

The amendment which I am proposing is not because I agree with the Congress which has brought forward this legislation. But I agree that all these laws which are repressive are necessary in these circumstances. The amendment that I have brought is to make the law complete. I have suggested the substitution of the word "abstain" for "abandon". That will cover the cases which have been referred to by some of our hon. friends here. Suppose the employees have not left the train, have not abandoned the train, they have stood inside the train but abstained from doing their work. So, I would press that instead of the word "abandon" the word "abstain" may be substituted so that it will cover the kind of *satyagraha* which the employees can perform in a running train, by abstaining from work even though they are not abandoning the train.

is the merchants and the consumers. Both of them want the agriculturist to produce groundnut and supply it to them at a cheaper rate. They are not concerned whether the agriculturist is getting a reasonable price for his produce or not.

I want to bring to the notice of the House how the government is responsible for the exploitation of the farmer. Government is importing soya bean oil from America under PL 480 and sun-flower oil from Russia by paying foreign exchange.

In 1964-65 10,357 tonnes of soya bean oil were imported; in 1965-66 47,993 tonnes were imported; in 1966-67, 31,275 tonnes were imported and in 1967-68 1,12,163 tonnes were imported. Now an order to import 82,000 tonnes from America is pending.

They are importing this oil, they say, to stabilise prices in the country and because groundnut production has fallen. That is the Government's argument. In 1967-68 from our country we have exported groundnut to the tune of 9,962 tonnes for a value of Rs. 1,59,95,000 and from April 1968 to August 1968 we have exported 8,183 tonnes of groundnut seed for a value of Rs. 1,11,71,000. On the one hand the Government says that due to fall in production we are importing soya bean oil from America and, on the other, we are exporting groundnut seed to foreign countries and are earning foreign exchange.

When we were able to export 8,183 tonnes of groundnut from April 1968 to August 1968, is their importing soya bean oil justified? If they import it, it is only to crush the agriculturists and harm them. If soya bean oil is going to be imported like this and the agriculturists are discouraged to grow groundnut in our country, after some time, the agriculturists are going to take to some other crops and this country is going to be entirely dependent upon imports of soya bean oil from America and sun-flower oil from Russia. Is it the

**17.03 hrs.**

## DISCUSSION RE. FALL IN PRODUCTION AND PRICES OF GROUND-NUTS

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion on ground-nuts.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur):** Sir, for the last one and a half years the hon. Member has been pressing for this discussion and like Robert Bruce he has now got the opportunity.

**SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU** (Chittoor): Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the notice of this hon. House how the farmers have been exploited by the merchants under the nose of this government. When the cultivators raise crops, the crops are infested with pests for which they use Gamaxene. When the crop is raised, the farmers are still faced with so many insects called parasites, against which they have no insecticide or medicine. Only the government could help them from these parasites. The second parasite

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(G.I.I.) - Mr. Suresh, I want to

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[Shri Chengalraya Naidu]

policy of Government to make our country dependent on other countries or is it the policy to grow more oilseeds in our country and be self-sufficient?

I cannot think that this Government is having any interest in the agriculturists. They are not showing any interest in growing more oilseeds so that our country becomes self-sufficient. They are only interested in importing soya bean oil and making our country dependent on other countries. If really the Government is interested in our country becoming self-sufficient, let the Government stop the import of soya bean oil and give some more incentives to the ryots to grow more groundnut seeds and other oilseeds in our country. I only want to ask one question of our Minister: Is he going to stop at least the import of 82,000 tonnes of soya bean oil which comes under the agreement and which the S.T.C. is thinking of importing from America? If they stop this import, I think our prices will be stabilised.

The other argument that the Government is putting forward is this. They compare the oil prices of 1964, which were low, with the prices of the present day. When all the commodity prices went up, oilseed prices also went up. You have increased the dearness allowance of the Government employees; you have increased the import tax on agricultural machinery; you have increased the excise duty on tractors and other things. When everything goes up, naturally, the price of groundnut will also go up. Instead of comparing the prices of 1964 to 1968, I want the Government to be reasonable and see in other walks of life how much percentage has been increased in other items. If they compare what has happened from 1964 to 1968 and see how agriculturist is suffering, the Government will not import soya bean oil from America or sun-flower oil from Russia and the Government will encourage our agriculturists to produce more groundnut.

What is happening at the time of harvest? Now, from November, December and January, groundnut crop will be harvested. Our Government is going to release soya bean oil. They are asking the S.T.C. to release soya bean oil to vanapati factories at a time when there is harvest oil of groundnut crop. When the soya-bean oil is released to vanapati factories, naturally, they will not try to purchase groundnut from agriculturists. So, naturally, the prices will come down. When the prices come down in these three months, the merchants will purchase groundnut at a cheaper rate. After three months, when the Government stops the supply of soya-bean oil, they will get enormous profits. Is it the intention of the Government to make mill-owners to become rich or the merchants to make profits at the cost of agriculturists? If it is not so, I want the Government to stop these imports and ask the S.T.C. not to import 82,000 tonnes of oil. I want the Government to give some incentives to our agriculturists to grow more oilseeds in our country so that we may be dependent on other countries like America or Russia.

