fool's paradise.

Now, the second cause for this is excise duty. In 1950 the people of this country were paying excise duty to the tune of Rs. 62 crores only. In this year's budget, the people will be obliged to pay more than Rs. 9000 crores as excise duty. If for every necessity of daily life, each year the excise duty goes on increasing, it is but natural that the prices will go up. The situation has come to such a pass. I do not know, whether you are aware, and the Members are aware that in the year 1982-83, even the revised estimates for excise duty could not be collected. It has happened for the first time in the budgetary history of the Government of India. The excise duty which was to be collected according to the budget, which was subsequently revised, fell short of collection. The excise duty has become so much that the people are not in a position to purchase. They cannot afford to purchase; they do not have the purchasing capacity.

Then, I come to the deficit financing. Everybody knows about it and I am not going into that. When we resort to deficit financing to such a huge extent, it leads to inflation, and inflation means price rise.

Now, there is no restriction on the profit of monopoly houses. Let us see what is happening in this country. I happen to be the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, and you should not think that I am quoting from any

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document of the Public Accounts Committee. Just six months ago, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has brought out his audit report. In one of the audit reports, which can be purchased by paying Rs. 3.50 or so, and which concerns incometax department, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has brought out that in this country of seventy crores of people, there are only nine hundred individuals, who have shown in their incometax returns that their annual income is Rs. five lakhs or more. That means that in this country, we have only nine hundred people whose annual income is Rs. five lakhs or more. Can you believe it? Is it not going on under the very nose of the Government of India and the Minister of Finance, and is it expected that they do not know about it. I think, the Finance Minister may be hearing it perhaps for the first time from me.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes made an enquiry into the reasons as to why the actual collection of wealthtax from the monopoly houses is dwindling. To their utter amazement they found out that whatever wealth tax the Birlas paid in the year 1957 on the basis of returns shown as Rs. 57 crores of rupees, in the year 1982-83, Rs. 57 crores came down to Rs. 12 crores. How is it possible? They also found out that these gentlemen have created hundreds of trusts and shiphoned out all the money in their trusts with the result that they are saying to the authorities concerned in their tax returns that their personal wealth has gone down, and because of that the wealth tax has gone down, and these people are becoming poorer and poorer and they cannot pay. These are the ways in which black-money generated. And through this black-money a parallel economy has been created in this country; and through this parallel economy a very severe pressure is put in the entire economy with the result that you cannot control the prices.

Now, Sir, what is the remedy? Prof. Parashar was saying the Opposition does not come out with any concrete sugges-

tion. So, Sir, our number one concrete suggestion is that at least you select fourteen commodities of daily use which are used by the common people, say rice, wheat, pulses, edible oil, soap, cloth or something like that; fix their prices which would be within the purchasing capacity of the people and which should be sold throughout the country at the same price. Let the Government take the responsibility of procuring these fourteen items and supplying them to the respective State Governments. Already they have stated in answer to the question that we have got two lakh nintythree thousand Fair Price Shops in our country. If that is correct that you have a chain of public distribution system, then you can sell these goods through the public distribution system of at least two lakh 93 thousand fair price shops.

Sir, just to give you an example, are you aware Mr. Mukherjee that the much maligned, much vilified, much abused, much denigrated State, the State of West Bengal is the cheapest State in our country.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): As if you are doing it and we are not doing it.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: What does the Finance Minister say here? He misses no opportunity to fire a salvo against the Left Front Government whenever it is there. You go through the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin Consumer Price Index. You will find that Calcutta City out of all the matropolitan cities in this country is the cheapest city. It is not our observation. It is the observation of the Reserve Bank of India.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: That is because of our policy.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Let me tell you Mr. Ranga according to the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin and the statistical figures published in the form of Consumer Price Index West Bengal is the cheapest State in the whole of the Indian Union.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Thanks to the 21-point programme.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : We have got 36-point programme. We are running administration not on the basis of 21-point programme.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : It is the cheapest State without any production.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : Therefore, through the public distribution system you can really send these essential commodities to the people. Then only you can have some control on the prices. But then notwithstanding the fact that in this country you are having two lakh ninetythree thousand Fair Price Shops, the condition of overwhelming majority of the shops is so deplorable, because you are not sending them either rice or wheat or kerosene or anything that the ordinary people want. For example, I take the example of Kerala. Kerala needs two lakh tonnes of rice a month. It is not a question whether we are having a government there or you are having a Government there. It is your government there. And instead of two lakh tonnes of rice to Kerala, you are sending not more than one lakh tonnes of rice. So, how do you expect the Kerala Government to run the public distribution system? Therefore, when you say that the Opposition does have any suggestions to offer, we are giving you the suggestion that you sell these essential items through the public distribution system. Send rice, wheat and other essential commodities to the State Governments, which will sell them through the public distribution system. But you are not sending even these things. Tripura is burning. They say send ten thousand tonnes of rice, but you are not supplying this amount to them. It is not the question whether Tripura or Kerala are ruled by the Congress (I) or by the non-Congress (I) Government. It is the same fate in respect of almost all the States. Therefore, I say, if you approach the problem really for a solution, the only solution can be through this public distribution system and by fixing the price of these fourteen essential commodities. Lastly : Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, while

speaking, said that a peculiar phenomenon, as prevailing in this country, viz. production was increasing on the one hand ; and on the other prices were also increasing.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Population is also increasing.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : But Prof. Ranga, you should remember that increase in production is slightly more than what the population increase is.

But Dr. Swamy also said that he had not found it anywhere else in the world. Here, he is incorrect. In the capitalist countries of the world, both production and prices are increasing. This is the peculiar phenomenon in all the capitalist countries in the world, including the country for which he has got a special word of praise, viz. the United State of America. There, and in our country also, this phenomenon is found. Your theory of demand and supply determining prices no longer holds good. It has been blasted.

I was a Communist ; I am a Communist, and I will be a Communist. From my point of view, this is because there is a complete marriage of monopoly capital with the State. The former is completely controlling the State. And so, whenever they want, they know how to increase or decrease the prices. It depends on the monopoly capital. The State is completely controlled by monopoly capitalists. So, in all capitalist countries, monopoly capital is influencing prices. Our country cannot be an exception, because our country is also on the path of capitalist development, due to which our economy is in doldrums. No amount of patchwork is going to help in bringing down prices. Only a radical departure from the economic policy will help.

As far as the socialist countries are concerned, the prices of essential commodities have remained constant there for the last 30 years. This is the difference between capitalist economy and the

[Shri Sunil Maitra]

socialist economy. So long as we proceed on the path of capitalist development, we will remain within the capitalist framework. This will be the fate. Even then within the present framework, the fixing of prices of 14 essential commodities and supplying them to the States for distribution through public distribution system can mitigate the sufferings of the people, and keep some sort of a control over the price situation.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI
(Bhubaneswar): I was reminded of the great English poet Robert Frost who wrote :

“Two ways lead into the woods; And
I took the road less travelled by.
And that makes all the difference.”

Here is a case where our country has accepted the second road, namely, it is travelling by the less travelled road. There are countries in the world which have accepted democracy ; and there are those which have not accepted democracy but have accepted socialism. But it is only our country which has taken a very difficult road, viz. having both democracy and socialism. Our country is unique in this respect.

When we discuss the question of price rise, we must be very practical. If we take a look at the question of price rise through a looking glass having an ideological tint, it may not help us because we are treading a different path.

I now quote from what the Finance Minister had said. I hope Mr. Sunil Maitra would have read at least this portion of his speech. He said :

It says on page 3 of the statement as follows :

“However, as I have so often said in this House, the behaviour of prices in our country is a complex

matter and requires continuous and close monitoring and surveillance.”

I think that in that one sentence the Finance Minister has summarised the actual conditions that are prevailing in the country. Therefore, he needs the cooperation of all the opposition parties in the House for solving such a complex problem. Therefore, I say that the statement of the Finance Minister gives a very practical assessment of present price situation.

I was happy when Prof. Ranga pointed out that we had given more to the farmers during the last three years that farmers could not get any time before. We have increased the prices of foodgrains; we have increased the prices of rice which could not be increased; and the farmers have been benefited; we have increased the prices of wheat and the farmers have been benefited. Now a question was asked : because you are increasing this price, byfixing the issue price you are taking more from the farmers than you are giving. This has no economic relevance; this is irrelevant to the rise in prices that we given to the farmers. I hope all this needs to be looked into.

It was said that the hon. Finance Minister had given price rise picture taking into account only three or four months. But the Finance Minister has made it very clear that he has taken the whole period. Taking the financial year as a whole the increase in prices upto July 30, 1983, has been 6.5 per cent as against 5.8 per cent last year (1983), 6.7 per cent in 1981-82, 12.2 per cent in 1980-81 and 12.8 per cent in 1979-80. Therefore, he has given the whole background of the last four years comparing the present price rise, so far as the recent statement is concerned. Therefore, it is completely incorrect to say that the Finance Minister has quoted the prices of a particular period when they were low. He has given the position of price rise for four years.

As regards administered price, it is known in this country to any economists

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

production has reached up to 142 million, I think the prices will still come down within some days. They may still come down further. The monetary measures that the Government has taken by taking away the liquidity from the banking system and to control the speculative trends in trade is welcome. But Government should see to it that farmers are not compelled to sell foodgrains to middlemen at the lowest prices. Those speculative trends also have to be guarded against so that they do not affect the prices. This is the time when the businessmen go to the market and try to buy the foodgrains. The Food Corporation of India does not have the capital to purchase the foodgrains, and the Government has also stated that there should be no distress sales. The state Governments have also said that there should not be distress sales. I was surprised to hear Shri Sunil Maitra saying that Calcutta is the cheapest city. We will soon be going to Calcutta, in December. We can see it then. But even now the price of mustard oil has gone up to Rs. 25/- at Calcutta whereas the price at Delhi is Rs. 20/-. From this itself we can see whether Calcutta is the cheapest city or whether it is cheaper than Delhi. You can yourself understand. Therefore, I must caution the hon. Minister, as he has given a very practical assessment, on this question of rise in prices, that we are in a difficult situation, and those forces which are trying their best to see that the prices go on rising are still active. But they are under control because of various measures taken by the Government. Still there are some forces which are uncontrollable. That is why, perhaps, the hon. Minister in the last two sentences of his statement, said mildly that everybody should cooperate with the Government in curbing inflation.

I support the measures taken by the Government in the last three-four years in giving more price to the farmers so that they can get reasonable price for their produce. Still I much request the hon. Minister that besides whatever measures he has been continuing to take during the last 3/4 years to bring down

inflation from 21 per cent to 8 per cent, he must continue to exercise more vigilance on the price front so that in another 3/4 months we shall be able to give a very reasonable and good price to the consumers.

Today we have the best distribution system in the country. Mr. Maitra has claimed that their Government is giving very good rice in the distribution system. From where are they getting that rice? That good rice is being supplied by the Centre. Taking everything from the Centre and then saying that we are doing very well in the distribution system is not good. This year there is going to be a bumper crop. Let them procure their own rice and feed the distribution system without depending upon the Centre. Only then it will go to their credit.

In the end, I fully support the measures the Government has taken in controlling the prices.

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह (फिरोजाबाद) : सभापति महोदय, सरकार के रवैये और वित्त मंत्री के बयान को देख कर याद आता है कि जब आंधी आती है और उसको देख कर कोई अपनी आंखें बंद करके मिट्टी में सिर छिपा ले, तो आंधी रुक नहीं जाएगी — आंधी तो आएगी ही। आंधी तो दिखाई दे रही है, लेकिन वित्त मंत्री अपने आप को आंकड़ों में छिपा कर उससे बचने को कोशिश कर रहे हैं।

वित्त मंत्री ने अपने जवाब बयान में कहा है कि इनफ्लेशन का एनुअल रेट 29 अक्टूबर को 8.8 परसेंट था, जबकि 30 जुलाई, 1983 को वह 6.9 परसेंट और फिनांशल यीअर के प्रारंभ में 6.5 परसेंट था।

15.03 hrs.

[SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI in the chair]

1982 में मुद्रा-स्फीति 12.7 परसेंट तक

सीमित रह गई थी। अब उसमें कुछ बढ़ो-
तरी हुई है। अगर उसमें बढ़ोतरी नहीं हुई
है, तो आश्चर्य होता है कि कीमतें कैसे बढ़
गई हैं। अप्रैल से लेकर महंगाई 1.4
प्रतिशत की दर से बढ़ी और 16.8 प्रतिशत
तक पहुंच गई है। यह 2.4 प्रतिशत प्रति-
मास की दर से बढ़ रही है और साल के
अंत तक 28.8 प्रतिशत तक पहुंच जाएगी।
खाद्यानों के मूल्य में 3.5 प्रतिशत, दालों के
मूल्य में 14 प्रतिशत, चावल के मूल्य में 14
प्रतिशत, गेहूं के मूल्य में 11 प्रतिशत और
अरहर के मूल्य में 19.53 प्रतिशत बढ़ोतरी
हुई है। कल परसों सदन में बाजरे के बारे
में चर्चा हुई है, लेकिन वित्त मंत्री ने इस
बात का उल्लेख नहीं किया कि उसके मूल्य
में कितनी बढ़ोतरी हुई है। मैं अर्थ-शास्त्री
नहीं हूं। लोग आंकड़ों की भूल-भुलैया में
पड़ जाते हैं। मेरे जैसा साधारण
आदमी यह सोचता है कि ढाई
रु० के० जी० इस साल के प्रारम्भ में
अच्छा साफ किए हुए गेहूं का आटा उपलब्ध
हो जाता था, आज वह कितने में उपलब्ध
हो रहा है ?

एक माननीय सदस्य : अब है ही नहीं।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : जैसा माननीय
सदस्य कह रहे हैं, है ही नहीं। चार के०
जी० रिफाइन्ड ग्राउन्ड नट आयल का
डिब्बा 85 रु० में आता था, आज वह
करीब 100 रु० का है। एक परिवार की
गृहिणी को आज खाना पकाने वाले तेल पर
20 रुपये प्रति माह अधिक खर्च करना
पड़ता है। आप कहेंगे यह कोई बढ़ोतरी
नहीं हुई। यह बढ़ोतरी बड़े लोगों के लिए
नहीं हुई है, मामूली श्रेणी के लोगों के लिए
हुई है।

दिल्ली मिल्क स्कीम का दूध देखें, 90

पैसे में हाफ लीटर की बोतल आती थी।
आज वह 1 रुपया 35 पैसे की आती है।
अगर किसी परिवार में चार बोतल दूध
आता था तो 1 रुपया 80 पैसे प्रतिदिन या
54 रुपये महीने का खर्च इस के ऊपर बढ़
गया और आप कह रहे हैं कि महंगाई नों
बढ़ी है। लेकिन महंगाई तो बढ़ रही है। इस
बात को आप स्वीकार करेंगे। इसी तरह
देखें टायलेट के सामानों पर 10 से 20 रु०
महीने की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। सारा मिलाकर
देखें तो एक मामूली परिवार के खर्च में 150
रुपये से लेकर 200 रुपये महीने तक वृद्धि
हुई है। इतना बढ़ने उसका बढ़ गया है।
केंद्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को तो आप
महंगाई भत्ता दे कर संतुष्ट कर देते हैं
लेकिन ग्राम आदमी को तो कोई महंगाई
भत्ता नहीं मिलता।...

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : महंगाई भत्ते
से और महंगाई बढ़ती है।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : इस प्रकार की
स्थिति है।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा। वेजी-
टेबल के बारे में मेरे दोस्तों ने बताया।
यहाँ के एग्जीक्यूटिव काँसलर ने कहा कि
प्याज वह ढाई रुपये के० जी० उपलब्ध
कराएंगे लेकिन अब वह कह रहे हैं कि प्याज
कहीं से उपलब्ध नहीं हो रही है इसलिए
अब मैं वह नहीं उपलब्ध करा सकूंगा। आलू
जिसका सीजन आ गया है 3 से 4 रु० के० जी०
के बीच में है और गोभी 8 से 10 रु० के
बीच में है। टमाटर 10 रुपये के० जी०
और मटर 16 रु० के० जी० के करीब है।
हमारे इधर गोल मार्केट के इलाके में तो
उपलब्ध ही नहीं है। यह सारी जो स्थिति
है इस से आप इनकार नहीं कर सकते।

[श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह]

आप यह कह कर बच नहीं सकते कि हमने विदेशों से पैसा लिया है, इन्फ्लेशन को चेक कर दिया है और कीमतों को स्थिर बना रखा है। कोई स्टेबिलिटी कहीं दिखाई नहीं पड़ती है।

आप देखेंगे कि 66 एसैशियल कमोडिटीज में से 49 में महंगाई बढ़ी है और बड़ी तेजी के साथ बढ़ी है।

एक चीज और मजे की है कि जब किसी चीज का रेकार्ड प्रोडक्शन होता है तो आप बाजार में उसको रिलीज नहीं करते हैं। पिछले साल 82-83 में चीनी का रेकार्ड प्रोडक्शन हुआ लेकिन बाजार में वह चीनी नहीं आई और बड़े लोगों को वह उपलब्ध रही। गन्ने की चर्चा अभी कल हो रही थी गन्ना पड़ा हुआ है, मिल मालिक उसे पेर नहीं रहे हैं, किसानों को पैसा नहीं दे रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ आप यह कहेंगे कि चीनी नहीं है।

एक चर्चा और चली कि एलेक्ट्रिक पार्ट्स, कोल, स्टील एंड पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स के फ्रेट में बढ़ोतरी की वजह से इनपुट कास्ट बढ़ गई और कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस भी उस के परिणामस्वरूप बढ़ गई है क्योंकि इन चीजों का कीमतें बढ़ेंगी तो निश्चित रूप से उत्पादन पर इस का असर पड़ेगा और चीजों के दाम बढ़ेंगे। आप ने रेलवे के भाड़े में 500 करोड़ रुपये की वृद्धि कर दी और पेट्रोलियम में 800 करोड़ की वृद्धि की। अभी-अभी दस पैसे प्रति लीटर और बढ़ा दिया। अब अगर मैं अपने यहां से सब्जी या कोई और चीज किसी ट्रांसपोर्टर के द्वारा लाऊंगा तो वह ट्रांसपोर्टर जरूर कुछ पैसे बढ़ाएगा। यदि वह एक रु० बढ़ाता

है एक मन पर तो उस के ऊपर साढ़े तीन रुपये मन का भाव बढ़ जाएगा। तो सरकारी खर्च भी बहुत बढ़ रहे हैं। उस पर भी कुछ नियंत्रण करना चाहिए। नहीं तो विदेशों से आप कितना ही रुपया मंगाते रहिए, उस से कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। जब उपभोक्ता दुकान पर खरीदने के लिए जाते हैं और पूछता है कि इस चीज की कीमत क्या है तो दुकानदार कहता है कि कल तो एक रुपया था लेकिन आज डेढ़ रुपया हो गया है। उपभोक्ता पूछेगा कि भाव क्यों बढ़ गया तो वह कहेगा कि थोक का भाव बढ़ गया है। जब थोक वाले से पूछा जायेगा तो वह कहेगा कि इस देश का उत्पादन ही ऐसा है। तो सरकार का दृष्टिकोण देश में उत्पादन बढ़ाने की तरफ भी रहना चाहिए।

सवाल यह है कि उत्पादन बढ़ेगा कैसे ? आपने ज्यादा दाम देकर अमरीका से अनाज मंगा लिया, 200 करोड़ दे दिए लेकिन इस देश के किसान को आप 155 रु० क्वींटल का भाव भी नहीं देना चाहेंगे। पैदावार कैसे बढ़ेगी ? आलू जब पैदा होता है तब उसकी नेम्युरेटिव प्राइस किसान को देने का कोई तरीका ही नहीं है। उस आलू को व्यापारी सस्ते दाम पर लेकर कोल्ड-स्टोरेज में डाल देंगे तो उसके बाद उसकी कीमत बढ़ जायेगी। इसलिए यदि देश में उत्पादन की क्षमता को बढ़ाना है तो उसके लिए आवश्यक है कि किसानों को उनके द्वारा पैदा की हुई चीजों का उचित मूल्य दिया जाच। इस सरकार की गलत नीतियों के कारण ही आज लोग देहात से शहरों की तरफ भाग रहे हैं। इस पर भी आपको विचार करना होगा। काले धन की भी प्राइस राइस के सम्बन्ध में बहुत बड़ी भूमिका है। वे लोग तो 16 रुपए किलो की मटर खा

सकते हैं लेकिन दो-तीन सौ रुपये महीना कमाने वाला नहीं खा सकता है ।

जहां तक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की बात है, आपका साढ़े तीन लाख फेयर प्राइस शापस खोलने का टारगेट था जिसमें से 2 लाख 60 हजार आपने खोल दी हैं, लेकिन आपकी जो डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन प्रणाली है उसमें बहुत गड़बड़ी है । गलत लोगों को यह दुकानें एलाट कर दी जाती हैं । नार्थ एवेन्यु में जहां से हम लोग सामान लेते हैं, वहां का दुकानदार कभो कहता है कि चावल नहीं, कभो कहता है कि चीनी नहीं है । जब यहां पर यह स्थिति है तो आप अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं कि गांवों में जो फेयर प्राइस शापस खुली हैं उनकी क्या स्थिति होगी । इनमें जो भ्रष्टाचार है उसको आप जब तक नियंत्रित नहीं करेंगे तब तक आपका डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम खराब ही रहेगा । यदि आपकी दुकानें कम हों तो आपको मोबाइल बैन्स चलानी चाहिए और उनके द्वारा इंटीरियर में सामान पहुंचाना चाहिए ।

इन सब बातों के द्वारा आप मूल्यों पर नियंत्रण रख सकते हैं । यदि आप यह सोचते हैं कि विदेशों से पैसा आयेगा तो आप मूल्यों को नियंत्रित कर सकेंगे, यह सही नहीं है । आप देश में उत्पादन क्षमता को बढ़ाइये और भ्रष्टाचार को रोकिए, काला बाजारियों पर नियंत्रण कीजिए तथा किसानों को उनकी पैदावार का उचित मूल्य दीजिए ।

श्री राम सिंह यादव (अलवर) : माननीय सभापति जी, वस्तुओं की कीमतों के विषय में जो चर्चा की जा रही है वह राष्ट्र के लिए महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है । किसी भी राष्ट्र की कीमत-सूची उसकी आर्थिक

नीति से अभिन्न सम्बन्ध रखती है । वस्तुओं के मूल्यों का निर्धारण केवल एकपक्षीय न होकर बहुपक्षीय है, समाज के विभिन्न कार्यों से उसका सम्बन्ध है जहाँ एक ओर उत्पादक हैं, बीच में मार्केटिंग एजेंसी है तो दूसरी ओर उपभोक्ता हैं । इन तीनों का जब तक समन्वय नहीं होगा, तीनों पर जब तक सरकार का नियंत्रण नहीं होगा तब तक सही रूप में मूल्यों का निर्धारण नहीं हो सकेगा । देखना है कि आज सरकार इन तीनों एजेंसीज—उत्पादक, उपभोक्ता और मार्केटिंग एजेंसीज पर क्या सही नियंत्रण रखने में सक्षम रही है ? मैं कहूंगा—जितने भी विकासशील देश हैं, यदि आप उन विकासशील देशों की आर्थिक प्रगति का जायजा लें तो हिन्दुस्तान ही केवल एक ऐसा देश है, जिसमें उत्पादकता, उपभोक्ता और मार्केटिंग एजेंसीज में समन्वय है, एक सम्बन्ध है और उनके ऊपर नियंत्रण करने में सरकार को पूरी सफलता प्राप्त हुई है ।

मान्यवर, विरोधी पक्ष से आने वाले मान्य सदस्य जब खाद्यान्न के कीमत की बात करते हैं तो आप एग्रीकल्चर प्राइस और दूसरी बातों को लेकर चलते हैं, लेकिन उपभोक्ता आपकी दृष्टि से बिल्कुल ओझल हो जाता है । आज जब प्राइस राइज की चर्चा हो रही है तो आप केवल उपभोक्ता को देखते हैं उत्पादकता को बिल्कुल भूल जाते हैं, और दूसरी जो डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन एजेंसीज हैं या मार्केटिंग एजेंसीज हैं, उनका भी ध्यान नहीं करते हैं । किसी भी वस्तु के उत्पादन में जहाँ एक ओर मेटेरियल कम्पानेंट है, लेबर कम्पानेंट है, कैपिटल इन्वेस्टमेंट है, मार्केटिंग एजेंसीज हैं, टेक्सेशन चाहे एक्साइज ड्यूटी हो या सेल्स टैक्स या लोकल सेल्स टैक्स—इन सब को लेकर ही वस्तु का मूल्य

