

जी राज बिल्लाच पासवान (हाजीपुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, गृह राज्य मंत्री जी ने जो सदन को बताया है और इन्होंने जो जवाब दिया है उसको पढ़ने से तो उचित लगा लेकिन इन्होंने जो सप्लीमेंट्री क्वेश्चन का उत्तर दिया है उस से ऐसा लगा है कि शायद वस्तुस्थिति को जानबूझ कर, दल के हित में नजरअन्दाज कर रहे हैं। यदि उन की इस स्टेटमेंट को पढ़ें तो उस में मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि यह मामला 9 तारीख को वहां की विधान सभा में भी उठाया गया था। वहां के फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने इस का जवाब दिया था। अगर इसमें कांग्रेस आई के लोगों का हाथ नहीं था तो उन्होंने ने वहां इस का कंट्राडिक्शन क्यों नहीं किया ?

यह जो पैम्पलेट निकाला गया है उस में मंत्री का नाम नागभूषण अरादिद्या और प्रेजीडेंट का नाम दिया गया है। यह मामूली बात नहीं है। जब विधान सभा में यह प्रश्न आया होगा तो वहां के मंत्री ने जानकारी जरूर की होगी। अगर थोड़ा सा भी इस में डाउट होता तो वह वहां के सदन के पटल पर कह दिया जाता लेकिन इस सारी रिपोर्ट को देखने के बाद कहीं पर यह नहीं लगता कि वहां के मंत्री द्वारा वहां पर यह कहा गया हो कि इसमें कांग्रेस आई का हाथ नहीं है। इसलिये यह लाजमी हो जाता है कि इसमें उन का हाथ है।

यह मामला एक स्टेट में नहीं कई स्टेटों में हो रहा है। असम का मामला आपके सामने है। उस की बुनियाद भी इसी आधार पर है। फिर यह मामला बंगलौर में चला। फिर बम्बई में चल रहा है। यह भाषायी आधार पर कमजोर लोगों को, पापुलेशन के आधार पर कमजोर लोगों के मन में दहसत पैदा करने वाला है। पूरे देश में इस से बहुमत पैदा हो रही है। इन सारी चीजों की निश्चित रूप से आपको ध्यान करवानी चाहिए।

इसलिए उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने यह कहा है कि गृह राज्य मंत्री जी के जवाब में श्रीर स्टेट में जो वहां मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया है दोनों में कंट्राडिक्शन है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Passwan, you can continue after 6 O'clock. Now, we will take up the Private Members' Business.

15.30 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEVENTEENTH REPORT

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneshwar): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 1981."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 1981".

The motion was adopted.

15.32 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: STEPS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION— contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following Resolution moved by Prof. Satya Deo Sinha on 27th February, 1981:

"In view of the fact that about three-fourth of the population of the country is dependent on agriculture and has a vital role in the economy of the country, this House recommends to the Government to give proper incentives to the farmers by reducing the prices of fertilizers, seeds and farm implements, pro-

viding irrigation facilities, acquainting them with latest farming techniques, ensuring remunerative prices of their produce and introducing crop and cattle insurance schemes so that food production may increase”.

The time allotted for this resolution was two hours and one hour and forty-four minutes are already over; only 16 minutes are left. If we go on extending the time on such things—I am not saying anything—the other resolutions do not get the priority. Already about ten Members have spoken. I think, we can ask the Minister to reply.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): Shri Naidu had started speaking when the House adjourned last. Since I am sitting behind his seat, please allow me to speak only for three minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right.