I only plead to the good sense of our Minister that, hereafter, please see that you help the agriculturists by stopping these imports. The agriculturists are having high hopes in the Congress Government. If you are not going to help them, the fate will be otherwise when the next elections come.

SHRI R. K. AMIN (Dhandhuka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that Mr. Naidu has drawn the attention of the House to this very important problem. This is a very important problem because, of all the oilseeds and the foodgrains, the groundnut is the only one where both the producers and consumers are put into greater difficulties.

The root of the trouble in this case is not the fall in prices or the rise in prices, but the wide fluctuations in

the prices prevailing in groundnuts. If I illustrate the problem, I would like to compare it to two situations, one the prices groundnuts as compared to the prices of foodgrains, what has been the rise in prices of groundnuts as compared to wheat and rice and two, during a particular period what sort of fluctuations in prices are prevailing. You take the wholesale price index of rice which was 108 in 1960-61 and has risen to 206 (nearly double) by 1967-68. In wheat also, the same sort of increase has taken place during this period. But so far as groundnut is concerned, the index which was 146 in 1960-61 has only increased to 242.

17.14 hrs.

[SHRI R. D. BHANDARE in the Chair].

Why I am drawing the attention of the House to this fact is that in regard to production groundnut, is a substitute of foodgrains production, therefore the farmers have to compare the parity prices from time to time. If you take the fluctuations during any one period say in August 1968 the price index was 178 at one time in that month and it came down to 134 during that month also. If that sort of wide fluctuations are prevailing, then the farmers are put into greater difficulties. If you look to the map of India, you will find that groundnut production is concentrated mainly in two or three areas, Madras, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. . . .

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL (Chandigarh). You do not know about Punjab.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: Punjab also. But more than 25 per cent of the total output in India is from Gujarat.

In Gujarat alone, out of the total production, more than 80 per cent is from Saurashtra area which consists of three to four districts. It is also concentrated in so far as agricultural output in any one area is concerned.

The entire area and the entire crop consists of groundnut and nothing else. If there are fluctuations in prices even to the extent of 25 to 30 per cent, the income of the farmers is greatly affected because this is the only cash crop or food crop whatever you would consider it to be, on which their entire income depends. Therefore, fluctuations in prices are very important and these fluctuations should therefore, be arrested; the prices should be stabilised. Why are they not being stabilised? If this question is asked, I would then as an answer just point out to the inconsistent and non-integrated price policy which is being followed by the Government. There is no integration between the export policy and the import policy. The import of soya-been under P. L. 480 is done because the Government is getting this on loan or on rupee payment or freely; that is why, they import this commodity; whether it is required in this country or not is not being taken into consideration. When the export of groundnut oil is being undertaken, nothing is being considered whether there is a need of this commodity in this country or whether the price prevailing is higher or lower than normal or whether we are very soon going to face the shortage of that commodity; these aspects are never taken into account.

At the same time, the growers have to face the zonal system so far as foodgrains are concerned and non-zonal system so far as groundnut is concerned. For example, in Gujarat, the Government have asked for a levy on groundnut oil. If the levy may be permitted, the levy will be imposed at the time when the crop will come into the market; then a lot of uncertainty will be created and the prices go down. Immediately, as soon as the season is over, during the months of June, July, August and September, the prices will rise, and they will rise not only by 10 or 15 per cent but by 30 or 40 or 50 per cent, and some-

[Shri R. K. Amin]

times even double the price may have to be paid at that time. Who gets the advantage of the differential prices? The growers do not get the advantage. The Government, by levy, takes the groundnut at a lower price, and they sell it during the months of May and June to the merchants at higher prices. Later on merchants also sell still at higher prices; it is the merchants who get the advantage. For what? For nothing. If the Government is acquiring groundnut oil in order to build a buffer stock, with a view to supplying oil whenever it is needed most, then for this purpose, there should be an integrated plan, integrated plan in the sense that it is the Government which should come into the market not by way of levy; the Government should come into the market by giving a support price. Whatever price is considered to be good and profitable as compared to the price prevailing in the case of cereals, keeping in view such parity if the prices are fixed and Government enters into the market to buy the stock at that time and the export and import policies are also simultaneously integrated with this policy of building a stock, then wide fluctuations in prices can be avoided, the income to the farmers can be stabilised and that income will be consistent with the income of the farmers producing foodgrains. In that case, the consumers will not be put into difficulties during June, July, August and September when shortage prevails. At the same time, our exports and imports policies will also be integrated. Therefore, my recommendation is this: never import Soya-been just because it comes from America freely under P. L. 480. Also, exports should take place only after the requirements of the country have been satisfied. If Government builds up stock, the stock should be built up by price support policy and not by levy. And when the stock is built up it should be released only during the months of July, August and September when the

stock with the merchants or with the consumers is at its lowest. Weather conditions and other things also contribute to the fluctuations in the production. So, the stock should be sufficiently large to meet the shortage on account of fluctuations in production during a particular season and also, as I have already said, to meet the shortage during June, July, August and September.

If that kind of policy is followed both the consumers and the producers will gain. The farmers will not have to face the risk of fluctuations of their income. At the same time, Sir, they will make concentrated efforts to increase production of groundnuts.