[श्री राम सिंह यादव]

तय किया जाता है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि जब केंद्रीय सरकार ने एक निर्णय किया और एक प्रस्ताव राज्य सरकारों के सामने रखा कि हम सेल्स टैक्स को समाप्त करना चाहते हैं, टैक्स को कम करने से किसी भी वस्तु की कीमत को कम करने में सहायता मिलती है, तो उसका विरोध किया गया। अभी सी० पी० आई० एम० के एक माननीय सदस्य, जो कलकत्ता के बारे में बहुत लम्बी-चौड़ी बात कह रहे थे, से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब केन्द्रीय सरकार ने सेल्स टैक्स को समाप्त करने का प्रस्ताव अभी कुछ दिनों पहले मुख्य मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में रखा तो उसका सबसे अधिक विरोध वैस्ट बंगाल के मुख्य मंत्री द्वारा क्यों किया गया? उसमें कर्नाटक के मुख्य मंत्री, काश्मीर के मुख्य मंत्री, तमिलनाडु के मुख्य मंत्री, जो कांग्रेस-आई विरोधी मुख्य मंत्री थे, वे इसके विपक्ष में बोल रहे थे कि सेल्स टैक्स समाप्त नहीं होना चाहिए। इस प्रकार क्या आप यह समझते हैं कि यदि आप टैक्सों पर नियंत्रण नहीं करेंगे और सेल्स टैक्स अपनी गर्जों से 11 प्रतिशत से 15 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ाते जायें, तो इससे वस्तु का मूल्य नहीं बढ़ेगा? केंद्र सरकार उस पर नियंत्रण करना चाहती है, उस पर सहयोग नहीं देना चाहते हैं और कहते हैं कि सेल्स टैक्स खत्म नहीं होना चाहिए। सेल्स टैक्स खत्म नहीं होना चाहिए, इस पर वैस्ट बंगाल के मुख्य मंत्री कहते हैं कि यह अपने आप में एक पोलिटिकल कारण है, इसका कोई इकानामिक कारण नहीं है। इकानामिक कारण की जो वे आड़ लेते हैं, वह एक बनावटी आड़ है। वरना केंद्रीय सरकार कहती है कि सेल्स टैक्स में जितना पैसा आपको मिलता है, उतना हम आपको

रिइम्बर्स करने के लिए तैयार है, तो फिर कोई कारण नहीं है कि वे सेल्स टैक्स को समाप्त करने के लिए तैयार न हो जायें। लेकिन सेल्स टैक्स इसलिए वे समाप्त नहीं करना चाहते हैं, क्योंकि जो वहाँ के व्यापारिक प्रतिष्ठान हैं, औद्योगिक प्रतिष्ठान हैं, वहाँ की जो मार्केटिंग एजेंसीज हैं, उनके ऊपर उनका राजनीतिक नियंत्रण समाप्त हो जाएगा, वे उनके ऊपर अपने तरह का प्रभाव डालना चाहते हैं और अपना अंकुश लगाना चाहते हैं। उस अंकुश को समाप्त न करने के लिए वे सेल्स टैक्स के एबोलिशन का विरोध करते हैं। इसका कोई फाइनें-शियल कारण नहीं है। इसका कोई वित्तीय कारण नहीं है। यह केवल राजनीतिक कारणों से प्रेरित है। जैसा कि सी० पी० आई०—एम० के माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि कीमतों में कमी करनी चाहिए, जब माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने कीमतों में कमी करने का प्रस्ताव रखा, तो आपने, आपके दल ने और आपके मुख्य मंत्री ने उसका विरोध किया। इससे अधिक कोई और शर्म की बात नहीं है।

माननीय सभापति जी, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि अभी माननीय सदस्य सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी और दूसरे माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा जनता पार्टी की सरकार ने कीमतों को बहुत गिराया, उस समय कीमतें कम थीं और आज कीमतें अधिक है, तो क्या उस वक्त आपने उत्पादक श्रमिक और उपभोक्ता व मार्केटिंग एजेंसीज के बीच में कोई समन्वय कायम किया था? जनता पार्टी की सरकार के जमाने में गन्ना उत्पादकों को उनकी पूरी कीमत न मिलने की वजह से उन्होंने गन्ने के खड़े खेतों को जला दिया था। क्यों जला दिया था? इस लिये कि जनता पार्टी की आर्थिक नीति गलत थी और यही

कारण था— आप ने देखा होगा— जिस समय जनता पार्टी सरकार के पैर टूट रहे थे, जब वह गिर रही थी उस समय चीनी की कीमत कितनी अधिक हो गई थी। इन सब का कारण उस सरकार की गलत नीतियां थीं। जब तक उत्पादक श्रमिक और उपभोक्ता में समन्वय कायम नहीं करेंगे तब तक कोई आर्थिक नीति सही नीति नहीं हो सकती।

आप ने कहा सीमेंट की कीमत बढ़ी है, पेट्रोलियम प्राइवटस की कीमतें अधिक हुई हैं। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य को मालूम होना चाहिए, जनता पार्टी ने कितना फारन-एक्सचेंज इन चीजों को बाहर से मंगाने पर खर्च किया था? वह फारन-एक्सचेंज किस ने इकट्ठा किया था? वह फारन-एक्सचेंज कांग्रेस सरकार ने 1977 तक केन्द्रीय खजाने में इकट्ठा किया था, लेकिन उस सारे फारन-एक्सचेंज को फिजूलखर्ची में बरबाद करने की जिम्मेदारी जनता पार्टी की सरकार थी। उस समय जनता पार्टी की सरकार ने उन वस्तुओं को जो देश में बहुत अधिक तादाद में पैदा की जा रही थी और आगे भी की जा सकती थी, उन को बाहर से आयात करने पर उस बहुमूल्य फारन-एक्सचेंज को खर्च कर दिया। आप ने सीमेंट मंगाया, फर्टिलाइजर मंगाया, जिन को हिन्दुस्तान में बहुत ज्यादा तादाद में पैदा किया जा सकता था यही कारण है कि हमारी सरकार ने छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना में सीमेंट के अधिक से अधिक प्लांट्स देश में लगाये, देश में अधिक से अधिक औद्योगिकरण की नीति को चलाया जिस से हम जनता को रोजगार भी दे सकें, साथ ही उपभोक्ताओं को वे वस्तुयें भी प्राप्त हों और यह वही

सफल नीति है जिस के कारण सीमेंट पर खर्च होने वाले फारन एक्सचेंज को बचा सके।

सभापति जी, विरोध पक्ष के माननीय सदस्य आज यह दलील दे रहे हैं कि कीमतें ऊंची जा रही हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ— कपड़े के संबंध में अभी झाल में भारत सरकार ने 13 कपड़ा मिलों का अधिग्रहण किया, उन मिलों को "सिक" करने का उत्तरदायित्व किस का था? किस ने उन मिलों को नहीं चलने दिया? इंक वहां पर काम नहीं कर रही थी। वे कौन लोग थे जो मजदूरों को भड़काने का काम कर रहे थे, जिन्होंने उन मजदूरों के घरों में उस सेलरी को नहीं जाने दिया? ये विरोध पक्ष में बैठने वाले लोग थे। आज बम्बई से आने वाले माननीय सदस्य प्रो० दण्डवते यहां मौजूद नहीं हैं, जो रोजाना उस लेबर लीडर की, जो उस हड़ताल के लिए जिम्मेदार था, वकालत करते थे। उस हड़ताल का परिणाम निकला कि वे मिलें बन्द रहीं और ग्राम ग्रामों को लेवी-बलाथ मिलता था वह मिलना बंद हो गया। देश में कपड़े का अभाव को पैदा करने का श्रेय हमारे इन विरोध पक्ष के लोगों को है। हमारी सरकार ने आज उन मिलों को अपने हाथ में ले कर केंद्रीय सरकार के खजाने का पैसा खर्च करके उन मिलों को चलाने का प्रयास किया है, जिस से लेबर को काम मिलेगा और उपभोक्ताओं को कपड़ा मिलेगा। हो सकता है एक साल तक कुछ कीमतें ज्यादा लगानी पड़ें या कुछ कीमतें बढ़ भी सकती हैं लेकिन इस का यह मतलब नहीं है कि सरकार ने कोई फिजूलखर्ची की है या गलत तरीके से काम किया गया है।

अन्त में मैं यही निवेदन करना चाहता

[श्री राम सिंह यादव]

हूँ—माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने इस संबंध में जो कदम उठाए हैं, विशेष रूप से रिजर्व बैंक ने जो कौश-रेशो बढ़ाया है, 7.5 परसेंट किया है, वह अपने आप में एक बहुत अच्छी नीति है और इस तरह से हम ने अपनी आर्थिक नीति को सुदृढ़ किया है और मुझे आशा है कि भविष्य में भी वित्त मंत्री जी इसी तरह के सक्रिय कदम उठायेंगे। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं वित्त मंत्री जी की आर्थिक नीति का तहेदिल से समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद वर्मा (कोडरमा) : सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी का आज का वक्तव्य देखने को मिला है उस से तो ऐसा लगता है कि जो अभी खरीफ की 1420 लाख मीट्रिक टन की फसल पैदा होने की सम्भावना है—वे कुछ ऐसी भविष्यवाणी कर रहे हैं कि जो होल-सेल प्राइस इंडेक्स है, और कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस इंडेक्स है, दोनों के आंकड़े हमारे पास हैं, लेकिन मैं इस समय उन को कोट नहीं करना चाहता हूँ, इन आंकड़ों के जंगल में घूमने से यह लगता है कि जनता और बाजार में घूमते हैं तो दोनों में भयंकर खाई दिखाई देती है। मंहगाई इतनी बढ़ गई है कि लगता है—सुरसा की तरह बदन बढ़ाती जा रही है। करोड़ों गरीब, जो गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे हैं, असंगठित क्षेत्रों में काम करने वाले हैं, जो मजदूर वर्ग के लोग हैं, वे सभी इस मंहगाई रूपी सुरसा के मुँह में घुसते चले जा रहे हैं। सरकार ने इस दिशा में जो अभी तक कार्यवाही की है, उसे नाकाफी ही कहा जा सकता है। या सरकार की असफलता ही कहा जा सकता है पिछले अगस्त के महीने में मंत्री जी ने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया था और अभी जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है, उन को देखने से तो ऐ-

लगता है कि अच्छी स्थिति है और बड़ी खुशी की बात है और दामों में गिरावट और कमी की संभावना है। इन सब से ऐसा लगता है कि हमारे देश में अब दूध की नदियाँ बहने लगेंगी और लोग खुशहाल हो जाएंगे और लोगों पर मंहगाई का कोई असर नहीं होगा लेकिन ऐसी बात नहीं है। बाजार में जब हम जाते हैं तो वहाँ पर स्थिति दूसरी ही दिखाई देती है और मैं आंकड़े इस समय नहीं देना चाहता लेकिन यह जो मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि जनता सरकार के समय की मूल्य स्थिति को देखा जाए, तो उस समय जो 20 प्रतिशत इन्फ्लेशन था, वह अब घट कर 7 प्रतिशत पर आ गया है। यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि इतना कम आप ने कर दिया। कहां 20 प्रतिशत और कहां 7 प्रतिशत? लेकिन जनता रिजिम में बाजार में चीजों के भावों को आप देखें, तो दूसरी ही चीज दिखाई देगी। जनता रिजिम में जहाँ सस्ती दर की दुकानों से चीनी का मूल्य 2 रु० 35 पैसे था और खुले बाजार में 3 रु० से ज्यादा वह नहीं बिकती थी, वहाँ अब उस का भाव 6 और साढ़े 6 रु० प्रति किलो है। इसी तरह से उस वक्त जबकि सीमेंट 27 रु० बोरी मिल रहा था, वह सीमेंट अब 65 रु० बोरी मिल रहा है सरकारी मूल्य पर और 150 रु० ब्लैक का मूल्य चलता है। उसी तरह से अगर आप दालों के भावों को देखें तो जनता सरकार के जमाने में जहाँ सभी दालें साढ़े तीन रु० प्रति किलो मिलती थी—थोड़ा बहुत अन्तर विभिन्न किस्मों को दालों के भावों में हो सकता है—वहाँ पर आज 8 रु० से लेकर 10 रु० प्रति किलो मिल रही है। प्याज जो कि जनता सरकार के जमाने में किसी समय एक्सपोर्ट होने के कारण 5 रु० किलो बिकी थी, वही प्याज आज भी

5 रु० किलो बिक रही है। इस प्रकार से आप देखें कि जितनी भी ग्राम जनता के उपभोग की चीजें हैं, उन के मूल्य आज आसमान छू रहे हैं और सरकार उन पर नियंत्रण नहीं कर पा रही है। आलू भी आज बहुत मंहगा मिल रहा है, पालक 2 रु० किलो, अदरक 8 रु० किलो बिक रहा हैं। वेजीटेबिल आयल, उसमें गाय और सुअर की चरबी मिलने की वजह से, के दामों में थोड़ा अंतर जरूर पड़ा है क्योंकि उस की खपत नहीं है लेकिन सरसों का तेल 20 रु० प्रति किलो और रिफाईंड आयल का दाम 23 रु० प्रति किलो आज है। इस तरह से हर वह चीज जो कि जीवनोपयोगी है और आवश्यक वस्तुएं हैं, उन के मूल्य आज दुगने और तीन गुने हो गये हैं। मंत्री जी ने स्टेटमेंट दिया है वह देखने में बहुत अच्छा लगता है और रिजर्व बैंक की रिपोर्ट भी हमारे पास है और उसके अनुसार भी दामों में गिरावट दिखाई पड़ रही है। 1977, 1978 और 1979 में जो दाम अपनी पराकाष्ठा पर थे इन के अनुसार वे गिराने लग गये हैं लेकिन अगर कोई ईमानदारी से अपने दिल पर हाथ रख कर सोचे और गरीबी रेखा से नीचे वाले लोगों तथा दूसरी गरीब जनता की कठिनाइयों को हृदयगम करके बात करे, तो ये जो आंकड़े हैं, ये झूठे साबित हो जाएंगे। अर्थशास्त्री पता नहीं कहां बैठ कर कागजों में घुसकर ऐसे आंकड़े दे देते हैं लेकिन वे जमीन पर रह कर बात नहीं करते। वे इस दिशा में एक व्यवहारिक दृष्टिकोण लेकर बात नहीं करते।

आज हर चीज में चोरबाजारी है: ब्लैक मार्केटिंग है। इस के लिए सरकार दोषी है। हर चीज में चोरी और ब्लैक-मार्केटिंग की

पैरेनल गवर्नमेंट चल रही है। सरकार की अपनी अलग पालीसी है और ब्लैक-मार्केटिंग और जमाखोरों की अपनी एक अलग राजनीति चल रही है और स्थिति ऐसी बेकाबू हो गई है कि सरकार इस पर नियंत्रण नहीं कर सकती। जब तक मूल्यों में गिरावट नहीं होगी, तब तक जनता का कल्याण नहीं हो सकता। मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि अगस्त 1983 के महीने में थोक मूल्य के सूचकांक में 1.4 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है, सितम्बर में मूल्य सूचकांक के स्तर में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ और अक्टूबर में वह कुछ और गिर कर 0.3 प्रतिशत हो गया। इतनी गिरावट उस में आ गई। इससे लगता है कि गिरता चला जा रहा है, लेकिन बाजार में स्थिति दूसरी है। इन सब कारणों के पीछे क्या है। स्टेटमेंट बराबर देते रहते हैं। सरकारी व्यवस्था में बहुत कमी है। व्यवस्था को ठीक करने की जरूरत है। इसको नए परिप्रेक्ष्य में ढालने की आवश्यकता है। भ्रष्टाचार समाप्त करने की आवश्यकता है। लेकिन लगता है सरकार में भ्रष्टाचार को प्रोत्साहन दिया जा रहा है। दूध राजनीति और दूध पालिसी के अंतर्गत सारे काम हो रहे हैं (व्यवधान)

सरकारी दुकानों में जिस भाव से चावल और गेहूं मिल रहा है उससे दुगने दाम पर बाजार में मिल रहा है। गांवों में तो यह व्यवस्था उपलब्ध नहीं है जो दिल्ली जैसे नगरों में उपलब्ध है। दिल्ली में भी सभी लोगों को यह सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है। दिल्ली में लाखों लोगों के पास कार्ड नहीं हैं। जनता राज में लोगों ने राशन कार्ड फैंक दिए थे। उनकी जरूरत नहीं थी। आज राशन कार्ड को एम० ए०, बी० ए० की डिग्री की तरह संभाल कर रखा जाता है। क्योंकि लोग जानते हैं कि इसके बगैर हमें कोई सुविधा

[श्री रीत लाल प्रसाद वर्मा]

नहीं मिल सकती। इस प्रकार की स्थिति हैं। इस पर विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। इस तरह के ग्रेगस आंकड़े दे कर आप सहयोग प्राप्त नहीं कर सकते। सरकार इस पर गौर करें। सरकार सही बात सामने लाए, हम सहयोग करने के लिए तैयार हैं। चाहे कांग्रेस के लोग हों या बी० जे० पी० के या अन्य किसी पार्टी के लोग हों, सभी इस देश के नागरिक हैं। देश के प्रति हमें ईमानदारी बरतनी चाहिए। लेकिन पालियामेंट में वक्तव्यों के द्वारा जनता की आंखों में धूल भोंकने का काम किया जाएगा तो हमसे सहयोग की आशा नहीं की जा सकती। यह प्रजातंत्र पर बहुत बड़ा कलंक है। स्विटजरलैंड में अगर 5 पैसे प्रति किलो दाम बढ़ाते हैं तो उसके लिए पूरा जनमत लिया जाता है। यहां सरकार सेशन से पहले पेट्रोलियम, चीनी, गुड़ और अन्य सरकारी क्षेत्र की चीजों के दाम बढ़ा देती है और फिर पालियामेंट में आता है। हम लोग आलोचना करके रह जाते हैं, कम नहीं हो पाता। इसके लिए संसद सदस्यों को विश्वास में लेना चाहिए। सारे देश के जन-प्रतिनिधियों का क्या विचार है इसको ध्यान में रखना चाहिए। इसके बगैर आप कहते हैं कि सहयोग दीजिए। सहयोग कैसा? जब आपने अपने आप डिसीजन कर लिया तो फिर सहयोग भी आप ही दीजिए। इस तरह से मूल्य नियंत्रण का काम नहीं हो सकता।

समय नहीं है। अंत में मैं कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। अगर आप सही तरीके से प्राइस नियंत्रण करना चाहते हैं तो इसमें सभी संसद सदस्यों की राय ली जाए कि किस तरह से मूल्य नियंत्रण हो सकता है। सब

लोगों की सहमति होगी तभी सहयोग हो सकता है। बिना इसके सहयोग नहीं हो सकता और बिना सहयोग के कोई काप नहीं हो सकता। एक सुझाव और देना चाहते हैं कि ये जो आढ़त वाले हैं, बिचौलिए और कमीशन एजेंट हैं, ये भारी मुनाफा कमा रहे हैं। इन पर नियंत्रण करने की आवश्यकता है। जो चीजें किसान पैदा करता है, सब्जियां, वच्चों के खाने की चीजें, दूध, फसलें, खाद्यान्न, तेल, इन सब चीजों को बिचौलिए बहुत कम दाम में ले लेते हैं। टमाटर एक रु० की चीज 8 रु० में बाजार में बिक रही है।

इस तरह से जितनी सब्जियां हैं, उनको किसान से बिचौलिए और आढ़त वाले खरीद लेते हैं। उन्हें कोई सहयोग नहीं मिलता है, इसके लिए कृषि बाजार वालों को नियंत्रण करना चाहिए। इन्हीं प्रकार से चावल और गेहूं पर अन्तर-प्रांतीय पाबंदी लगा दी गई है। एक प्रांत से दूसरे प्रांत और एक जिले से दूसरे जिले में नहीं जा सकता। इसे पुलिस वाले और चुंगी वाले पकड़ते हैं और घूस के द्वारा व्यापार चलते हैं। यह नियंत्रण आपके कानून ने दिया है। आपको इसे समाप्त करना चाहिए। इसके बाद मैं “ड्यूअल प्राइस पालिसी” के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। चीनी का भाव सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली में साढ़े तीन रु० रखते हैं और बाजार में 6 रु० मिलती है। इसमें ब्लैक नहीं होगा तो और क्या होगा। इसमें सभी लोग भ्रष्ट हो जाते हैं। इसको आप रोकने का प्रयत्न कीजिए। कालाबाजारी और चोर बाजारी करने वालों का कोटा फिक्स किया है, इसको समाप्त कीजिए।

हर जगह बिक्री कर लगा दिया जाता है। आपने बिक्री कर को समाप्त करने

के लिए सोचा है, यह अच्छी बात है। इसको समाप्त करके तभी कर लगाना चाहिए जो एक ही जगह पर लगे। कृषि मूल्य निर्धारण में किसानों को उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलता, जिस से उसकी क्रय शक्ति नहीं बढ़ती। कृषकों के उत्पादनों को सरकारी कृषि बाजारों में गारन्टी के साथ खरीद करनी चाहिए ताकि कृषि उत्पादनों का उसे उचित दाम मिले। कृषि बाजार अपने सारे देश में बनाए हुए हैं। वह केवल पशुपालन विभाग की तरह है, जो कुछ काम नहीं करता। यह सरकार को देखना चाहिए। कृषकों और खेतीहर मजदूरों को जो कृषि की अन्य चीजें हैं, वह बाजार में बहुत मंहगी मिलती हैं। वह सहकारिता के माध्यम से मिलनी चाहिए। कृषि उपकरण जैसे ट्रैक्टर, खाद, बीज, दवा आदि कर मुक्त कर देनी चाहिए। घाटे की अर्थव्यवस्था हमारे देश में चल रही है। इसके द्वारा आप अनाप-शनाप ढंग से अधिक से अधिक चीजों का दाम बढ़ाते हैं, इसे भी रोकना चाहिए। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के लोगों की क्रय शक्ति घट जाती है उसको बढ़ाने के लिए जिस तरह से जनता सरकार ने काम के बदले अनाज के द्वारा सड़कें, स्कूल भवन, नहरें, पेयजल की व्यवस्था की थी, उसी प्रकार अब भी होना चाहिए। हमारे देश में ऐसे कई गांव हैं जहां दो किलोमीटर से पानी आता है। ऐसी जगहों पर पानी मुहैया करना चाहिए। आपके यहां जो एन० आर० ई० पी० और आई० आर० डी० पी० प्रोग्राम में भयंकर लूट हो रही है, इसको रोकना चाहिए तभी गरीब लोगों की क्रय शक्ति बढ़ेगी। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Sir, I wish to approach this problem from the point of view of producers and production leaving

aside all the other aspects to be dealt with by various other Members on that side as well as this side.

I am glad you have laid stress on our 20-Point Programme when you were speaking.

It is because of the 20-Point Programme that our friends in Calcutta are able to say that the prices there are the lowest.

They might say that it is because of their Government being in power there that they are able to implement it and so they have been able to get the prices down and prevent profiteering and so on.

That kind of administration can be had everywhere else also and our people have been trying their best with some success to have as good an administration, and that is the reason why we are trying to implement this particular programme. My hon. friend who has preceded me just now has asked the Government to do a number of good things. I am in entire agreement with him. He wants us to take the Opposition also along with us not in settling, but in dealing with this very difficult problem. But I am here just now to give a warning to myself, to my fellow Members on both sides of the House, that prices are not likely to be kept down and they cannot be kept down. They are bound to go on rising year after year and for some years until the House as well as the country are willing to do justice to the agricultural producers in this country. Till now consumers of not only food products but of almost all the agricultural products have been having the best possible time by exploiting the kisans and the khetmazdoors by keeping down their standard of living and by keeping down also the prices that are being paid for their services by way of agricultural produce or agricultural labour. This Government—and that is one of the most important reasons why I have chosen to support Indiraji and her Government—has accepted the general principle that has been adumbrated by my friend who is likely

[Prof. N.G. Ranga]

to speak later on and who happens to be in the Opposition, Mr. Nathu Ran Mirdha, that the peasants must be paid a remunerative price, an incentive price and the price should cover not only all the costs of production, all the legitimate costs of production but also leave a margin in order to provide for them an incentive for more and more, higher and higher and better and better production. And this Government has been trying to follow that policy. It is according to that the prices are being paid to our agriculturists, whether they produce food products or sugar cane or onions or potatoes, oil seeds etc. and these prices have been allowed to rise higher and higher and have been helped also to rise higher and higher through the operations of the Food Corporation of India and also through the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission and the recommendations of the state Governments and the decisions of the Government of India in fixing the prices ultimately. Do our friends in the Opposition take objection to that? I am sure they do not. They want themselves, those of them who have been championing the industrial workers, higher wage. Have they not? Even this morning were they not finding fault with the Government for trying, for having the courage to punish—according to their wording—punish these workers who have gone on an unauthorised strike, by refusing to pay wage for just one day? They have been championing the workers. I agree with them that we should champion the workers also. Therefore, they have got to be paid more. All my friends on both sides who have been standing for the agriculturists and who have been asking for higher and higher wages for agricultural workers have been asking for a higher remunerative price and not a profitable price for the agriculturists. What would be the consequence?

