109 Procurement of Foodgrains (C.A.)

JYAISTHA 24, 1893 (SAKA)

श्री हकम चन्द कछवाय : अघ्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्नों का उत्तर दिलवाइये । इंस्पेक्टर द्वारा 70 प्रतिशत गाडियां रिजेक्ट कर दी जाती हैं। व्यापरी वही गाड़ियां खरीदते हैं और अच्छा कह कर मार्केंट में लाते हैं।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have said about the specific complaints that we shall refer them to the State Government.

SHRI P. K. DEO: The Minister's statement is most misleading as there is no open market in this country so far as procurement of foodgrains is concerned. The Food Corporation of India, a Government of India undertaking, which was presided over till the other day by a defeated Congress Minister, has the full right of procurement of foodgrains in this country and, being a monopoly concern, all the corollary evils of the monopoly system are there. Day in and day out we get reports of nepotism, corruption, irregular payments and harassment of the millowners, purchaisng agents and cultivators, creation of artificial barriers and discrimination in classification of cereals. For instance, I would like to point out that the Safri variety of paddy is being procured as fine paddy in Kalahandi at Rs. 5 less than the procurement price prevailing in the adjoining Raipur District, Shri Vidya Charan Shukla's constituency, where it is procured as superfine naddy Taking into consideration all these factors, is it not high time that we did away with these artificial barriers, the food zones and the suffocating controls, so that there is free flow of cereals throughout the country and the price is decided by the universal law of demand and supply and the cultivator gcts the fruits of his labour. Especially now when national frontiers are shrinking and we have a common market in Europe, why in a country like this should we have these barriers, especially when the foodgrains output in this country has reached more than 106 million tonnes? So, I would like to ask when there is going to be an end to all these barriers, suffocating controls and food zones.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: The hon. Member is advocating the theory of free trade. I do not blame him because it is his party's view. The hon. Member made a number of mis-statements. For instance, he said there was no free trade. But he knows that on wheat there is no ban whatsoever. Any private

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persons can purchase any quantity of wheat anywhere they like. The only thing is that in the interest of the farmers we purchase at the procurement price. The formers are likely to get a higher price and they can sell it to anybody. There is no restriction on the movement of wheat or coarse grain except in the rationed area of Calcutta and Howrah. In the case of paddy there are such restrictions. This was reviewed in the last Chief Minister's conference and on the basis of the consensus that emerged in the Chief Ministers Conference the Government of India decided to continue such a ban. The present is not an appropriate time to review the position. We shall review the position in the coming September. The food position is easy and there is no difficulty as such. For rice this is not the right time to review the position.

SHRI P. K. DEO: Regarding Safri variety, why is there the price difference in the adjoining districts?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I shall look into this.

12.26 hrs.

RE: DISSOLUTION OF PUNJAB ASSEMBLY

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a certain motion under rule 377 about the dissolution of the Punjab Assembly by Shri H. K. Singh, Darbara Singh, Sat Pal Kapur and Shri Vayalar Ravi. I have placed this as itcm 7. A. They will get their turn when we take up that item.

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: (ग्वालियर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर आप पंजाब की स्थिति के बारे में नियम 377 के अघीन चर्चा की इजा-जत देनी चाहते हैं, तो आप हमें भी अपने विचार रखने का अवसर दीजिए । आप सारे सदन को इस विषय पर चर्चा करने का मौका दीजिए । पंजाब का मामला कोई पंजाब के सदस्यों का ही मामला नहीं है। मैं नहीं समझता कि पंजाब की स्थिति नियम 377 के अधीन चर्चा का विषय है । अगर राज्यपाल के आचरण पर चर्चा होनी है--और हम चर्चा के लिए तैयार हैं--, तो आप सारे सदन को मौका दीजिए । हम राज्य-पाल के आचरण का स्वागत करना चाहेंगे।

[श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी]

अगर राष्ट्रपति-शासन लागू होने वाला है, तो सदन के सामने उनका प्रोक्लेमेशन आयेगा । इस तरह के मामले नियम 377 के अधीन नहीं लिये जाते हैं ।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): You may admit it as a short duration discussion under rule 193; it should be done.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): We have no objection under 377.

If those persons whose names are there are to be called, on behalf of my party we have a right to express our views on the correct judment of the Punjab Governor; for the first time he has stopped horsetrading.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: He has not taken any dictation from the Centre.