SHRI M. SUDARSANAM (Narasaraopet): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the groundnuts play a vital role for the development of the economy of our country. This is a product which gives food for the manure, for the cattle and also for the soil. Because, the man consumes the oil and the seed, and the cattle consumes the fodder and the soil consumes the manure from time to time. So, this is a very important commodity for the development of the economy of our country. But unfortunately this commodity is subject to heavy taxation at the State level. The industry will have to pay the purchase tax. Again, the industry will have to pay tax on the sales at every stage. This levy itself comes to about 15 per cent to 20 per cent on the groundnut alone actually produced in this country. The bye-product, that is, the oilcake is also an export earning commodity, but this is subject to export duty of about Rs. 125 per ton which is really unbearable. All this burden of taxation makes the price to the farmer very low. That is the real reason. I wish that these points had been studied by my hon. friend, Shri Naidu. The whole point is this. Proper price for the farmer is essential and a proper enquiry should be made by the Government about the tax burden and

how to make the price level quite bearable or sizeable and all that. These are the points which should be considered expeditiously.

Government has got three crops. The main crop is called winter crop. Then comes the summer crop and also irrigated crop. By the supply of proper seeds and manure one can get definitely larger yields whereby the agriculturist can get larger income. Proper manure should therefore be supplied to the agriculturist from time to time. The price must be very remunerative to the agriculturist. Otherwise he cannot continue to grow the same commodity. He cannot develop the economy. I suggest that the following measures should be taken without delay.

There is a very heavy tax burden levied by the State Governments and also a heavy export duty on export of oil-cakes which should be reduced considerably just in line with other food crops, that is, rice etc. In respect of rice and other commodities there is only a single incidence tax. Unfortunately this groundnut seed is subject to multi-incidence taxation by State Governments. Every change of hand means that this commodity has to bear more taxation, which is to be borne by the producer and the consumer. This point should be thoroughly examined.

This is an agro-based industry which is spread over every nook and corner of this great country. Therefore proper transport must also be available to the agriculturist so that he can transport the product to the market at a reasonable level. There must be adequate storage accommodation for the groundnuts also. This product must get priority in respect of warehousing facilities. By storage of groundnuts the agriculturist must be in a position to obtain proper finance from the banks on the pro-

duction of warehouse certificates, so that he can sell the commodity when the prices come to his liking. This will go a long way in securing adequate price by the farmer. Mr. Naidu has said that there is export of seed and all that. It is not actually seed, but it is called, hand-picked seeds, (HPS) which earns good foreign exchange. It is used for eating purposes in overseas countries. An equivalent quantity of oil can be imported at a very low cost.

Therefore, I am not in favour of banning the export of hand picked groundnuts. We must encourage the export of hand picked groundnuts which really gives us a large income. This is really for eating purposes. We cannot starve the consumers. If we miss this market once, we cannot get it back at any stage.

As has been rightly pointed out, gambling and speculation in this commodity must be stopped altogether. I would appeal to the Forward Markets Commission to see that forward trading in this commodity, on this oil and oilseeds, is totally banned, so that farmers can have a good level of price. This is a most important thing that has to be done.

There is another thing. Groundnut oil cake is now subjected to a heavy export duty by the Government of India. This should be considerably reduced so that the price to the overseas buyer can be reduced and we can have a better yield for our produce.

I think we cannot totally ban the import of soya bean oil. But when the price level of groundnut is very low, there is no need for any import of soya bean oil. When the price goes up, then alone we should import soya bean oil.

That is all I have to say.

श्री श्रीराम गोयल (बन्नीगढ़) :  
 सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य, श्री  
 नायडू का कथनवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि

[श्री श्रीचन्द गोयल]

अन्होंने इस सदन के सामने एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय को रखा है भले ही ऊपर से देखने से शायद यह विषय महत्वपूर्ण नजर न आता हो। आपको याद होगा कि जब जिं ब्राज से पन्द्रह बीस साल पहले सिर्फ क्रिकेट मैचिंग में तमाशाई के तीर पर जाने वाले लोग मूंगफली का इस्तेमाल करते थे या सफर काटने के लिए उसका इस्तेमाल होता था आज अच्छी अच्छी पार्टियों में काजू और बादाम की जगह तली हुई मूंगफली ने ले ली है। खाद्य के विशेषज्ञों ने यह राय दी है कि मूंगफली में बहुत प्रोटीन होता है।

इसके अलावा आज जब कि देशी घी केवल दवा के तौर पर इस्तेमाल करने के लिये रह गया है हमारे देश में घी की आवश्यकता वनस्पति से पूरी होती है जो कि मूंगफली से तैयार होता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि वह बहुत अच्छी और आला किस्म की वनस्पति घी होता है।

