

House. But I have referred all these complaints to the Committee on the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes to enquire into the matter and, if necessary, the Parliamentary Committee will submit a report to the House. (Interruptions).
11.25 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE. PRICE OF SUGARCANE

MR. SPEAKER: We shall now take up further discussion on the sugarcane price. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): Sir, I am very grateful to the large number of the Hon. Members who have taken part in this debate. Sir, I can well imagine the concern of the hon. Members in ensuring the welfare of their constituents and the farmers. It has been rightly emphasised by all the Members who spoke on the subject that the farmers must get a fair and remunerative price for their produce. Sir, that is precisely the intention of our Government. Over 29 per cent of the population of our country lives in the villages and are engaged in farming. Therefore, the welfare of such a large number of population, that is about 80 per cent of our population—approximately 70 per cent are farming class and about 10 per cent are agricultural labourers living in the country-side—are living in the villages and subsisting on farming, is the primary concern of the Government of India. The Government is fully conscious of the efforts that will have to be made and the Government fully supports the efforts of the farmers to make the country self-sufficient in food. Shri Pande, Shri Genda Singh and Shri Vikal and other hon. Members who are the true representatives of the farmers and who are the custodians for watching the interests and welfare of the farmers have spoken in very emphatic and very strong terms. The Government is aware of the fact that the efforts of the Government are to provide them

with the necessary inputs like irrigation facilities, loans from the banking institutions, etc. As a result of joint efforts of the Government and the farmers the country is now passing through rather a comfortable period in the matter of production. Luckily we had a good rabi crop followed by a good kharif crop. The prospects of the coming rabi crop are equally good. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our farmers on making the country self-sufficient in food. In fact, as a number of hon. members have pointed out, the main concern of the government how is to ensure that when the farmers produce more, the prices should not fall to such an extent that they become unremunerative. This is a very valid point to which the government is directing its full attention. It is with a view to ensuring this that the government has fixed the minimum support price to ensure that the prices of foodgrains and other articles would not be allowed to fall below a certain level. This minimum support price policy is being fully implemented by the government. The Food Corporation is on the alert and if in any area the prices of foodgrains—wheat, paddy or coarse grains—fall below a certain level, the government comes in with support measures.

I am aware of the difficulties of the farmers about potatoes and the government is doing whatever it can to help the farmers. The point at issue today is the sugarcane. Sugarcane and sugar play a very important role in the economic life of our country. Here again, I would like to congratulate the farmers, the industry and the workers for working unitedly to increase sugar production in the country. I would give some figures. In 1971-72, sugar production was 31.13 lakh tonnes. In 1974-75 it shot up to approximately 48 lakh tonnes. I would also take the House into confidence about our exports. The exports have also been going up and we had placed at the disposal of the STC about 13 lakh tonnes for export, which is nearly two

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and a half times the quantity of the previous year. That is a tremendous effort. A sizeable quantity has already been exported and more would be exported. Out of this, the country has earned a foreign exchange of approximately Rs. 450 crores. That is a very laudable effort.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is production this year?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: We are hoping it will be slightly more or at least equivalent to what it was last year. As in the case of other food-grains, the government fixes the minimum support price of sugarcane. The factors taken into consideration are: The first is actual cost of production. Second is the return to growers from alternative crop. If the grower does not grow sugarcane and supposing, he grows alternative crop, what would be his income that he would derive from that alternative crop, is taken into consideration. (Interruptions).

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Pupri): The hon. Minister is trying to mislead the House. We want to know on what basis the statutory minimum price is fixed. But he says that the cost of production is taken into consideration. I would like to know, what is the actual cost of production of sugarcane per quintal?

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY (Gorakhpur): What is the break-up?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: There are a large number of Members here who are farmers themselves. I also happen to be a farmer myself. The cost of cultivation of sugarcane varies from area to area depending on the nature of the soil, the irrigation facilities available. It varies according to areas and different factors. (Interruptions)

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: The Government has divided the country into different zones. What is the cost of production in eastern UP and Bihar and southern States?

