

के सामने एक भारी संकट है, जिसके लिए मैंने काम-रोको-प्रस्ताव दिया है कि हरियाणा के अन्दर बिजली घरों को फौजी कब्जे में लेने के लिए मिलिटरी को सतर्क कर दिया गया है। अब आप देखिए अब फसल की पकाई है, किसान की फसल पक चुकी है, इस वक्त अगर उसको बिजली नहीं मिलेगी, तो बिजली के बगैर पकी हुई फसल खत्म हो जाएगी। इस वक्त हरियाणा और पंजाब सारे भारत को फीड करते हैं। मैं कोई सरकार को बदनाम की बात नहीं करता हूँ। मैं राष्ट्रहित के नाते बात करता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय बातें हैं यानी इसके ऊपर सदन को सोचना चाहिए। उनको इन हालात में कम से कम एक महीने तक जब तक फसल कटे उनको बिजली देनी चाहिए। इसके लिए चाहे आपको एयर कण्डिशनल सिनेमा आदि बन्द करने पड़ें, सब बन्द कर दो, लेकिन किसानों को बिजली दो, ताकि आप को भोजन मिले।

मैं एक बात अर्ज कर दूँ—कि जिसको कहते हुए मैं खुशी नहीं मानता हूँ, लेकिन ईमानदारी से कहता हूँ, क्योंकि इस की चोट हम को भी लगती है। मैं अभी हरियाणा से आया हूँ—वहाँ छोटे-छोटे बच्चे सड़क को धेर कर बैठे हैं और कहते हैं कि ये बिजली नहीं देते हैं, इस लिए इन को डेले मारो। वे यह नहीं देखते हैं कि भीष्म नारायण जा रहा है या मनीराम जा रहा है, चूल्हे-चक्की की बात बच्चों के दिमागों में पहुँच गई है। इस के बारे में बिजली मंत्री कोई बयान दें या आप कहें कि किसानों को बिजली जरूर मिलनी चाहिए। इस में राष्ट्र का हित है।

आप "बचन-भंगी" मत हुआ करें, जो वजन दें उस पर चला करें।

12.51 hrs.

### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

NON-AVAILABILITY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES AT FAIR PRICE SHOPS.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur) : I call the attention of the Minister of Civil Supplies to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :—

Reported non-availability of sugar, wheat, edible oils and other essential commodities at Fair Price Shops in Delhi and other parts of the country.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, localised shortages of temporary nature in respect of some essential commodities and items of mass consumption have been arising in various parts of the country including Delhi from time to time.

Selected essential commodities like cereals, sugar, kerosene, imported edible oils, etc., are being issued by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations through the Public Distribution System. During the year 1980, there has been increase in the supply of food-grains through the public distribution system. In 1980, 14.84 million tonnes of foodgrains were distributed as against 11.66 million tonnes in the preceding year. Similarly, as against 93,000 tonnes in the oil-year 1978-79, 3.5 lakh tonnes of imported edible oils were released to the States for distribution through the network of fair price shops in the oil-year 1979-80. The monthly quota of levy sugar is being maintained at 2.71 lakh tonnes. The sale kerosene oil in 1980 was 4% higher than in the preceding year.

There has been a much larger demand for foodgrains, edible oils ect., from the fair price shops due to the continuation of the effects of unprecedented drought of 1979. In spite of larger releases of these commodities, there have been, of late, reports of localised shortages of wheat, kerosene and sugar.

The Union and State Governments attach considerable importance to the supply management through the public distribution system. Accordingly, during the year 1980, 40,000 additional fair price shops have been opened. Also in recognition of the importance of maintaining supplies of essential commodities through the system, steps are being taken to make it

[Shri Vidya Charan Shukla]

a permanent feature of the economy. In this direction, constant efforts are made by the concerned Ministries of the Union Government to review the functioning of the public distribution system in consultation with State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and other concerned agencies.

I assure the Hon'ble Members that all possible steps are being taken to ensure adequate supplies of essential commodities through the fair price shops in all parts of the country.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER** : Sir, the Minister's statement is the same as it was read on 23rd February in the other House. Simply the difference is that it was read by Mr. Mohanty in the Rajya Sabha and here, by Mr. Shukla. Still, there is no difference. You know, Sir, on account of the rise in prices of essential commodities and the non-availability of sugar, wheat, rice, kerosene and edible oils, crores of people, especially, those who are living below the poverty line and the weaker sections of our country are in a very pitiable condition.

Sir, I think that this type of statement will not serve the purpose of the millions of our down-trodden people.

Sir, I would like to quote from today's *Hindustan Times* as to what is happening in Delhi :

"Wide-spread shortage of wheat and sugar.

There is shortages of wheat and sugar at all the 65 ration shops in Circle 6 serving areas like Khurji, Shakarpur, Laxminagar and re-settlement colonies."

Sir, what has happened in that verbally to the ration shops the civil Supplies Department has said that instead of fortnightly quota you just supply weekly quota.

In the *Times of India* issue of 24th it is written that with just 400 tonnes of sugar in their godowns the Civil Supplies Department of the Delhi Administration is in a dilemma about the doling out of sugar for the fortnight. Naturally, Sir, when the construction workers, labourers and office-goers go to the ration shops they are told that there is no sugar and wheat available today. Another day when they go they are told that there is no kerosene with the result that they reach late to their place of duty and in the process many people have to forego their weekly quota. Now, I would like to quota here :

"Chillice are cheap. Salt is dear. Medicine prices have remained stable. Prices of cloth have gone up. Prices of pulses have shot up. Wheat and rice have become costlier. There has been a rise in the prices of soap but in the case of sugar the increase has been more pronounced. Bread also has moved up significantly."