श्री उत्तम राठौर (हिंगोली) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रो० सत्यदेव जी ने जो प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किया है, वह अत्यन्त महत्वपूर्ण प्रस्ताव है। इस प्रस्ताव द्वारा यह मंशा व्यक्त की गई है कि इस देश की जो 75 फीसदी आबादी देहातों में रहती है, जिस का जीवन खेती पर निर्भर है, उन के जीवन-स्तर को सुधारने के लिये खेती के लिए इन्सेन्टिव देना बहुत जरूरी है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं इस के बारे में एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज फर्टीलाइजर की कमी महसूस की जा रही है। इस बारे में मेरा सुझाव है कि आज दिन-ब-दिन टैक्नोलॉजी बदलती जा रही है, तकनीक का विकास होता जा रहा है, तो क्या हम कुछ ऐसा नहीं कर सकते कि जिस से फर्टीलाइजर का उत्पादन सस्ता और अधिक हो सके।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, दूसरी बात मुझे कहनी है ए०पी०सी० के बारे में। इस के बारे में जब डिस्कशन हुआ था तब राव साहब ने कहा था कि इस में एक मेंबर और लिया जाएगा और वह दक्षिण से होगा। सुनने में आया है कि किसी इकानामिस्ट को रखा गया है। बड़ी अच्छी बात है, लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि जो लोग काश्तकारों की जिन्दगी से अच्छी तरह से वाकिफ हैं, उन के रहन-सहन को, उन के खर्चों को अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं, उन में से कुछ लोगों को रखना जरूरी है। खास करके ऐसे लोगों में से लिया जाना चाहिए, जिन का कल्टीवेशन ड्राई है। यदि ऐसा नहीं करेंगे और किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति को रखेंगे जिस की जमीन ड्रीमेटेड एरिया में है तो वह उसी प्रकार की धारणा बना कर बात करेगा; जो धारणा उस की अपनी खेती के बारे में बनी है, उसी के अनुसार वह पूरे देश की खेती के बारे में सोचेगा, इस से नुकसान हो सकता है। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है कि इस में एक एग्रीकल्चर लेबरट और एक ड्राई फामस का रिजर्जेंटेटिव रखना बहुत ही जरूरी है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसी प्रकार क्राप एण्ड कैटल का इश्योरेंस बहुत जरूरी है। आज खेती के साथ-साथ डेरी और पोल्ट्री को धंधा शुरू करने के बारे में सोचा जा रहा है। ऐसे समय में अगर इश्योरेंस स्कीम लागू नहीं की गई तो हो सकता है कि इन योजनाओं का लाभ काश्तकार न उठा सके। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि कैटल और क्राप के लिए पूरे देश में इश्योरेंस स्कीम लागू की जाए ताकि सभी लोगों को सहूलियत भूहैया हो।

एक बात और है जिस के बारे में मैं कहना चाहूंगा और वह है रिस्क फॅक्टर के बारे में। इस की तरफ हमें ज्यादा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है, खास कर उन क्षेत्रों में जहां पर खेती ऊपर के पानी के भरोसे पर है, उन की हालत आज बहुत खराब है। अक्सर तीन साल में एक

[श्री उत्तम राठी]

साल ही मुश्किल से ठीक होता है और बाकी के दो साल बिल्कुल बदतर होते हैं। अगर इन लोगों को किसी तरह से स्पॉर्ट नहीं मिलती है तो बड़ी मुश्किल होती। इस वास्ते रिस्क फैक्टर की तरफ सरकार ज्यादा तबज्जह दे।

जहां तक प्राइस फिक्सेशन का सम्बन्ध है ए०पी०सी०की० जो धारणाएं प्राइसिस के बारे में हैं उन के बारे में मैं कुछ अर्ज करना चाहता हूं। ए०पी०सी०हमेशा ही जो कीमतें रिक्मेंड करती है उस के बाद देखा गया है कि गवर्नमेंट कीमतों को और बढ़ा देती है। इस का नतीजा यह होता है कि काश्तकार का माल बजाय हमारे गोडाउन्ज में आने के बाहर बिक जाता है। इस को टालने के लिए और काश्तकार सब से पहले हमारे पास आए, आप को चाहिए कि आप काश्तकार को कुछ अच्छी कीमत दें ताकि जिन बीजों का मोनोपोली प्रोक्थोरमेंट होता है या जिन का मोनोपोली प्रोक्थोरमेंट नहीं भी होता है, जैसे गेहूं है, कपास है वह हमारे द्वारा प्रासेस होकर तकसीम हो। ऐसा किया गया तो काश्तकार की हालत, देहात में रहने वाले की हालत, वहां लेबर की हालत अच्छी होगी और 75 परसेंट लोग जो देहातों में रहते हैं, उन की जिन्दगी सुधर सकेगी।