What we have not been able to pay all these years and in the direction and in the manner in which we have been pampering the consumers, the rich consumer, the Middle class consumers and the salaried consumers, and the

Government consumers by paying less and less to all these agricultural producers till now. From now on and for some time in future, we have got to pay more and more. What would be the consequence? Would you be able to bring down the prices? you cannot. Earlier, the prices were artificial; earlier the prices of exploitation which you had been imposing upon the largest masses of our country by paying less and less for their services. Therefore, I am not prepared to hold out any hope for consumers that prices are going to be kept down with or without international support; the prices are bound to go up. But, in a relative way, the very rich people, the upper middle class people, middle class people and the salaried people, will have to come to pay more and more in order to ensure larger agricultural produce and various other products. And Government must face this necessity and this challenge. Which Government can escape this hereafter from now? They want to replace our Government by their own Government. Would it be possible for them to come into power at all by continuing to exploiting the large number of producers which form not less than 50 per cent of our population of our country? This is a democracy. It may be possible in a dictatorship either in the Communist or Fascist or Nazi-tyranny—not in the kind of democracy that we have—a better democracy. We must have a better democracy. Therefore, I would like my hon. friends to make up their minds to cooperate with our Government in helping to spread the fair price shops in many more areas and also to increase them if necessary. These commodities might be sold at fair prices and at subsidised prices in those fair price shops under the public distribution system. Let them cooperate with us on this. If they are willing to cooperate with us, well and good. If they are not willing to cooperate, then they must be prepared to face the public, the poorer people. They claim to speak for the poorer people. It is for the sake of the poorer people that the public distribution system is introduced in our country. They say—our Communist friends say—or they claim that the Soviet Russia and other communist countries have got the public distribution system

where the prices have been kept at a stable level and they have never been allowed to rise. That is our policy also. We want to implement it only for the sake of these people who are in vulnerable condition of economic position. In regard to all others, they must be made to pay. I do not know why my hon. friends do not want a double price systems? Sir, there are three types of price system in our country. In our country, the essential commodities are being subsidised. The double price in sugar is to protect the consumers from the sugar mill owners. If they are allowed to charge higher prices from all these people, who can afford to eat the *sandesh rasagulla* and various other things, a number of times? Let them pay higher prices. There must be two price systems. There is no escape from it. Otherwise you will only bring in black market, the corruption and such other evils which are there. They were there even when they were in power. They are likely to continue also for a long time. Therefore, I went the price system to be based upon the minimum wage for the agricultural workers and also for all the industrial and other workers also. Is it their claim that we are paying minimum living wage anywhere for the agricultural workers? If you begin to pay this, then necessarily, the agricultural prices will also have to go up by 20%, 25% or 30%. An America, they made this experiment when Roosevelt was there in power. He raised it by 25% in order to save that country from the revages of the terrific worldwide economic depression. Because of that, their agricultural prices have gone up. Because of them, all these thirty years, America has been feeding the rest of the world. That is because they have been able to produce more and more. One of our friends, it seems, has placed a kind of conundrum before the House that prices have gone up even when production has gone up. Production has gone up because prices have been raised. As the prices have been raised bit by bit, the producers were being induced to produce more and more. Our production could be doubled in a few years if only remunerative prices are paid to the agriculturists. Thus this Government has been helping production.

An hon. Member was saying that the price of sugar was Rs. 2/- per kilo and so on during Janata regime. What happened then, I myself had to go to Lucknow in order to join the protest by kisans and was lathicharged along with others. Cane was being burnt down on a large scale. If only I had succeeded—unfortunately I have not succeeded in persuading our kisans to organise themselves in the same manner as the industrial workers are organised and stop production once the prices are lower then I am sure all the consumers would have agreed to pay higher prices to the farmers. Unfortunately, I have not succeeded and the peasants are producing more and thus are paid less and less.

Sir, it is the policy of Indrajī's government to see that the FCI comes into the market the moment prices begin to fall below the procurement price. Only three days ago a calling Attention motion was discussed in regard to coarse gains like bajra, maize, etc. In all the five or six States the FCI came into the market and the prices have began to rise. This is how we are trying to protect the kisans—not as satisfactorily as I would like it to be but still a beginning in the right direction has been made. It is also the duty of the responsible Opposition to stand by us to support the Government. As we fought together during freedom struggle we should fight together for economic freedom and there should not be any conflict. Supposing they do not want to join us they should not try to bring pressure—in season and out of season—to follow the wrong policy of bringing down prices.

Sir, my last word is by way of an advice to the Government. We should have the fair price shops in every village irrespective of the size of the population. We should have as many shops as there are villages and in towns more and more of them and also see that these shops are provided with sufficient quantity of the subsidised and essential commodities so that the toilers of this country—whether industrial or agricultural—need not have to suffer from the corruption and black-market by the middlemen and businessmen.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, to begin with I have to say with all humility that the Finance Minister's statement does not reflect the alarming magnitude of the price rise nor does it spell out in specific terms the measures to meet the situation arising out of this price rise.

16 hrs.

[**DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI**
in the Chair.]

Of course, I have to say that the appeal for cooperation made by the Minister himself is denuded of sincerity and seriousness. But I very much value the sense and seriousness with which our respected leader, Prof. Ranga, has made and appealed. Anyway I shall deal with that later on.

Now, it is necessary for me to explain in clear terms the contours of the problem and its magnitude. I would spell out three points in this regard.

The overall increase in prices during the last 45 months since this Government was voted to power in 1980, totals 48%. During the period of 45 months, the total price increase has been 8%. Is it not alarming? According to me it is alarming. Another important feature or aspect of the problem is—which the House should know—that according to a leading economist of our country, the most disturbing element in the price behaviour is in the first 5-months of 1983-84. The price of 49 of the 66 essential commodities have registered sharp increase. Out of total of 66 essential commodities, the price of 49 items has shown sharp increase.

Now, I have analysed the figures and after analysis I will come to this conclusion that the rise as measured by the consumer price index is assuming a serious proportion as in 1974, the year of economic crisis which preceded the Emergency in our country. I do not know whether they will take resort to Emergency to meet the situation because of the continuous rise in price. But the fact is this.

The situation is very grave, the situation is very alarming. The fact is this that the people are groaning under the heavy burden of the price rise.

Madam, the Finance Minister's statement, not of today but of 31st August 1983, and when he met the financial writers of our country he had admitted that, according to him, in October it did not show an anticipated decline. He said it. I think he speaks truth. He had also said about the expectation of market decline in November which is not noticeable today. He admitted that inflation rate in October was about 10%. This is from his own statement which he made before the financial writers of our country on 31st October 1983.

Madam, a general impression is sought to be created outside as well as in this House also that with the increased tempo of economic activity and larger food crops, the price level is bound to come down. This is the general impression of the hon. Finance Minister which has been expressed by him in his statement. The growth rate this year would range between five and six percent. The Finance Minister claimed it on October 31; he also claimed at that time that the food-grains production or output would be 142 million tonnes this year as against 128 million tonnes in 1982-83, an increase of 10-11% over the last year. Therefore, on that basis he expects that there will be a decline of prices. That is the Government point of view. But the experience in the past does not bear this out, and since it will take a longer time for me to explain it, I would only read from the editorial of Dacca Herald dated 3rd November :

“It is true, our experience in the past has shown that the pressure generated by a smaller agricultural crop spills over to the following year. For instance, the rising trend in prices following the poor crop in 1979-80 continued in 1980-81, despite that year witnessing an appreciable increase in food production and quickening

of the tempo of our all economic activity. Likewise this year, the inflation rate reached the double digit figure by the end of September, inspite of abundant rainfall, and prospect of highest bumper crop and substantial recovery of economic activity."

It is needless for me to make any further comment on it. There lies the apprehension and there lies the alarming situation.

At this stage, it is necessary to know the root causes of the price increase. In brief, I would like to mention that the root causes are, the increasing reliance on the indirect taxes, increasing non-Plan expenditure and increasing administered prices. According to some reliable sources, the administered prices have increased by 26.2% since 1980 and this factor has attributed to the general increase of prices to the order of 34.6%.

Regarding increase in the non-Plan expenditure, I have got only one point to make the Government have also taken resort to the increase of dearness allowance and payment of bonus; I appreciate that I welcome that. A small write-up in the Hindustan Times of 11th November states that the Government will have to spend about Rs. 2500 crores to pay the various instalments of dearness allowance, and if the principle of bonus is accepted by the Government, then all the State Governments would go bankrupt. I do not know what is the factual position. But the hon. Finance Minister always raises his accusing finger against the Government of West Bengal saying that the non-Plan expenditure, or the non-productive expenditure there has increased and that is the root cause for the ruination of West Bengal economy. He accuses them, while he is himself doing that. Is he not increasing non-Plan expenditure? He is doing that. If he is correct from his side, why should not the the West Bengal State Government employees and other small salaried workers get it with others are getting? What is wrong if they demand higher dearness allowance on the basis of the Central

Government because of the price rise. You cannot prevent the price increase, and therefore, the quantum of non-Plan expenditure which, according to him, is a non-productive expenditure, is bound to go up unless the very basic phenomenon of price rise is effectively and properly checked.

Sir, there is another important factor in respect of the price rise—monetary and fiscal management. In the last twelve months till September of the current year, the money supply increased by 17% as against 11% in the corresponding period of the previous year. Unless you change this policy of fiscal and monetary management, it is not possible to curb the price rise. It will provide incentive to the price rise.

Madam, Auxiliary duties were pushed up in December 1982; Post and Telegraph rates in January prices; of petroleum products in February, besides the railway freights. All these aggregated to Rs. 1,900 crores. And the Budget raised another Rs. 700 crores. So, the total came to Rs. 2,600 crores. All these are pushing the cost up. Therefore, this basic policy of the Government, as I have mentioned, contributes to the further increase or further pushing up of the polices. The Government should think over it and reverse its policy. The entire fiscal and monetary policy should be changed if they are serious to curb the price rise.

Madam, I don't have much time at my disposal to explain other things. Therefore, I would only say that in the present context the only answer is to give proper relief to the people is strengthening of the public distribution system. I am not entering into any polemics, but as the situation stands today, as the Government of India's policy is today as the reality of life is today, the only answer is the expansion of the public distribution system. Since the foodgrains prices are increasing, the public distribution system is an important instrument to provide relief to the people.

Now, according to the Statement made

[Shri Chitta Basu]

by Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, in the meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to his Ministry, as against the State's total demands of about 250 lakh tonnes in 1982, the Centre could supply only 129 lakh tonnes. It is enough to show that the Government could not meet the total demand of the States. He further continues to say that the Government could procure only 12.5% of the domestic production of the foodgrains in our country. He further goes on to say that the stock position as on July, including the stock of the imported to grains, was slightly higher than the previous year. Now, the House should know that the marketable surplus of the foodgrains is 30% of the total production in the case of paddy and about 50% in the case of wheat. Now, my question is if the Government is seriously interested to provide foodgrains through the public distribution system, it is necessary that the Government should have physical control over a larger amount of foodgrains. Now the Government remains satisfied only with the procurement of 12.5%. According to the impression given by Mr. Azad 12.5% is sacrosanct. While all the economists, including the Finance Minister would agree that 30% of the paddy grown in our country comes in the market as marketable surplus, why 12.5%, why not the entire marketable surplus, by providing remunerative price to them? Why not the entire marketable surplus of 50% wheat? Then, the Government would be in a better position in a controlling and determining position to curb price rise, influence the price in the open market by releasing more and more foodgrains into the market. But the Government does not do that. He has called for suggestions; and he wants cooperation. Prof. Ranga, you say that the Government is for the peasants and for the growers. What then stands in the way of Government having a larger procurement? Why is it that only about 30% of the total production of foodgrains in our country is mopped up by the public procurement agencies at a fair price?

Now the question of fair price comes in. The question of subsidy also comes in. You have to give subsidy to the consumers. If you are to give a remunerative and fair price to the growers you have equally to give foodgrains at a cheaper rate to the consumers, which can be done only by giving subsidy. The Finance Minister may say: "We have given the subsidy. If subsidies grow, that will upset the total budget." Here lies the question of outlook. If you can provide Rs. 1700 crores for the Asiad Games and spend so much for the Commonwealth conference, if you can indulge in so much wastage of public money, why do you limit the amount of food subsidy and give only Rs. 800 crores in the current budget? You can increase it; you should increase it if you have got the interests of the growers and of the consumers at heart.

Do away with public wastage; increase the subsidy for food and increase the subsidy for items under the public distribution system. Lastly, I will give some suggestions. If he is really sincere in seeking cooperation, we will give it, provided the policy frame is revised. It cannot be cooperation on the basis of loyalty to him, or cooperating with him for the sake of perpetuating his party's rule, which I call a misrule. Cooperation can be given provided the Government reframes its policy and works for:

- (1) expansion of the public distribution system;
- (2) mopping up of the entire marketable surplus of foodgrains;
- (3) a larger amount of subsidies for essential items;
- (4) State take-over of the wholesale trade in foodgrains;
- (5) fixing of prices of 14 essential items and making arrangements for their sale at fixed rates all over the country;

(6) a larger allocation for the NREP programme—which has been slashed

and (7) a vigorous implementation of that programme, with popular support.

These may constitute the platform of co-operation action programme of cooperation if the Government revises its policy on the basis of this basic 7 point programme. We will then consider ourselves duty-bound to extend our cooperation to meet the very alarming situation which is there, and which is as serious as that of 1974, the year of economic crisis in our country.

श्री पी० नामग्याल (लद्दाख) : सभापति महोदया, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने सदन में प्राइस राइज के मुताल्लिक जो फ़ैक्ट्स और फीगर्स रखी है, उसका मैं स्वागत करते हुए, चन्द बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। जो मेजर्स आप उठाने जा रहे हैं या उठाये हैं, मैं उन को वेलकम किये बगैर नहीं रह सकता। लेकिन आज अप्रोजीशन की तरफ से जो प्राइस-राइज पर काफी तबसरा सुनने में आया है लेकिन वे शायद एक बात भूल गये हैं— हमारा मुल्क एक जरायती देश है, जहाँ 76 फीसदी से ज्यादा लोग डायरेक्टली जरायत पर डिपेण्डेंट हैं और जैसा कि बार-बार इसी हाउस में आप को सुनने में आया है, होगा कि जब भी हज़ साल प्रोक्वोरमेंट प्राइस की बात आती है, जब सरकार प्राइस फिक्स करने लगती है तो अप्रोजीशन की तरफ से यही डिमाण्ड आती है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्राइस फिक्स की जाय। यह सही बात है कि किसानों को उन की फसल की, उन की मेहनत की रिमूनरेटिव प्राइस मिलनी चाहिए। लेकिन साथ ही इसी ऐवान में आप ने यह भी सुना होगा कि फर्टिलाइजर की प्राइस कम की जाय।

हमारे देश में फर्टिलाइजर का प्रोडक्शन थारगेट 62 लाख टन इन-टर्म्ज-आफ न्यूट्रिएन्ट्स है जब कि हमारा प्रोडक्शन साढ़े-पैंतालीस लाख टन इन-टर्म्ज-आफ-न्यूट्रिएन्ट्स है, इस का मतलब है कि हम को साढ़े-सोलह लाख टन के शार्ट-फाल को पूरा करना है। लिहाजा इम्पोर्ट करना पड़ेगा। जब उस को इम्पोर्ट करेंगे तो नेचुरली हमारे खजाने पर दबाव पड़ेगा, फारेन-एक्सचेंज में हम को उस का पैसा देना पड़ेगा। लिहाजा इस चीज का प्राइस पर भी असर पड़ता है। जब एग्रीकल्चर कमाडिटीज की प्राइसेज बढ़ जाती है तो जो हमारा इण्डस्ट्रीयल सैक्टर है, जो इण्डस्ट्रीज जरायत पर डिपेण्ड करती हैं, जैसे टैक्स-टाइल, जूट, शुगर, जाहिर है कि इन की प्राइसेज भी बढ़ेंगी और उन को रोकना मुश्किल हो जाता है। इन हालात में हम सब को यह देखना है कि किसानों को भी रिमूनरेटिव प्राइस मिले, साथ-साथ जो कन्ज्यूमर गुड्स हैं उन की प्राइस भी न बढ़े। इस के लिए हम सब को सोचना है।

अभी बहुत सी सजेश्चन्ज हमारे साथियों ने दी हैं—जैसे पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को स्ट्रेंथन करना चाहिए। यह सही बात है जरूर स्ट्रेन्थन करना चाहिये और कर भी रहे हैं। 20 नुकाती प्रोग्राम में कहा गया है कि हर गांव में फेअर-प्राइस-शाप्स खोली जायें, लिहाजा यह काम भी हो रहा है लेकिन अभी भी इस को और ज्यादा स्ट्रेन्थन करने की जरूरत है। खास कर जो ट्राईबल और हिली एरियाज है वहाँ अभी भी फेअर प्राइस शाप्स की तादाद में बहुत कमी है। सरकार को इस तरफ जरूर तबज्जह देनी चाहिये, लेकिन खसूसी तौर पर जो कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस है उस का बड़े-बड़े शहरों पर ही

[श्री पी० नामग्याल]

ज्यादातर दबाव पड़ता है। तो प्राइस वहां से बढ़नी शुरू होती है और जो बहुत सारी इन्डियन कोमोडिटीज हैं, जो किसान प्रोड्यूस करता है, वे देहाती इलाकों से आती हैं। लिहाजा मैं समझता हूँ कि सरकार को चाहिए कि जो कन्ज्यूमर आय-टम हैं और खासकर जो वेजीटेबिल्स और दालें हैं या आयलसीड्स हैं या कुछ ऐसी आइटम्स हैं, जो रोजमर्रा के कामों में इस्तेमाल में लाई जाती हैं, उन के लिए बड़े बड़े शहरों के सामने स्टेट्स फार्म्स बनाने चाहिए और वहां पर उन की कल्टीवेशन स्टेट्स को रोकना चाहिए, जिससे शहरों पर जो दबाव पड़ता है, वह न पड़े। रोजमर्रा की चीजें शहरों में कोओपरेटिव स्टोर के जरिए तकसीम कर सके और दरमियानादारी को खत्म कर सके। इस से रोजमर्रा की चीजों की कीमत नहीं बढ़ने पायेगी। इस के साथ ही साथ ये जो हारड्स हैं या ब्लैक-मार्केटियर्स हैं, उन पर आप को सख्त नजर रखनी चाहिए और किसानों की जो प्रोड्यूस है, इस की भी आप ऐसी प्राइस रखें कि किसानों को नुकसान न उठाना पड़े और उसे कुछ पैसा मिले और कन्ज्यूमर्स पर भी असर न पड़े।

मुख्तलिफ स्टेट्स और एरियाज की बात भी आप के सामने सदस्यों द्वारा कही गई है। मैं भी आप के सामने एक बात जम्मू व कश्मीर के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। आप ने अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा कि वहां पर फूड

सप्लाय पोजीशन ठीक नहीं है। और सप्लाय के जो डिपो हैं, उन से लोगों को राशन मिलने में दिक्कत आ रही है, उन को राशन नहीं मिल रहा है और जितने भी कोओपरेटिव स्टोर्स हैं, वे भी खाली पड़े हुए हैं। जहां तक यहां से सप्लाय का सवाल है, कल ही मेरे एक सवाल के जवाब में आनरेबिल फूड मिनिस्टर साहब से मुझे ये फीगर मिले हैं कि जनवरी से अक्टूबर 1982 तक यानी लास्ट इयर जहां 204.3 हजार टन फूडग्रेन्स हमारे स्टेट को सप्लाय किया गया था, वहां इसी पीरियड में इस साल 257.8 हजार टन यानी 53.5 हजार टन ज्यादा फूडग्रेन्स सप्लाय किया गया है लेकिन यह भी हकीकत है कि जो सप्लाय प्वाइंट्स हैं, जहां से लोगों को इश्यू होती है। वे सारे खाली पड़े हैं। इस की क्या वजह हो सकती है। आप ने प्रेस में पढ़ा होगा और लोगों की आम राय यह है कि जितना भी फूडग्रेन्स बाहर से आता है या जो स्टेट में प्रोड्यूस होता है—स्टेट यह क्लेम करती है कि इस साल रिकार्ड 13 लाख टन फूडग्रेन यह प्रोड्यूस करने जा रही है। इन दोनों को मिलाकर तकरीबन 18 किलोग्राम फी आदमी पर मंथ का फीगर बनता है लेकिन यह जो सारा फूडग्रेन्स है, यह कहां जाता है। शक यह किया जाता है जितना भी फूडग्रेन्स यहां से जाता है, वह लाइन आफ एक्चुअल कंट्रोल के बाहर रमगिल किया जाता है और इस में वहां की स्टेट मशीनरी और वहां की पुलिस का हाथ बताते हैं, जिस की वजह से यह पोजीशन है

कि वहां पर फूड प्राब्लम ने बहुत ही खतरनाक सूरत अख्तियार कर ली है ।

इस के अलावा मेरा दूसरा निवेदन यह भी है कि पिछली दफा जब इलेक्शन्स हुए थे, तो जितना भी फूड स्टोरों में राशन पड़ा हुआ था, वोट हासिल करने के लिए वह सारा का सारा लोगों में फ्री आफ कास्ट तकसीम कर दिया गया और कोआपरेटिव के जितने भी स्टोर थे, वे बिल्कुल खाली कर दिये गये बिना पेमेंट के । अब यह जो डिस्ट्री-व्यूशन सिस्टम है, फंशान कोई नहीं है लेकिन दुकान रखी गई है । दुकानों में ताला लगा हुआ है, अदर रखने के लिए माल नहीं है । उसको पूरा करने के लिए चीफ मिनिस्टर रोज शोर करते हैं । लिहाजा मैं सरकार से डिमांड करता हूं कि सी० बी० आई० के थ्रू एक इन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिए । लोग भूखों मर रहे हैं और कुछ लोग इससे पैसा कमा रहे हैं । इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए । मेरी मांग है कि स्मगलर्स, ब्लैकमार्केटियर्स, होर्डर्स के खिलाफ सख्त से सख्त कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए । जब तक सख्ती नहीं होगी, प्राइस राइस कंटेन नहीं कर सकते ।

इसी तरह से मैं अपने क्षेत्र की बात करना चाहता हूं । अभी वहां रास्ता बंद नहीं हुआ है, वैसे बंद हो जाता है । चीफ मिनिस्टर साहब ने लद्दाख के बारे में स्टेट-मेंट दिया है कि वहां मांग से 18 परसेंट ज्यादा स्टाक दिया गया है । लेकिन वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है । वास्तविकता यह है

कि राइस 25 हजार क्विंटल की मांग थी और भेजा गया है 15 हजार क्विंटल । व्हीट और आटा 27 हजार क्विंटल की मांग थी और भेजा गया है 19 हजार क्विंटल । चीनी 3000 क्विंटल के बजाए 1500 क्विंटल भेजी गई है । हार्ड कोक 12 हजार क्विंटल के बजाए 900 क्विंटल भेजा गया है । कैरोसिन 4 लाख लीटर के बजाए 2 लाख लीटर भेजा गया है । इससे पता लगता है कि स्टेट्स से जो जानकारी आती है उसमें गलत कार्यों को छिपाने और केन्द्र सरकार को ब्लैकमेल करने की कोशिश की जाती है । इस तरह के गलत स्टेटमेंट रोज दिए जाते हैं । लिहाजा मैं इसके लिए मांग करता हूं कि अभी रास्ते खुले हैं और इस क्षेत्र में फूड कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया सप्लाई सीधी करे । स्टेट हमको नहीं देखता है । इसके अलावा जो सामान स्मगल हो रहा है उसके लिए इन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिए और स्मगलर्स, ब्लैकमार्केटियर्स और होर्डर्स के खिलाफ सख्त कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए ।