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** : Mr. Halder, you may continue after lunch.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at Seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[**SHRI GULSHER AHMED** in the Chair]

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—Contd.**

**NON-AVAILABILITY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES AT FAIR PRICE SHOPS—contd.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : Mr. K. C. Halder may continue.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER** : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was mentioning about the conditions in Delhi City, the capital of our country. Sir, Mr. Rothuama, a Member of this House representing Mizoram, was telling us that he went to a ration shop in the Gole Market area, where he was refused sugar against his ration card. He had some altercations with the shop-keeper. But he could not get any ration from that shop. If this is the condition in Delhi where a Member of Parliament was treated like this, you can well imagine the plight of the common people and the working class in the capital city. I know Mr. Rawat will speak for Airmora district and you may say, Sir, that the people of Bhopal may be able to get a pinch of sugar. But the adivasis in various regions are not at all able to get any ration. Yesterday, in her speech, the Prime Minister was giving various figures. I said that this kind of jugglery of presenting figures will not serve the purpose.

Now, what happened in Kerala ? There the Civil Supply Department was making frantic appeals to the Government of India for an allotment of additional supplies of rice, wheat and other essential commodities. The Chief Minister of Kerala made a representation to the Civil Supplies Minister of the Union Government and after that the Food Minister of Kerala Government also made representations. But there was no result. You know, Sir, the Civil

Supplies Corporation of Kerala have taken a decision that they would supply 16 items of essential commodities to the people through the public distribution system and for that they need Rs. 10.0 crores. They requested the Central Government for this amount, but there is no reply from the Central Government so far. The other day Shri Shukla told us that he appreciated the work of Kerala State Government regarding public distribution system and what they were doing. In fact, the Central Government is not doing anything. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will give all assistance including additional supplies of essential commodities and concede the demand of the Kerala State Government for ten crores of rupees to run the public distribution system efficiently.

The West Bengal Food Minister has made a representation to the hon. Minister of Civil Supplies that West Bengal is a deficit State and the required quantity of essential commodities, that is, rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene and other commodities, should be sent to West Bengal as early as possible so that they can maintain the rationing system. Our State Government is also distributing coarse cloth and other things through ration shops. The State Governments have limited resources. The Government has even reduced the wheat quota of all the States including the State of West Bengal.

The people of Uttar Pradesh are also experiencing difficulties in securing wheat from the public distribution system. In Delhi also the people have lost their confidence in the Government regarding timely supply of sugar and other essential commodities. I have personal knowledge that the businessmen, the hoarders, are taking advantage of the situation and are hoarding sugar, wheat and other things. The rich families of Delhi are purchasing one bag of sugar at one time for their use.

This jugglery of figures would not solve the problem. You have to ensure that essential commodities, sugar, rice, wheat and other cereals, kerosene and coarse cloth etc. reach the people in time.

This Government has reduced the wheat quota of West Bengal. In respect of the Food for Work programme, which is under the Agricultural Ministry, the West Bengal Government has done a commendable job. They have created crores of mandays of work and have employed a large number of people in the rural areas through this Food for Work programme. Through this, there has been a lot of development work in the rural areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. You are not here to make a full statement, you have only to ask questions.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : I am speaking for the whole country, not for Delhi alone. I have raised questions with regard to Kerala and now I am going to ask questions for West Bengal also.

Sir, for your state i.e. Madhya Pradesh also, I will put the question. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he will supply all the requirements that the West Bengal Government has asked him to meet. You know that Tripura is facing very hard times. (Interruption) In the eastern region, we have Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland. All these States are facing difficulty due to non-availability of essential commodities. In the case of Tripura, essential commodities are not reaching it due their non-supply by the Government of India, as well as due to transport difficulties. People there are facing hardships. Government of India should arrange the supply of essential commodities immediately, so that people's hardship is mitigated. I want to know the quantum of rice wheat and kerosene you are going to supply to Tripura.

I doubt whether there is any coordination between the Ministries of Agriculture and Civil Supplies. You said that food production this year would be about 112 million tonnes, but the food produced should reach the common people at a cheap rate through the public distribution system. I know that price rise and non-availability of essential commodities are there because you are pursuing a policy which is serving the capitalists, big businessmen and hoarders. You have collected crores of rupees from the sugar magnates, businessmen and capitalists. So, you are not able to control them. Will you accept my constructive suggestions and be ready to procure the 14 essential commodities? Will you take over the wholesale trade in rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene, cloth, edible oil and 14 essential commodities? Are you going to take over the wholesale trade? Are you ready to distribute these items through the fair price shops in all the States and Union Territories?

Assurances alone will not meet the hunger of our people. Crores of people are restive. You know hunger does not know any law. So, the people are rising everywhere—kisans, workers and employees. Kisans of Almora from where Mr. Rawat comes, and people of Goa wherefrom Mr. Falcio comes. (Interruption); Hunger does not know any law. If you don't supply food to the hungry people, one day they will revolt, rise and overthrow this Government and will establish a people's Government. So, kindly answer all the questions I have asked.

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:** I am sorry to hear that one of our members was ill-treated in one of the ration shops in Goal Market area. I shall certainly bring this matter to the notice of the Delhi Administration for corrective action; and we will request them to ensure that no Member of Parliament treated in this manner. The other specific matter that the hon. member raised was with regard to a request of Rs. 10 crores that was made by the Government of Kerala to the Government of India, that is to the Ministry of Finance for credit accommodation. We have supported this request and we hope that this facility should be extended not only to Kerala but to various other Civil Supplies Corporations also so that they can deal with the essential commodities in a proper way and substantially help to run the public distribution system in an efficient manner. Then the hon. member talked about the reduction of wheat quota, etc. in West Bengal. This has been done not for West Bengal alone but for all States; whatever has been done has been done uniformly for all the States. Therefore, there should be no grouse of the West Bengal Government for such a reduction. Due to supply situation, uniform action has been taken all over and, as a matter of fact, because of strong representation made here by the hon. members from West Bengal and also from Kerala, these two States get a little more advantage than other States in various allotments and supplies. Therefore, there should be no reasonable grouse; and if anybody wants to create an impression that because of political considerations, various distinctions are sought to be made, that is absolutely incorrect; no such considerations are ever taken into consideration by us while determining the supply of essential commodities to various States of the country. The hon. Member also talked about the conditions and problems in Tripura. All the States in north east India have problems of transport because of the present situation there and the transport bottlenecks. But we are cooperating fully and the State Governments have appreciated our cooperation in trying to resolve their difficulties; and in the face of difficulties which are apparent, we are doing our best and trying to sort out those problems. There is a full cooperation between us and the Ministry of Agriculture. There is no lack of coordination in this matter because we supplement each other's effort in regard to civil supplies and essential commodities. About your charge of collection of money from blackmarketeers and hoarders, I would leave the judgment to the House as to why the West Bengal Government refuses to detain these blackmarketeers and hoarders. We have been requesting the State Government to take up cases and they say, they will not take any action against the blackmarketeers and hoarders under the Prevention of Black-