मैं यह भी चाहता हूं कि देहातों तक पक्की सड़कें बनाई जाएं, ट्रांसपोर्ट के जरिए वहां पैदा किए जाएं, अच्छे मदरसे वहां खोले जाएं, हेल्थ स्कीम्ज वगैरह वहां चालू की जाएं। इलेक्ट्रिसिटी वर्ग रह को भी वहां फैलाया जाए ताकि ये लोग उससे लाभ उठा सकें और आने वाली पीढ़ियों को, अपने बच्चों को अच्छी तरह तैयार कर सकें और नयी जिन्दगी उन की शुरू करा सकें।

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION (BAO BI-

RENDRA SINGH): Sir, I have very carefully listened to all the speeches of the hon. Members and I fully share their concern for the welfare of the farming community and the people living in our rural areas. This Resolution seeks to highlight the difficulties that are being experienced by agriculturists and the weaker sections of our society, who generally live in the countryside.

Sir, there is no doubt that the income in the rural areas compared to our urban areas is low. The standard of living of the people also needs to be raised. They do not have facilities for education and for a comfortable life which a citizen in a free country expects.

The main points made by Hon. Members are with regard to the prices that the farmers should get for their produce, the prices that they have to pay for various inputs, irrigation facilities, and various other matters which concern generally the largest sector of our population, which is the farm sector. There is no doubt, Sir, that agriculture is our biggest industry in this country. India is called an agricultural country. And unless agriculture receives proper attention at the hands of the Government, we are sure India cannot become prosperous. Our industry also depends upon agricultural production, because most of the raw materials come from agricultural sector.

Sir, some hon. Members have emphasised that irrigation should be expanded. I am happy to say that the Government is fully alive to the need for providing irrigation to agricultural lands, because it is only through irrigation that there can be some amount of stability in our agricultural production. There is increasing realization that every investment that goes into the agricultural sector will bring the quickest results. And with that in view, a substantial portion of our outlays has been earmarked for agriculture, irrigation and rural reconstruction in the 6th Five Year Plan.

If I may draw the attention of hon. Members to the progress that has already been achieved, I hope they would be satisfied with the efforts of this Government in the field of irrigation. In 1950-51 when our Plans started, we had an irrigation potential of just over 22 million hectares and to-day we have already attained an irrigation potential of 56 million hectares. That is more than double. We have estimated that about 113 million hectares of land can be provided irrigation in this country. We have already achieved 50 per cent of that. And by the year 2,000, we plan to bring all these 113 million hectares of land under irrigation. At present, our target is that nearly 2.5 million hectares of land will be brought under irrigation every year. And I am confident that this is about the highest target for irrigation that any country in the world has set for itself. In its annual plans—and has achieved.

I hope we shall be able to find more money for storage, because we have a very large quantity of surface waters that still flow into the sea. If we can utilize that water for irrigation, there is no reason why India cannot come at the top perhaps in the world, in the matter of agriculture.

The greatest need that is felt, is for agricultural research, and supply of high quality seeds of high yielding varieties for our farmers. There is a very large network of agricultural research institutions in this country. Our agricultural universities are also doing very good work. The country has about 21 agricultural universities. There are about 38 national level institutes in the field of agriculture, looking after the production of seeds, development of high yielding varieties, water management, soil conservation, social forestry, animal husbandry, dairy etc. There is no science in agriculture that is not receiving the fullest attention in this country. This Government

knows that unless our rural areas are fully developed, we cannot say that we have really benefited from the freedom that was gained after a lot of sacrifice on the part of our leaders and a very large part of our population consisting of all sections of the people, all castes and creeds.

Seeds production is increasing from year to year. fertilizers production is also receiving our attention. At present, we consume over 5 million tonnes of fertilizer in terms of nutrient. About half of that is being produced in this country; half is still imported from outside. The prices of fertilizer are going up. Import from outside is becoming costlier and in our own country, there are certain constraints. The cost of production is rising, as the hon. members know very well. But in spite of that, Government is meeting a large part of the cost by way of subsidy to be able to supply fertilizers to the farmers at a uniform rate throughout the country. You know, recently, a decision was taken that fertilizer will be available to interior areas also at a uniform rate. Formerly, the rate was fixed only for places which were situated near rail heads. But now wherever there are blocks, even if they are away from the railway, fertilizer will be carried at Government's cost and supplied to the farmers at the same rate. Seeds are also supplied at subsidised rate. The Government is spending a lot on production of high quality seeds.