अंत में मैं फाइनांस मिनिस्टर साहब को मुबारक बाद देता हूं कि उन्होंने जो उपाय किए हैं और जो उपाय किए जा रहे हैं । इससे उम्मीद की जानी चाहिए कि इनसे कीमतें नीचे गिराने में मदद मिलेगी । इसके साथ साथ विरोध पक्ष के लोगों को भी चाहिए कि मुखालिफत बरागे मुखालिफत नहीं करनी चाहिए और कुछ सुझाव देने चाहिए ।

इसके साथ ही मैं अपनी तकरीर समाप्त करता हूं ।

کسانوں کو انکی فصل کی ان کی محنت کی رمیونریٹو پرائس ملی چاہئے۔ لیکن ساتھ ہی اسی ابوان میں آپ نے یہ بھی سنا ہوگا کہ فرٹیلائزر کی پرائس کم کی جائے۔ ہمارے دیش میں فرٹیلائزر کا پروڈکشن ٹارگیٹ ۶۲ لاکھ ٹن ان ٹرمز آف نیوٹریٹس ہے۔ جبکہ ہمارا پروڈکشن ساڑھے پینتالیس لاکھ ٹن ان ٹرمز آف نیوٹریٹس ہے اسکا مطلب ہے کہ ہم کو ساڑھے سولہ لاکھ ٹن کے شارٹفال کو پورا کرنا ہے۔ لہذا امپورٹ کرنا پڑیگا۔ جب اس کو امپورٹ کریں گے تو نیچوری ہمارے خزانے پر دباؤ پڑیگا فاراً ایکسچینج میں ہم کو اسکا پیسہ دینا پڑیگا۔ لہذا اس چیز کا پرائس پر بھی اثر پڑتا ہے جب ایگریکلچر کوڈیٹیز کی پڑائسز بڑھ جاتی ہیں تو جو ہمارا انڈسٹریل سیکٹر ہے جو انڈسٹریز زراعت پر ڈیپینڈ کرتی ہیں جیسے ٹیکسٹائل جوٹ شوگر۔ ظاہر ہے کہ انکی

شری پی۔ نامگیال (لداخ) : سبھاپتی مہودے۔ ماننے وٹ منتری نے سدن میں پرائس رائز کے متعلق جو فیکٹس اور فیگرس رکھی ہیں۔ اسکا میں سواگت کرتے ہوئے چند باتیں کہنا چاہتا ہوں۔ جو میزرس آپ اٹھانے جارہے ہیں یا اٹھائے ہیں میں ان کو ویل کم کیشے بغیر نہیں رہ سکتا لیکن آج اپوزیشن کی طرف سے جو پرائس رائز پر کافی تبصرہ سننے میں آیا ہے لیکن وہ شاید ایک بات بھول گئے ہیں۔ ہمارا ملک ایک زراعتی دیش ہے جہاں ۷۶ فیصدی سے زیادہ لوگ ڈائریکٹلی زراعت پر ڈیپینڈینٹ ہیں اور جیسا کہ بار بار اس ماؤس میں آپ کو سننے میں آیا ہوگا کہ جب بھی ہر سال پروکیورمینٹ پرائس کی بات آتی ہے جب سرکار پرائس فیکس کرنے لگتی ہے تو اپوزیشن کی طرف سے یہی ڈیمانڈ آتی ہے کہ زیادہ سے زیادہ پرائس فیکس کی جائے۔ یہ صحیح بات ہے کہ

تذ بھی بڑھیں گی۔ اور ان کو کنا مشکل ہو جاتا ہے۔ ان حالات میں سب کو یہ دیکھنا ہے کہ سٹیشنوں کو بھی ریہورٹیو پرائس سے ساتھ ساتھ جو کنزیومر گڈس میں انکی پرائس بھی نہ بڑھے۔ سب کو سوچنا ہے۔ ابھی بہت سی سمجیشز ہمارے ہاتھوں نے دی ہیں۔ جیسے پبلک ٹیسٹری بیوشن سسٹم کو اسٹریٹن تھن کرنا چاہئے۔ یہ صحیح بات ہے ضرور اسٹریٹن تھن کرنا چاہئے اور کر بھی رہے ہیں۔ ۲۰ نکاتی پروگرام میں کہا گیا ہے کہ ہر گاؤں میں فائر پرائس شاپس کھولی جائیں۔ لہذا یہ کام بھی ہو رہا ہے لیکن ابھی اسکو اور زیادہ اسٹریٹن تھن کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ خاص کر جو ٹرائبل اور ہلی ابریاز میں وہاں ابھی بھی فائر پرائس شاپس کی تعداد میں بہت کمی ہے۔ سرکار کو اس طرف ضرور توجہ دینی چاہئے لیکن

خصوصی طور پر جو کنزیومر پرائس سے اسکا بڑے بڑے شہروں پر ہی زیادہ تر دباؤ پڑتا ہے۔ تو پرائس وہاں سے بڑھنی شروع ہوتی ہیں اور جو بہت ساری اسینشیل کموڈٹیز میں جو کمان پروڈیوس کرنا ہے۔ وہ دیہاتی علاقوں سے آتی ہیں۔ لہذا میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ سرکار کو چاہئے کہ جو کنزیومر آٹم میں اور خاص کر جو ویجیٹبل اور دالین میں یا آئل سیڈس میں یا کچھ ایسی آٹمٹس میں جو روز مرہ کے کاموں میں استعمال میں لائی جاتی ہے ان کیلئے بڑے بڑے شہروں کے سامنے اسٹیشن فارمس بنانے چاہئے اور وہاں پر انکی کلٹی ویشن اسٹیشن کو روکنا چاہئے جس سے شہروں پر جو دباؤ پڑتا ہے وہ نہ پڑے۔ روزمرہ کی چیزیں شہروں میں کوآپریٹو کے ذریعہ تقسیم کر سکے اور درمیانہ داری کو ختم کر سکے۔ اس سے روزمرہ کی چیزوں کی قیمت نہیں بڑھنے پائے گی۔

ہے کل ہی میرے ایک سوال کے جواب میں آنریبل فوڈ منسٹر صاحب سے مجھے یہ فیگر ملے ہیں کہ جنوری سے اکتوبر ۱۹۸۲ء تک یعنی لاسٹ ایئر جہاں ۱۰۴۳ ہزار ٹن فوڈ گرینس ہمارے اسٹیٹ کو سپلائی کیا گیا تھا وہاں اسی پیریڈ میں اس سال ۲۵۷۸ ہزار ٹن یعنی ۵۳۵ ہزار ٹن زیادہ فوڈ گرینس سپلائی کیا گیا ہے لیکن یہ بھی حقیقت ہے کہ جو سپلائی پوائنٹس ہیں جہاں سے لوگوں کو ایسو ہوتی ہے وہ سارے خالی پڑے ہیں۔ اسکی کیا وجہ ہو سکتی ہے۔ آپ نے پریس میں پڑھا ہوگا اور لوگوں کی عام رائے یہ ہے کہ جتنا بھی فوڈ گرینس باہر سے آتا ہے یا جو اسٹیٹ میں پروڈیوس کرتی ہوتا ہے۔ اسٹیٹ یہ کلیم کرتی ہے کہ اس سال ریکارڈ ۱۳ لاکھ ٹن فوڈ گرینس وہ پروڈیوس کرنے جارہی ہے ان دونوں کو ملا کر تقریباً ۱۸ کلوگرام فی آدمی پر

اسکے ساتھ ہی ساتھ یہ جو ہارڈرس ہیں یا بلیک مارکیٹرس ہیں ان پر آپ کو سخت نظر رکھنی چاہئے اور کسانوں کی جو پروڈیوس ہیں اسکی بھی آپ ایسی پرائس رکھیں کہ کسانوں کو نقصان نہ اٹھانا پڑے اور اسے کچھ پیسہ ملے اور کنزیومرس پر بھی اثر نہ پڑے۔

مختلف اسٹیٹس اور ایریاز کی بات بھی آپ کے سامنے سدسوں دوارا کہی گئی ہیں۔ میں بھی آپ کے سامنے ایک بات جمو و کشمیر کے بارے میں کہنا چاہتا ہوں۔ آپ نے اخباروں میں پڑھا ہوگا کہ وہاں پر فوڈ سپلائی پوزیشن ٹھیک نہیں ہے اور سپلائی کے جو ڈپو ہیں ان سے لوگوں کو راشن ملنے میں دقت آرہی ہے ان کو راشن نہیں مل رہا ہے اور جتنے بھی کوآپریٹو اسٹورس ہیں وہ بھی خالی پڑے ہوئے ہیں۔ جہاں تک یہاں سے سپلائی کا سوال

لگا ہوا ہے اندر رکھنے کے لئے مال نہیں ہے۔ اسکو پورا کرنے کے لئے چیف منسٹر روز شور کرتے ہیں۔ لہذا میں سرکار سے ڈیمانڈ کرنا ہوں کہ سی بی آئی کے تھرو ایند انکواری ہونی چاہئے۔ لوگ بھوکھے مر رہے ہیں اور کچھ لوگ اس سے پیسہ کما رہے ہیں۔ اسکی جانچ ہونی چاہئے۔ میری مانگ ہے کہ اسمگلرس بلیک مارکیٹس ہورڈرس کے خلاف سخت سے سخت قدم اٹھائے جانے چاہئیں۔ جب تک سختی نہیں ہوگی پرائس رائز کنٹین نہیں کر سکتے۔

اسی طرح سے میں اپنے چھتر کی بات کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ ابھی وہاں راستہ بند نہیں ہوا ہے ویسے بسند ہو جانا ہے۔ چیف منسٹر صاحب نے لداخ کے بارے میں اسٹیٹمنٹ دیا ہے کہ وہاں مانگ سے ۱۸ سینٹ زیادہ اسٹاک دیا گیا ہے۔ لیکن واسٹوک استھی کیا ہے۔ واسٹوکنا یہ ہے کہ رائس ۲۵ ہزار

منتہہ کا فیگر بنتا ہے لیکن یہ جو سارا فوڈ گرینس ہے یہ کہا جاتا ہے۔ شک یہ کیا جاتا ہے کہ جتنا بھی فوڈ گرینس یہاں سے جاتا ہے وہ لائیں آف ایکچوویل کنٹروول کے باہر اسمگل کیا جاتا ہے اور اس میں وہاں کی اسٹیٹ مشینی اور وہاں کی پولس کا ہاتھ بتاتے ہیں جس کی وجہ سے یہ پوزیشن ہے کہ وہاں پر فوڈ پر بلم نے بہت ہی خطرناک صورت اختیار کرلی ہے۔ اسکے علاوہ میرا دوسرا نویدن یہ بھی ہے کہ پچھلے دفعہ جب الیکشن ہوئے تھے تو جتنا بھی فوڈ اسٹورون میں راشن پڑا ہوا تھا ووٹ حاصل کرنے کے لئے وہ سارا کا سارا لوگوں میں فری آف کاسٹ تقسیم کر دیا گیا اور کوآپریٹو کے جتنے بھی اسٹور تھے وہ بالکل خالی کر دیئے گئے بنا پیمینٹ کے۔ اب یہ جو ڈسٹری بیویشن سسٹم ہے فنکشن کوئی نہیں ہے لیکن دوکان رکھی گئی ہے۔ دوکانوں میں تالا

ہم کو نہیں دیکنا ہے۔ اسکے
علاوہ جو سامان اسمگل ہو
رہا ہے اسکے لئے انک-وائری
ہونی چاہئے اور اسمگلرس
بلیک مارکیٹرس اور ہورڈرس
کے خلاف سخت کارروائی ہونی
چاہئے۔

انت میں فائیننس منسٹر صاحب
کو مبارکباد دیتا ہوں کہ
انہوں نے جو اپائے کئے ہیں
اور جو اپائے کئے جارہے
ہیں۔ اس سے امید کی جانی
چاہئے کہ ان سے قیمتیں نیچے
گرانے میں مدد ملیگی۔ اسکے
ساتھ ساتھ ورودھ پیکش کے
لوگوں کو بھی چاہئے کہ
مخالفت برائے مخالفت نہیں
کرنی چاہئیں اور کچھ بچھاؤ
دینے چاہئیں۔

اسکے ساتھ ہی میں اپنی
تقریر سمپت کرتا ہوں۔

کوئٹل کی مانگ تھی اور بھیجا گیا
ہے ۱۵ ہزار کوئٹل وہیٹ اور آٹا
۲۷ ہزار کوئٹل کی مانگ تھی
اور بھیجا گیا ہے ۱۹ ہزار کوئٹل۔
چینی ۳۰۰۰ کوئٹل کے بجائے ۱۵۰۰
کوئٹل بھیجی گئی ہے۔ ہارڈ
کوک ۱۲ ہزار کوئٹل کے بجائے
۹۰۰ کوئٹل بھیجا گیا ہے۔
کیروسین ۴ لاکھ لیٹر کے بجائے
۲ لاکھ لیٹر بھیجا گیا ہے۔
اس سے پتہ لگتا ہے کہ اسٹیٹس
سے جو جانکاری آتی ہے اس
میں غلط کاریوں کو بلیک میل کرنے
کی کوشش کی جاتی ہے۔ اس
طرح کے غلط اسٹیٹمنٹ روز
دئے جاتے ہیں۔ لہذا میں اسکے
لئے مانگ کرتا ہوں کہ ابھی
راستے کھلے ہیں اور اس چھتر
میں فوڈ کارپوریشن آف انڈیا
سیدھی سپلائی کرے۔ اسٹیٹ

SHRI T. NAGARATNAM(Sriperumbudur): Hon'ble Chairman, I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this debate on price situation in India, brought by our hon. Finance Minister.

In our country prices cast a heavy burden on our people. In some foreign countries, there is no tax on food products. But in our country, taxes are imposed on foodstuffs. Most of our people do not have the purchasing capacity in spite of their requirements for daily needs. For example, sugar price is Rs. 3.85 per kg. at Fair Price Shops but the poor people do not get the opportunity to purchase sugar from the Fair Price Shops. Particularly in Tamil Nadu, during the AIADMK regime, their volunteers in the villages have been allotted the Fair Price Shops. They hoard, sugar and other food-stuffs and sell them to the shop owners who sell them in black market. Therefore, the people are forced to purchase from the market at higher rate.

In no country is the system of dual price prevalent for the same commodity like sugar but in our country, we have the system of dual price for sugar. Therefore, the black marketeers and unscrupulous politicians are exploiting the poor.

The Central Government has imposed excise duty of Rs. 136 per quintal on sugar i.e., Rs. 1.36 per kg. They say that it is an international phenomenon existing everywhere. For example, in Israel, the inflation has been to the extent of 200 per cent. Therefore, for increasing the purchasing power, they are giving compensatory allowance. In our country, due to inflation, prices of all commodities are increasing because of the bad management and wrong fiscal policies. Even after 36 years of our Independence, people are struggling for their day to day domestic requirements.

In our country, we see three sections of people. The first category is the higher class of society who has been blessed

with black money. They have enough purchasing power whatever may be the prices in the market. The second category is the salaried class. The people of this class are dependent on their salary only. With their meagre income, they are not able to meet their domestic requirements. Therefore, at the present juncture, they are suffering seriously. The third type of the people are those who are seasonal workers, agriculturists, unemployed and down trodden people. They have no capacity to purchase sugar and other essential commodities. They are not getting even one square meal for a day. Therefore, their life is under-torture.

The third category of people, who constitute 80 per cent of the population, have been badly affected by this price rise. A survey was conducted by the *Express News Service* in UP, which disclosed that the people belonging to the down-trodden cook ordinary meal only once a week. This category of people constituted more than 25 per cent in UP.

Our Prime Minister has instructed all the State Governments to follow the 20-Point Programme. Under that scheme, cheap cloth has to be supplied to the people. Now it has totally stopped and the scheme is in the dust-bin. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister to take up this matter and instruct the chief Ministers of States and Union Territories to take steps to arrest the price rise.

The Tamil Nadu Government have introduce the Nutrition Food Scheme. My par ty, DMK, my beloved leader Dr. Kalaignar and myself are not standing in the way of giving midday meal to the poor boys and girls of the age of 1 to 12 years. But the Tamil Nadu Government has spent Rs. 150 crores per year. The result is that the young boys and girls, without knowing the world and their future, early mornng, instead of carrying books and slates, the innocent young children are carrying bowls and plates for the noon meals to the school. Therefore, I apprehend that the down-trodden people have been misled by the Chief

[Shri T. Nagarajam]

Minister of Tamil Nadu and they have not been given any education. At the same time, all the teachers have been threatened to concentrate on the noon meal scheme even at the cost of education.

Because of this scheme, the price of all the vegetables, edible oil, rice firewood and foodstuffs in Tamil Nadu were raised.

Under this scheme, the Tamil Nadu Government nominated their own party volunteers to hoard foodstuffs and distribute to the children. The foodstuffs are kept in the house of the ADMK volunteers, who clandestinely sell them to the shop-keepers, who in turn sell them in open market at a higher price. Therefore, this scheme is a mockery and the public have criticised, not only the State Government but also the Central Government. So, I would request the Central Government to direct the Tamil Nadu Government to send full details of the scheme and the names of the distributors.

The Tamil Nadu people are depending fully upon agricultural work. For the past three years power cut is imposed for six hours and current is not supplied even for irrigation purposes. During the elections to the Tamil Nadu Assembly in 1980, the Chief Minister had given a promise that even if the Central Government do not give any help to the State Government, if he comes to power, all the loans of the agriculturists would be written off. Now the Tamil Nadu Government are attaching the immovable and movable properties and even the appliances and agricultural implements of agriculturists.

Sir, according to reliable information, the Tamil Nadu Government has not paid the arrears of Rs. 76 crores to the Lignite Corporation of India at Neiveli. Therefore, the same Corporation has not come forward to give power to the Tamil Nadu. Therefore, the agriculturist could not cultivate at least two acres properly. So, in Tamil Nadu the prices of all the

foodstuffs including the price of rice are very high. For this reason the agriculturists have not only been affected, but also the poor agricultural wage earners are badly affected in Tamil Nadu. The agriculturists could not pay the arrears of loans. Also their families were put in great hardship in these hard days, and their lives have become miserable.

Madam, in Tamil Nadu the price of rice is above Rs. 5 per kilo, but the Government statistics disclose that in the month of May 1983, it was Rs. 4.3 per kilo. This is the average rate in India.

Madam, in Tamil Nadu the price of Bengal gram is Rs. 8.50 per kilo, the price of mustard is Rs. 10 per kilo, the price of garlic is Rs. 10 per kilo, the price of groundnut oil is Rs. 16 per kilo, the price of coconut oil is Rs. 45 per kilo and the price of tamarind is Rs. 12 per kilo. One bag of cement at the black market rate is sold at Rs. 90 in Tamil Nadu.

Madam, I draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Tamil Nadu Assembly passed a legislation to increase the tax from 4, per cent to 10 per cent for foodstuffs like milk powder, egg, fish, meat, prawns, soap, ghee, biscuits etc. Therefore, the people of Tamil Nadu have been badly affected by this legislation in addition to being affected already by the price rise.

Kindly see the price of gold in India. The poor and ordinary people could not purchase one sovereign which costs more than Rs. 1400.

Lastly, before I conclude my speech, I would like to draw your attention to what Prime Minister spoke on 14.7.83 to the 18th Conference of Chairmen of State Social Welfare Boards at New Delhi. She said :

“Recently I was in Europe and the countries which I visited were very unhappy because they had overproduction. They did not

know what to do with the wheat; they did not know what to do with their eggs; they did not know what to do with the milk and the butter which they were producing.

“Nobody was willing to buy all of it because they insisted still on having prices which even the richer countries felt they could not afford. So, it is a very peculiar, unbalanced world where in one part there is a shortage and in some parts like Northern Africa, there is still very great starvation, and elsewhere you have a situation where they have to throw away food and they have to pay their agriculturists not to produce.”

Therefore, I urge upon the Finance Minister through you, Madam, not to raise the prices as the people could not tolerate it. There is not only criticism against the State Governments, but the people are also expecting the Prime Minister to do something since 1980. For the last four years all the prices of foodstuff have gone up. Therefore, I urge upon the Finance Minister through you, Madam, to curb all this price rise in India.

SHRI K.A. RAJAN (Trichur) : The

Finance Minister's statement regarding the price situation has an entirely different not when compared to the earlier statement which he made on 18th August. That statement had a note of optimism. I find that optimism is not there because he may be reacting to the realistic situation.

I would like to draw attention to page 2 of his statement where he had indicated behaviour of certain commodities :

“However, prices of gur and tea have continued to increase. Similarly, coffee and edible oil prices have also increased by 4.9 per cent and 1.8 per cent respectively. Taken as a whole, some commodity groups, namely, food articles and food products have shown an increase of 1.8 per cent in the last three months. These items also figure prominently in the Consumer Price index, which during the period April to September has shown an increase of 10.4 per cent.”

This is the trend in which our price behaviour is going. But this price behaviour is not at all a peculiar phenomenon of a particular period. If you just go through the behaviour of the price for the last ten years except the year 1975, I would like to point out that there is rise in consumer price index. I would like to illustrate it.

In 1976	there	was	increase	of	8	points.
In 1977	“	“	“	“	23	“
In 1978	“	“	“	“	10	“
In 1979	“	“	“	“	42	“
In 1980	“	“	“	“	37	“
In 1981	“	“	“	“	49	“
In 1982	“	“	“	“	38	“
In 1983 (first 9 months)	“	“	“	“	54	“

[Shri K.A. Rajan]

From 495 in January, it has come to 549 in September unbeaten for the last comparable years. This is the real reflection of the behaviour of the price for the last ten years. Unfortunately, this is the most alarming price rise which we are facing. Because of the price rise it has got its own implications and impact on our whole economy as well as on the developmental activities. It has also been correctly reported by the Planning Commission—this price rise is also effecting very badly the planning process. Apart from all these things millions of our people are being effected and are reeling under the rising price. It erodes the wages of the organised and unorganised labour. Not only a vast million of rural population are reeling under the rise in prices, the rise in prices will reveal much more things also as stated by the hon. Finance Minister the wholesale price index increased in the current year @ 10% a month and the consumer price index @ 10.2% in the first week of October. The rate of increase of consumer price increase has been much more than 14% 10.2% wholesale price increase on all commodities does not correctly represent the painful rise in essential commodities of daily use between October this year and last year. I will just illustrate the increase—

Food articles	—	15.9%
Fruits and vegetables	—	35.1%
Sugar	—	24%
Edible oil	—	18.4%
Other food articles taken together	—	51.5%

The over all increase in price from 1980 onwards if you take comes to 48%. The price of sugar, khandsari and gur, as has been stated by the Finance Minister kept on rising despite massive sugar cane crop. This is the real indication of the behaviour of the price. But where are we to go from here? Every year we discuss and debate on this problem but unfortunately country is facing, as I stated, this serious problem of rise in

prices. The hon. Finance Minister, in the first part of the statement, has called for suggestions from the Members while taking part in the debate. Madam Chairman, while the last statement was made by the Minister on 18th August, on 21st August, in Delhi, a vast representative grthing of the trade union organisations of this country representing 8 Central trade unions and 16 industrial federations was held in Delhi. They had gone through the hon. Finance Minister's last statement regarding the price situation because the organised working class are very much affected by the rise in prices, erosion of wages in their day-to-day life. But, as the organised working class movement, they were not only confined to their own class interest but they took the whole interest of the nation and the other rural people. In that gatheing, certain concrete suggestions were put forward. A declaration was adopted by the convention of the national campaign committee and a particular resolution was also passed on the price situation. I am just putting forward those suggestions. I put it before the hon. Finance Minister just to ponder over the thing and I would like to hear what is his reaction to the proposal. The first proposal is to streamline, expand and extend the public distribution system. The second proposal is to bring more items under the umbrella of the public distribution system. Third suggestion is to identify the ghost cards in those areas where the ration cerds are prevalent. Fourth suggestion is just to see that the people get the necessary essential commodities at the respective shops and for this, vigilance committees consisting of people's representatives should be constituted. Fifth suggestion is in order to supply those essential commodities to the people through the public distribution system the Government should procure and see that the commodities in adequate quantity are available.

Unfortunately, we see that in most of the shops though the commodities are mentioned in the board, they are not available because of various reasons. I do not want to repeat all those things. Therefore, the essential commodities

should be procured on wholesale basis and it should be seen that they are being distributed through the public distribution channel. This could very well have certain control over the existing price rise. Two years back in Kerala, it was experimented and all the stores had been opened in most of the areas. They were able to control and regulate the price and thereby stock the blackmarketing, hoarding and all those things. That is, they should take over the wholesale trade in food-grains.