लेकिन परसों मेरे एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में खाद्य मंत्री ने यह कह कर टाल दिया कि देश में वनस्पति के कारखाने बन्द नहीं हुए हैं। शायद उनके ज्ञान में यह बात नहीं होगी कि जब हमारी सरकार ने सस्ते दामों पर या मुफ्त सोयाबीन आयात करने की नीति तय की तो उससे इस उद्योग को कितना भारी धक्का लगा। शायद सरकार ने यह समझा कि अगर मुफ्त का जहर भी मिलता हो तो उसको खाने में प्यास हर्ज है। लेकिन उसने हमारे वनस्पति उद्योग का किस प्रकार सर्बनाश किया है शायद इसकी उन्हें जानकारी नहीं है। जब सरकार ने सोयाबीन आयात विदेशों से यहां आयात किया, तो उससे एक-दम प्राइस फ्लकचुएशन हुआ, जिसकी ओर अभी मेरे दोस्त, श्री अमीन, ने इशारा किया है।

हमारी सरकार ने बकलवत एक नई नीति यह भी तय कर ली कि ध्वनि-पाणियों का

सरसों इत्यादि तेल निकालने वाले बीजों या मूंगफली आदि पर जो एडवांसिज देते थे, उसने उन एडवांसिज को विद-डा कर लिया इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि वनस्पति के कारखानों को भारी धक्का लगा।

आपको पता होगा कि मूंगफली की पैदावार ऐसे रेटों पर इलाकों में होती है जहां और कोई फसल नहीं होती है। मूंगफली की फसलें साल में कई कई हो सकती हैं। जब मूंगफली की पैदावार से हम विदेशी मुद्रा कमा सकते हैं, उससे हम अपने देश की वनस्पति घी की आवश्यकता को पूरा कर सकते हैं, उसके अपने आर्थिक अवस्था को सुधार सकते हैं, तो फिर सरकार उसकी ओर दुर्लक्ष क्यों करती है? मैं समझता हूँ कि सरकार की देश में सोयाबीन आयात आयात करने की नीति गलत है। इस के साथ तो मैं सहमत नहीं हूँ कि मूंगफली का जो निर्यात है इसे बन्द किया जाय। बाहर दूसरे देशों में जो इसको भोजना है इसको हमें बन्द करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है बल्कि हमारे देश के अन्दर इतनी गुंजाइश है कि हम इस मूंगफली की पैदावार को कोई गुना बढ़ा सकते हैं। किसानों को उचित इस का मूल्य मिले इसको स्टोर करने का मुनासिब प्रबन्ध हो और इस के मूल्यों के अन्दर इतना भेद जो फसल आने के समय और साल के आखिरमें होता है वह न हो, अगर इतनी भारी तब्दीली मूल्यों में न हो तो हमारे देश के किसान कई गुना मूंगफली पैदा करेंगे और हमारे देश की जो आर्थिक नीति है उसको ठीक करने में सहायता करेंगे। इसलिये अग्राज आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि इस सोयाबीन के तेलों की जो अपने देश के अन्दर आयात है इस के ऊपर प्रतिबन्ध लगाएं। इसके साथ साथ इस की पैदावार को बढ़ाने के लिए पूरे उपाय करें जो किसान हैं उन को उचित मूल्य मिले इस की हम उचित व्यवस्था करें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि आखिर जालंधर को इतनी

महंगी कीमत है और जो डालडे की कमी दिखाई देती है वह दूर हो सकती है। उचित मूल्य पर सभी लोगों को डालडा मिल सकता है। इसलिए यह आज बहुत महत्व का विषय है और मैं समझता हूँ कि सरकार इस पर अपना पूरा ध्यान देगी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Randhir Singh. Not more than five minutes.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: He is speaking on groundnut. He is a hard nut.

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : चेयरमैन महोदय, मूंगफली का सवाल नहीं एक बहुत बुनियादी बात है आज की बहस में जो मेरे दोस्त मिस्टर नायडू ने उठाई है और जिस की तरफ सारे हाउस का और देश का ध्यान खींचा है। सवाल यह है कि जो 80 प्रतिशत लोग हैं जिन को भ्रष्टाचारा कहा जाता है देश का और जो देश के मुहाफिज हैं जय जवान जय किसान जो देश को बचाते भी हैं और देश के पेट में रोटी भी देते हैं उन आदमियों के साथ बुनियादी जो सलूक है उन के साथ जो इंसाफ का तकाजा है वह पूरा होता है या नहीं। सिर्फ मूंगफली का सवाल नहीं है कपास में भी और दूसरी जगहों पर भी हर जगह यह चीज नजर आती है.... (व्यवधान).... में जो तबज्जह खींचना चाहता हूँ वह इस वास्ते कि जहाँ बाबू जगजीवन राम जैसे, शिंदे साहब जैसे, डाक्टर राम सुभग सिंह जैसे, सी फोसदी नहीं 5 सी फोसदी किसान और 80 परसेंट जहाँ किसानों के तबके से ताल्लुक रखने वाले एम० पी० हैं वहाँ उन किसानों के साथ मौतली मां जैसा सलूक होता है। उस गवर्नेमेंट के द्वारा जिसमें किसानों के इतने हितोषी हैं यह बात नोटिस में आनी है यह कैसे होता है ? सवाल यह है कि क्यादा बेर यह बर्दास्त करने वाली बात है नहीं। किसान अगर बिजली लेना चाहे बेल के लिए तो उसको उस से दुगुने रेट देने पड़ते हैं जो एक छोटी सी कील लगा दे मशीन लगा दे