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete. If there is any question, you can ask him later. Don't confuse him like this.

श्री कमला मिश्र "मधुकर" (केसरिया)
 मंत्री महोदय ने अभी यह बताया था कि राज्य सरकारों से राय लेते हैं। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या आपने बिहार गवर्नमेंट से भी पूछा है और अगर पूछा है तो बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने कैन-प्रोसेस को कितनी प्राइस देने की रिक्मेंडेशन की है।

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: While we fix the cane price, we consult all the State Governments of main sugar producing areas. Those State Governments are asked to take into consideration the actual cost of cultivation by the farmers and they make recommendations to us. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you are shooting questions like this, he would not be able to finish. Let him complete it, and if there is any clarification needed, he will give it later.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY (Gopalganj): The main question is the price of sugarcane and a notice on this was given long back. If there is no formula on the basis of which the price was fixed, then what is this debate about? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now listen to the Minister, please.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Ehru): Yesterday also, the Minister and the Government of India were very

sympathetic to the agriculturists. All the Members are making a request to the Government. The fixation of prices in various zones is bureaucratic and is calculated to mislead the Government. If necessary, the reply may be postponed; and the Minister may give it in the afternoon to-day. He can give all the figures at that time.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that the hon. Members are very much agitated. But there has been a debate. The Minister is replying now. You are not allowing him to reply.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur): We will not question him on every sentence. Just one information we want to have. How does the Government fix the price? What is the cost-price with the Government, per quintal of cane? Only if he gives this basic fact, should he proceed. If he cannot give this basic fact to the House, what is the use of hearing the Minister whose every assumption is questionable, doubtful and a fraud upon the farmers of India?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I am aware of the feelings that are running so high on this issue; but I would request the hon. Members to listen to me first and then, at the end of it, if there is anything that they would like to know further, I would be happy to explain to them. All that I was explaining was that the Government fixes the minimum support or the minimum statutory price. And that is done by inviting the opinion—the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission. The Agricultural Prices Commission consists of economists and other people who know... (Interruptions). They take all the factors into consideration, by consulting the agricultural universities, state governments and associations of growers. They invite their recommendations and they take all that into consideration while coming to a decision. Based on them, the Agricultural Prices Commission makes a recommendation to the Government. Over and above that.

the Central Government consults the state governments. (Interruptions). The Association will also write to all the farmers, to find out what their opinions are. Based on that, we fix the minimum statutory price. But that does not mean that the farmer gets only the minimum statutory price. For instance, last year the minimum statutory price recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission was Rs. 8.5 per quintal, related to the recovery of 8.5. If the recovery is more, he gets more. In spite of this minimum price, last year the grower in Western UP got Rs. 14.50, which means Rs. 6 more. So, it is not correct to say that the minimum statutory price binds down the State Government. The question of supply and purchase of sugarcane is a matter between the grower and the purchaser, the factory-owner. It is they who have to decide the actual price to be paid. The State Government intervenes in some cases. They lend their support and try to settle this issue of the minimum price that has to be paid to the grower by negotiations with the mills. This is the method that has been followed. By and large, I think the farmers have been getting a fair price.

Members have spoken about the Bhargava formula. The Report of the Bhargava Commission was laid on the Table of the House. The Bhargava formula recommended that, after having paid the minimum statutory price to the grower, the excess realisation should be shared on 50:50 basis. My hon. friends, Shri Pandey, Shri Genda Singh and Shri Vikal were present when the Governor of UP had discussions with the representatives of growers and industry in order to solve this issue. The representatives of the industry state: "If the growers feel that we are manipulating the figures, or altering or falsifying the accounts, we are prepared to give 50 per cent of our free sugar in kind to the representatives of the growers, let them sell it and distribute the profits." They were prepared to go to that extent. My Ministry is also prepared to sit with

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the hon. Members who are interested in this matter and find out how this Bhargava formula is to be implemented, if they want this formula to be followed.

श्री गेंदा सिंह (पदरौना) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं टोका-आकी वाला नहीं हूँ, मेरी बात सुन लीजिये। क्या वजह है कि बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश, जो मंत्री जी का क्षेत्र है, वह सारा झगड़ा कर रहा है ?