It is also very well known that irrigation to the farmers is not supplied on the basis of earning a profit. Even the running canals mean a lot of deficit to the State Governments and the new projects need a lot of investment. If we calculate the money that is being spent on power and irrigation projects and the revenue that will flow into the treasury, it will be found that the revenues are negligible compared to the cost. This money is being spent for benefiting the farmers and ultimately the nation. Even yesterday the Prime Minister went to see a small *krishi mela* in Delhi itself in the Indian Agricultural Research institute. This

[Rao Birendra Singh]

shows the amount of interest that our Prime Minister is taking for the welfare of our farmers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were also there in the photo with a big turban. Why can you not come here with the turban one day in the House.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: If you like that, I will certainly do it, when you are in the Chair. I will see that. ...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It was so good, so nice to the head.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Here are the Prime Minister's remarks. She paid very high tributes to our scientists and also to our farmers. She said, it is the hard work of our farmers and their adaptability that India has been able to achieve such tremendous increase in agricultural production. When there was a drought in 1979-80 and the severest drought of the century, we never cared to see how much money was being spent for providing relief. Relief was provided to drought affected areas. It had been started in 1979, during the previous regime. But we realised that the amount of relief was not sufficient. Central team were despatched again to the various States. This Government has spent more than what had been spent in the previous years again for the drought-affected areas. Foodgrains were rushed to all the places. Drinking water was supplied to all the smallest hamlets by military trucks, by railway trains, food was dropped by aeroplanes and, Sir, you know how we got over the difficult situation without importing any foodgrains from outside, without getting our stocks depleted to a very low level. We hope we shall be able to replenish them with the good crop this year. The very fact that food production is increasing from year to year. It is a proof positive that the farmer is satisfied with what this Government is doing and is further trying to do for the farmer. The farmer is satisfied that the Government wants to en-

sure a remunerative price for the farmer's produce. Otherwise, this increase in production would not have been possible. We started with a total wheat production of about six million tones in 1950-51 and today we are expecting a bumper wheat crop of about 34 to 35 million tonnes. If all goes well, of course, apart from what the Government does, God's help is more essential for the farmer. In spite of our measures and the scientific (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Birendra Singh, we were also importing wheat from America under PL 480. (Interruptions).

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: Yes. Only a few years ago, we were importing. We were not self sufficient in foodgrains. But, fortunately with the passage of time, due to the policies of this Government and the policies, (Interruptions).

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा (शाजापुर) :
77-78 में हम ने एक्सपोर्ट किया ।

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह 77-78 में तो
आप ने सब कुछ खो दिया । क्या था ?
... (व्यवधान) ... छोड़िए, 77-78 की
बात आप माद दिलाते हैं तो बड़ी
कोफ्त होती है । (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When your Government is in power you can also take that credit

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : आप को तकलीफ होना तो स्वाभाविक है । मैं आप की तकलीफ समझ सकता हूँ ।

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : तकलीफ की बात नहीं है । सारे हाउस को उलटी होने की हो जाती है जब आप 77-78 की बात करते हैं ।

श्री कूल चन्द वर्मा से मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ, रेकार्ड पर यह बात है कि सब से पहले 77-78 में हम ने व्हीट एक्सपोर्ट किया। इस से पहले कभी नहीं हुआ नाट इवैन इन इमर्जेंसी।

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: After the enlightened and well thought of policies of Shrimati Indira Gandhi when emphasis was laid on agricultural research from 1968 onwards, these high yielding varieties of various seeds, they came to the hands of the farmers and agricultural production went on doubling from Plan to Plan. Their achievement is this. Whereas we had achieved a target of about 131 million tonnes for foodgrains, due to their ill luck or the country's bad luck, after their short rule we came down to 109 million tonnes only. A shortfall of 22 million tonnes in foodgrain production within a period of two years when you were sitting on these benches. (*Interruptions*) That is your achievement.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He says, if they had continued for five years, they would have achieved. (*Interruptions*). I am helping you!