और इंडस्ट्री उस का नाम रख ले, इंडस्ट्री के मुकाबिले उसे दुगुना दाम पर-यूनिट देना पड़ता है। अगर किसान कर्ज लेना चाहे तो कर्ज की शरह जो इंडस्ट्रीज हैं जो दूसरे छग्वे करते हैं दुनिया भर का जो खोरबाजारी करने वाला तबका है उस को नी तीन या चार परसेंट इंटरेस्ट पर कर्ज मिलता है और किसान को पन्द्रह पन्ध्र बीस बीस और तीस तीस परसेंट पर मिलता है जो बर्दास्त नहीं कर सकता है वह आदमी। मैं तबज्जह दिलाता चाहता हूँ आप की कि यह सलूक क्यों होता है ? बुनियादी यह जो समस्या है उस को हमें दूर करना है। यह बात कौन बर्दास्त करेगा ? मूंगफली के बारे में मेरे फाजिल दोस्त ने यह बात कही इम्पोर्ट के मुतल्लिक हम इम्पोर्ट करें लेकिन जो सोसं है उसी को मार दिया जायगा, जो इसका उत्पादक है, जो देश का हिनैपी है और मालिक है उस को मारने के लिए और उस के मुकाबिले में मुट्ठी भर आदमियों को जो इम्पोर्ट कर केशायद लाइसेंसिंग से कुछ कमाएँ उन के मफाद के लिए किसान को जरब घाने दिया जाय और फिर ऐसे मौके पर जब कि फसल का मौका होता है, यह बात कतई मुनासिब नहीं है। यह इम्पोर्ट उस मौके पर की जानी है जब कि किसानों की फसल पकती है। मूंगफली हो, कपास हो, इस का बाहर से इम्पोर्ट होनी है। बाहर से सोयाबीन जो आता है वह ऐसे मौके पर आता है जब कि किसान की फसल मंडी में आनी है। यह क्यों किया जाता है कि इन लोगों की जब मंडी में फसल आ जाय उसी वक्त उस के भाव गिराए जाय ? यही नहीं किसान गल्ला पैदा करता है, गेहूँ पैदा करता है। उस की उस को रेम्युनेटिव प्राइस नहीं मिलती। आज सुबह ही गन्ने की कीमत का सवाल था। .... (व्यवधान) ....

चेयरमैन महोदय यह चीज बेसिक रेगुलेशन हैं लेकिन इस का सीधा ताल्लुक उस बात से है कि किसान जो चीज पैदा करता है उस को कीड़ियों के दाम उड़ा दिया जाता है और

[श्री रणधीर सिंह]

कोई चीज वह लेता है, अगर वह लोहा लेता है तो उस को लेना उस की कंपैसिटी के बाहर है अगर वह सीमेंट लेना चाहता है तो नहीं ले सकता। इम्पूव्ड सीड लेना चाहता है तो नहीं ले सकता। इसी तरह की और चीजें हैं, उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए फर्टिलाइजर लेना चाहता है तो नहीं ले सकता। जो चीज उस को दरकार है उस की कीमत इतनी ज्यादा कर दी कि वह खरीद नहीं सकता। अगर उस को ट्रैक्टर लेना है तो नहीं ले सकता। लेकिन वह जो चीज पैदा करता है चाहे वह मूंगफनी हो, चाहे वह कपास हो, चाहे वह गन्ना हो और चाहे दूसरी चीज हो, अनाज हो, कर्माशियल क्राप हो सारी की सारी चीजों की दर इस तरह से लगाई जाती है कि उस को मुनासिब कीमत न मिल सके। इस से क्या जाहिर है कि इस सरकार की तबज्जह सिर्फ दूध निकालने के लिए है और सिर्फ राय लेने के लिए किसान को पकड़ रखा है जय जवान जय किसान लेकिन जहां उस को देने का सवाल आता है वहां कोई पछने वाला नहीं। जब उसका दूध निकाला जाता है तो उन को फेंक देते हैं एक तरह कोई भी सेजिस्लेशन पास होता है वह 80 परसेंट इन किसानों के खिलाफ जाता है। अभी मेरे दोस्त ने कहा कि 18 लाख मजदूरों का यह सवाल है और मैं चाहता हूं कि वह वक्त आए कि वह हुकूमत संभाले, पता नहीं किस ब्वाब की दुनिया में वह मेरे दोस्त सो रहे हैं? 45 करोड़ किसान का यह देश कभी भी किसी हालत में भी यह बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकता कि मुट्ठी भर लोग आ कर उसके ऊपर डिक्टेटरशिप करें। कहां सोते हैं वह? यह कभी बर्दाश्त नहीं किया जा सकता और यह कभी हो नहीं सकता।

तो मैं जो तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूं वह यह कि एक बात नहीं है चाहे वह रेट