market and Hoarding Act. (*Interruptions*) Then we said, in case you do not want to issue a detention letter, we will issue a detention letter; you kindly give us this information who is doing this blackmarketing and who is doing this hoarding. If they give us sufficient information and some kind of proof, we will do it. (*Interruptions*) I wrote a letter to the Chief Minister of West Bengal asking him, if he has any objection in issuing a detention order against blackmarketeers and hoarders, then we shall issue a detention order. We do not have any organisation by which we can find out who is doing blackmarketing and hoarding in West Bengal. Only the local government can tell us. They even refuse to cooperate with us in this matter; they do not want even to give this matter to us. It is for anybody to see who is favouring the blackmarketeers and hoarders.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:** You have not answered my question with regard to wholesale trade of essential commodities.

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:** That matter has been made clear from time to time. I do not want to repeat it. I have already said that the wholesale trade with reference to essential commodities, as far as it relates to the public distribution system, is being taken over and will be fully taken over by the Government. But it must be made clear that this does not mean take over of wholesale trade in every sphere; it will be only limited to public distribution system. We do not want the private traders to have any part in the public distribution system. We want State Civil Supply Corporations and State Cooperating, Marketing Federations, etc. to handle all the essential commodities which are distributed through the public distribution system in the States; and this, at present, is not fully so. I mean there are private traders who are operating at the State level and the district level. We have requested the State Governments to eliminate the private elements from the public distribution system. To this extent, we have taken action and we will continue to press this matter. But to take over wholesale trade irrespective of whether it relates to the public distribution system or not, that is neither my concern nor the policy of the Government to take it over; we just do not want to do that

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह (फ़िरोज़ाबाद): सभापति महोदय, माननीय आपूर्ति मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में तो बहुत सी पूर्ति कर दी है, लेकिन मैं उनसे वास्तविकता के बारे में पूछना चाहता हूँ। माननीय सदस्य, श्री हाल्दर, ने हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स का उल्लेख किया है। मंत्री महोदय ने पढ़ा होगा कि दिल्ली की राशन की दुकानों में राशन-कार्ड होल्डरों को भी गेहूँ, चीनी इत्यादि चीजें नहीं मिल रही हैं। दिल्ली में पिछली बार महीने के कोटे से 46,000 टन गेहूँ और चावल तथा 5,304 टन चीनी उपलब्ध कराई गई थी। वास्तविकता यह है कि—सरकारी अधिकारी भी यह मानते हैं और शायद मंत्री महोदय भी मानते होंगे—दिल्ली की जरूरत 64,000 टन गेहूँ और चावल तथा 6100 टन चीनी है। यह मैं दिल्ली की बात कर रहा हूँ, जो हिन्दुस्तान का बहुत बड़ा शहर है और देश की राजधानी है।

मैं पश्चिम बंगाल और केरल की बात नहीं कहूँगा, क्योंकि मंत्री महोदय कहेंगे कि वहाँ पर गैर-कांग्रेस सरकारें हैं। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश की बात कहूँगा, जहाँ उनकी पार्टी की सरकार कायम है। मंत्री महोदय ने राज्य सभा में कहा कि फ़रवरी में उत्तर प्रदेश को, जिसकी इतनी बड़ी आबादी है, 35,000 टन गेहूँ और चावल दिया गया है। इसके मुकाबले में दिल्ली को, जिसकी आबादी पचास-साठ हज़ार है, 46,000 टन गेहूँ और चावल दिया गया है ?

मंत्री महोदय का जवाब है कि वहाँ की सरकार ने अनाज की वसूली नहीं की। वह सरकार किस की थी ? अप्रैल और मई, 1980 में, जब कि अनाज की वसूली और खरीद होती है, वहाँ पर राष्ट्रपति

शासन था। इस लिए इस सम्बन्ध में सारी जिम्मेदारी और लायबिलिटी इस सरकार की है, लोक दल या जनता पार्टी की सरकार की नहीं। वहाँ के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर, जो बहुत अच्छे मिनिस्टर कहे जाते हैं, बार-बार कृषि मंत्री के दरवाज़े पर दस्तक देते रहे, लेकिन उनकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं हुई और वह बेचारे निराश हो कर लौट गये और वहाँ के अधिकारी भी वापस चले गये। मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि पीछे वहाँ पर सूखा पड़ा था और अनाज की उपज नहीं हुई थी।

मैं ऐसे ज़िले से आता हूँ, जिसे अनाज के मामले में सरप्लस कहा जाता है—आगरा से मेरठ तक के इलाके में सरप्लस फ़सल होती है। अगर यह मान भी लिया जाये तो आज आगरा में गेहूँ ढाई रुपये किलो के हिसाब से बाज़ार में उपलब्ध है। फ़ेयर प्राइस शाप्स में तो वह है ही नहीं। चीनी भी है ही नहीं। गांव का किसान चीनी का एक दाना भी नहीं पा सकता है, वह तो एक चम्मच चीनी के लिए भी तरसता है।

मंत्री महोदय द्वारा दिये गये आंकड़े तो बहुत अच्छे हैं, मगर क्या उन्होंने देखा है कि लोग सुबह से शाम तक धूमते रहते हैं, लेकिन उन्हें गेहूँ, चावल और चीनी उपलब्ध नहीं होती है।

इन सब चीजों की कीमतें क्यों बढ़ रही हैं। इस बारे में फ़िनांशल एक्सप्रेस में कहा गया है

The rise in the wholesale price index from March 1980 to January 1981 was 27 per cent against a rise of 23.8 per cent in the corresponding period of 1979-80.