The other proposal put forward by the convention is that those industries which are manufacturing essential commodities especially textiles, drugs, edible oil and other consumer goods should be taken over or nationalised by the government. Madam Chairman, the issue of nationalisation of textiles was discussed day before yesterday in the convention of INTUC and they have passed a resolution recommending to the Government that textiles be nationalised. This was the suggestion which was put forward in the August convention of the trade unions and federations which was held in Delhi. I would like to know the reaction of the hon. Finance Minister on those declarations and suggestions put forward by the most representative gathering in Delhi.

I would like to represent Kerala also which is my State. Kerala has had a very organised distribution system. Unfortunately, we are facing a crisis because for the last so many years, as a rice-eating State, we are short of rice by 50%.

Usually, the Central Government used to supply 1.35 lakh tonnes of rice for the rationing system. The present Kerala Government under Mr. Karunakaran has taken up the matter with the Central Government. He has called a meeting of MPs. Unfortunately, for the last five or six or seven months, adequate quantity of rice is not being supplied. The whole rationing system is suffering thereby and the people are in great difficulties. I

would like the impress upon the Central Government, in order that the rationing system is strengthened, to see that adequate quantity of rice is supplied to the State of Kerala so that they can continue with this rationing system.

I do not want to take much time of the House because almost all the points have been made. I just want to impress upon the hon. Finance Minister that unless he takes strong measures within the framework of the institution of public distribution system to see that the rise in prices is halted, there will be so many repercussions on the industrial side as well as on the economic side. The organised workers are suffering very much. In spite of whatever D.A. they are getting, that is not being fully neutralised. The full neutralisation of the rise in prices is not being done. The discussion is going on as to how far it should be neutralised. The impact of rise in prices is creating all sorts of problems on various fronts, whether it is organised or unorganised sector, rural or urban sector. The Government should take strong measures to control the price rise and see that all the people who are suffering from the impact of rise in prices are protected.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास (भीलवाड़ा) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, प्राइस राइज के सम्बन्ध में वित्त मंत्री ने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है और जिस प्रकार से उन्होंने प्राइस राइज को कंट्रोल करने की व्यवस्था के बारे में जिन्न किया है वह तो निश्चित तरीके से प्रशंसनीय है।... (व्यवधान)... अगर आप यह चाहते हैं कि मैं आप से ही बोलूँ तो मैं प्राइस राइज की बात छोड़ देता हूँ, सारी बातें आप से ही बोलता हूँ क्योंकि पोलिटिकल पार्टीज के ऊपर बोलने की मेरी अच्छी आदत है और इसलिए मैं आप के बारे में ज्यादा अच्छी तरह बोल सकता हूँ।

डा० सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी : आप प्राइस
राइज पर बोलिए ।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : मैं जिक्र कर रहा था कि प्राइस राइज को कंट्रोल करने की व्यवस्था वित्त मंत्री जी ने बहुत बढ़िया की है और जिस तरीके से होल सेल प्राइस को उन्होंने कंट्रोल किया है वह प्रशंसनीय है । लेकिन मैं कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस की तरफ उन का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि हम लोगों का ताल्लुक ज्यादातर कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस से ही रहता है । होल सेल प्राइस से ताल्लुक तो सरकार का रहता है या बड़े बड़े मोनोपलिस्ट्स और पूंजीपतियों का रहता है । इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि वह कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस को किस तरीके से कंट्रोल करेंगे ? आज जो 25 परसेंट का फर्क होल सेल प्राइस और कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस में है उसे मिटाने की बहुत बड़ी आवश्यकता है । वह तभी मिट सकता है जब हम प्रोडक्शन को बढ़ाएं और प्रोडक्शन तब बढ़ सकता है जब किसान को आप ज्यादा मदद करें और किसान की आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करें ।

इस साल क्या हुआ ? किसान जितना प्रोडक्शन करना चाहता था, 142 लाख टन हमारा प्रोडक्शन होगा यह हमारा लक्ष्य था लेकिन इस से भी ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन हो सकता था अगर आप के यहां से जो फर्टिलाइजर किसानों को मिला है उस में जो मिलावट की गई है और गड़बड़ की गई है वह नहीं हुई होती । अगर यह नहीं होता तो निश्चित तरीके से हमारा प्रोडक्शन 142 लाख टन से ज्यादा होता । इसलिए फर्टिलाइजर में जो बेईमानी और मिलावट

हो रही है उस को रोकने की बहुत आवश्यकता है । तभी प्रोडक्शन बढ़ेगा ।

दूसरा निवेदन मेरा पेस्टिसाइड्स के संबंध में है । आज पेस्टिसाइड्स में इतनी मिलावट है कि जिस की कोई हद्द नहीं । लोग बाग कहते हैं कि जहर भी लेने जाओ तो जहर भी ऐसा मिलता है कि जिस से कोई आदमी नहीं मरता है । उस में इतनी ज्यादा मिलावट है । यही हालत पेस्टिसाइड्स की है । पेस्टिसाइड्स जिन के जरिए से हम फसलों को सुरक्षित करना चाहते हैं उन का कोई असर नहीं पड़ रहा है । हमारे राजस्थान में केवल 30 परसेंट कपास की पैदावार खराब पेस्टिसाइड्स की वजह से हुई है । 70 परसेंट का नुकसान है । इस तरह के जो हालात पूंजीपतियों के द्वारा क्रिएट हो रहे हैं उनको निश्चित रूप से रोकने की आवश्यकता है । अगर आप नहीं रोकेंगे तो यह मंहगाई रकने वाली नहीं है । इन लोगों को बहुत बड़ी सजा दी जानी चाहिए ताकि दूसरों के लिए वह इबरत हो सके । आज जो व्यापारी मिलावट करके इस देश के साथ गद्दारी कर रहे हैं उनके ऊपर सख्त कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए ।

फूडग्रेन्स के सम्बन्ध में आपकी प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस और सेल प्राइस है उसपर भी प्राइसेज बहुत कुछ निर्भर करती है । अगर आप फूड ग्रेन्स को कंट्रोल में रखते हैं तो दूसरी प्राइसेज को भी आप कंट्रोल में रख सकेंगे । लेकिन आपका जो प्रोक्योरमेंट होता है उसमें भी गड़बड़ है । एफ० सी० आई० एजेंटों के द्वारा अनाज खरीदता है और जो गरीब किसान हैं उनको पूरा पैसा नहीं मिलता है । अगर किसान अपना गल्ला लेकर उन के पास जायगा तो उससे कह दिया जायगा कि

तुम्हारी बेरायटी खराब है । लेकिन उसी गल्ले को अगर एजेंट लेकर वहाँ पर जायेगा तो उसको पूरी कीमत मिल जायेगी । इस प्रकार से गरीब किसानों का जो शोषण हो रहा है उसको भी रोका जाना चाहिए । प्रति क्वींटल के पीछे 18 रु० इश्यु प्राइस आपकी लगती है जबकि आम व्यापारी एक दो परसेंट पर अपना व्यापार चलाते हैं लेकिन फिर भी कहा जाता है कि वे बहुत मुनाफा लेते हैं । यह जो आपका इतना बड़ा खर्चा हो रहा है इसका भी प्राइस राइज पर असर पड़ रहा है । इसकी ओर भी आपको ध्यान देना चाहिए ।

आप जो टैक्सेज वसूल करते हैं— सेल्स टैक्स, इनकम टैक्स, एक्साइज ड्यूटी, कस्टम ड्यूटी इत्यादि— उसको बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति इवेड कर जाते हैं । आम लोगों से ही आप पूरा टैक्स वसूल कर पाते हैं । आप जो भी टैक्स लगाते हैं उसको पूरी तरह से वसूल करने की भी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए । वह पैसा सरकार के खजाने तक न पहुँचे, दूसरे लोग उसको खा जायें, इसका असर भी प्राइस राइज पर पड़ता है । आज सबसे ज्यादा टैक्सेज हिन्दुस्तान में लगाए जाते हैं और सबसे ज्यादा टैक्स इवेजन भी यहीं पर होता है । इसी के द्वारा ब्लैकमनी जेनरेट हो रहा है और उसका असर भी प्राइस राइज पर भी पड़ता है ।

जितने बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति हैं वे जो कल-कार-खाने लगाते हैं उनमें 80-90 परसेंट पैसा आपके फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस का होता है । वे आपके पैसे का दुरुपयोग करके, अपने सारे असेट्स ट्रांसफर कर देते हैं और फिर

सिक इंडस्ट्री बनाकर आपका पैसा हजम करना चाहते हैं । इस प्रवृत्ति को भी रोका जाना चाहिए । यह पैसा ब्लैक मनी में चला जाता है । हमने पूछा कि यहां इस देश में कुल कितना ब्लैकमनी होगा तो इसका उत्तर आपके फाइनेंशियल एक्सपर्ट्स दे नहीं सके । इस देश के जो बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति हैं— जैसा कि अभी जिक्र हो रहा था— जो मोनो-पोली हाउसेज हैं दस पांच, वे किस तरह से ट्रस्ट खोलकर टैक्स इवेजन कर रहे हैं । उसका ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ उठा रहे हैं और उसके जरिए से ब्लैक मनी क्रिएट कर रहे हैं, जिसका अगर हमारे फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस पर पड़ रहा है । इसको रोकने की बहुत बड़ी आवश्यकता है । इस प्रकार जो सिक-हाउसेस बनाए जाते हैं उनको निश्चित तरीके से रोकने की बहुत बड़ी आवश्यकता है । उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप के माध्यम से माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे राजस्थान में स्पीनिंग वीविंग मिल है, जिसमें पांच-सात करोड़ रुपया भारत सरकार के फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस से लगा हुआ है । वह मिल अब नाम बदलने जा रही है । इसके बारे में मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी को लिखा है कि वह मिल आपका सारा पैसा खा जाएगी और बाद में आप उस मिल से एक पैसा भी वसूल नहीं कर पायेंगे ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That Bill is coming—regarding taking over of textile mills.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : इस तरह से आपका पैसा पूंजीपति लोग खा जाते हैं और उसका असर गरीब जनता पर पड़ता है । माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय आप बार-

[श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास]

बार घण्टी मत बजाइये । एक तो नंबर काफी देर बाद आता है और ऊपर से आप बोलने नहीं देते हैं, घण्टी बजा देते हैं । आपके मद्रास में पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम बहुत अच्छा है, सारे देश में मद्रास जैसा पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम बनाने की कोशिश कीजिए । इस तरह की व्यवस्था कीजिए, ताकि हर वस्तु लोगों को आसानी से प्राप्त हो सके । माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी आपको जानकारी होगी कि एसेशियल आइटम्स—मोटा कपड़ा, खाने का तेल और अन्य प्रकार की वस्तुयें—लोगों को उपलब्ध नहीं होती हैं, वे सब ब्लैक मार्केट में चली जाती हैं । यदि किसी काश्तकार को मोटे कपड़े की धोती चाहिए, तो वह भी उसको उपलब्ध नहीं होती है, उसको बाजार से खरीदनी पड़ती है । यदि वह धाती उसको कंट्रोल में 22 रु० में मिलेगी तो बाहर से उसको 42 से 45 रु० तक देना पड़ता है । पांच सौ करोड़ रु० आप एन० टी० सी० पर खर्च करते हैं और नुकसान उठाते हैं । आप हमारे खून पसीने का पैसा बड़े-बड़े पूजापतियों के ऊपर खर्च करते हैं और उसका फायदा गरीबों को नहीं मिलता है । डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन के लिए आपने होलसेल भंडार, सहकारी भंडार और न जाने कौन से भंडार बना रखे हैं, ताकि लोगों को सामान सुविधा से प्राप्त हो सके, लेकिन वहां पर ब्लैक मार्केटिंग का धन्धा होता है । वह कपड़ा गरीब लोगों के घर तक नहीं पहुंच पाता है । हमारे राजस्थान में तो भयंकर हालत है । किसी भी गांव में इस प्रकार का कपड़ा किसी भी दुकान पर उपलब्ध नहीं होता है । यही हालत खाने के तेल की है । 9 रु० कंट्रोल में लोगों को तेल नहीं मिलता है, ब्लैक मार्केट में 17-18 रु०

किलो खरीदना पड़ता है । इसी प्रकार गेहूं, चावल और अन्य खाद्य पदार्थ किस तरीके से मिलते हैं, इसके बारे में भी आपको जानकारी करनी चाहिए । सारा सामान ब्लैक में बेच कर लोगों को ककड़-पत्थर मिलाकर सामान बेचते हैं ।

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम पर चाहे एक हजार करोड़ रुपया खर्च कीजिए, ज्यादा सविसडी दीजिए, ताकि लोगों को सामान उपलब्ध हो सके, लेकिन इस सारी व्यवस्था का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है, जो कि नहीं होना चाहिए । कहने को तो आपने कह दिया है दो लाख 92 हजार दुकानें खोल दी हैं, लेकिन इन सब का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है । इस लिए इस व्यवस्था को ज्यादा से ज्यादा मजबूत बनाना चाहिए । एक तरफ आप लोगों को मंहगाई भत्ता देते हैं तो दूसरी तरफ मंहगाई बढ़ जाती है, जिससे उनको ज्यादा फायदा नहीं होता है । आपको यह व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों या मजदूरों को सस्ते भावों पर गल्ला उपलब्ध कराइए, ताकि मंहगाई भत्ता बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता ही न पड़े । इधर मंहगाई भत्ता बढ़ा और दूसरी तरफ बाजार में भाव बढ़ गये । एक क्लर्क को जो मिलेगा उस के दूसरे दिन ही भाव में दुगना फर्क पड़ जायगा । इस से न कर्मचारियों को लाभ होता है और न मजदूरों को लाभ होता है । इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि उन के लिये कोई स्थायी व्यवस्था को जाय जिस से सरकार को मंहगाई भत्ता न देना पड़े और हम मंहगाई को कंट्रोल कर सकें ।

मेरा सरकार से यह भी निवेदन है कि थोड़ा सख्ती कीजिये, ये जो होर्डस हैं, ब्लैक-

मार्केटिंग्स हैं, जिस तरह से एमर्जेन्सी के जमाने में आप ने उन को बंद किया था: इस समय भी उसी प्रकार की व्यवस्था की जरूरत है। इन लोगों को पकड़ कर बंद कीजिए ताकि ये लोग जिस प्रकार का दुरुपयोग करते हैं वह न हो।

अब एक बात मैं अपने कम्युनिस्ट भाइयों से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने प्राइस राइज का जिक्र करते हुये कलकत्ता का भी उल्लेख किया...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Dearness Allowance is granted only if the price increases continuously for one year. Only after the increase in prices that the dearness allowance is given. It is not that the dearness allowance is given and then the price increases.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ— ये पैदा कुछ नहीं करते हैं और रात-दिन सरकार को कोसते रहते हैं। सारे हिन्दुस्तान में सब से ज्यादा खाने का सामान यहाँ से ले जाते हैं, एक दाना भी प्रोक्योर नहीं करते, ऊपर से तुरी यह लंगाये रहते हैं कि हमारे यहाँ सब से चीपेस्ट है। ये इस बात को भूल जाते हैं कि सारा सामान हमारी सरकार देती है, तब कलकत्ता चीपेस्ट है या वेस्ट बंगाल चीपेस्ट है, वरना आप के पास क्या पैदा होता है? कुछ भी पैदा नहीं होता है

...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य : हमारे पास कोयला है, लोहा है, जूट है...

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : आप की

सरकार का जो ब्यौरा निकला है उस से मालूम होता है कि आप के पास कुछ नहीं है। जब दूसरे का माल खाते हो तो दूसरे की व्यवस्था को भी सुन्दर बनाना सीखो, तब आपकी व्यवस्था ठीक होगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी की नीति का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री नाथूराम मिर्धा (नागौर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले सत्र में भी इस मंहगाई के बारे में चर्चा हुई थी और इस बार भी विरोध पक्ष के लोगों ने सरकार से मांग की कि मंहगाई बढ़ती जा रही है उस पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। मंत्री जी ने इस की शुरुआत करते हुये एक स्टेटमेंट दिया और उस स्टेटमेंट को मैंने, यद्यपि छोटा है, गहराई से पढ़ा। वित्त मंत्री जी ने दबी जबान से इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि पिछले सत्र में मंहगाई के सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने जो बात कही थी उस से आगे बढ़ी है। लेकिन उन्होंने आशा व्यक्त की है कि इस साल खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन 142 मिलियन टन हो जायगा तथा वे बैंकों की लिक्विडिटी को ज्यादा बढ़ा रहे हैं, जिस से मनी सर्कुलेशन कम होगा, इस का कीमतों पर असर पड़ेगा और कीमतें कम हो जायेंगी। मेरे ख्याल से यह मामला इतना सिम्पल नहीं है, यह बड़ा कम्प्लिकेटेड मामला है और जैसा एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा था कि हम ये आंकड़े किसी भी पीरियड के उठा लेते हैं, जैसा जिस को सूट करता है वह होल सेल प्राइस और रिटेल प्राइस के आंकड़ों तो उठा कर अपनी दृष्टि से अपनी बात को कह देता है जब कि वास्तविकता से उस का सम्बन्ध कम होता है। आपने अपनी स्टेटमेंट में बहुत आशा व्यक्त की है और ईश्वर की कृपा भी है

[श्री नाथूराम मिर्धा]

कि बरसात हुई है, 140 मिलियन टन का उत्पादन होगा। लेकिन जब श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी बोल रहे थे तब बीच में उपाध्यक्ष महोदय ने कहा था कि जनसंख्या भी बढ़ रही है। सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी ने कहा — बढ़ तो रही है, लेकिन जिस रफ्तार से महंगाई बढ़ रही है उस रफ्तार से जनसंख्या नहीं बढ़ रही है। यह बात ठीक है, इन्हीं सब बातों पर सोच विचार कर के एक महत्वपूर्ण काम कृषि आयोग को सौंपा गया था कि आने वाली सेंचुरी के अंत तक क्या होगा और 1985 के अंत तक क्या होगा, कितनी जनसंख्या बढ़ेगी, उस को दृष्टि में रखते हुए कितनी चीजों की जरूरत होगी और उस जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिये हम को उत्पादन का क्या प्रोग्राम बनाना चाहिए। आपने 142 मिलियन टन खाद्यान्न पैदा होने की संभावना के लिए खुशी जाहिर की। पहले 132 मिलियन टन अनाज हुआ था और अब आप 142 मिलियन टन पर पहुंच गये, यह खुशी की बात है लेकिन आज जनसंख्या जिस तरह से बढ़ रही है, उस को भी आप देखें, 1 पर थाऊजेंट जहां बढ़नी चाहिए, वह आज 2.2 पर थाऊजेंट बढ़ रही है, तो उस के हिसाब से आप को 1985 तक उत्पादन 158 मिलियन टन करना है और 1985 अब आने ही वाला है। 142 मिलियन टन से 158 मिलियन टन अगर आप पहुंच जाएंगे, तो प्रोपोशनेलटी कीमतें सही रह सकती हैं और तब लोगों को सही हिसाब से खाना मिल सकता है। यह योजना का विषय नहीं है लेकिन अभी तक योजना के बारे में यहां पर चर्चा नहीं हुई है और उस के लिये समय नहीं मिला है जो कुछ कह जाता और यह सब बताने का मौका मिलता लेकिन मैं इस वक्त सिर्फ इतना ही कहना

चाहता हूँ कि आप भी इस बात को स्वीकार करेंगे कि योजना आज जिस तरीके से चल रही है, वह सही नहीं है। कांग्रेस (आई) पार्टी के सेक्रेटरी महोदय भाई श्री राजीव गांधी, जो इस हाऊस के मेम्बर हैं, वे आज कल देश का दौरा कर रहे हैं और सब लोगों को कहते हैं कि योजनाओं पर तो खर्च बहुत कम हो रहा है और ज्यादा खर्च योजना की व्यवस्था करने पर हो रहा है। वे बता रहे हैं कि 70 परसेंट से 80 परसेंट खर्चा व्यवस्थाओं में ही हो जाता है और योजना के लिये सिर्फ 20 फीसदी बचता है और उस 20 फीसदी में भी कितना फिल्टर होता है और कितना लीकेज होता है, इस बात को आप और हम सब अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं। इशारा देना ही काफी है। बहुत ज्यादा पैसा फिल्टर होता है और योजना में वास्तव में बहुत पैसा खर्च होता है। आप के पब्लिक सेक्टर के कारखाने हैं, वे चाहे स्टेट्स के हों या सेक्टर के हों, उन में सरकार का कितना पैसा लगा है लेकिन उन के लिए जो टागेंट्स फिक्स किये जाते हैं, वे एचीव न होने के कारण लोअर डाऊन कर दिये जाते हैं और वे लोअर डाऊन टागेंट्स भी एचीव नहीं हो रहे हैं। यह आप के प्लान का मिड-टर्म एप्रोजल बताता है। इस के बारे में मैं और ज्यादा कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता। जो उत्पादन का दृश्य है और जो खाद्यान्न की बात आप ने कही और जो दालें और तेल और दूसरी चीजों का उत्पादन है या जो इंडस्ट्रियल उत्पादन है, उस के बारे में बहुत से फैक्ट्स एण्ड फीगर्स रखे गये हैं और वे बराबर कमजोर होते चले जा रहे हैं। जितनी जनसंख्या बढ़नी चाहिए, इस से ज्यादा जनसंख्या बढ़ रही है और इस लिए महंगाई भी बढ़ रही है। जब चीजें कम होती हैं और आदमी ज्यादा होते हैं, तो महंगाई

बढ़ती है और मंहगाई बढ़ने के अन्दर जो हमारी व्यवस्थाएं हैं, वे न कम्युनिस्टिक हैं, न वे उन से मेल खाती हैं और न कंपी-टेलिस्टिक तरीके से वे चलती हैं और इस गरीब देश में गरीबी रेखा के नीचे जो 50 फीसदी आदमी रहते हैं, उन आदमियों के लिए हम सोचते हैं कि समाजवादी व्यवस्था भी करेंगे और उस के साथ ही कंपीटल व्यवस्था भी चलती रहती है, जिस के बारे में श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास जी ने एक अच्छा दृश्य यहां खींचा । मेरे ख्याल से उन्होंने जो हालात पेश किये और जो बातें कहीं, उन से आप को सपोर्ट नहीं किया बल्कि आप के विरुद्ध ही कुछ कहा है ।

तो मैं आप से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं । आप वित्त के मंत्री हैं और एक बहुत विद्वान आदमी हैं । मैं चाहता हूं कि कृषि आयोग की जो रिपोर्टें हैं, उन को आप पढ़ें । इस देश में कृषि आज ही नहीं बल्कि आने वाले 100 सालों तक रहेगी और उस का विकास करने से देश की तरक्की हो सकेगी और दूसरी चीजों का विकास करने से देश ऊंचे लेबिल पर नहीं आ सकेगा जब तक कि आप कृषि का विकास न करें ।

मैं आप से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं क्योंकि आप ने कहा है कि बाजरा और मकई की कीमत कुछ कम हुई है । आप ने कहा कि स्टेट की सरकारें इसे खरीद लें । स्टेट सरकारों के पास न कोई संगठन है और न कोई धन है । आप ने कह दिया कि 124 रु० से नीचे दाम नहीं गिरने देंगे लेकिन मेरे इलाके में ये दाम गिरकर 100 रु०, 90 और 80 रु० तक आ गये हैं । मैं ने यहां

दिल्ली में आकर बात उठाई । कृषि मंत्री जी ने तो कुछ हमारी मदद की लेकिन आप के फूड मंत्री जी कृषकों से हमदर्दी बिल्कुल नहीं लगी और उन्होंने अपने पुट्ट पर हाथ नहीं रखने दिया । उन्होंने कहा कि एफ० सी० आई० यह काम नहीं कर सकती । एफ० सी० आई० यह काम नहीं करेगी, तो कौन करेगा । मिनीमम प्राइस आपने फिक्स कर दी और उस से कम प्राइस जाती है, तो उस को कौन खरीदेगा । हमने फिर प्रधान मंत्री जी से बातचीत की और मैं इस मौके पर माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने इस में इंटरफियर किया है । उन्होंने कहा कि स्टेट के पास न पैसा है और न संगठन है, इसलिए एफ० सी० आई० मैदान में जाएगा । तब एफ० सी० आई० के द्वारा खरीदना शुरू हुआ और दाम 130-135 तक गया ।