आफ इन्टरेस्ट की बात हो, चाहे वह किसान को रेम्युनेरेटिव प्राइस देने की बात हो या टैक्सेज की बात हो, टैक्सेज ला ला कर तो मार दिया किसान को। जितना गरीब किसान पर आज टैक्स है वह सारे नान-किसानों से कई गुना है। तो टैक्स लगा लगा कर के, इम्पोर्ट कर के उस को मार दिया है। प्राइस उस को उचित मिलती नहीं। गवर्नमेंट में उस का हिस्सा नहीं। पूछ उस की होती नहीं। तो मैं कहना चाहता हूं, सब से बड़ी बीमारी जो है वह यह है कि किसान को इंसाफ मिलना चाहिए और मेरे फाजिल दोस्त नायडू साहब ने जो बात रखी, यह अकेले आन्ध्र की बात नहीं है, मैं पूरे जोर से कहना चाहूंगा कि इम्पोर्ट इस की बन्द की जाय, इस का एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ाया जाय और इम्पोर्ट करना है तो आउट आफ सीजन जिम में किसान के ऊपर इस का भार न पड़े उस समय किया जाय। इन शब्दों के साथ इन्होंने जो मोशन पेश किया है मैं उस की पुरजोर तारीफ करता हूं।

श्री एस० एम० जोशी (पूना): चयर-मैन महोदय, हाउस के सामने जो सवाल है इस को जिन्होंने प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं उन को धन्यवाद देता हूं। धन्यवाद इसलिए है कि हमारी हुकूमत की जो नीति है, आर्थिक नीति है उस पर एक दूसरे पहलू से रोशनी डालने का मौका इस समय सदन को प्राप्त है। जैसा कि मेरे दोस्त ने अभी बताया कि जब मजदूरों का मामला आया तो वह समझते थे कि गोया किसानों को मजदूरों वाले भूल जात हैं, ऐसी बात नहीं है। पिछले 20-25 सालों में हम लोगों ने जो भी प्लान्स बनाए हैं और जितना खर्चा पैसा हम ने यहां लगाया उस के कुछ नतीजे हो गए हैं और अब वह जो दुष्प्रा है उस की जड़ में मैं नहीं जाना चाहता हूं। मगर एक चीज हो गई है कि एक तबका हमारे देश में ऐसा दुष्प्रा है कि जो बड़ा तबका कहा जा सकता है..... दूसरा तबका ऐसा



बन गया है कि यह जो परिवर्तन आया है, इस का नतीजा उस को भुगतना पड़ता है ।

जसा प्रस्तावक महोदय ने आपको बताया—क्या यह हुकमत पूँजीपतियों के हितों की देख रही है, दूसरों के हितों को नहीं देखेगी—क्योंकि भ्राज जो इन की नीति चल रही है, वह उन्हीं के हितों में चल रही है । बार-बार मैंने कहा है और जब मैं महाराष्ट्र प्रलेम्बली में था, तब भी कहता था.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can there be any general discussion on this subject, especially when the time is short?

SHRI S. M. JOSHI: I shall finish it within time.

जैसा मेरे दोस्त ने अभी बताया कि हिन्दु-स्तान में किमानों की संख्या 80 फीसदी है, इनमें बहुत सारे किमान ऐसे हैं जिनके पाम अपनी ग्रामदनी बढ़ाने का कोई जरिया नहीं है, जो केवल अपने खेतों की ग्रामदनी पर ही निर्भर करते हैं, यह सरकार उन की चीजों की कीमतें गिराकर उन की ग्रामदनी को कम करती जाती है, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ सरमायेदारों के यहां जो चीजें बनती हैं, उनकी कीमतें कभी नहीं गिरती, बल्कि उन को प्रोटेक्शन दिया जाता है । जैसे हम घनाज या दूसरी चीजों का आयात करते हैं, इस का नतीजा क्या होता है—हमारे यहां खेतों में पैदा होने वाली चीजों की कीमत नीचे आ जाती है, किसान को नुकसान होता है, उस के बाद उस आयात किये हुए सामान से जो क्या पैसा मिलता है, उस को लेकर हम यहां इण्डस्ट्रीज शुरू कर देते हैं, इण्डस्ट्रीज शुरू करने का नतीजा क्या होता है—हमारे देश में एक कन्ट्राडिक्शन खड़ा हो जाता है । इस लिये जब तक इस कन्ट्राडिक्शन को हल नहीं करेंगे, गरीब लोग जो हमारे देश में बहु-संख्या में हैं, उन की स्थिति की तरफ ध्यान नहीं देंगे, तो मैं आपको स्पष्ट रूप से यह कह

देना चाहता हूँ कि आपको बार-बार इस तरह के कानून लाने पड़ेंगे और उन कानूनों की सहायता से लोगों को दबाना पड़ेगा । लेकिन यह बात याद रखिये कि इस से कन्ट्राडिक्शन खत्म नहीं होगा, हमारा किसान चुप बठने वाला नहीं है, हमारा मजदूर चुप बठने वाला नहीं है, उस को इन दोनों के खिलाफ, हुकमत के ऐसे कानूनों के खिलाफ नड़ाई लड़नी होगी, जिसको आप लोग चाहें रिवांस्ट कहिये या कुछ भी कहिये, वह ऐसा नहीं करेगा तो क्या करेगा ।