[श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह]

पिछली बार 23 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई और अब 27 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है—यह फार्नेशियल एक्सप्रेस की बात है और आप कहते हैं कि कीमतें गिरी हैं।

जहां तक तेल का प्रश्न है, बाजार में सरसों के तेल का भाव थोक में 12 रुपए किलो है लेकिन खुले में वह 17 रुपए किलो भी उपलब्ध नहीं है क्योंकि आप उस को उपलब्ध नहीं करा सकते हैं। तेलों के भाव में कम से कम 30 परसेंट की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। गुजरात की सरकार ने तेल की निकासी के सम्बन्ध में एक नीति बनाई है और भारत सरकार ने उस नीति की प्रशंसा कर डाली। इस सारी स्थिति के परिणामस्वरूप आज जो उपभोक्ता है वह अत्यन्त परेशान है। यह बातें मैं इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब आप किसी रैली पर करोड़ों रुपए का डीजल फूंक सकते हैं तब क्या बाहर से कुछ तेल आयात कर के लोगों का बदन चिकना नहीं कर सकते? लोग अगर तेल अपने बदन पर न लगा सकें तो कम से कम सब्जों में तो डाल लें। इसलिए मैं आप से पूछना चाहता हूँ क्या आप उत्तर प्रदेश का कोटा बढ़ाने जा रहे हैं और क्या आप तेल का आयात करने जा रहे हैं?

जहां तक वितरण प्रणाली का सम्बन्ध है, मैं बंगाल या केरल नहीं, उत्तर प्रदेश की बात पूछता हूँ जहां पर आप का शासन है कि वहां पर अभी तक नेशनल सिक्योरिटी ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत कितने लोगों को जेल में बंद किया गया है? आप केरल या बंगाल की बात न करें, आप वहां की बात करें जहां पर आप का शासन है, उत्तर प्रदेश तथा अन्य प्रदेशों के कोटे में केन्द्रीय कोटे से आप ने कितनी बढ़ोतरी की है? दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या आप तेल का आयात करेंगे तथा जो चीनी आप के पास उपलब्ध है उस में से प्रदेशों का आप देंगे?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल: सभापति जी, उत्तर प्रदेश और दिल्ली के एलाटमेन्ट में तुलना करना इसलिए गलत है क्योंकि दिल्ली में गेहूं पैदा नहीं होता, यहां उपभोक्ता रहते हैं जबकि उत्तर प्रदेश में गेहूं स्वयं पैदा होता है। जो कमी होती है उस को हम सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के द्वारा पूरा करने का प्रयास करते हैं। इसलिए यह तुलना बराबर की नहीं है।

माननीय सदस्य ने दूसरा प्रश्न प्रिवेंटिव डिटेंशन ऐक्ट के बारे में पूछा है कि कितने लोग उत्तर प्रदेश में पकड़े गए। उत्तर प्रदेश में कार्यवाही हुई है और हम ने उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री को लिखा है कि जितनी कार्यवाही की अपेक्षा हम करते हैं उतने व्यापक पैमाने पर अभी कार्यवाही नहीं हुई है इसलिए इस को और ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़ा कर, जो लोग वास्तव में आवश्यक वस्तुओं के व्यापार में गलत काम कर रहे हैं उन पर कड़ी कार्यवाही की जाए। इस सम्बन्ध में जहां तक हम सहायता दे सकते हैं, पूरी सहायता देते हैं। जी भी सूचना हमें मिलती है वह उन के पास भेजते हैं। उन्होंने इस तरह की कड़ी कार्यवाही करनी शुरू कर दी है। और मुझे आशा है कि इस से स्थिति में सुधार आएगा।

जहां तक गेहूं की कमी की बात है, वह देश व्यापी है। जिस तरह से इस सम्बन्ध में केरल और वैंस्ट बंगाल प्रभावित हैं उसी तरह से उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश भी प्रभावित हैं। इस समय हम देख रहे हैं कि जो मौजूदा रबी की फसल है वह अच्छी है। 1979 के अकाल के कारण खाद्यान्न उत्पादन में जो कमी हुई थी उस को इस साल पूरा कर लिया जायेगा और अभी जो कठिनाई गेहूं के बारे में हमारे सामने है वह काफी कम हो जायेगी।

• इसी तरह से शुगर के बारे में भी आप जानते हैं कि पिछले सालों के उत्पादन के

मुकाबले में अब उत्पादन बढ़ा है। उस उत्पादन के बढ़ने से अभी जिस तरह से देश में शुगर के बारे में कठिनाइयां हो रही हैं, वे कठिनाइयां दूर हो सकेंगी—इस की हमें पूरी आशा है। इस के लिए हम लोग अपनी तरफ से ऐसी योजना बना कर कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं, जिस से कि शुगर और शक्कर की वितरण व्यवस्था हो सके और जिस से हर जगह शुगर पहुंचाई जा सके। इस के लिए हम एक तरफ उत्पादन बढ़ा रहे हैं और वितरण व्यवस्था मजबूत कर रहे हैं तथा ज्यादा से ज्यादा वितरण व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत दुकानें खोल रहे हैं। बढ़े हुए उत्पादन को वितरित करने के लिए अधिक से अधिक हम सहकारी समितियों का उपयोग करने जा रहे हैं।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : खाद्य तेलों के आयात के बारे में आप ने कुछ जवाब नहीं दिया।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : खाद्य तेलों का हम हर साल पांच सौ करोड़ २० का आयात करते हैं और आवश्यकता हुई तो और अधिक उस का आयात करेंगे। जितनी भी आवश्यकता होगी उसकी पूर्ति करने के लिए हम किसी प्रकार की कंजूसी नहीं बरतेंगे। जितनी आवश्यकता अपने देश की होगी उतनी ज्यादा उस से थोड़ा अधिक बाहर से मंगा कर समान रूप से अपनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करेंगे।