वहाँ पिछले साल साढ़े 10 परसेंट रिक्वरी लाई गई। प्राइवेट सेक्टर के सभी मिलों ने कहा कि हम 11 रुपये से ज्यादा कीमत नहीं देंगे। आपके कहने और प्रधान मंत्री जी के इंटरवैशन से कीमत 12 और 13 रुपये हुई है। मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह को-ऑपरेटिव पर जरा कम नगाह रखें। किसान वहाँ पर खुद अपना प्रबन्ध कर रहा है। मैंने कल यहाँ कहा था कि को-ऑपरेटिव मिलों ने 19 रुपये क्विंटल तक दाम दिया है। आज उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार और हिन्दुस्तान में प्राइवेट मिलों का जो नक्शा है, उन्होंने किसान की हत्या की है, और अभी भी वे हत्या करना चाहते हैं। आप उनके बारे में क्या उपाय कर रहे हैं कि उनको पूरा दाम मिले ? को-ऑपरेटिव मिलों की बात आप छोड़ दीजिये।

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: As I was saying, by mutual negotiations and through the good offices of the State Governments, the mill owners and the growers agreed to some price being paid, over and above the statutory minimum price. The Bhargava Formula has laid down certain methods by which the excess realisation can be shared between the growers and the industry. As I said, we shall be happy to sit with the hon. Members to find out how this excess realisation can be shared.

At present, the policy that we are following and the policy which came in for quite a fairly strong criticism yesterday was the policy of partial control. On the one hand, the Government has the responsibility of supplying sugarcane to the consumer at a reasonable price, and the reasonable price, at present, which has been agreed to, is Rs. 2.15 per kg. in retail. The Government's policy on the one hand it to supply sugarcane to the consumer at a reasonable price. On the other hand, it is the desire and the responsibility of the Government to ensure that the farmers also get a fair and remunerative price. How are these to be balanced? On the one side, it is our concern to ensure that the consumer gets it at a reasonable price. On the other hand, the farmers should also get a remunerative price. These two have to be equally balanced.

SHRI D. D. DESAI (Kaira): Let him agree to a date on which he can hold a meeting to settle the cane price.

MR. SPEAKER: In a day or two, he can hold a meeting.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Mr. Speaker, several times, we have discussed it with the Minister, but nothing has come out.

MR. SPEAKER: He has offered to hold a meeting.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: He is generally sympathetic, but there should be some concrete proposals.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him hear patiently. You can discuss with him.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: There are so many mills which are on the verge of liquidation and time is the essence of the whole matter. If he gives a dilatory explanation and no specific date, I think, it is not fair to the sugarcane growers.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: The concern of the Government is to con-

tain inflationary trends. We have been trying very hard to ensure that the inflationary trends in the country are controlled, and it is with a view to that that the Government did not accept the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission for increasing the minimum statutory price from 8.5 to 9.5. Because, if that was done, the price of levy sugar would have to be increased. That, in turn, would set in motion inflationary trends.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: This is incorrect; it has no relevance.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: The hon. Members are aware that today India is perhaps the only country in the world which has successfully controlled the inflationary trends as far as the foodgrains are concerned....

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: With the help of the innocent farmers.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I am prepared to give credit to the farmers....

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: By robbing the farmers and paying the sugar magnates.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: It is the patriotic farmer of this country who by working hard has produced enough foodgrains and has helped the Government in controlling the inflationary trends. I would like the hon. Members to look back and see what were the prices of foodgrains and edible oils last year. Through the efforts of the Government and the growers these inflationary trends have been controlled to some extent on the food front. I do not say that inflationary trends in all spheres have been checked. But it is the Government's endeavour to do that. What concerns the largest number of persons in this

country is the food. We are very keen to control the prices of foodgrains.