हमारे देश में मंगफली होते हुए आप मोयाबीन लाते हैं और मंगफली को बाहर भेजते हैं, जिमसे उस का दाम गिरे—यह क्या योजना है । हमारे किसान को उस की पैदावार का सही दाम मिलना चाहिये, चीजों की कीमतों को इस तरह से रखें कि उस को मुनाफा हो, किमान को मुनाफा मिलता है या नहीं—इस का कोई हिसाब नहीं रखता, लेकिन सरमायेदार को मुनाफा मिलता है या नहीं—इस का हिसाब बराबर लगाया जाता है । इस तरह से काम नहीं चलेगा ।

इस लिये मेरी आपसे और उस तरफ जो भाई बैठे हुए हैं उन में प्रार्थना है—हमारी किसी पार्टी से कोई लड़ाई नहीं है, किसी व्यक्ति से कोई लड़ाई नहीं है—आपकी पार्टी की जो नीति है, जिसके कारण हमारे गरीब लोग ज्यादा गरीब हो रहे हैं, उन के ऊपर आप्रतें आ रही हैं, आप्रतियां आ रही हैं, आप की उस नीति के हम खिलाफ हैं । जब तक आप इस सवाल को हल नहीं करेंगे, गरीबों की विषयों को दूर नहीं करेंगे, तब तक आप सफल नहीं हो सकेंगे । मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में असंतोष बढ़ता जा रहा है—अगर आप इसे दूर करना चाहते हैं तो अपनी नीतियों में आपकी बुनियादी परिवर्तन लाना होगा और कैपिटलिस्टों को केयर करने की जो नीति है, उस

[श्री एस० एम्० जीजा]

को बदलना होगा। अगर आपकी नीतियों में बुनियादी फर्क नहीं आयेगा, कैपिटलिस्टों को सब देने की नीति नहीं बसलेंगे, गरीबों के फेवर में नहीं आयेंगे, चाहे कितने कानून बनाइये, कुछ भी कीजिये, देश में असन्तोष बढ़ेगा और यह देश के हित में नहीं है, जम्बुरियत के हित में नहीं है, गरीबों के हित में नहीं है। जिस वक्त उस के पास बगावत करने के अलावा और कोई सहारा नहीं रह जायेगा, तब आपने जग आयेगी। इस लिये अभी समय है, जल्द से जल्द अपनी नीतियों में परिवर्तन कीजिये, नहीं तो फिर जो कुछ उन को करना होगा, करेंगे।

श्रीमती जयबन शाह (अमरेली)

सभापति महोदय, जहाँ से मैं आती हूँ, वह हिस्सा सारा देश में जितना प्राउण्ड-नट पैदा होता है, उसका तीसरा हिस्सा पैदा करता है। पहले मौराण्ड-गुजरात रहा हूँ। मुझे बड़े खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि यह पालिसी न प्रोडक्शन-प्रोरियेन्टेड है और न कन्ज्यूमर ओरियेन्टेड। यद्यपि शिण्डे साहब इसमें काफी दिलचस्पी लेते हैं, लेकिन फिर भी मुझे कहना पड़ रहा है कि सरकार की यह पालिसी किसानों के हित में नहीं है। सोयाबीन की ही बात नहीं है, दरअसल ऐसा होता है कि जब फसल आती है, उस समय सरकार की ओर से ऐसी पालिसी एनाउन्स होती है, जिसके दाम गिरने शुरू हो जाते हैं। आज आपने जो नीति जाहिर की है कि आप सोयाबीन को इम्पोर्ट करने वाले हैं, इससे कोई फायदा होने वाला नहीं है, इससे दूसरों को फायदा होगा, कन्ज्यूमर को भी कोई विशेष फायदा होने वाला नहीं है। हम चाहते हैं कि प्राउण्ड-नट एक्सपोर्ट नहीं होता चाहिये, इसके लिये हम लड़ भी रहे हैं। लेकिन जो विशेष दान मैं कहना चाहती हूँ वह यह है कि सरकार समय पर अपनी पालिसी को जाहिर नहीं करती। जिस समय फसल आती है उस समय ये कहते हैं कि हम इम्पोर्ट करेंगे, जिससे

दाम गिरने शुरू हो जाते हैं, और जब वह दाम कारखानेदारों के हाथ में चला जाता है, तब ये कहते हैं कि हम एक्सपोर्ट करेंगे, जिससे कि दाम बढ़ने शुरू हो जाते हैं, जिसका नतीजा यह होता है कि कारखानेदारों को दोनों तरफ से फायदा होता है, खरीदने के समय वह कम दाम से खरीदता है और बेचने के समय वह महंगे दामों पर बेचता है। इससे कन्ज्यूमर को भी फायदा नहीं होता है। इनकी सारी प्राउण्ड-नट पालिसी उस समय एक बड़े मेस में है। इन की इस पालिसी से प्रोडक्शन मैन्टेन में लोग बहुत नाराज हैं। हम यह नहीं चाहते कि हम प्राउण्ड-नट को गुजरात से बाहर न जाने दें, हम शुरू से ही फूड-जोन्स के खिलाफ रहे हैं। लेकिन इनकी पालिसी ने हमारे किसान भाइयों को बहुत नाराज कर दिया है।