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): I do not think there is any question in the country which has aroused so much concern and which is as important for the people of this country as a whole as the ever-escalating prices of essential commodities. I have no special knowledge of this subject as an economist may have, but I speak as a common citizen of this country who is very much concerned about it. Definitely this is a matter which cuts across party barriers because the families of all of us, whether we belong to this party or that party, are being seriously affected. It is a fact that escalating prices and inflation are affecting the people not only in this country but all over the world. It is a world-wide phenomenon. It is affecting even the United States, which is the richest country in the world and even there, as you know, Mr. Chairman,

because you have been there very recently, the people are feeling the pinch. When we went there and said, "You get plenty of things in the United States", they said, "Please don't speak of getting plenty of things. Look at the amount of inflation and the cost at which the things available." So also in the United Kingdom. So far as the Soviet Union is concerned, I have very reliable information that although the question of price rise is never visible in the Soviet Union, the shortage of food is there. It is a world-wide phenomenon and this is how one looks at it. Before I am misunderstood, I must quote here what an hon. member was telling me that the fact that others share in our misery is no great consolation!

I am happy that the Minister has given some emphasis to what I myself have been thinking that this problem has to be looked at most seriously, with the top-most priority. It is the top-most problem concerning the country today and it has two aspects. First is the production aspect—*increase in production*. As far as sugar is concerned, it is really a commodity the price of which is increasing all the time. There are plenty of sugar stocks but the then Government had a very populist attitude and tried to please the people at that time by reducing the price, as a result of which the farmer could not get a remunerative price. There have been many instances in sugarcane-growing belt where the sugarcane crop was actually burnt. So what steps have the Government taken to firstly increase the production so as to meet the demand, so that the prices may come down to a reasonable level to the extent possible? Prices never come back to the original level. But they can be reduced substantially so that they can be adjusted to the pockets of the consumers. Then, what steps have the Government taken to build up bufferstocks? In this type of agricultural commodities, fluctuation in production will always be there, whatever you do. So, we must have bufferstocks to control the ill-effects of fluctuation in production. I know the Minister is not directly concerned, but he is a member of the Cabinet and as such I am sure he will be able to analyse all these vital aspects.

As far as distribution is concerned, one has to adopt, to my mind, the stick and carrot policy. One tries to persuade them as far as one can. In this context, I have seen reports that the Minister, for instance, had talks with vanaspati manufacturers, in which he tried to convince them to hold the price-line. May I know from him as to what has been the outcome of these talks? I understand that they specified mentioned sales tax and lot of other

[Shri Eduardo Faleiro]

difficulties in holding the price. What is really the reaction of the Government to this? Personally as a consumer, I have not very much faith in achieving results with businessmen by persuasion, at least in our country. I think the same is the case in other countries where shortages are there and business men take advantage of them.

As far as the stick policy is concerned, I would not go into party politics. But a small territory like Goa with 10 lakhs of people, has extremely good record of booking economic offenders. It comes after Maharashtra and Gujarat. West Bengal comes last.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** (Jadavpur): What is the effect on the prices in Goa?

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** First of all, if I were to administer the law and if there are economic offenders, I would not bother about the effect on prices. I would bring them to book because they are the greatest criminals.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** We also agree with you but the dispute is on the procedure.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** I would like to know if this is not the method, what are the other methods which the Government of India is contemplating? It is the concern of everybody to see that in these areas if preventive detention is not implemented, something is done to control or hold the price line and to bring to book the economic offenders.

Now, I would like to ask two things about Delhi. The Delhi Members of Parliament on this side of the House met the Minister of Agriculture. I do now know whether the Member from that side of the House also joined them.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT** (East Delhi): We have met the Minister twice.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** They also met the hon. Minister of Civil Supplies. I understand that the suggestion made by them is to give adequate supplies of essential commodities particularly sugar to the people of Delhi. What is the reaction of the Government thereto?

In this question of holding the price line Government alone cannot do everything. In fact, it needs the cooperation of people who are affected. We want to do something. I am not speaking as a Member of Parliament but as a simple consumer. Consumers are fed up. They

cannot stand it any more. The food is sometimes there but the prices are so high that they cannot buy it.

There are various price resistance movements in Delhi. I would like to know how the Government reacts to them. Will the Government help them or listen or at least scrutinise their suggestions? May I mention a particular Movement which is doing yeoman service in Delhi, Bhopal and elsewhere also. That is the National Consumers Front. It is having 42 offices here. It is really a type of Movement which, to my mind, is what a consumer resistance movement should be. There are similar movements. How do the Government react to them?

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:** The hon. Member is very very right when he says that basically we have to increase the production and also create buffer stock of various essential commodities so that in case any seasonal or other fluctuations take place because of transport bottleneck or other problems, this buffer stock can be used for equalising pricing. This is of course the policy of the Government. These things suffered badly in the last few years, because of not only lack of production, but also jumbling of various policies. But now, with increasing production we hope to create these buffer stocks which will help to stabilise the prices of various essential commodities.

About vanaspati we had some problems with the manufacturers. We think that unnecessarily and artificially these people tried to take advantage of the scarcity which was caused by drought in Telangana, Rayalaseema and Gujarat areas which resulted in some fall in production of groundnut. About this, we talked to them and convinced them that they should not and cannot take any advantage of the temporary difficulty and that we shall certainly come down with a heavy hand on them. We made an agreement with them. Those people who honour the agreement will get all the legal and proper administrative assistance from us, but those people who violate the agreement shall certainly face the consequences of breaking the agreement that they have made with the Government.