श्वी ग्रटल बिहारो वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महो-दय, यह ग़लतफ़हमी पैदा नहीं होनी चाहिए कि हम नियम 377 के अधीन यह मामला उठाने के खिलाफ़ हैं। लेकिन आप इस बात को स्वी-कार करेंगे कि नियम 377 में वही मामले उठाये जाते हैं, जिनकी तरफ सदन का ध्यान खींचा जाता है और मन्त्री महोदय उनका उत्तर तक नहीं देते हैं। पंजाब का मामला इतना कम महत्व का नहीं है कि वह यहां उठाया जाये और उसके बारे में जवाब न मिले ।

ष्प्रध्यक्ष महोदय: जब रूल 377 का उपयोग कुछ माननीय सदस्यों को माफिक बैठे, तो वह ठीक है, वर्ना वह ठीक नहीं है । इसलिए मैं आईन्दा इसके इन्टरप्रेटेशन के बारे में स्ट्रिक्ट रहंगा ।

श्री **ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी** : नियम 377 में यह मामला उठाया जाये, लेकिन आप हमें भी बोलने का मौका दें ।

SIIRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): 377 is only to raise a point which is not a point of order. This matter requires a regular discussion and all the sections of the House should get an opportunity to express their views. But only those who had given notice can raise the point. This is a fit matter to be discussed by the entire House.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the proper step will be to take it up when we discuss the proclamation. But so far as short references are concerned, I will allow them (*Interruption*)

SHRI SEZHIYAN: We can have a discussion from 4 to 6 this afternoon.

MR. SPEAKER: But are all of you agreed? (Interruption)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose-

MR. SPEAKER: You gave notice. Do you agree that we discuss it?

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Rupar): We have no objection to the discussion. But let this be taken up when it comes. (*Interruption*)

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMA-TION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): We have only just received the report. We have not been able to study it. I do not think now is the time to discuss the matter.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let the House place its views.

MR. SPEAKER: Certain Members gave certain motions under rule 377. Objection is taken that the scope of rule 377 is very limited. What is anything here which is not a point of order? I have to look into it. Anything can be anything which is not a point of order. This is what it means. Anything which is not a point of order is anything, can be anything, which is not a point of order.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhara): Provided we know what a point of order is.

MR. SPEAKER: Provided that Shri Piloo Mody is not confused over it. Do not do it. Well, as the Prime Minister says, they have just received the report and I would not I have given notice, and your assistant was take it up today, unless I am sure about the position on the other side. I have given notice, and your assistant was good enough to come and tell me that it should be included in the budget. The subject is im-

12.32 hrs.

RE: RELIEF CONSIGNMENTS FOR EVACUEES FROM BANGLA DESH

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ranen Sen wanted to make a point on the clearance of material at the Dum Dum airport. The Minister gave a reply the other day that everything was cleared. They brought certain newspapers and tried to introduce the subject in another discussion. I asked them not to proceed with it further but they might ask about it on Monday, say, for a minute. Now, Dr. Ranen Sen.

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat): Sir, the other day, in reply to points raised by Shri Indrajit Gupta and myself, Dr. Karan Singh, on behalf of the Government of India, said that the stocks for relief lying in the Dum Dum airport have all but one consignment been cleared. Next day, the *Calcutta Daily Hindustan Standard* refuted the statement. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and the *Delhi Statesman* came out with a report that OXFAM, the British relief agency, has cabled to their London office not to send any more materials as there are not properly cleared up. It is further reported that certain States who agreed to take refugees now are declining to take them in.

I request the Government to let us know what is the latest position in regard to the clearance of stocks and what is the agency responsible for clearing and distributing all the material sent from abroad to camp sites.

Secondly, what is the latest position in regard to the dispersal of evacuees.

श्री झटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे आप से निवेदन करना है, मैंने एक काम रोको प्रस्ताव मेजा था सरकार की विफलता पर चर्चा करने के लिए. . .

MR. SPEAKER: The budget demands are coming up for discussion.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): After the Minister had replied,

I have given notice, and your assistant was good enough to come and tell me that it should be included in the budget. The subject is important, and the discussion on the Demands of the Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry will come after a very long time. It is a very important issue. The Chairman of Air India has issued a statement that there is a loss to the public exchequer to the tune of Rs. 8.5 crores. I gave notice in writing. (Interruption) The budget demands would not come up for discussion before a fortnight.

श्री ग्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मेरी बात सुनी नहीं । मैंने निवेदन किया था कि वित्त मन्त्री महोदय ने सदन में कहा कि जिन चीजों पर टैक्स नहीं लगे हैं उनके दाम नहीं बढ़ने दिए जाएंगे और अगर दाम बढ़े तो कार्यवाही की जायगी । लेकिन कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की जा रही है । हमने दिल्ली के दाम इकट्ठे किए हैं । इस मामले पर सरकार की विफलता पर चर्चा कैंसे करेंगे ?... (ध्यवधान) बजट पर डिबेट महीने भर तक चलेगी, क्या तब तक लोगों को बढ़े हुए दाम देने पडेंगे ?

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed it.

DR. RANEN SEN: Let there be some reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER: That would go to the minister and he will answer it. All the demands are coming up for discussion. When there is a debate anticipated, nothing can be allowed. You are bound by the rules.

DR. RANEN SEN: The Health Minister is here. He can answer.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPA-DHYAYA): Perhaps Dr. Karan Singh would have been in a better position to answer it. But so far as I am concerned, I had been there just yesterday. Except two items-some dry fish from Norway and some other small consignment of medicine are lying there for customs reasons-all other items have been cleared. This is the information about the position yesterday morning. (Interruptions).