मैं थोड़ा बहुत बाजरा खाता हूं और चिड़ियों को भी डालता हूं । इसके लिए मैंने आदमी भेजा तो रद्दी किस्म का बाजरा दिल्ली में 2 रु० किलो मिला । राजस्थान में 130 रु० प्रति क्विंटल का बाजरा यहां 2 रु० किलो में मिलता है । कितना फर्क है । ये सब मिडिल मैन गड़बड़ करता है । आप एक व्हाइट पेपर निकालिए । उसमें बताइए कि किसान जब चीज लेकर जाता है तब उसको क्या मिलता है और जब वह चीज बाजार में आती है तो उसकी कीमत क्या होती है । होलसेल प्राइसेस और रिटेल प्राइसेस में कितना अंतर है । इन सब चीजों को देखने की आवश्यकता है । आप कहते हैं कि पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम ठीक होना चाहिए । इसको ठीक करने के लिए चीजें आनी चाहिए । चीजों को कौन इकट्ठा करेगा । फैक्ट्रियों में बनने वाली चीजों की

[श्री नाथूराम मिर्धा]

क्या स्थिति है। जितने भी लोग आर्गनाइजेशन में लगे होते हैं सब आपस में मुनाफे को बांट लेते हैं। अपनी तन्हवाहें बढ़ा लेते हैं और बटवारा कर लेते हैं। थोड़ी सी कपनियों को छोड़कर बाकी सब घाटे में दिखाते हैं और सारा मुनाफा बांट लेते हैं। पब्लिक सेक्टर में बनने वाली चीजों की कीमत भी आप बढ़ाते हैं। अभी पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स और अन्य चीजों की कितनी कीमतें बढ़ी हैं। किसानों के काम में आने वाली चीजों के दाम कितने बढ़े हैं और किसानों के उत्पादन की प्राइस कितनी इंक्रीज की है पिछले दस वर्षों की, इसको आप देख लीजिए। इस पर कोई विचार करने को तैयार नहीं है।

मैंने सुझाव दिया है कि जब तक आप हाट बाजार की व्यवस्था, मार्केटिंग की व्यवस्था को ठीक नहीं करेंगे तब तक यह काम नहीं हो सकता है। ब्लैक लेवल से लेकर एक व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। इसमें कोआपरेटिव आर्गनाइजेशन को इन्वाल्व करके कृषि उत्पादनों की खरीद फरोख्त जब तक नहीं करेंगे, प्राइवेट व्यापारियों के कंपीटीशन में जब तक इसको यहीं लाएंगे तब तक किसान को कभी सही दाम नहीं मिलेगा और पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के लिए चीजों को इकट्ठा करने का इसके सिवा कोई रास्ता नहीं हो सकता। इसलिए कोआपरेटिव सोसायटीज को मार्केटिंग व्यवस्था को ठीक करने के लिए आगे लाना चाहिए। इसके अभाव में चीजों को इकट्ठा नहीं किया जा सकता। अगर चीज आ भी गई और कोई गलत आदमी अपाएंट हो गया तो सारी व्यवस्था खोखली बना देगा। कुछ रुपया रोकने से या उत्पादन बढ़ने की आशा करने से प्राइस कंट्रोल नहीं हो सकता।

आशा बनी रहेगी, काम नहीं होगा। इसके लिए आपको कोई पालिसी डिजीजिन लेना होगा। कमीशंस की रिपोर्ट्स आपके सामने हैं, उनकी तरफ गहराई से देने की आवश्यकता है। मैंने 49 वें वाल्यूम की रिपोर्ट आपके सामने रखी। समय कम है, मैं आपका ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता।

मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह समस्या इतनी सिंपल नहीं है। आप कहते हैं कि उत्पादन बढ़ाएंगे जिससे भाव कम होंगे, इससे यह काम कतई होने वाला नहीं है। मैंने बाजार की बात बता दी है। आपसे फिर कहता हूँ कि एफ०सी०आई० को वहां पर बाजरा खरीदना चाहिए। कल को मान लीजिए अकाल पड़ता है तो बाजरा हमारे यहां बहुत लोग खाते हैं। आज भी बाजरा 2 रु० किलो बिकता है। आप यहां पर लाकर बेच सकते हैं। आपको कौन रोकता है। पर काम कोई नहीं करना चाहता। सब खड़े-खड़े तमाशा देखना चाहते हैं। मैं बहुत नम्रता से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि प्रशासन में सुधार करने की जरूरत है। एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के फालतू खर्चों को कम करने की जरूरत है। गलत टैक्सों को हटाने की जरूरत है। किसानों को उनके उत्पादन का सही दाम देना होगा तभी सब चीजों का उत्पादन बढ़ेगा। तर्भ; देश का उत्पादन बढ़ेगा। इसके लिए आपको मार्केटिंग की व्यवस्था ठीक करनी होगी।

हाट बाजारी व्यवस्था आपको ठीक से जमानी पड़ेगी तब जाकर कंज्यूमर और प्रोड्यूसर की बात समझ में आ सकती है। व्यास जी ने बिचौलियों को हटाने के बारे में काफी कुछ नहीं कह दिया है, मैं उन बातों को रिपीट नहीं करूंगा। मैं इतना ही निवेदन करूंगा कि यह मामला बहुत गंभीर है

और देश के हालात हर तरह से गंभीर होते जा रहे हैं। जनसंख्या तेजी से बढ़ रही है लेकिन उत्पादन बहुत ही कम बढ़ रहा है। उत्पादन बढ़ने में आज बहुत बाधाएं हैं और बहुत ज्यादा भ्रष्टाचार है। यही मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ।

श्री हरीश रावत (अल्मोड़ा) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय मंत्री जी न यहां पर मूल्य स्थिति के विषय में जो ब्यान दिया उसमें उन्होंने इस बात को स्पष्ट किया है कि इस दौरान कुछ हद तक कुछ आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में अवश्य वृद्धि हुई है। लेकिन, जिस प्रकार की स्थिति इस समय देश के सामने है और जिन प्राकृतिक विपदाओं का सामना हमको करना पड़ा है, मैं समझता हूँ, इससे और बेहतर स्थिति मूल्य नियंत्रण के संदर्भ में नहीं हो सकती थी। जो उपाय सरकार ने किए हैं, वे वास्तव में सराहनीय हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह भी आशावादिता जाहिर की है कि इस दौरान 142 मिलियन टन अनाज का उत्पादन होगा। मैं यह समझता हूँ कि इतना उत्पादन बढ़ने के बाद बाजार पर नियंत्रण रखने के लिए बाहर से भी कुछ आवश्यक वस्तुओं को मंगाने का जिक्र माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने ब्यान में किया है। जिस माध्यम से ये वस्तुएं साधारण आदमी को उपलब्ध होंगी जब तक उस माध्यम पर हमारा नियंत्रण नहीं होगा तब तक मैं समझता हूँ उत्पादन बढ़ाने के हमारे सारे प्रयत्न विफल होंगे। आज जो हमारा मार्किटिंग नेट वर्क है, इसके ऊपर ऐसे कुछ लोगों का शिकंजा है, जो किसी भी प्रकार से जनता की कठिनाई को बढ़ाने में दिल-

चस्पी रखते हैं और अपना फायदा चाहते हैं। साथ ही साथ जनता को भी उपभोक्ता के रूप में इतना ऊंचा नहीं कर पाए हैं कि ऐसे लोगों की जो साजिश है, उसको रेसीस्ट कर सकें। माननीय मंत्री जी से मेरा निवेदन है कि जब तक हम मार्किटिंग नेट वर्क के ऊपर कोई स्पष्ट नियंत्रण नहीं रखेंगे तब तक उत्पादन बढ़ाने और उत्पादन बढ़ाने के माध्यम से बाहर से आयात करके देश के अंदर उपलब्धता बढ़ाने मात्र से मूल्य स्थिति पर नियंत्रण नहीं रखा जा सकता। यह बात इससे भी जाहिर होती है कि खरीफ का उत्पादन बढ़ा। मगर, इसके बढ़ने के बावजूद गेहूं, चावल या दूसरी वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में जिस प्रकार की गिरावट और उत्पादन बढ़ने में होती थी, उसी प्रकार की गिरावट इन वस्तुओं के मूल्यों पर नहीं हुई।

आजकल सब्जी का मौसम है। आप मार्किट में चले जाएं, आपको हर सब्जी के दाम बढ़े हुए मिलेंगे। कई प्रकार की रियायतों की घोषणा सरकार करती है, लेकिन उन रियायतों का फायदा उपभोक्ता तक नहीं पहुंच पा रहा है। इस बात को देखने की जरूरत है कि जो छूट हमने दी है, वह छूट जिस व्यक्ति के लिए हम दे रहे हैं, वह उस व्यक्ति तक पहुंचे। जिस कीमत को हम नियंत्रित करना चाहते हैं, उसका फायदा उपभोक्ता को मिले। उत्पादन को बढ़ाकर मूल्य स्थिति पर नियंत्रण रखना चाहते हैं। इसके लिए हमारे कुछ मित्रों ने उपाय बताए कि पल्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को स्ट्रेन्थन करना चाहिए। इस बात से कोई इंकार नहीं करेगा। वर्तमान समय में जो हमारा डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम है, उस पर राज्य सरकारों का

[श्री हरीश रावत]

नियंत्रण है। मैं समझता हूँ, जितना भ्रष्ट आज हमारा पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम है, उतना शायद ही कोई तंत्र हो। पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के ऊपर प्राइवेट मार्किटिंग सेक्टर को बेलेंस करने का दायित्व है, वह उसको बेलेंस करने का दायित्व सप्लीमेंट करता है। साथ-साथ दूर दराज के जो इलाके हैं, गांव हैं, देहात हैं, सब पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम फैला हुआ नहीं है। मिश्रा जी ने सुझाव रखा है कि कोआप्रोेटिव को यह काम दिया जाना चाहिए। कोआप्रोेटिव वाला एक अच्छा सिद्धांत हो सकता है। लेकिन व्यवहार में इस में अच्छाई निकली हो ऐसा दिखाई नहीं देता है। आप सारे उत्तर भारत को लें। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश का रहने वाला हूँ। मैंने देखा है कि यह चीज शायद ही कहीं सफल हुई हो। कहीं कोआप्रोेटिव सेक्टर सफल नहीं हो पाया है। राज्य सरकारों के उपर यह सैक्टर एक प्रकार का बर्डन बन कर रह गया है। जिस प्रकार से यह इफैक्टिव हो सकता था नहीं हुआ है। इसको भी देखा जाना चाहिए। राज्य सरकारों से बातचीत करके पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को इफैक्टिव बनाया जाना चाहिए।

राज्य सरकार के लोगों से बात करते हैं तो पता चलता है कि कहीं चावल नहीं मिलता है, जहां गेहूं की आवश्यकता होती है वहां पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के माध्यम से गेहूं नहीं मिलता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई तर्कसंगत आधार तय किया जाना चाहिये। राज्य सरकारों से समय पर आपको मांग आए या न आए आपको अपने तौर पर जो स्टॉक आपको रिलीज करना होता है उसको कर दिया जाना चाहिये ताकि राज्यों में वह

समय पर पहुंच सके और लोगों को उपलब्ध हो सके। लोगों को समय पर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के जरिए चीजे उपलब्ध नहीं होती हैं। गरीब आदमी के पास हमेशा पैसा नहीं रहता है। जैसे ही उसको तनख्वाह मिलती है वह मार्किट में खरीदने के लिए निकल पड़ता है। अगर पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के जरिए उसको सामान उपलब्ध नहीं होता है तो वह दुकानदार से ऊंचे दामों पर खरीद लाता है और अपनी आवश्यकता की पूर्ति कर लेता है। चूंक खाने के लिए शाम की आवश्यकता की उसको पूर्ति करनी होती है इस वास्ते दुकानदार को मनमाने दाम देने के लिए उसको मजबूर होना पड़ता है। इस वास्ते आपको देखना चाहिये कि पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के द्वारा उसको समय पर सामान मिल जाया करे।

श्रीमती प्रमिला दंडवते ने पिछली बार जब बहस हुई थी तब कंज्यूमर मूवमेंट को स्ट्रॉन्ग करने की बात कही थी। इस और भी हमें ध्यान देना चाहिये। जो हमारा मीडिया है, अखबार, रेडियो, टी० वी० आदि हैं इनका इस मामले में अधिक से अधिक उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। बाजार में जिस चीज की कमी होती है, हमारी आदत है कि हम उसको स्टोर करके रख लेना चाहते हैं। बजाय इसके कि उस चीज की अपनी जरूरत को हम कम करें, अपने नियंत्रण लगाए और ज्यादा उस वस्तु को खरीद कर रख लेना चाहते हैं। इसकी वजह से भी सरकार के जो अनुमान हैं वे अपसैट होते हैं। इसका भी ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिये।

मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि बैंकों द्वारा पूंजी उधार दिए जाने पर भी कुछ नियंत्रण लगाए गए हैं। यह अच्छी बात है। लेकिन

उनका जितना फायदा होना चाहिये था नहीं हुआ है। मझोले टाइप के जो लोग हैं, छोटे बिजिनैसमैन हैं, नए एंटरप्रेन्योर हैं जो बिजिनैस में आए हैं, जिन के पास गारंटज नहीं होते हैं उन लोगों को इससे बहुत ज्यादा असुविधा का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। जब भी बैंकों पर आप कोई कंट्रोल लगाएं तो यह भी देखें कि उन से उन लोगों को जो नए बिजिनैसमैन हैं या ऐसे लोग जो किसान हैं और जो ट्रैक्टर आदि खरीदना चाहते हैं, उनको असुविधा तो नहीं होती है और ऐसा तो नहीं है कि उनको इसके लिए लोन ही न मिल सके।

केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कई कार्यक्रम चालू किए हैं और करोड़ों रुपया केन्द्र द्वारा उन कार्यक्रमों पर व्यय किया जा रहा है। आई० आर० डी०, एन० आर० ई० पी०, स्पेशल कम्पोनेंट प्लान या दूसरे नए कार्यक्रमों जो ग्रामीण और शहरी बेरोजगार नौजवानों के लिए जारी किए गए हैं उन कार्यक्रमों का जितना लाभ इन सैकशंज को मिलना चाहिये था नहीं मिल पाया है, प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी और सरकार जितना लाभ लोगों को पहुंचाना चाहती थी, नहीं मिल पा रहा है। आई० आर० डी० का मुझे व्यक्तिगत अनुभव है। मैं एक छोटा सा उदहारण देता हूं जिससे स्थिति साफ हो जाएगी। पिछले दिनों बी० जे० पी० के लोगों ने आन्दोलन चलाया था, जेल भरो आंदोलन। उसके दौरान मेरे जिले में 45 लोग जेल गए थे। उन में से 33 वे लोग थे जिन के ऊपर अंत्योदय कार्यक्रम की रिकवरी आई थी। आपकी जो मशीनरी है वह इन कार्यक्रमों को बेकार कर रही है। आप तो आशा कर रहे हैं और हम भी आशा कर रहे

हैं कि गरीबों के जीवन स्तर को उठाया जाएगा लेकिन यह मशीनरी तरीके से और ईमानदारी से काम नहीं कर रही है। छीजन उस समय शुरू हो जाती है जब आदमी अपनी अर्जी लगाता है। अंडरहेड ट्रांजेक्शंज तब शुरू हो जाती है जब उसको दस दस बार बैंकों के दरवाजे खटखटाने पड़ते हैं। बैंकों को सामाजिक चेतना का आधार आपको बनाना चाहिये, समाज को बदलने का आधार बनाना चाहिए। लेकिन बैंक को इस राष्ट्रीय कर्तव्य को पूरा करने के लिए मानसिक तौर पर आप अभी तक पूरे तौर पर तैयार नहीं कर पाए हैं। मेरा निवेदन है कि आप रिजर्व बैंक को त्रार बार डायरेक्टिवज देते हैं मगर वह मेंटेलिटी का शिकार हो गया है जो सालों से रही है। हमारी प्रधान मंत्री ने 1969 में संकल्प किया कि बैंकों के दरवाजे गरीबों के लिये खुल रहे हैं। वह खुले, लेकिन केवल उम्मी से काम नहीं चलेगा। हमें यह भी देखना पड़ेगा कि वह लोगों को शिक्षित करें कि किस तरीके से अपने पांव पर खड़े हो कर बैंकों और समाज के लिए एक आधार बन सकते हैं और एक अच्छे नागरिक बन सकते हैं।

इन शब्दों के साथ मंत्री जी ने जो कदम उठाने की घोषणा की है उनका स्वागत करता हूं और उम्मीद करता हूं कि जिस प्रभावी तरीके से हमारी सरकार मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने की कोशिश कर रही है उसमें सफल होगी और जो अपेक्षा उन्होंने हमसे की है हमारा तो सहयोग उनको मिलेगा, लेकिन विरोध पक्ष को भी समझना पड़ेगा कि मूल्य नियंत्रण दलगत राजनीति का सवाल नहीं है बल्कि सामूहिक रूप से मिल कर इसको रोकने के लिए काम करता है। हमें सोचना चाहिए कि हड़तालों से नुकसान होता है, किस की कठिनाई बढ़ रही

[श्री हरीश रावत]

है ? जब तक अपोजीशन के लोग इस ध्येय से नहीं सोचेंगे मैं समझता हूँ वह अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वाहन नहीं कर पायेंगे ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं वित्त मंत्री जी के वक्तव्य का स्वागत करता हूँ ।

श्री आर० एन० राकेश (चैल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं वयोवृद्ध नेता और नौजवान दिल लिये श्री व्यास जी के विचारों का स्वागत करता हूँ । भाई रावत जी ने भी मुल्क का सही चित्रण पेश करने का प्रयास किया है, उनके विचारों का भी स्वागत करता हूँ । पक्ष और विपदा की बहस सरकार को कामयाबियों और नाकामयाबियों के बीच रह गई है । मैं जो सरकार की कामयाबियाँ हैं उसके लिए सरकार को बधाई देता हूँ और जो नाकामयाबियाँ हैं उसकी खूबसूरती के बुर्के को हटा कर हकीकत पेश करना चाहता हूँ ।

अतएव मैं कुछ कहूँ इसके पहले आपके माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि और कुछ सस्ता हुआ या नहीं हुआ, लेकिन इन्सान की जिन्दगी और महिला की इज्जत आपने बहुत सस्ती कर दी है— जिसकी लाठी उसकी भैंस । 1947 में देश आजाद हुआ और 1949 में चाइना आजाद हुआ । आज चाइना दुनिया की पांचवीं महान शक्ति बन गया है और हिन्दुस्तान दुनिया का सबसे कंगाल और भिखमंगा देश बन गया है । इस सदन में मंहगाई के लिये कानून बनाना मंहगा है और सदन द्वारा बनाये गये कानून, मंहगाई को रोकने के लिये कानून की किताबें मंहगी हैं, लेकिन स्वतः मंहगाई रोकने के लिये बनाए गये कानूनों को तोड़ना बहुत सस्ता हो गया है । इसके

लिये भी मैं आपको मुबारक बाद देता हूँ । मुल्क भुखमरी की कतार पर खड़ा है । लेकिन इन्दिरा सरकार के पास इतना काला धन है कि कर्नाटक में विधायकों को खरीद सकती है, इसके लिये मैं आपको मुबारकबाद देता हूँ ।

श्री हरीश रावत : आपके नेता खरीद फरोस्त के विशेषज्ञ रहे हैं उनकी तारीफ में भी तो कुछ कहिये ।

श्री आर० एन० राकेश : आज मुल्क की बदकिस्मती है कि मंहगाई का कद बहुत लम्बा हो गया है और उससे लड़ने के लिये उससे भी ऊँचे कद के इन्सान की जरूरत है, लेकिन इन्दिरा सरकार में आज जो मंहगाई है, उसके घुटने के बराबर भी कोई पहलवान दिखाई नहीं देता है । इसलिये जो कुछ मैं कहता हूँ इस उम्मीद में नहीं कहता हूँ कि आप मंहगाई पर कंट्रोल करने जा रहे हैं या इसे रोकने के लिए कोई बेहतर रास्ता अपनाने जा रहे हैं ।

जनवरी 1980 में आपकी सरकार का पुनर्जन्म हुआ और मार्च 1980 में बजट के साथ इस देश की बदकिस्मती रूपी विभीषिका मंहगाई का जन्म होता है । उस समय आप की लम्बाई 10 गुना लम्बी रही, मंहगाई की छोटाई आप से 10 गुना छोटी थी । 1980 से 1983 तक चलकर मंहगाई आपसे हजार गुना लम्बे कद की हो गई है और आप उस से हजार गुना छोटे हो गये हैं । लेकिन मैं हकीकत से आबगत कराने के लिये नेकनियति रखता हूँ, इसलिये मैं उन आंकड़ों को प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ जो बोलते हैं, क्या बोलते हैं, और किस की कलाई खोलते हैं ।

उनकी ही ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

जनता रिजर्व की बड़ी भारी बात कही गई। 1980 में प्याज 2 रुपये से 4 रुपये और 1983 में 6 रु० से 9 रु०। सरसों का तेल 1980 में 9 रु० और आज 1983 में 20 से 2५ रु०। चीनी 2 रु० 30 पैसे तब और 5 रु० 50 पैसे अब, गेहूँ 1 रु० 45 पैसे तब और 2 रु० 80 पैसे अब, चावल बासमती 6 रु० तब और 10 रु० अब, वनस्पति प्योर — नाट विद टैलो 10 रु० तब और विद टैलो 18 रु० अब, चाय 35 पैसे तब और 60 पैसे अब, दूध 2 रु० 4० पैसे तब और 4 रु० अब, दाल अरुंड 4 रु० तब, 6 रु० 80 पैसे अब, डबल रोटी छोटी 1 रु० तब और 2 रु० अब, अंडा 36 पैसे तब और 1 रु० अब, अखबार 30 पैसे तब और 60, 75, 80 पैसे अब, लिफाफा 30 पैसे तब और 50 पैसे अब, पेट्रोल 3 रु० 65 पैसे तब और 6 रु० 7 पैसे अब, सीमेंट 26 रु० 80 पैसे तब और 65 रु० अब। आवासी फ्लैट प्रति वर्ग मीटर 380 रु० तब और 1750 रु० अब। गांधी जी ने नमक आंदोलन छेड़ा था, 70 पैसे तब और 1 रु० 60 पैसे अब।

किसानों के हमदर्दी वाले लोगों सुनो, फर्टिलाइजर 74 रु० तब और 125 रुपये अब।

मंहगाई कितनी तेजी से बढ़ रही है, यह बताने के लिए मैं 1982 और 1983 की दीवाली के रेट्स के कुछ आंकड़े पेश करना चाहता हूँ। गेहूँ 1982 में 230 रुपये क्विंटल और 1983 में 325 रु० क्विंटल, चावल 290 रुपए तब और 340 रुपए अब,

चना 270 रु० तब और 234 रु० अब, उरद 321 रु० तब और 370 रु० अब, अरहर 425 रु० अब और 475 रु० अब, गुड़ 220 रु० तब और 370 रु० अब, शुगर 465 रु० तब और 565 रु० अब, वनस्पति 236 रु० तब और 240 रु० अब, सरसों का तेल 223 रु० तब और 230 रु० अब। 1982 और 1983 की दीवाली के बीच में मंहगाई का इतना बड़ा जम्प है।

डा० सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी : “तब” को वापस लाना पड़ेगा।

श्री अर० एन० राकेश : सत्तापक्ष के कुछ साथियों ने कहा है कि विपक्ष को सरकार से सहयोग करना चाहिए, विपक्ष का सहयोग नहीं मिलता है, सरकार हमसे कैसा सहयोग चाहती है? पिछले हफ्ते दिल्ली में कांग्रेस सेवा दल की रैली आयोजित की गई और इस सदन के एक सांसद द्वारा 78 लाख रुपये का चैक बड़ौदा हाउस में जमा किया गया और रेलवे के टिकट निकाल कर रख दिए गए। रेली आई और चली गई, चैक वापस लिया गया, सरकारी खजाने में जमा हो गया। क्या मानीनय सदस्य चाहते हैं कि विपक्ष इसमें सहयोग दे? सरकारी धन की लूट हो रही है और चाहते हैं कि विपक्ष के लोग लूट में सहयोग दें। यह पुनीत काम उन्हें ही मुबारक हो। हाँ अगर सेशन की बेह तरीके लिए कोई योजना हो, तो विपक्ष जरूर सहयोग देने के लिए तैयार है।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : If I may interrupt, I want to know from the Finance Minister whether it is true that the Indian High Commissioner gave a dinner to the Queen of England and it cost him seven and a half lakh rupees.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have diverted his attention.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : One dinner costs seven and lakhs of rupees.