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: God is great. He wanted to save this country. The people of this country are wise!

Within one year after this Government took over, we again had a jump. In spite of drought conditions still persisting, we achieved a production of about 113.9 million tonnes of foodgrains last year. This year we want to exceed that. I am keeping my fingers crossed. It is better if I do not give any figures just in case their evil eye again has some effect.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Good eyes; evil look!

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: We are in a position to export rice today. This year, we exported about 0.5 million tonnes. Who could have thought of it a few years back? It is only on account of the policies and the atten-

tion that this Government of Mrs. Indira Gandhi is paying to the farmers. Farmers came to Delhi—I do not know; you may not agree, but they were between 3 and 4 million.

श्री कूल चन्द वर्मा (शाजापुर)
वे भ्राये थे या लाये गये थे ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: They did not come to ask for anything and the Prime Minister did not announce anything, because otherwise you would have said that the farmers were called. They came to give a reply to you that the farmers of the country are not with you but they are with Mrs. Indira Gandhi. They only wanted to demonstrate that, because you have been trying to exploit them here and there in places where they are still a little backward and where they have not been able to fully realise the impact of the policies of this Government upon our farm economy. Rice production has shot up. Wheat production has gone up. We are planning a food production of about 154 million tonnes by the end of this plan period, i.e. by 1984-85. Could it be possible if farmers were not finding the prices remunerative? A few years back, the people of the country wanted to give a chance to the people who had been indulging in criticism and criticism for a long time. They thought, "Let us see; it will do no harm. Let them try their hand for a couple of years."

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): How much more time will he take? He is talking irrelevant ...

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: If I talk about the work that this Government has done, we are irrelevant! But they were never relevant. They were not relevant even in eulogising their own efforts nor are they relevant in their criticism of our efforts.

Sir, I would not take a long time.

All I am trying to say is that we are very keen that the farmers get re-

[Rao Birendra Singh]

remunerative prices, cheap inputs, the best inputs and in time, get power and water at subsidised or cheap rates and also get it at crucial periods. Last year, the Prime Minister wanted that 70 per cent of our diesel in the States should be earmarked for the farmers so that the wheat crop could ripen properly. Canals were run for a longer period than usual. 80 per cent of power was reserved for the farm sector. It has been the same this year also. Recently we have given instructions to the Chief Ministers of wheat growing States that even if the industry has to be shut down in some places for a period of 15 days, power should be found for the farmers so that they can irrigate their fields at this critical time. Diesel is also supplied to the farmers. They are given priority. My friend, Mr. Sethi, Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals has said that if the Chief Ministers want more diesel for supplying to farmers for their crop which is about to be harvested, he will find any quantities of diesel. This is how we are helping the farmers.

16 hrs.

The minimum support price for sugarcane was fixed at Rs. 13. But the Prime Minister advised the Chief Ministers that they should try to give the farmers as much as possible. The minimum of Rs. 16 with 8.5 per cent recovery was communicated by the Prime Minister. I am happy to say—my friends know it—that on an average the sugarcane growers are getting between Rs. 22 and 23 and even Rs. 25 per quintal. Compare it with the period when there was another self-styled so-called farmer leader when sugarcane was burnt in the fields, potatoes rotted in mandies, wheat was lying in mandies for weeks together and gunny-bags were not supplied. The traders and the purchasing agencies joined hands to cheat the farmers. But immediately on our taking over last year, I had thrown a challenge in this House and no hon. Member had been able to

point out that there was a single complaint throughout the country in our last procurement season when wheat came to the market, where it could be said that the FCI official or the State's purchasing agencies anywhere tried to loot the farmers, they did not pay proper price to the farmers. That is how we are trying to safeguard the interests of the farmers.