Preventive Detention Act, as the hon. Member said rightly, has been used with good effect and whether the preventive detention does have a direct impact on the price situation in a particular State or not it is very difficult for anybody to discover, but we must assume that when the blackmarketees and hoarders are arrested and action is taken against them, it does



have a salutary effect on the supply situation of essential commodities. We do not have to specifically weigh if we arrest 10 people what effect it has on the market or if we arrest one person what effect it will have on the market. If one is indulging in economic malpractices, if he is indulging in blackmarketing and hoarding, whether it has an effect on the price situation or not, it is the bounden duty of every Government to take action against that man. If we cannot nab him under the Essential Commodities Act, then the Preventive Detention Act must be used against the economic offender who is also a social enemy. Therefore, I would commend this approach that the hon. Member has suggested that more and more stringent action should be taken against these economic offenders all over the country.

Similarly, as the hon. Member mentioned, the Delhi Members of Parliament did meet us and pressed for more and more supplies to Delhi. As I said earlier, Delhi is a consumer area, it is not a production area for these various commodities and therefore, we have full sympathy and we have tried our best to help the situation in Delhi, but Delhi cannot be an island in the country, it has to share the problems and difficulties with other States in the country. But nonetheless, I must compliment our Delhi M. Ps. who have been going around looking after their constituencies in the Union Territory. We have done something which I hope will help consumers of Delhi in future. The Consumers' resistance movement is something which we want to encourage. It is a very healthy thing, but unfortunately copy illegible the consumers' to movement is not strong enough in the country, but the organisations like the National Consumers' Front are doing very good work, we have helped them and we want to encourage their activities all over the country and I hope such good organisations led by young men who want to do good service to consumers in a non-political manner will be helped not only by us, but the other social organisations in the State so that we can have a good consumers' resistance movement in the country.

श्री हरिश्चंद्र सिंह रावत (अल्मोड़ा) : सभापति महोदय, मुझे माननीय मंत्री जी की क्षमता में अगाध विश्वास है और जो कोशिश इस दौरान उन्होंने पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को सुधारने की की है, उस की मैं सराहना भी करता हूँ लेकिन एक बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो स्थिति आज व्यावहारिक रूप से सारे देश के अन्दर है, उसको आपने यहाँ पर रखा है। जैसा

आपने कहा कि आज कामन आदमी जो सब से गरीब व्यक्ति है, लोअर-मिडिल क्लास का व्यक्ति है, उसको आवश्यक वस्तुएं सही दाम पर पहुंचे लेकिन मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जितनी चोट इन व्यक्तियों के मन पर पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को कंट्रोल करने वाली एजेंसियों से पहुंच रही है उतनी किसी और से नहीं पहुंच रही है।

आज जगह-जगह पर सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानें हैं। आप उन पर देखिये। मैं विशेष कर यू० पी० की दुकानों के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा कि लोगों को एक राशन कार्ड पर एक किलो गेहूँ नहीं मिल पा रहा है, खाने का तेल नहीं मिल पा रहा है। लोगों को मिट्टी का तेल बहुत मुकिल से मिल रहा है। चीनी तो, हम मानते हैं कि उसकी कुछ कमी है लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी चीनी बहुत कम भी नहीं मिल पा रहा है। एक कारण तो यह हो सकता है कि हमारे देश में चीज नहीं हो। अगर हमारे देश में चीजें नहीं हों तो हिन्दुस्तान का हर आदमी सरकार के साथ मिल कर बिना उसके गुजारा कर लेगा, उस अभाव को सहन कर लेगा। लेकिन जब एक चीज सस्ते गल्ले की दुकान पर तो मिले नहीं और वही चीज बगल की प्राइवेट शाप में मिल जाये तो हमें मानना होगा कि सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानों में, पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम में बहुत-सी खामियां हैं।

एक तो यह बात है और दूसरी हम देखते हैं कि प्राइवेट शाप से बिकने वाली चीजों और सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानों से बिकने वाली चीजों की कीमतों में भारी अन्तर है। इस कारण

[श्री हरीश चन्द्र सिंह रावत]

मुनाफाखोरी करने वाले लोग हमारे भ्रष्ट तंत्र के साथ मिल कर वही चीजें प्राइवेट तौर से लोगों को बेचते हैं और अच्छा खासा मुनाफा कमाते हैं। इसलिए मेरी दरखवास्त है कि इस तरह की चीज को रोका जाए। आपने कहा भी है कि आप इसको रोकने के लिए कड़े कदम उठाने के सम्बन्ध में केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों को परामर्श दे रहे हैं।

दूसरी तरफ हमारा लेण्ड बार्डर बहुत लम्बा चौड़ा है। हमारे पड़ोसी देशों में अशेशल आइटम्स की कीमतें बहुत ज्यादा हैं। इस पर भी सरकार को नजर रखनी चाहिए। आप जो इन सब चीजों को रोकने के लिए कदम उठा रहे हैं और केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा प्रान्तीय सरकारों को जो गाइडलाइंस भेजी गयी हैं उनके सम्बन्ध में मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा। मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि प्रान्तीय सरकारों को कौन-कौन सी गाइडलाइंस भेजी गयी हैं और कौन-कौन सी राज्य सरकारें उनका पालन कर रही हैं और कौन-कौन सी राज्य सरकारें उनका पालन नहीं कर रही हैं?

एक चीज जो उत्तर प्रदेश में हमने देखी है वह यह है कि वर्तमान सरकार के पहले वहां जो सरकार रही है उसने राजनीतिक कारणों से सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानें दीं। जिनको वे दुकानें दीं गयीं आज वे लोग राजनीतिक कारणों से हमारे साथ कोआप्रेट नहीं कर रहे हैं। जो भी आइटम्स उनके पास आ रही हैं उन्हें या तो वे ब्लैक में बेच दे रहे हैं या किसी और तरीके से वे उन्हें इधर-उधर कर रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री से जानना चाहूंगा कि

इस तरह की शिकायतें जिन प्रांतों से सरकार के पास आयी हैं कि सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानें राजनीतिक कारणों से अलॉट की गयीं थी क्या उन से ये सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानें वे निकलवाने क लिए कदम उठा रहे हैं?