श्री अर० एन० राकेश : माननीय सदस्य ने मेरे बयान के साथ उस अंश को यहां जोड़ दिया जिसे मैं कहने जा रहा था, उसके लिए उन्हें धन्यवाद।

जनता सरकार से तुलना करते हैं इस सरकार की। सच तो यह है कि जनता सरकार के समय में इंसान की जिन्दगी को कायम रखने की सब की सब चीजें सस्ती थीं। उस वक्त अगर कुछ मंहगा था, तो इन्सान की जिन्दगी और महिला की इज्जत मंहगे थे। लेकिन आज इन्सान की जिन्दगी को कायम रखने की सभी चीजें कमर-तोड़ मंहगी है। और सस्ती है इन्सान की जिन्दगी, महिला की इज्जत, विशेषकर हरिजनों और मुसलमानों की जिन्दगी सस्ती है और सस्ता है उनका हिफाजत का कानून तोड़ना।

डा० सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी : इस्तीफा देकर चले जाओ।

श्री अर० एन० राकेश : मैं कहता हूं मंहगाई रोको। डा० स्वामी कहते हैं कि मंहगाई रोको श्रीमती दंडवते कहती हैं कि मंहगाई रोको। मुकर्जी साहब कहते हैं कि मंहगाई रोको। 20 सूत्री कार्यक्रम रूपी बछिया की पूंछ पकड़ लो, वैतरणी पार हो जाओगे। अब 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम के नकाब को उठा कर हकीकत को प्रस्तुत करना जरूरी हो गया है। मैं सारे मुल्क के हालात को इलाहबाद के उदाहरण से पेश करना

चाहता हूं। इलाहाबाद में जो स्वर्गीय संजय गांधी का 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम चल रहा था तो हर दफ्तर में कहा जाता था कि गांधी जी ने पांच कहा था और संजय गांधी ने भी पांच कहा है, ** अब 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम चला है। वह प्राइम मिनिस्टरज हाउस से चला है और हर महकमे में और इलाहबाद और कलकत्ता में पहुंच गया है तो प्राइम मिनिस्टर हाउस में इस 20-सूत्रीय कार्यक्रम का क्या आलम है वह आप बेहतर जानते हैं, उस को बताने के लिए ज्यादा समय चाहिए लेकिन गांवों में, देश के अन्य भागों में और इलाहबाद में तो यही आलम है कि **... (व्यवधान)...

अभी स्पेशल कम्पोनेन्ट प्लान की बात कही गई है हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की बढ़ोतरी के लिए 1500 रु० में इन के नाम पर देश भर में दुकानें और मकान बन गये और जिस साल वह बने उसी साल ध्वस्त हो गये। 1500 रु० में कौन सी पक्की दूकान बन जायेगी, कौन सा पक्का मकान बन जाएगा? हरिजन और आदिवासियों के नाम पर, स्पेशल कम्पोनेन्ट प्लान के नाम पर भोजन पानी का जरूर इन्तजाम हो गया कुछ लोगों के लिए लेकिन हरिजन और आदिवासियों के लिए कोई व्यवस्था नहीं हुई है।

बेरोजगारी को दूर करने के लिए सारे देश में ढिंढोरा पीटा जा रहा है। कहा जा रहा है कि बेरोजगार को 25 हजार रुपया लोन दिया जायगा जिस में 25 परसेंट की छूट होगी। अभी गाड़ी आगे बढ़ी नहीं, एम्पलायमेंट आफिस, इंडस्ट्री आफिस और बैंक वालों के बीच में तय हो गया कि दस

दस हजार तुम्हारे बीच में 15 हजार आवे-दक को मिलेगा। फिर 15 हजार में कौन-सी इंडस्ट्री तैयार हो जायगी कि इस योजना से उत्पादन बढ़ेगा और मूल्य घटेंगे।

अब 20 सूत्री कार्यक्रम के लिए मैं क्या कहूँ? मेरे गवाह तो आप के ही घर में हैं और आप के नेता हैं। उन्होंने लखनऊ में जा कर कह दिया है, राजीव गाँधी ने लखनऊ में कहा है— मां कहती है कि बहुत हो रहा है बेटा कहता है कि कुछ नहीं हो रहा है। लखनऊ में बयान आ गया। और कुछ ज्यादा कहने की जरूरत मैं नहीं सम-झता हूँ।

जब यह मंहगाई बहुत बढ़ी, सीमा से बाहर पानी चला गया तो प्रधान मंत्री का मन बहुत दुखी हुआ मंहगाई से और भ्रष्टा-चार से। फिर वह क्या कहती है कि सारी दुनिया में मंहगाई है, सारी दुनिया में भ्रष्टा-चार है।

देश के वहम को भी मिटाने के लिए हाल में उन्होंने सिन्धी समाज की एक सभा बुलायी। लेकिन सिन्धी समाज के लोग तो कम आए, सिन्धी इंटरनेशनल स्मगलर्स ज्यादा आए। हम पार्लियामेंट के अन्दर, इस सदन के अन्दर तस्करों के खिलाफ कानून बनेगा और प्रधान मंत्री तस्करों से मशविरा करेंगी तो मुल्क का भाग्य, इस का फ्यूचर क्या होगा? यह आप बेहतर समझ सकते हैं।

मेरा कहने का मतलब यह है कि सरकार काले धन को इतनी तेजी से बढ़ा रही है कि चारों तरफ काला धन इतना व्यापक हो गया है कि लगता है कि यह सरकार काले

धन की ही झौलाद है। मैं दावे के साथ कहता हूँ कि काले धन से सफेद राजनीति नहीं होगी और जब तक सफेद राजनीति नहीं होगी तब तक मुल्क का बेहतर फ्यूचर नहीं बन सकता है।

चार साल के अंदर इस देश के अंदर से गरीबी को आप दूर नहीं कर पाये। हर बार आपका आश्वासन होता है आप कहते हैं कि मैं मंहगाई रोक रहा हूँ, मैं मंहगाई रोक रहा हूँ, 80 में, 81 में, 82 में और 83 में आश्वासन दिया कि मंहगाई को रोक रहे हैं, जितनी बार आप रोकने की बात कहते हैं उतनी बार वह बढ़ जाती है। तो अब क्या रोकेंगे? अब तो आप के जाने का वर्ष और फिर लौटकर न आने का वर्ष है। इसलिए आप इस मंहगाई को रोक नहीं सकेंगे। 1987-84 का वर्ष बड़े पैमाने पर विदेशी कर्जों की वापसी का वर्ष है। जब जब विदेशी कर्जों की वापसी होगी तो मैं दावों के साथ कह सकता हूँ और आंकड़ों से साबित भी कर सकता हूँ बशर्ते कि आप टाइम दे सकें कि 1984 के वर्ष में आप इस मंहगाई को रोक नहीं पायेंगे। 84 परसेंट से 160 परसेंट तक मंहगाई नहीं बढ़ेगी। यह मंहगाई घटने वाली नहीं है। लेकिन यह दोष आपका नहीं है। वित्त मंत्री जी से मुझे कोई शिकायत नहीं है, उनका दोष भी नहीं है, दोष तो इस देश का है और इस देश की ही बदकिस्मती रही है कि जब इन्दिरा जी प्रधान मंत्री की कुर्सी पर बैठती हैं तो मंहगाई जम्प लगाती है। ऐसा लगता है कि इस मंहगाई और प्रधान मंत्री का कोई नजदीकी खानदानी रिश्ता है।

अब आप चूँकि मुझे टाइम नहीं दे रहे हैं इसलिए मजबूरन मैं इन शब्दों के साथ ही

[श्री आर० एन० राकेश]

अपना भाषण समाप्त करते हुए, नियम 193 के अन्तर्गत डा० ने जो रेजोल्यूशन मूव किया है, उसका समर्थन करता हूँ और जो बयान वित्त मंत्री जी ने दिया उसको बेन-काब करते हुए उसका भरपूर विरोध करता हूँ।

श्री दिलीप सिंह भूरिया (भाबुआ) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय जी, मैं राकेश जी का भाषण सुन रहा था, स्वामी जी उनको सपोर्ट कर रहे थे। जहाँ तक मंहगाई की बात है, मैं मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ जो मंहगाई बड़ी है उसको उन्होंने इस पेपर में माना है। लेकिन राकेश जी और उधर बैठने वाले अन्य माननीय सदस्यों अपने भाषणों में राजनीति ले आए और राकेश जी इन्दिरा जी तक भी पहुँच गए। लेकिन उनको मालूम होना चाहिए कि 1975-76 में इस देश का कौन प्राइम मिनिस्टर था—मिसेज गांधी ही थीं। इस देश के लोगों ने ही नहीं देश के बाहर भी लोगों ने उनकी तारीफ की थी और कहा था कि अगर प्राइम मिनिस्टर चाहिए तो मिसेज गांधी चाहिए। (व्यवधान) वेस्ट जर्मनी ने कहा था। (व्यवधान)

हम जो सेवा दल का प्रोग्राम चलाते हैं तो अपने वर्क्स को ट्रेनिंग देते हैं। लेकिन आप जो कैम्प चलाते हैं वह किस लिए? जब यह देश आजाद हो गया है तो किससे लड़ना चाहते हैं? हम कलकत्ता में जो आल इंडिया कांग्रेस कमेटी का अधिवेशन करना चाहते हैं तो उसके लिए आपको जानकर खुशी होगी कि वेस्ट बंगाल के चीफ मिनिस्टर, श्री ज्योति बसु ने कहा है कि हम उसमें पूरा सहयोग देंगे। हम वहाँ पर टिकट लेकर जाते हैं, फ्री नहीं जाते हैं।

यह जो मंहगाई बड़ी है, मैं उसके आंकड़ों में नहीं जाना चाहता लेकिन आपने इस देश की एकोनामी को जो चोपट कर दिया था यह उसी का परिणाम है। (व्यवधान) रिजर्व बैंक का जो गोल्ड स्टॉक था उसको जनता सरकार ने समाप्त करके इस देश की सारी एकोनामी खत्म कर दी। आज हमारा देश पीछे जा रहा है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप मानते हैं कि देश पीछे जा रहा है।

श्री दिलीप सिंह भूरिया : आप लोगों के पावर में आने के बाद से देश पीछे जा रहा है। सारा देश श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी के साथ है। आज हम हरिजनों, आदिवासियों और किसानों के उत्थान की बात करते हैं। जब हमारा देश आजाद हुआ था उस वक्त हमारे देश की जनसंख्या 35 करोड़ के लग-भग थी और उस वक्त एक सूई भी पैदा नहीं होती थी, लेकिन आज हमारे देश में हवाई जहाज बन रहे हैं, बड़े-बड़े उद्योग चल रहे हैं। यह सही है कि कहीं कहीं पर कुछ खराबियाँ हैं, उन खराबियों के बारे में हमें यहाँ पर चर्चा करनी चाहिए और उनको दुरुस्त करने की ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए। मैं विरोधी पक्ष के सदस्यों से कहना चाहता हूँ कि हर बात को राजनीतिक रूप नहीं देना चाहिए, राजनीतिक बातें उनको बाहर करनी चाहिए। हाउस के अन्दर उनको सही बातें करनी चाहिए, सही घटनाओं को सामने लाना चाहिए।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के बारे में कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम हमको पावरफुल बनाना चाहिए और सभी

आवश्यक वस्तुयें लोगों को समय से मिलनी चाहिए। दोहरे पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को एक जगह पर लाना चाहिए। मैं मध्य प्रदेश की बात करता हूँ, क्योंकि मैं मध्य प्रदेश से आता हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश में 15-16 हजार दुकान थीं। उनको खत्म कर दिया गया सामान के वितरण का हमने सहकारिता वालों को दिया, लेकिन आज वहाँ यह स्थिति है कि कोई भी शक्कर लेने वाला वहाँ नहीं जाता है। मासस को इन्वाल्व करके, उनको मेम्बर बनाकर और उन्हीं के माध्यम से सामान को वितरण करवाना चाहिए, तभी डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम सही हो सकता है। जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य श्री व्यास जी ने कहा कि बिचौलिए सारा मुनाफा खा जाते हैं, इस पर भी आपको अंकुश लगाना चाहिए। गांव में टमाटर 60-70 पैसे किलो बिकता है, लेकिन यहां 2-3 रु० किलो में मिलता है। हमें यह कोशिश करनी चाहिए कि उत्पादक को भी उसकी कीमत मिले और कंज्यूमर को सस्ते दामों पर सामान मिले। तब जाकर कंज्यूमर और किसान दोनों खुश होंगे। जैसे शिमला में सेब पैदा होता है, तो वहाँ एक रुपया किलो बिकता है, लेकिन यहां पर 5-6 रु० किलो बिकता है। हमें एक ऐसा सिस्टम बनाना चाहिए। उस में सभी लोगों को इन्वाल्व करके काम को करना चाहिए। हमें ऐसे स्टोर खोलने चाहिए, जहाँ लोगों को उचित मात्रा में सामान मिले।

एक बात मैं इन बड़ी-बड़ी मिलों के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। ये बड़े बड़े इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स लोग जानबूझ कर मिलों को सिक करते हैं और लोगों को परेशान करते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उनका नेशनलाइजेशन करके

और गपने हाथ में लेकर उनको चलाना चाहिए। अब उनमें अधिक पूंजी लगाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। यही बात रोडवेज के लागू होती है। प्राइवेट बस वालों को लाभ होता है और रोडवेज वालों को नुकसान होता है। क्योंकि प्राइवेट बस वाला आगे-आगे चलता है और रोडवेज बस वाला पीछे पीछे चलता है। जानबूझकर इस प्रकार घाटा दिया जाता है। इस प्रकार की मिश्रित व्यवस्था में घाटा होता है और करप्शन पैदा होता है। इसके बारे में भी आपको विचार करना चाहिए।

इसी प्रकार बजट में 5 करोड़ के प्रोजेक्ट को 5 साल में बनाने का प्रावधान किया जाता है, लेकिन वह निर्धारित समय में पूरा नहीं होता है। 5 करोड़ की बिल्डिंग पर 25 करोड़ रु० खर्च होता है, फिर भी वह बिल्डिंग पूरी नहीं होती है। इस पर भी आपको विचार करना चाहिए। जितने भी कार्य हैं, सड़क बनाने का काम, तालाब बनाने का काम, ये सब अधूरे रह जाते हैं क्योंकि मंहगाई बढ़ जाती है।

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ—जिस तरह से एमर्जेन्सी के अन्दर जो बिचौलिए थे, बदमाश थे, स्मगलर्स थे, उन के खिलाफ सख्ती की गई थी, उसी तरह से—ग्राप बहुत होशियार आदमी हैं, उस कानून को देखिए और उन के खिलाफ सख्ती कीजिये, तब गाड़ी लाइन पर आ सकती है। कौन दो नम्बर का घन्था करता है, किस के पास ब्लैक-मनी है, सब को मालूम है। इस हाऊस में जो बैठे हैं उन को भी मालूम है, लेकिन ये बतलायेंगे नहीं कि कहां दो नम्बर का पैसा छिपा है। इसलिये अगर ऐसे लोगों पर सख्ती की जायगी तो यह मार्केट डाउन आ सकती है।

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Bara-mulla) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, from an intelligent Finance Minister I did not expect a sketchy and a bald statement like the 3-page statement we got. We expected resolution of the problem which is there. He has agreed that the situation is alarming. He accepts that as compared to the last year or the year before prices have increased by 7.7 per cent. He has also agreed that inflation for the current year is 8.8 per cent. Earlier this year he had promised relief, and had promised hope, and he had promised that he would control the price line. But as far the consumer price index is concerned, it has increased by 10.4 per cent. So, the situation is alarming. It is particularly alarming because the Finance Minister has not come forward with any concrete suggestions.

By telepathy my colleagues have stolen my ideas as it were. I do not like to repeat them, but if I were to concretise the solution to the problem, then I would say that he has made three suggestions and these three suggestions do not constitute the resolutions of the problem because these three suggestions could be formulated by anybody. In the course of making suggestions and explaining how he wanted to solve the problem, he says that the reserve ration has been increased, but the Central Bank has so many methods to control credit supply in the country. It is not by magic wand that he can control prices through increase in the reserve ratio from 7 to 8 per cent. That is no solution. He hopes for an excellent khariff crop. There was already an excellent khariff crop and the consumer price index has increased and in that index most of the consumer goods belong to the agricultural sector. If there was a very good khariff crop, the price index should not have been increased by that much.

Then he says finally that the public distribution system will be improved. But there is no concrete suggestion. We say that the public distribution system will be

improved, but we must say how we shall improve the public distribution system.

The Finance Minister has spoken about all these three things. In my opinion this does not generate hope and I feel particularly alarmed since I studied the 3-page statement of the Finance Minister. Although I admit that he seems to be very much worried about it yet I feel that this should have been a comprehensive statement so that we could understand it clearly. It is not that we speak for the sake of speaking; we are genuinely interested in making suggestions or responding to the good suggestions that the Treasury Benches make.

I would invite the Finance Minister's attention to a very important component of this price-rise. From last year up to this moment, on three commodities alone—oil, milk and flour a housewife has to spend roughly Rs. 100 more than what she spent on these items last year. The hon. Minister is a brilliant student of Economics, he knows it better. If there is an average family of five members with an earning of Rs. 500/- p. m. it is below poverty line. After going through the statement of the Finance Minister, I just wanted to jot down a hint or two and I drafted a family budget for five member family with an income of Rs. 500/- per month. I could find for the first time in my life even a family living with an income of Rs. 500/- has been reduced to a family below the poverty line. That family does not meet the essential needs. If you give that family four chhatanks of flour, I calculated on that basis. Rice or wheat will cost Rs. 150 per month, pulses and vegetables Rs. 110/- per month, four kg. tin oil Rs. 80/- Rs. 60 for milk, tea and sugar Rs. 60/- for kerosene oil Rs. 40/. It makes a total of Rs. 500/-. The provisions I have made are the minimum. There cannot be any level below that. Below that is the starvation level—the line which you call poverty line. Economists must be knowing better.

That family has no provision for house rent, you cannot think of any

savings for construction of a house or the family owning a house throughout life. There is no provision for medical care there is no provision for education of children. I wish the Finance Minister to react to this situation because I am explaining very briefly the alarming dimensions of the situation.

The real point which he has missed in the statement is about deficit financing. He has not touched deficit financing at all. There are two things which cause price spiral. When there is abundance of cash and liquidity with people, it will generate price spiral. We call it inflation. What about the two most important things which are responsible for price spiral which you call inflation? Did the Finance Minister want to omit these two things intelligently or he had no time to mention? First is deficit financing. I think it is known to the hon. Members that we are printing currency notes without any backing, whatever it is. A very powerful dose of deficit financing is there. The Finance Minister should clear the position whether deficit financing has been done away with or whether we can dispense with deficit financing. Then there is another thing which is very important and which leads to inflation—wasteful public expenditure. My friend Dr. Subramaniam Swamy referred to a dinner which was hosted somewhere in London which cost India about 8 lakhs of rupees. He has not calculated the expenses of the dinners and lunches which were hosted here. It must be running into crores of rupees. I would particularly invite the Ministers attention to ASIAD which cost us Rs. 1600 crores.

In response to the question to the Finance Minister on a different problem, he had quoted figures which I am giving—Rs. 1600 crores of rupees were spent on ASIAD. When Dr. Subramaniam Swamy refers to the dinner hosted in London, I had also learnt from him sometime before it cost us nearly Rs. 8 lakhs. Will any true patriot calculate figures as to what is being spent from that NAM to

this Conference that we are organising now, that is CHOGM. I mention this Rs 1600 crores because, it is relevant to Jammu and Kashmir. There is a lot of scope for savings and investment. But when we indulge in wasteful expenditure, we only increase the prices because the prices would not increase if you invested the money for production. When you only spend money unproductively, prices will increase in the country. I would request the Finance Minister, when he rises to answer the points—if at all he is keeping note of the points we speak—to refer to the deficit financing and wasteful public expenditure. It is not without any reason that I referred to Asiad. I know sons and daughters of the Hon. Members and of the people should play games and they must play games. We must spend money, for games. I am interested in physical education. But we can't do thing, which our economy cannot sustain. My friend Mr. Namgyal had spoken without any disturbance because we were away and he spoke untruth and he has been trained to speak untruth in the Sadan to mislead public opinion. It is *Ghar Ka Bhedi Lanka Dhava* style. But I challenge Mr. Namgyal that whatever he has said is not correct. I have got the figures, I will rebut him through the figures received through Finance Minister's reply. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is not yielding.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : I have quoted the figures of food supplied to the State of Jammu and Kashmir from Question No. 92 which was answered in this august House yesterday. The hon. Member knows the figure also (*Interruptions*.)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : We do not get rations even on 1971-census basis. He does not know. Most of the time, he is in Delhi and getting money for speaking untruth. The point is, I made a statement here. I challenged the Ministry of Food and Supplies. I said, we got far less than whatever we deserved even on the basis of 1971-census. Our

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

demand is that we must get ration on the basis of 1981-census. Not only that. The rations that were sent to Jammu and Kashmir were often of rotten stuff and our people accepted the rotten stuff because of the popular government there. There was Sadiq government and Qasim government, you know, in both the governments, there was an increase in the subsidised price of rice by 10 paise and there was a hartal throughout the valley. It is during this government of the National Conference which has the popular support that people tolerated the rotten stuff of rice and wheat. Through you, I invite a delegation of 20-30 Members of Parliament to visit our State. You may select whatever Members you want.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Why don't you discuss on the subject of price rise ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I invite his attention and the attention of the Finance Minister. I will go back to Jammu and Kashmir for a minute. Before that, I will suggest 4 things for controlling the prices. I think, hon. Finance Minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee knows it. He must slash deficit financing and stop wasteful public expenditure. He may not tell us and may not take us into confidence. He can go to the Prime Minister and tell us about the wasteful public expenditure that is taking place in the country. Crores of people are living below the poverty line and a family which has an income of less than Rs. 500 comes under it. Why don't you talk of all those people who have not even Rs. 100 a month ? You cannot have *tamasha* in the country when crores of people are living below the poverty line. The Finance Minister is bound to talk to the Prime Minister that the wasteful public expenditure should be controlled in this country. The things will not go unnoticed. Everybody sitting on the Treasury Benches will have to answer before the bar of the people. That day will come.

Thirdly, you take over wholesale trade

in foodgrains, consumer goods, like, sugar, kerosene oil, salt, etc.

Fourthly, you improve your public distribution system. Unless you improve your public distribution system, the things will not improve. Your statement says that you pray for 140 million tonnes of foodgrains i.e., a bumper crop. You are the Finance Minister of a great country. We are the greatest democracy in the world. You must concretise your proposals. You can't merely pray.

I will again talk about Jammu and Kashmir. My hon. friend, Mr. Namgyal, brings in Jammu and Kashmir every time and he speaks untruth. He had been made to speak untruth. I will confront him with the figure given by the Finance Minister. I had posed a question. They have set up very big units in the country; they have set up large-scale industries in the public sector. Jammu and Kashmir also deserve a share in that. You spent Rs. 1600 crores on the Asiad. That is a wasteful activity because, as compared to that, you do not invest in those sectors which could remove poverty in the country.

I would like to invite the attention of the entire House to one fact that the Government of India have invested Rs. 25,504.43 crores in the public sector industries so far. Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the country. It must have a share on the basis of population. The population of the State is very small. The Central Government does not take into account factors, like, mountainous terrain of our State. You take any factor into account. There is article 370. Some people say that it should be abrogated. I do not want to go into all that. But I want to say that we should get our deal. Now, out of Rs. 25,504.43 crores, the share of Jammu and Kashmir comes to 0.06 per cent. This is the figure given by the Finance Minister himself. I am mentioning this figure to state the lot of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. We do not import any progress ; we import into the State

only inflation. Whatever commodity you sell for Rs. 4/- in Delhi, it is sold for Rs. 6/- in Srinagar. Our road was closed for 60 days, with intervals last year. When the road gets closed there is hoarding of essential commodities and the rise in prices takes place. It is all because of transportation difficulties. Our supply line passes through Punjab. There is the Punjab problem which poses a great problem to us also. So, we want an early solution of the Punjab problem in our own interest also. You do not understand our problems. You pamper and encourage members to speak untruth...*(Interruptio s)*.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : It is my right to speak. I have been elected by the people. We have a right to know where all this huge amount of foodgrains supplied by the Central Government is going. I believe, you are smuggling it out across the line of actual control *(Interruptions)*.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I conclude by reciting one couplet :

न खुदाई मिली न विमाले सनम
न इधर के रहे न उधर के रहे ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Janardhana Poojary will lay papers on the table.

श्रीमती प्रमिला दंडवते (बंबई उत्तर-मध्य) : इस बहस को खत्म हो लेने दीजिए। इसके बाद इसको लिया जाए बीच में क्यों?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has got to go ahead. It is only a routine thing. Nothing very particular. I say that it is only for a few minutes.