I think, all the hon. Members will agree with me that through the combined efforts of the growers, the inflationary trends in foodgrains have been reversed. It is our endeavour to continue to do that. I entirely agree with my hon. friends when they say, whatever the farmer buys, the prices of those articles are going up.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: The prices of inputs also.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: This is quite true. The prices of inputs, machinery and other articles, irrigation charges, all these things, are going up. On the other hand, whatever the farmer produces, the prices of all those things are going down. But the real remedy lies not in increasing the inflationary trends but to bring down the prices of other articles also.

As the hon. Members are aware, the prices of fertilisers, have increased. Since the increase in prices of oil by oil producing countries, the prices have increased three times. Urea is manufactured from naphtha which is a petroleum product. So, when the prices of petroleum products shot up by three times, it was inevitable that the prices of urea would also increase. The price of urea increased in the international market from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 3000. By a system of pooling the indigenous urea and the imported urea the Government was able to supply fertilisers to the farmers at the rate of Rs. 2000. It has been further reduced by Rs. 150.

The Government is doing everything that is possible to increase the production of fertilisers. We have got about 15 factories which are under expansion or new factories are coming up for production of fertilisers. The House would be happy to know that we have got three fertilizer plants

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now which are based on coal, so that we do not depend on oil for producing urea. The coal-based plant at Talcher will have an annual production of 2,28,000 tons per year and it should go into production early next year. That would be very happy news for the country because that would be the first coal-based plant of a sizable size that would be going into production. Similarly, the Ramagundem plant would be coming up soon. The Government's effort is to reduce the prices. The Government is doing everything possible to reduce the prices and I entirely agree with the Hon. Members that Government should do everything possible to bring down the prices of those articles which are utilised by the farmer.

12 hrs.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: The whole speech of the Hon. Minister is marked with one idea that the Government is endeavouring to see that the input prices come down so that we can contain the inflationary trends. I would only like to know from the Minister what happened that last year while Rs. 14.50 or Rs. 15 cane price was paid to the farmers, this year the same conditions are there; the prices are the same and the input prices are the same. The Agricultural Commission had recommended that the price should be enhanced by Re. 1 but, this year, instead of enhancing the price by Re. 1 only Rs. 12.25 or Rs. 13.25 is being paid to the cane growers. What is the logic behind this? I would like to know this from the Minister.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: The logic behind is that the price of sugarcane should also be considered in relation to the price of an alternative crop that can be grown.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Your Commission had said that it should be enhanced by Re. 1. What is the alternative crop?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: An alternative to sugarcane is wheat and paddy. (Interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER: I think you should not take up more time in this House. I think you can invite all of them tomorrow, meet them and discuss with them.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No more questions now. Please continue. (Interruptions).

The Minister is still replying. He has not finished; let him complete his reply.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Then, a number of Hon. Members have spoken about the high prices that are being paid by the cooperative factories. I agree that the cooperative factories are paying higher prices to the growers, but I would also like to point out—and the House is fully aware of it—that in the cooperative field of 70 per cent of the equity capital comes from the State Government, as share capital. But all the profits of the cooperative mills are passed on to the growers in the form of sugarcane price. Hardly anything is shown as dividend or profits. Thus, the Government is deprived of income-tax. The State Government, which invests 70 per cent of the equity capital, does not get anything on the share capital because no dividends are declared... (Interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I invite the hon. Members to discuss this question with me in depth when we meet—the question of cooperative

factories, the amounts that are invested in the cooperative mills by the Government and the income-tax which the Government gets. I will be happy to discuss this point with the hon. Members.

Now, I come to the question of cane arrears. I admit that there were arrears of cane....

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडेय : अभी तक कितना हुआ है ? अब की साल और पिछले साल का भव बना दीजिए ।

श्री शाहनबाज खां : पिछले साल का करीब 12 करोड़ है ...

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडेय : वह तो दिसम्बर का है, जनवरी का बनाइए ।

श्री शाहनबाज खां : मैं पिछले साल दिसम्बर तक का बनाता हूँ ।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडेय : सब मिला कर बनाइए ।

श्री शाहनबाज खां : पिछले साल का अगर 31 में पिछले साल का मिला कर लगभग 11 करोड़ रुपया बाकी है उत्तर प्रदेश में ।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडेय : पूरे देश का बनाइए ।

श्री शाहनबाज खां : देश में लगभग 70 प्रतिशत तक उत्तर प्रदेश का है ।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडेय : क्या करने जा रहे हैं ? किसी को बन्द किया है ?