एक पश्चिम बंगाल के विषय में विशेष शिकायत कई लोगों के द्वारा आयी है। वह यह है कि पश्चिम बंगाल में सुना गया है कि वहां पर पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को मोस्टली उन्हीं पार्टीज के लोग कंट्रोल करते हैं जो कि शासन में हैं। यह भी वहां के बारे में बताया गया है कि उन से या उसकी पार्टी से जो लोग सिम्पैथी रखते हैं उन्हीं को वे चीजें देते हैं। क्या इस तरह की शिकायतें सरकार के पास भी आयी हैं और यदि आयी हैं तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूंगा कि उनकी जांच की जाए। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी उनकी जांच करेंगे? (व्यवधान)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:  
There is a limit when they say so. (Interruptions)

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:  
Most of these shops are being run by Congress (I).....(Interruptions).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:  
Let there be an enquiry. Let them hold an enquiry. (Interruptions).

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:  
Most of these shops belong to Congress (I).....(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister give a reply. Why do you bother about it!

श्री हरीश चन्द्र सिंह रावत : मान्यवर मैंने केवल यह कहा है कि जांच की जाए। (व्यवधान) आपने जब हम पर आरोप लगाया तो हमने शांति से सुना अब हमने एक सच्ची बात कह दी तो आप इस तरह से कर रहे हैं। मैंने जांच के लिए कहा है, जांच के बाद

सारी बात सामने आ जायेगी। इस में आपको क्या नाराजगी है ?

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:**  
It is ridiculous and nonsensical. (Interruptions)

श्री हरीश चन्द्र सिंह रावत : आपने हमारे ऊपर आरोप लगाया, हमने शांति से सहा, लेकिन जब एक सच्ची बात कहो तो आपसे सहन नहीं हो रही है।

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:**  
It has become a fashion because they are suffering from an inferiority complex. West Bengal is the best administered Government in this country. Therefore, they are still suffering from an inferiority complex.

श्री हरीश चन्द्र सिंह रावत : मैं माननीय सदस्य से पूछना चाहूंगा कि केरल के अन्दर जब कुछ लोगों ने असेंशियल आर्टिकल के अभाव से उत्पन्न स्थिति के विरोध में जुलूस निकाला था तो उन पर लाठी चार्ज क्यों किया गया था, हमारे कार्यकर्ताओं को मारा-पीटा क्यों गया था। उसमें मुस्लिम लीग के एक सदस्य को जान से हाथ धोना पड़ा था। पश्चिम बंगाल में तो इससे भी बुरी हालत है। मैंने तो अपनी बात कही है।

अंत में मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है और मैं जानना चाहूंगा जितने हमारे रिमोट एरियाज हैं, दूरस्थ स्थान हैं, जहां पर गेहूँ, चावल, शुगर कुछ भी पैदा नहीं होता है वहां पर सप्लाइ ठीक नहीं होती है। जो भी सामान आता है वह रेल-हैड पर ही बिक जाता है। इस लिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या वे प्रांतों की सरकारों को यह निर्देश देंगे कि वे इसके लिए वहां पर बफर-स्टॉक बनाएं, जिससे सप्लाइ ठीक

हो सके। इसी प्रकार शहरों में आप एक किलो शुगर देते हैं और देहातों में 500 ग्राम देते हैं, यह डिस्पैरिटी जो है, इसको समाप्त करने के लिए क्या आप कदम उठाएंगे ?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I heard some hon. Member utter some word in the House, which may be unparliamentary. Is it a fact.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** I said it is ridiculous and nonsensical.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I think it is unparliamentary.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Yesterday, the Prime Minister herself used the word 'nonsensical'. Please find out that first. If that is expunged, then I have no objection. (Interruptions)

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** If that was the case, when the word was used, any hon-Member should have raised an objection. No objection was raised.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** No body has raised an objection here. (Interruptions)

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** This nonsensical utterance on the part of Mr. Rawat will go on record ? (Interruptions)

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Nobody has taken an objection. Please do not do it *Synoptu*. I said it is ridiculous and nonsensical.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** This word may be un-parliamentary, and in that case I may have to expunge it.

15 hrs.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Don't expunge it, Sir.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I leave it to the Speaker to decide.

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : माननीय सदस्य ने सार्वजनिक वितरण व्यवस्था में खामियां का जिक्र किया है। यह सही बात है कि इस में बहुत सी खामियां हैं। हम उन्हें दूर करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। जैसा मैंने गोआ के माननीय सदस्य के प्रश्न के

### [श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल]

उत्तर में कहा हमें माननीय नागरिकों के द्वारा जो कंज्यूमर रिजिस्ट्रेंस मूवमेंट चलाए जाते हैं, उनका उपयोग करना है, कानून जो है उनका उपयोग करना है जैसे ऐंसेशियल कमोडिटीज एक्ट है, प्रिवेंटिव डिटेंशन है, एंटी ब्लैक मार्किटिंग एण्ड होर्डिंग एक्ट है। शासकीय तंत्र का भी इस काम के लिए उपयोग करना है। साथ ही साथ माननीय सदस्यों की जागरूकता का भी उपयोग करना है। जितनी जल्दी आप इन खामियों को हमारे ध्यान में लाएंगे उतना ही अच्छा होगा और उतना ही शीघ्र और अच्छी तरह से हम इनको दूर करने में सफल भी हो सकते हैं।