In the matter of onions, in Maharashtra there was an agitation. The Maharashtra agitation is always mentioned in this House. Onions were purchased by NAFED at the direction of the Government. Remunerative prices were paid. Last year, we purchased onions within a price range of Rs. 45 to Rs. 60. This year we started purchasing onions along with the Maharashtra State Government Co-operative Agencies within a price range of Rs. 55 to Rs. 70. Again, it was represented to us that this price was not good enough. The Maharashtra State Government Co-operative Agencies and NAFED are now purchasing onions at a price between Rs. 65 and Rs. 75. But it is not only one crop or one commodity for which Government can accept full responsibility. It costs money. We paid a subsidy of about Rs. 6.2 crores on the purchase of onions last year. Potatoes also may have to be purchased, if the price has become unremunerative for the farmers in UP and other potato-growing areas. But, Sir, we have to try and strike a balance. The farmers also should not expect that even if there is a glut in the market and they find onions only the most profitable commodity to produce, they will go on producing onions only. It has to be ensured that at least perishable commodities are not produced in such large quantities that they are not needed for consumption and for which there is no export market. I would request the hon. Members to bear that in mind. Foodgrains is a different matter. We want to procure very large quantities of foodgrains. About rice, Sir, I am sorry to say that I am not very happy with the procurement of rice this time.

Last year there were about 42 million tonnes of rice produced—not paddy, but rice—and out of that we procured nearly 4 million tonnes. This year we expect the crop to be about 58 million tonnes of rice. That is about 14 million tonnes additional, more than last year. But in spite of that we have not reached even 5 million tonnes.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the reason according to you?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Our total procurement is 4.5 million tonnes.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL (Mathurapur): FCI is not working.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: FCI is working everywhere. I request the States to cooperate. I tell you the reason, as the hon. Member wanted to know. It is because paddy price was fixed by the Government of India at Rs. 105—certain States on their own raised the price by Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 with the result that they have not procured anything at that price.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): It is good.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: It is not good, Mr. Ranga. It would have been good if they had paid this price actually and procured rice and paddy at that price. But the result is that the farmers naturally would blame the FCI for not paying as much as the States had announced and the FCI cannot go beyond the mandate of the Government of India, of the Cabinet. There has been effect on other farmers even in Punjab and Haryana. The farmers of Punjab and Haryana would naturally start thinking, 'How is it that I am selling at Rs. 105?'

PROF. N. G. RANGA: They should not.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: They should not? What will you eat then?

PROF. N. G. RANGA: They should not.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: How will you feed the country?

PROF. N. G. RANGA: You follow a wrong policy.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Well, that is your view. But if we follow your policies, Mr. Ranga, probably we would soon end up with everything. (Interruptions). We have to keep our balance. We cannot be swayed by... (Interruptions).

PROF. N. G. RANGA: You should not try to take advantage of it. We will square it up among ourselves. Punjabis are producing enough of wheat.

(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Ranga, this is a Private Members Day. You can express your private opinion also. There is no harm.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Wheat producing States are also the rice producing States in this country. It is wrong to say that south is rice producing and north is wheat producing. It is these very people who produce rice for the country who give to the people who produce wheat. In wheat, last year we procured 5.8 million tonnes. I want to tell my friends that out of 58 lakh tonnes, 42 lakh tonnes came from Punjab alone. 11 lakh tonnes came from Haryana. What did the rest of the country give? In rice this year out of 48 lakh tonnes, 24 lakh tonnes have come from Punjab alone. Would you call it a wheat producing State or a rice producing State?

PROF. N. G. RANGA: You sell rice and we eat rice.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Well, you eat rice and I hope... (Interruptions)

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Let us not discuss.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I only request you to keep eating rice, then we will be comfortable. If you eat

[Rao Birendra Singh]

rice, we are happy. Go on eating rice. Do not ask for wheat then. Then we shall be comfortable.

It is wrong to differentiate between State and State on the basis of what they produce—South and North, East and West. Some hon. Members start demanding different prices for different regions. How is it possible for the Central agency to procure from all over the country a particular commodity and to think of paying differential price on the basis of different calculations made in different areas by different organisations. This is about the cost of production. That is not possible. Then it will go to districts, it will go to particular fields or villages. (Interruptions)

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Let us not discuss that now.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I do not know what you want to discuss. Tell me, I shall discuss... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No no. (Interruptions).