श्री शाहनबाज खां : हाँ किया है ।

"The State Governments have powers to realise the arrears of sugarcane as

land revenue, and the State Governments have been asked to take very stringent measures to ensure that the arrears of cane payment are made to the farmers. Also, if any payment is delayed beyond a fortnight, then twelve per cent interest will also have to be paid on that delayed payment.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: What happened to the last year's cane arrears? How are they being realised? Have the State Governments and the Minister of Food & Agriculture considered these? How many factory-owners have been put behind the bars? The Minister has said that Government have issued instructions to State Governments for recovery and realisation as land revenue. What action has been taken?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: As I have said the State Governments have been asked to take strong measures, and we will continue to request the State Governments to ensure that the cane prices are paid to the farmers in many cases where the owners of factories have delayed payments, the State Governments have taken over the management of those sugar mills. As the hon. Members know, in U.P. also, a large number of sugar mills have been taken over by the State Government because of mismanagement. We will be vigilant and we will ensure that, if any person does not behave, his factory is taken over by Government.

श्री विभूति मिश्र (सोतीहारी) : किसानों को गन्ने की कीमत उसकी रिकवरी के ऊपर मिलती है और रिकवरी की जांच करने वाला प्राइवेट सेंटर का कैमिस्ट होता है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार कैमिस्ट को पोस्ट का नेशनलाइज़ेशन करने जा रही है, क्या इसके बारे में सोच रही है ताकि ठीक ठीक पता चल सके कि क्या रिकवरी हुई है ?

[श्री विमूक्ति मिश्र] :

मैं वह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार में एरियर कितने हैं और किस तरह से सरकार उनको बिलबाएयी ?

श्री मन्मथ प्रसाद शर्मा (सीतामढ़ी) : दो साल पहले यूरिया की कीमत 55 रुपये थी और आज 105 हो गई है। इतनी कीमत किसके बड़ जाने के बावजूद भी क्या अब की कीमत इसी तरह से रखी जाएगी—

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यूरिया के बारे में प्रश्न नहीं किया जा सकता है।

श्री कमला मिश्र "मजदूर" : माप कहते हैं कि केन प्राइस तय करने की भी बात है यह मिल मालिकों और किसानों के बीच का मामला है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार किसान सभाओं, किसानों के संगठनों, केन प्रोडर्स के संगठनों को यह अधिकार देने जा रही है कि मिलों में वे हड़ताल करा दें और इस तरह से मिल मालिकों को भूखे मार कर किसानों की मांगों को पूरा करने पर मजबूर करे? अगर ऐसी बात नहीं है तो कर्नल सरकार बीच में नहीं आती है और खुद इतना मामला तय करती है ?

श्री ई० बी० बिस्ने फाटिल (कोपरगांव) : एक महीना पहले अखबारों में छपा था कि गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया ने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को सलाह दी है कि केन की कीमत पिछले साल से कम रखी जाए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही है या नहीं? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या निम्नलिखित प्राइस से ज्यादा दाय किसानों को देना सरकार संभव करती है या नहीं करती है? यदि करती है तो कितना ज्यादा देना करती है ?

श्री सेल जूबर के बारे में जानने के विषय में कुछ टिप्पणियाँ की थीं। श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम ने तब एक बयान दिया था कि कम से कम पचास परसेंट जत में से किसानों को मिले, इसको हम देखेंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस पर देखा गया है, विचार किया गया है या नहीं ?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: I want to know, on what reasoning, logic and statistics, the Minister has kept patriotism for the farmers and profit for the sugar magnates.

SHRI K. NARAYANA RAO (Bobbili): The hon. Minister has not touched upon one important point which was raised by many hon. Members yesterday. The price for levy sugar has been fixed differently in different areas, for example in Andhra Pradesh, it is 180 and in some parts of Bihar, it is 440. What is the rationale for this?