जहां तक भ्रष्टाचार का सम्बन्ध है इसको दूर करने के लिए जो कदम उठाए गए हैं वे सर्वविदित हैं। भ्रष्टाचार को रोकने में हमें पूरी सहायता नहीं मिल रही है। भ्रष्टाचार सब से बड़ी खामी है जो सार्वजनिक वितरण व्यवस्था को बिगाड़ती है। इस व्यवस्था में भ्रष्टाचार एक प्रमुख अंग है और इसको दूर करने का प्रयास हम कर रहे हैं।

तस्करी का भी माननीय सदस्य ने जिक्र किया है। उन्होंने बताया है कि बहुत सी चीजों की तस्करी उत्तर प्रदेश से नेपाल वगैरह को होती है। इसको रोकने के लिए सामान्य जो व्यवस्था है उसी का उपयोग किया जा रहा है। कोई विशेष व्यवस्था इसके लिए नहीं की जा सकती है।

माननीय सदस्य ने यह भी कहा है कि राजनीतिक कारणों से भी दुकानें दे

दी गई हैं। कहीं कहीं लोगों को इनको इसलिए नहीं दिया गया है कि वे काम को अच्छी तरह से कर सकते हैं बल्कि राजनीतिक कारणों से दी गई है और यह दोषपूर्ण चीज है। जहां तक हमारा सम्बन्ध है हम चाहते हैं कि सहकारिता के आधार पर इस व्यवस्था को चलाया जाए और अधिक से अधिक दुकानें सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में या सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में हों ताकि राजनीतिक दुरुपयोग जो समय समय पर किया जाता है वह न किया जा सके।

15.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

माननीय सदस्य ने सुदूर इलाकों में बफर स्टॉक बनाने की बात कही है। उसकी ओर हम जरूर राज्य सरकारों का ध्यान आकर्षित करेंगे और उनको कहेंगे कि इस तरह के जो क्षेत्र हैं और जहां के निवासियों को बहुत तकलीफ होता है, उनकी तकलीफ को दूर करने के लिए वे कारगर कदम उठाएं।

माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है कि बंगाल में जो व्यवस्था चल रही है उस में हलिग पार्टी के सदस्यों का उपयोग किया जा रहा है और माननीय सदस्य चाहते हैं कि इस की जांच की जाए। इस का विरोध बंगाल के माननीय सदस्यों ने किया है। मैं नहीं जानता कि विरोध क्यों किया गया है। यदि कोई आरोप होता तो उसका खंडन कर दिया जाता तो वह तो अलग बात थी। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने आरोप नहीं लगाया है। उन्होंने यही कहा है कि ऐसी बातें कही जा रही हैं, ऐसी बातें अखबारों में आई है। उनका यह सुझाव था कि इस आरोप की जांच करा ली जाए। मैं समझता हूं कि सदन इस बात से सहमत होगा कि इसकी जांच करा लेने

चाहिए और हम इसके बारे में जरूर  
पूछताछ करेंगे।

15.07 hrs.

## MATTERS UNDER RULE

377

(i) NEED FOR ENHANCEMENT OF CEMENT  
ALLOCATION TO KERALA

15.06 hrs.

MARRIAGE LAWS (AMENDMENT)  
BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE  
AND COMPANY AFFAIRS SHRI  
P. SHIV SHANKAR) : Sir, I beg  
to move for leave to introduce  
a Bill further to amend the Hindu  
Marriage Act, 1955 and the Special  
Marriage Act, 1954.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The  
question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce  
a Bill further to amend the Hindu  
Marriage Act, 1955 and the  
Special Marriage Act, 1954."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Sir,  
I introduce the Bill.\*

FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMEND-  
MENT) BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION  
(SHRI BALESHWAR RAM) : On  
behalf of Shri Birendra Singh Rao,  
I beg to move for leave to introduce a  
Bill further to amend the Food Corporations  
Act, 1964.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The  
question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a  
Bill further to amend the Food  
Corporations Act, 1964."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI BALESHWAR RAM : Sir,  
I introduce the Bill.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur) :  
Sir as per the cement allocations made  
by the Government of India, Ministry of  
Shipping and Transport ( Roads Wing)  
the allotment of cement for the second  
quarter of 1980 for the execution of Central/  
Centrally sponsored road/bridge works  
in Kerala is only 880 tonnes. The Kerala  
Government have intimated the mini-  
mum requirements of cement for the third  
quarter for Kerala State for National  
Highway works as 3280 MT. As this  
was the irreducible minimum required  
quantity, the Kerala Government has  
requested for allotment of this quantity  
in full without effecting any reductions.  
But against this request, the Govern-  
ment of India have allotted only 1000  
MT for the third quarter. For the  
fourth quarter, the Kerala Government  
has furnished the requirement  
as 4970 MT, but the quantity allocated  
was only 465 MT. Pointing out these  
facts, the Kerala Government have  
addressed the Ministry of Shipping  
and Transport for allotment of enhanced  
quantities of cement for the Central/  
Centrally sponsored works under exe-  
cution in this State. But it is under-  
stood that, till date, no reply has been  
received by the Kerala Government  
from the Government of India.

I, therefore, request the hon. Mi-  
nister to take necessary steps for the  
enhancement of cement allocation to  
the State.

(ii) RECRUITMENT OF LOWER DIVISION  
CLERKS BY TUTICORIN PORT TRUST

†SHRI D.S.A. SIVAPRAKASAM  
(Tirunelveli) : In my parliamentary con-  
stituency, there is the Tuticorin Port Trust.  
In July 1979, the Port Trust advertised  
for recruitment of Lower Division Clerks.  
Along with each application a fee of Rs.  
5/- was charged. An examination was  
also proposed for this purpose. The  
last date was 10-8-79. In response to  
this, lakhs of unemployed young men  
applied and the revenue of about Rs.  
5 lakhs must have been received by the  
Port Trust. In many newspapers there  
were also advertisements from the Port  
Trust warning the aspirants not to fall a  
prey into the hands of intermediaries  
who will deceive them of Rs. 5000 or  
Rs. 6000 per head. The Port Trust

\*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 27-2-81.

†The original speech was delivered in Tamil.