श्रीमती प्रमिला दंडवते : एक दो मिनट का सवाल नहीं है। यह व्यवस्था का सवाल है।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : He cannot lay this on the Table unless the amount given is less than Rs. 50 lakhs. He has not submitted a separate memorandum that it is less than Rs. 50 lakhs. He should first make a statement that the relief given is less than Rs. 50 lakhs. Is it less than Rs. 50 lakhs.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Yes.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : He should give it in writing.

18.32 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—

Contd.

Notifications under Customs Act and Central Excise Rules

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg
to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following
Notifications (Hindi and English versions)
under section 159 of the Customs Act,
1962 :—

- (i) Notification Nos. 309-Customs and 310-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd November, 1983 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding concessional rates of customs duties on components of motor cars.
- (ii) Notification No. 311/83-Customs and 312-/83-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd November, 1983 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to Palm Stear in imported for the manufacture of soap, grease or fatty acids from basic customs duty in excess of 15 per cent *ad valorem* and auxi-

liary duty of customs leviable thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT—7069/83].

(2) A copy of Notification No. 277/83-Central Excise (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd November, 1983 making certain amendment to Notification No. 35/83-CE dated the 1st March, 1983 regarding reduction in the basic excise duty on aerated waters in bottles, issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—7070/83].

18.34 hrs.

DISCUSSION ON STATEMENT MADE
BY MINISTER OF FINANCE ON
PRICE SITUATION—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : First of all, I would like to express my gratefulness to the Hon. Members who have participated in the discussions and have made contributions.

15 Members have made their observations including the mover of the resolution who raised a discussion on the statement made by me.

I would like to make one point clear. I do not share the views of those Members who have expressed that the situation is alarming or panicky. At the same time, I do not say that everything is all right. The statement which I have placed before the Members of the House contains the facts and the objective assessment of the situation. I have not tried to hide anything nor have I tried to highlight that in the months of October and September, there has been an over-all decline of 0.3%. I have expressed my concern because the normal declining trend which was found in other years

from the mid-September, this year that declining trend is a little weak. But, at the same time, one need not come to the conclusion that the situation is alarming. Had it been alarming, I would have shared with the House that the situation is alarming because we had the experience of 21% annual rate of inflation. We had the experience in the backdrop of drought situation when we had to face an annual rate of inflation in the neighbourhood of more than 21% and that situation we had to inherit from you....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
You created that Government.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : But that was possible and you yourself have admitted.

18.36 hrs.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair.]

I have pointed out in the statement that from 21.4% it came down to 16.7%, then it came down to 2.4% and then went up to 6.2%. Surely, this year it is a little more compared to last year and naturally it is a matter of concern. But, at the same time, it is not unmanageable.

Then the question comes : what measures we are going to take to manage the situation and to control it. Already we have taken certain measures. If you just look at it from the demand side and also from the supply side, from the supply side we have already taken steps to ensure the availability of the goods in short supply by importing which is a short-term measure and at the same time by ensuring long-term measures by giving incentives to production. I have highlighted some of these aspects - reduction of fertiliser price. You just make a comparison. Please don't go by emotion. Please make a comparison between 1982-83 before the decision of reducing fertiliser price and after that. You have seen that the fertiliser offtake has increased and as a result, production is going to be increased. Similarly, the steps taken

to give remunerative prices to the growers are paying good dividends. Here I would like to ask particularly my good old friend, Dr. Swamy who dwelt in detail about the sugar policy of the Janata Party... Yes, it was no doubt a very good policy. But what was the consequence of that policy? The consequence of that policy was that the cane-growers had to burn their sugar cane crop in the fields. The consequence of that policy was that from 65 lakhs tonnes of production it came down to 39 lakhs tonnes. ... (*Interruptions*). This year also we had drought. When you are talking of 84 lakhs tonnes of production, in the drought year the production will be more than double of what you had in the drought year. It is not because of drought. It is because of the very fact that the growers did not get the price. What was the price? What was the minimum support price? What was the State-advised price? The minimum support price was Rs. 8.50 per quintal. The State-advised price varied from Rs. 11 to Rs. 12. To-day the State-advised price is Rs. 21....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
You are very clever. But the fertiliser price was less, electricity charge was less and the price of petrol was also less, during Janata rule.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I was talking about the excellent policy. An excellent policy leading to a situation where the grower was compelled to burn his sugar cane crop. An excellent policy which is leading to a situation where the production is coming down from 65 lakhs tonnes to 39 lakhs tonnes. An excellent policy which is leading to a situation where the country which is a net exporter of sugar had to import sugar in two consecutive years. I am afraid that even the policy prescribed by an eminent and Harvard-trained economist, Dr. Swamy, is very difficult to accept, not to speak of talking about it. ... (*Interruptions*) Who prevented you to have a buffer

stock? Does it require much imagination? Does it require a good deal of knowledge in Economics? When you are having a production of 65 lakh tonnes, to set apart five or six lakh tonnes it does not need a very big imagination?

Sir, I mentioned only certain factors. If the hon. Members are interested, I can even give them the details. What are the items which are contributing? They are mainly the cereals which are contributing. If you look at the trend in the price of rice, you will find that the price of rice during the current financial year upto 29th October—this is the date with which we are concerned—has increased by 9.5%. Sugar, gur and khandsari have increased substantially. The rise in gur alone is 66.3%. Why has it happened? It has happened because of the fact that we could ensure the gur price for the growers that they get from millowners. You may complain that he goes by his own assessment of the situation and by his own experience. If he would not have got that price, he would not have gone the way they went during their regime and he would never have gone for production at all. There may be some areas. I am not disputing that. Definitely, this has not created a situation where he has come to the conclusion that he would not go for production. Had it been so, in three consecutive years, he would not have produced at this level. This itself testifies that we have been able to ensure that they are getting a good price and the mills are compelled to take the sugarcane so that there is no diversion to gur and khandsari. This is the reality. It is not very difficult for an economist like Dr. Subramaniam Swamy to understand it—I am not talking of others. If you want to score a debating point, by all means, have it. But, if you want to understand the economy, definitely, you understand this thing. It does not require an explanation from me. And you shall have to ensure that. You were talking of the figure of Rs. 3/-. I would like to see your calculation of the cost because I do

[Pranab Mukherjee]

not know whether you have taken into account the rate of return also. You would have taken that into account. We are now maintaining that 65% of the production is coming to be distributed through the public distribution system.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Look at the efficiency of Maharashtra in the crushing ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: You cannot accept that. You will have to take the national average.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: W.P. is putting the whole country down.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Again it would be theoretical. A surgeon who has mastered in theory would say that he could operate the patient according to the textbook. He operated the patient according to the rules in the textbook. But the patient died. He said 'what can I do? Everything has been done by me according to what has been prescribed in the textbook. I had applied my mind. For God's sake don't apply your mind like that. As a theoretician, apply your mind as a practitioner and as a pragmatist. What is the reality? Economics is not like a physical science which deals with human being or which it deals with human behaviour. As far as the Law of Gravitation or as far as Third Law of Motion is concerned. However, economic laws are not as conformed as the laws in the Physical Science or in Chemistry. Therefore, here, you will have to apply your reality. And, from that point of view, you will have to see that option you have to keep with.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: You are subsidising U.P. with inefficiency.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am not subsidising anybody with inefficiency including you. What I am suggesting is that we will have to maintain a situation where prices are maintained at a reasonable level. By the supply mechanism we

can do that. So, if I follow your policy, certainly, the price of sugar will go down no doubt. But, again, we will come to a situation where the growers will not go for more sugarcane and there will be no sugar left in the country. And whatever bufferstocks we have cannot be put in for an indefinite period. We shall have to go in for the import. And we have to strike a balance between the two.

Coming to edible oil, this is an item where if there is a fall in production, it will have a direct impact of the drought. You may ask what steps we have taken. We have taken steps, particularly, for the edible oil—the groundnut oil—in Gujarat and soyabean oil in Madhya Pradesh and other types of oilseeds. Mr. Mirdha is not here. We are not going to accept the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission. In respect of the oilseeds the Finance Ministry which is otherwise conservative—if somebody asks for an increase of Rs. 2 the Finance Ministry says that you have an increase of Rs. 1—in case of oilseeds we went out of the way and increased the price much more than recommended by the APC.

MR. SPEAKER: I notice that the people who pressed me hard to introduce the subject for discussion and were so vehement about this discussion on price rise, I do not find a single face here. Next time I am going to see to it.....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I did not press for it and I am here.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why he is referring to you. But not a single person who was vociferous for this discussion is present. It is all gimmick.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: It is all politics.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a question of politics. It is a question of making good use of this forum.

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE : I would like to suggest that discussion under Rule 193 should not be taken at the end.

MR. SPEAKER : We took it up right at the start. We have to make best use of the time. Duty is duty. We have to sit here and listen and not just speak and go away.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Sir, when the prices rise the commodities disappear and when they stabilise the Members disappear.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Sir, even though one of the member of our party, Shri Bhim Singh's daughter is getting married today at Jaipur, I postponed my programme. So, you will appreciate. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : What I was trying to point out was that these are the commodities which have contributed to a considerable extent in the rate of inflation and they are largely affected on account of drought. You say that prices of some of the industrial commodities have increased. Tea prices have increased—though it is partly industrial and partly agricultural. Here you have to take a realistic view. You are taking credit that you maintained cement price at a particular level. What has been effect? There has been no expansion of the cement industry. Every year you had to import 2 million tonnes. Now, because of the present policy we will be reaching the target not only in financial outlay but also in physical terms. Cement production is picking up. Cement production is increasing. It has been said that you are increasing administered price. What's the option left? If you do not get the cost reflected in the price mechanism you will have to provide subsidy.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Detrol is there.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I am coming to that. Now, the basic rationale to utilise the price mechanism suitably in order to ensure that cost get reflected and if the cost does not get reflected in the public sector you have to provide budgetary support. There is no escape. You can't keep it under carpet. Either you meet it budgetary support or get it reflected in the genuine cost. So, what is wrong in that mechanism?

You were talking of petroleum. What was your total production? It was only 11.8 million tonnes at the beginning of the Plan and we have already reached 21 million tonnes and we will surpass the Plan target at the end of 1985. It has been possible not because of any magic wand. It has been possible because we have been able to increase the investment more than twice in that sector and if you are to increase the investment by more than double then from where will you get money? From heaven! So, where would you get money from? You are saying that the Plan is in doldrum. By what standard? You yourself have told us not once, at least half a dozen times you have informed this House "Look at the performance of the Party, for the last 30 years the growth rate has been 3.5% from the First Plan till the beginning of the current Plan and this year the target we fixed—so far as the growth rate is concerned—is 5.2%. What has been the growth rate of our country? I need not remind the distinguished economist that even in 1982-83, as you would know, the growth rate is 2%. Three years' average growth rate is 5% and for the rest two years, if you want to have a target of 5.2% you don't require 8% or 8.5%—if you have 6% or 6.5% growth rate in 1983-84 and 1984-85, you will reach the target. He says that the Plan is in doldrum in financial terms.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Why don't you have a discussion?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : We will have a discussion. Surely I am not to remind the figure because just if he

[Shri Pranab Mukherjee]

calculates the budget of the last four years, that is,

1980-81	—	14,832
1981-82	—	18,211
1982-83	—	21,356
1983-84	—	25,481

The hon. Member knows that I have already increased Rs. 500 crores so far as the current year Central Plan is concerned. The State have not been taken into account. The total expenditure is going to be more than Rs. 80,000 crores taking the States, Centre and Union Territories together. I am not including in guessing as to what would be the figure for the final year. But even if you expect a reasonable growth your plan is going to be much more than that of Rs. 97,500 crores which were envisaged in the Plan document. Even if you give some allowances for the inflation, you will find that you are reaching the figure if not 100% but to a considerable extent and you will ask what is the performance in actual terms? Sir, I would not like to take much of your time by reaching out the figures. But I would like to quote the figures of targets for various items. For foodgrains the target was 154 million tonnes. This year with the expected rabi crop, we are expecting to have 142 million tonnes and one year is still left. Now, do you expect that it will be short of that?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Yes, the way you are going.....

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, sugar production target was 7.6 million tonnes, that means 76 lakh tonnes. We have already reached 84 lakh tonnes. He says the Plan is in doldrum. I am talking of reaching the physical target so far as the Plan is concerned. The target for coal production was fixed at 165 million tonnes. According to the mid-term appraisal, it would be possible to reach the mark of 154 million tonnes. About petroleum product, I have already mentioned, that we will surpass the target. In regard

to Paper and Paper-board, the target was 1500 thousand tonnes and we are reaching that target.

Now, you mentioned about cement. The target for cement production was 34 to 34.5 million tonnes. We are reaching the figure of 34 to 35 million tonnes. It will be a little more, not less. Same is the position with the production of fertiliser both potash and nitrogenous and natural rubber. Now, coming to power generation, there is a short-fall and we wanted to create the capacity to the extent of 19,000 megawatts during the current plan period. As per the present available figures, it would be about 14,000 megawatts. So you will say that there is a slippage of about 5,000 megawatts. I would admit that. The capacity with which we started the current Plan is 28,490 megawatts and within five years you are adding 14,000 megawatts, 50% of the installed capacity. Is it a mean achievement? By what standards?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
We can do better.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Obviously, you can do better, and you did much better from 1977 to 1980 and that is why people thought that you should do no better for God's sake and they got rid of you.

When I say and when I read out these figures, I do not claim that everything is all right, we have to pay a heavy price. If you want to maintain the agricultural production at a certain level and provide incentives to the growers, you must ensure that they get remunerative price. We have increased wheat prices to the extent of 30% during the last four years. That is why, we did not have much difficulty despite the severe drought. What was the shortfall in the production in the drought which was there when you were in power, and drought which we had, and how we have been able to reduce the shortage? It is because that growers are confident that they will get, if not the expected prices, at least the price, with

which they can carry on. Even I can go with the hon. Member, Shri Rakesh that the farmer is not getting the expected price. But it is not the situation, where he will go back and he will not produce. We have increased the prices of wheat to the extent of 30%, and at the same time we have taken care of the weaker sections of the community. I will admit that I have not been able to protect the interests of the unorganised sector, but one hon. Member mentioned about the difficulties of the organised sector. What is the complaint from the organised sector? In the public sector, the wage increase in the last decade is four times. And even if you take into account the consumer price index, in the last decade, it is two and a half times. And still, we go on demanding more liberalised dearness allowance formula, neutralisation at higher point, and if the Government does not agree, you say that they will go on strike. 192 crores of rupees on coal wages agreement alone, and you will describe that this Government is anti-workers.

Come to the lowest paid Central Government employees. I have got the figures with them... (Interruptions) Salary of the low paid Central Government employees on 1-1-1980 was Rs. 332.90; on 1-7-1983 it was Rs. 531.9; increase is 59.78% in three years, and the increase in the consumer price index—I am not talking of the wholesale price index—during this period is 45.8%, and increase in real terms is 9.6%. But I have not been able to protect the entire unorganised sector... (Interruptions). But you forget totally that a vulnerable section of the society has been protected. Public sector employees have been protected, low paid Government employees have been protected, and they have been insulated from the impact of the rising prices. That is the limited point I am trying to make out.

So far as the farmers are concerned, if not full, to a considerable extent, we have been able to give them the price with which they can manage.

For the other unorganised sector, we ought to improve the public distribution system. There are no two opinions. All of you have suggested that this institution is to be strengthened, but it is to be strengthened by the State Governments in cooperation with the Centre. We want to strengthen it, we want to bring more and more commodities within the public distribution system, but at the same time, you shall have to keep in mind... (Interruptions). I am not taking of Jammu and Kashmir which does not produce anything because of its geographical conditions, but I am talking of a State where the food production, both rice and wheat is of substantial quantity. If the State Government does not take any decision to procure foodgrains, and then claim that everything should be given from the Central pool, how can that be? I am not mentioning any particular State, but it has been our experience, because procurement after all is not a very popular job. Taxation, procurement, levy, these things are not popular things. Therefore, these unpopular things ought to be done by somebody and somebody else will have to provide them the material. It is not possible. If every State does not go for a procurement in a big way, why the entire job should be left to two or three States? A complaint has been made why the rice quota has been reduced so far as Kerala is concerned? It is because of the obvious reasons. It is because the rice production went down by 6 to 7 million tonne. We tried to import and a little bit import we could do and with the stock available whatever was possible, we have been able to maintain it. But I do not admit that I have not been able to maintain it to the fullest extent possible.

19 hrs.

One more suggestion has come and there very often figures are quoted. I don't know exactly what has been the expenditure on Asiad. Why don't you put a question straightway. You say it is Rs. 1500 crores, Rs. 1600 or Rs. 1700 crores.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : We

[Dr. Subramaniam Swamy]

did not a question, but he does not give the total picture. He only gives for the Ministry.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Say, from where are you getting these figures ? I reached to it even when I replied to be debate and I would like to get the confirmation from the Hon. Members to let me know the source on the basis of which they have been saying Rs. 1600 or Rs. 1700 crores. Dr. Swamy you have spoken it is Rs. 1600 crores and Mr. Chitta Basu has said it is Rs. 1700. Which is the source, please let me know.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Source is the newspapers.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Forget about newspapers, you are Members of Parliament. Money has been spent in Delhi for the Asiad. Money has not been spent from the heavens. So, money has been spent by some agency either the DDA, NDMC or the Delhi administration. If you add all the developmental budget of these organisations, what is the figure you get ? Give me that figure. It is to my advantage that no body is going to give anything in writing. If I would have said, immediately you would have jumped and brought half a dozen charges against me. But you calculate all the developmental budget of that particular year of all the agencies who are supposed to spend on it.

Yes, one may take the view that whatever money has been spent on Asiad is a wasteful expenditure. I may take the view it is not a wasteful expenditure. And I want to point out that it has not been done with that much amount.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : What amount is there ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I think I myself have given the figure thrice. It is not readily available because I thought that Asiad debate has been completed.

Secondly, you are talking of the non-developmental expenditure. I gave the figure. The Hon. Member from Kashmir was not present there at that time. I said 72.6 per cent of our total non-plan revenue expenditure are on three accounts—defence, interest payments and subsidies. I leave it to you. You suggest to me if I should reduce the expenditure on subsidies. But all of you have suggested I have more on subsidy.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Leaving these sector apart, do you say there is no wasteful expenditure ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Have patience to listen to me. I am giving you the figures not for one year, but for four years. In 1980-81 it was Rs. 11,213 crores as total non-plan expenditure of the Centre. Defence—Rs. 3,867 ; interest payment—Rs. 2,695 ; Subsidies—Rs. 1,577. In terms of percentage, it is Rs. 72.6 In 1981-82, it was Rs. 13,354 ; Rs. 4,652, Rs. 3,269 and 1,846. In terms of percentage it is 73.1. Similarly, in 1982-83, it is 72.9% on these three accounts only. Therefore, you have option from that—28% or 27% or 25% of the total non-plan expenditure. And there too I mentioned that sometimes all non-plan expenditure is not non-developmental expenditure. The assets which you create in one-plan—for instance one Hospital that you create in one Plan—in that year that expenditure is part of the plan expenditure. But for the maintenance of it in the Second Plan, it is non-plan expenditure. Therefore, all non-plan expenditure essentially is not a non-developmental expenditure. But there are certain areas where we are trying to reduce. In fact, we have reduced to a considerable extent the non-developmental expenditure. If the scope is there, I would definitely try to do so.

The question of deficit financing has also been raised. I personally do not like to have deficit financing to a considerable extent ; but in a developing economy like ours, when I am to mop up the resources for huge developmental outlay. You shall have to keep in mind that we don't have

to fight only on one front. During the current Plan period, I had to take care of Rs. 1743 crores of overdrafts of State Governments. And still there are some overdrafts.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Most of them are inefficient Congress (I) Governments.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : One of them is the most well managed Government, according to you, of a non-Congress (I) party. At least a few of them. Now even your Government is running for overdrafts.

So, I am trying to do so ; but at the same time, you shall have to keep in mind that there is some difficulty. I can take strong measures, if you just tell me that you want me to do it. I can take them there are no two opinions on it. But none of you will come to my rescue. All of you will say that the Centre is bulldozing. My point is : I don't mind even deficit financing, if a sizeable amount of that money is spent for development, and not for mere populism. That is what I mentioned, *viz.* that even within the constraints I find that one State can spend Rs. 33/- out of every Rs. 100/- of revenue and capital expenditure on development, while another State can spend only Rs. 17/-. And the State which will spend Rs. 17/- will cry that its development is not taking place. I say that you cannot have both at the same time.

So, my limited point is that we have not sacrificed the plan ; we have maintained the developmental tempo. We have been able to keep the rate of inflation within manageable limits ; and at the same time, we have kept a constant watch so that it does not go beyond point.

A point about consumer price index has been raised. I have replied to that ; in my own statement, I have said that the latest figure I have, has crossed two digits. It is 10.4%. What I expected was, if the normal pattern would have followed in

the current year, perhaps the situation would have been easier. But when the situation is not easier, we shall have to take some more straight measures. I have identified certain measures both on the demand side; and the supply side. Recently I have taken a policy decision. Somebody has expressed concern whether it will just create a situation where the genuine productive sectors will not get credit. That is not the point. If you look at the growth of liquidity in the banking sector in the first six months, it was about Rs. 900 crores more than what was anticipated. So, with the latest decision of impounding 10% incremental time deposits, I do hope it will be possible to mop up the excess liquidity from that system. But at the same time, industrial activities are expected to pick up, and they have actually started picking up. Drought did not have effect only on primary and agricultural commodities. As I mentioned on earlier occasions, there major industrialized States depend totally on the hydel source of electricity. When there is no adequate rain, it does affect not only our agricultural production. It affects electricity generation also, and in that process, it creates a problem for manufacturing activities. So, it has had wide effect and the impact was felt, *viz.* delay. As result we found that it is creating this problem.

One hon. Member raised the question of money supply. As I mentioned, upto October last time—I am talking in percentage terms—it was 8.2% in 1982-83; and this year it is a little more *viz.* 9.7%. But we shall have to take the responsibility. Mr. Mirdha is not here. In respect of coarse grains, coarse grains prices were crashing and we were giving encouragement you produce bajra, you produce maize and you produce other types of coarse grains; and if the prices collapse, naturally, next time, he will not produce. So, you cannot take advantage of it in order to get relected in your index. We shall have to ask certain organisations to step in, intervene and ensure that the prices do not collapse.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Why did you call back your loan from the public sector ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : What you say is not correct. I am really surprised what made you worry about increase in the gold prices. I did not know that gold is an item of common man.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : You made a campaign issue, so, I said, you had to answer it.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : We will make a campaign issue. Why I am telling you this is every time international gold price is cheaper than our domestic price; and the reasons are known to you that firstly our mines are deepest mines; secondly, the quality of the gold bearing ores is of inferior quality. Our cost of mining is more; that is why our gold is costlier. It is known universally.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : If you permit me, for the benefit of your ignorant colleagues, please tell us whether gold stocks were depleted during the Janata Party.

**SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDA-
VATE :** We did not know about it at that time.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Did the gold stock go up or go down ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Since you did the gold auction, I had to place the report. That is the reason why it has happened.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Did the gold stock in the Reserve Bank go up or go down during Janata Party rule ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Precisely because of that you distorted gold Policy and we told that this was the political venture; our gold stock was so insignificant that neither you could make up your budgetary deficit nor could you control the situation arising out of the smuggling into the country.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Did the cold stock during the Janata Party go up or down ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Every year it will increase because of the policy. So, every Finance Minister can take credit during his period that gold stock has increased; it is nothing particular because we purchased gold; we did not allow others. The entire gold which is being mined in this country is being purchased by the government. So, nothing unusual.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : It means it had increased.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : That is nothing unusual.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Please tell your colleagues.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : There is nothing to tell our colleagues. I think most of the points raised by the hon. members have been covered; and as I mentioned or rather started my observation that definitely the situation requires a careful handling, the situation requires a strong action, but, at the same time, it is not alarming and we should not inject an alarm in the system and get people scared that it is unmanageable; it is not within control. The situation is well under control and it would be for us to manage it and to ensure that we are in a position to keep it within the manageable limit.

19.12 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :—

- (i) 'In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of

Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st November, 1983, agreed without any amendment to the Punjab Disturbed Areas Bill, 1983, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th November, 1983."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st November, 1983, agreed without any amendment to the Chandigarh Disturbed Areas Bill, 1983, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th November, 1983."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st November, 1983, agreed without any amendment to the Armed Forces (Punjab and Chandigarh) Special Powers Bill, 1983, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th November, 1983."

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet on 1st December, 1983 ; at 11 A.M.

19.14 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, December 1, 1983/Agrahayana 10, 1905 (Saka)