MR SPEAKER: Please ask a question on cane price, not on levy sugar.

SHRI ANNASAHEB GOTKHINDE (Sangli): It seems, the hon. Minister is not in favour of encouraging the cooperative sugar mills. His grievance is that they are not paying taxes etc. When the principle of sharing 50 per cent excess realization was accepted by the Government, I want to know, whether the Government has been able to follow the same. The excess realisations that would accrue to the government from exports it was stated that the Government was not willing to share them with the factories. So they will accrue entirely to the Central Government. Is it not a profit or benefit given by the co-operative sugar factories to the Government?

श्री रामकलार झाखी (पठना) :
मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि एक बिन्टल चीनी बनाने में कुल कितना खर्च आता है और उसमें से किसान की कीमत क्या है, मजदूर की मजदूरी कितनी है और सरकार का जो टैक्स है उसको काटने के बाद क्या डिफेंस बचता है, अर्थात् सेठ को कितना भिन्नता है ? मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसको आप बहुत गंफाई के साथ बतायें ।

मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इसका खतरा तो नहीं है कि चीनी की आप और कीमत बढ़ा देंगे ?

श्री अन्न शैलानी : (हाथरस) : आज भी बाजार में चीनी का दाम पांच रुपये किलो ब्लैक में है । मंत्री महोदय ने अभी बताया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में चीवह करोड़ बाकी है । किसानों की दयनीय स्थिति को देखते हुए उनका पैसा उनको कब तक अदा कर दिया जायगा और जो मिल मालिक कसदन जान बूझ कर किसानों को परेशान करेंगे उनके खिलाफ सरकार कौन से मजबूत कदम उठाने जा रही है ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA (Muzaffarpur): It is well-known that despite all the measures that the government has taken for keeping the sugar industry alive, why sugar factories in UP and Bihar are facing liquidation. I would like to know what efforts the government propose to take to keep the sugar industry on an even keel and see that they are not liquidated in those areas?

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र (मधुवनी) : क्या आपको खबर है कि मिल मालिकों द्वारा किसानों को गन्ने के उचित दाम न देने के कारण उन्होंने मिलों को ही बन्द कर दिया

है और इस तरह से हजारों आदमी बेकारी के कगार पर खड़े हो गए हैं, यदि हा तो इसके बारे में सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

श्री मुल्की राज सेनी (देहरादून) : मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में 14 करोड़ रुपया बकाया है । इस में लाई कृष्ण शूगर मिल महारनपुर भी है । वहां किसानों का एक करोड़ रुपया बकाया था । 1970-71, 1971-72 और 1972-73 का 37 लाख बकाया है । इसकी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं लेती है । कहती है कि हाई कोर्ट में पड़ा हुआ है, हम क्या करे टेव शोवर करने के बाद पहले साल का दे दिया लेकिन दूसरे साल 58 लाख घाटा दिखाया गया । 1970 से अब तक का 1 करोड़ है, कब सरकार इसको दिलवाएगी ।

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmagoa): As a preliminary remark, it appears clear that after this House has been extended, the entire House has turned against the Government.

My first question to the hon. Minister is: will the government as a policy distribute to the sugar cane-growers the entire profit that STC makes out of sugar exports.

(2) Will the Government immediately appoint a committee to evolve a standing formula based on inputs so that from month to month and from crop to crop prices can be fixed for cane and also profits for the mill-owners within reasonable limits?

[Shri Erasmo de Sequeira]

(3) Will the government consider as an immediate measure a reduction in excise duty so that the price of cane can be immediately raised?

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

The hon. Minister has said that the government has given direction to the sugar mill-owners that if they do not pay the arrears within 15 days, then they will have to pay interest at 12 per cent. When the nationalised banks take interest upto 15 per cent from the cane-growers, why should the cane-growers suffer on account of the inefficiency or dishonesty of the mill-owners?