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: On this question of inputs, supplies to the farmers at a reasonable price, ensuring remunerative price for the farmers, efforts of the Government to improve the conditions of living of the rural people through our development programmes IRD, SFDA, Desert Area Programmes, Drought Prone Areas Programme, we are spending a lot on them. The poor sections of the people in the rural areas have to be brought above the poverty line. I have so many times given the details of the various schemes and our plans. I would not take more time. All I say is that the Government is fully alive to the needs of the farm sector. We have given it a very high priority in our plan this time. The largest allocation would be for agriculture, rural reconstruction and irrigation. Therefore, I request the hon. Member not to press this Resolution on the House.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: What do you think about the minimum wages of the agricultural labourers?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Minimum wages for agricultural labourers have been fixed in the States. From place to place there are various Acts. What do you want me to say?

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Those are not being implemented.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Whenever they have not been implemented, I would persuade the States to implement.

Government have the best intention towards the agricultural labourers, landless people. We are trying to speed up land reforms and to remove bottlenecks wherever they exist. We want to bring up the agricultural labourers also because without agricultural labour there can be no agriculture in India. Therefore, we pay more attention. We recognise better claim of the poorer amongst the farmers and agricultural labourers are included amongst the poorest in the agriculture sector. They should receive better attention. There can be no doubt about it. We are very clear in our minds. Any suggestion in that regard will be taken up very well by this Government. We hope with our policies agricultural sector will go on making progress because India is coming up as one of the foremost countries in the field of agriculture and agricultural research. In spite of our fast increasing population, in spite of our having the second largest population in the world, we have been able fortunately to keep pace with the increase in population and we have also been able to find some exportable surplus for other needy countries.

I hope, the hon. Members would appreciate that and encourage the Government in its efforts and cooperate with the Government where it wants to serve the farmers.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon): On A.P.C., a representative of dry farmers may be accommodated so that at the time of formulating pricing policy, dry farming can be taken care of automatically.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: We have discussed A.P.C. several times. At present, the composition of A.P.C. is that there is only one representative of farmers on A.P.C. But there have been suggestions in this House that the membership of A.P.C. should be increased. There have also been suggestions that one member at least should be drawn from southern India. All that has been taken note of and we shall see what can be done. At the same time, we shall see that dry areas also are represented whenever we increase the number. But there is no such place where in a State the whole area is either dry or the whole area is irrigated. Therefore farming is farming.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Economics differ.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: For every farmer, there is some dry area in the holding and there is some irrigated area in the holding. Therefore, there should be no worry on that account.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Prof. Satya Deo Sinha; he is not here.

Now, first, I put amendments to the vote of the House. Shri R. K. Mhalgi; as is also not here.

I put the Amendment moved by Shri R. K. Mhalgi to the Resolution to vote.

Amendment No. 1 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bapusaheb Parulekar; is not here.

I put the Amendment moved by Shri Bapusaheb Parulekar to the Resolution to vote.

Amendment No. 3 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I put the Resolution to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"In view of the fact that about three-fourth of the population of the country is dependent on agriculture and has a vital role in the economy of the country, this House recommends to the Government to give proper incentives to the farmers by reducing the prices of fertilisers, seeds and farm implements, providing irrigation facilities, acquainting them with latest farming techniques, ensuring remunerative prices of their produce and introducing crop and cattle insurance schemes so that food production may increase."

The motion was negatived.

16.18 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: CONSTITUTION OF A NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION TO SOLVE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM OF EDUCATED YOUTH

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Phool Chand Verma. The time allotted is 2 hours.

श्री फूल चंद वर्मा (शाजापुर) :
 मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ —

"कि इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि वर्तमान शिक्षा प्रणाली युवा वर्ग को जीवन की चुनौतियों का मुकाबला करने योग्य नहीं बनाती, सम्पूर्ण आयोजन प्रक्रिया हमारी युवा शक्ति को रचनात्मक क्षेत्रों में सक्रिय बनाने में विफल रही है और छठी योजना अवधि में शिक्षित युवा वर्ग को रोजगार दिलाने के लिये दिशा निर्देश नहीं दिया गया है; यह सभा सरकार से आग्रह करती है कि वह शिक्षित युवा वर्ग में व्याप्त बेरोजगारी की समस्या हल करने के लिए छः मास की अवधि में उपयुक्त उपाय दृढ़ कर उनका