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): I hope, the hon. Minister is aware that alternatives to nationalisation were being explored by the Planning Commission. Late Shri D. P. Dhar made a study to that effect because the cultivators, the sugar cane growers in this country can be immensely benefited by the co-operative sector. Will it be possible within a reasonable period of time to have co-operatives as an alternative to nationalisation of the private sector mills in this country? Has a thought been given to it? If so what is the view of the Government?

श्री काले (जालना) : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि प्राइवेट फैक्टरी वाले जो हैं उनके अपने फाय हैं जिनसे गन्ना लेकर वे चीनी का परसेन्टेज कम बताते हैं ?

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पंडेव : श्रीमन्, एसी कल्चरल प्राइस कमीशन ने जो अपनी लेटस्ट रिपोर्ट दी है उसमें कहा गया है कि अगले साल और पिछले साल का जो प्रोडक्शन का ज्यादा हिस्सा होगा और जो एक्सपोर्ट किया जायेगा उसमें से हिस्सा चीनी मिल मालिकों को ही दिया जायेगा क्या मंत्री जी इस मुद्दाव को मानेंगे या केन प्रोडर्स को भी एक्सपोर्ट में हिस्सा देने की कृपा करेंगे—यह बताने की कृपा करें।

श्री नारायण राम (धोसी) : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेगे 6 साल पहले काप्रेस की फूट के बाद जब बाम्बे में काप्रेस अधिवेशन हुआ था तो पं० कमलापति त्रिपाठी ने एक प्रस्ताव पेश किया था कि हम सारे देश की चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करेंगे तो उस प्रस्ताव के अमल में लाये जाने में अब तक सरकार को कौन-सी व्यावहारिक बाधाएँ हैं जिनकी वजह से यह काम नहीं हो सका—यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN. Regarding the recovery of sugarcane, it is true that there are chemists who determine the recovery in the factory. We also have super-imposed checks to find out whether the recovery that is worked out is correct. We have also another check that the cane that goes out in the mills is fully weighed and every bag of sugar that comes out of the mill is also weighed.

SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA : I want to know the type of check that has been imposed.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : I extend invitation to all to come and discuss with me.

We are working on a formula to ensure remunerative price to the grower and also to see that the industry should be allowed to exist and that they should get about 12 per cent return on their capital investment. We are trying to see that the grower of sugar cane gets a fair price. It is also our concern to see that the sugar industry also thrives and it does not go out of existence.

And then a reasonable return of 12 per cent is worked out. On the basis of that, the levy sugar price has been fixed about which my hon. friends have spoken. That is the basis on which we are working.

As regards the arrears, I agree with the hon. Members that these have caused hardships. The reason is also well-known to the hon. Members. There has been financial credit squeeze by the banks. The production this year is much more than it was last year and the credit that was allowed to the mills by the banks was limited. It was not enough to pay back all the arrears. But, the Government is seized of the matter and the Reserve Bank has already increased the credit limit by Rs. 40 crores and this season we hope that that situation will not be allowed to arise and the growers will get the cane price.

Regarding the excess realisation whether the growers should be given a share of the exports, I want to say that this is done by the S.T.C. and that comes to the revenue; when government spends the whole revenue it is for the welfare of the people as a whole, and farmers as also the growers would benefit.

12.27 hrs.

URBAN LAND (CEILING AND REGULATION) BILL

AMENDMENTS MADE BY RAJYA SABHA

MR. SPEAKER: I think we now go to the next item on the agenda.. Shri Raghu Ramaiah.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: rose.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmagoa): Sir, I rise on a point of order.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): I have not said anything. Where is the point of order?

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: This is on the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Bill.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: I have not even started.

MR. SPEAKER: He has not yet started.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: Sir, I am on a point of order on moving of the amendments.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM (Srinagar): The Minister is before the House.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: Sir, if you look to Rule 140. It provides that:

"After the amended Bill has been laid on the Table, any Minister in the case of a Government Bill, or in any other case, any member may, after giving two days' notice, move that the amendments be taken into consideration."

My submission to you is that as long as we try to say to ourselves that we are a House governed by rules, those