वैजीटेबिल प्रायल के बारे में जो बात कही है—मैं आपको बतलाऊँ कि पिछले सालों में वैजीटेबिल प्रायल के कारखानेदारों ने जितना मुनाफा किया है, उतना पिछले दस सालों में भी नहीं किया है। पिछली दशाभाव इतने कम हुए, इन लोगों ने खरीदने के लिये भावों को गिराया, मैं पूछना चाहती हूँ कि फूड कारपोरेशन वाले बीच में क्यों आये? जितनी गड़बड़ ये कारपोरेशन वाले करते हैं दूसरा कोई नहीं करता है। मैं सरकार की सारी पालिसियों के खिलाफ नहीं हूँ, लेकिन यह कारपोरेशन किस दाम पर खरीदता है और किस दाम पर बेचता है, कभी आपने उस पर गौर किया है—यह भी इन सारी गड़बड़ियों का जिम्मेदार है। आप जानते हैं कि प्राउण्ड-नट पर कम्पिटिटी माकट में कितना म्येकुलेशन होता है, कितने फारवर्ड ट्रांजेक्शन होते हैं—यह सब हमारे देश के किसानों के हक में नहीं होता है, इस सब का नतीजा उसे ही भुनकना पड़ता है—यही मेरी जिज्ञास्य है।



[श्री स० मो० बनर्जी]

जानी है उसको बन्द किया जाए और मन्त्री जी यहाँ पर इम्पोर्ट के बारे में पूरा तालमील रखें कि उसकी जरूरत है या नहीं। अगर इम्पोर्ट से किसानों के लिए खतरा पैदा होता है तो इम्पोर्ट न किया जाए, यहाँ अच्छा होगा।

SHRI RAJASEKHARAN (Kanakapura): I am very happy that this august House has found some time to discuss this important subject. Sir, as you are aware, groundnut constitutes one of the most important oilseeds produced in the world with a production of 12.5 million tons and India ranks first among the producers of groundnut with a production of 4.4 million tonnes annually in about 6 million hectares.

Unfortunately, government have not made any attempts to give encouragement to this commercial crop which is being produced by thousands of farmers in this country. It is a very important product used both for edible oil and also for direct consumption. For the last two years the price of groundnut is falling and it has fallen to the extent of 50 per cent. Yet, unfortunately, the Agricultural Prices Commission has not found it fit to give a support price for this product. Here I would like to accuse the Agricultural Prices Commission of fostering the interests of the vegetable oil industry and the industrialists, which is very unfortunate. Here is a product which is grown in this country and, as I said in the beginning, we rank first in its production. Yet, we have not realised the importance of giving this commodity a very reasonable and remunerative price.

Further, as pointed out by some hon. Members, government have aggravated the situation by its own policies. Last year government imported about 1,12,663 tonnes of this product and this year they want to import about 82,000 tonnes, as mentioned by some of our friends. Unless the import of soya bean oil and

sun flower oil from USA and USSR are stopped, the price of groundnut will further fall down, aggravating the situation, which will put the farmers engaged in the production of groundnut out of job.

Therefore, I would plead with the government that they should, first of all, come out with a price support policy for this major commercial crop which is being grown in this country. I think, that is the first step which the Government should take. The second step is that they should totally prohibit and ban the import of soya-bean oil and sun-flower oil.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL (Ahmednagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, without repetition or dramatisation or going into figures, I would like to submit two or three points and bring to the notice of the Minister the reasons for the fall in production and the fall in prices of groundnut.

Let us take the example of this year. There is not only fall in production and fall in prices in Andhra but also the same conditions prevail in Mysore, Maharashtra and specially in Gujarat which is the biggest producer of groundnut. There are two or three reasons why there is the fall in production of groundnut and the fall in the prices of groundnut. One is the natural calamity or the nature's anger. In some parts of the country, we did not get rains for days together, for a month nearly, and in Gujarat area, there were heavy floods. So, that was one of the reasons for the fall in production. As there was a fall in production, the prices should have gone up. But, unfortunately, the prices have fallen down during the last 15 days. I am not like Mr. S. M. Banerjee or Mr. S. M. Joshi. I have myself cultivated 6 acres of groundnut and the prices, in the last 15 days, have fallen from Rs. 150 per quintal to Rs. 110 per quintal. Out of these 6 acres, I have nearly lost Rs. 3000 instead of getting a single rupee.

One of the reasons is the import policy of the soya-bean oil on which point all the Members have spoken. But I am not going to blame the Agriculture Ministry for this. The Ministry of Agriculture is trying its best for the last four or five years to give incentives to agriculturists by giving them high-yielding variety seed, by giving them fertilisers and by giving them credit also. But when the crop is ready and the crop is harvested, then the worry of the agriculturist comes in because there is the marketing problem. There, I have a quarrel with the Commerce Ministry. There is no coordination between the Commerce Ministry and the Agriculture Ministry. This is not only in the case of groundnut but it is also in the case of cotton and sugarcane. The Agriculture Ministry asks the farmers to grow more and gives as much help as possible. But the Commerce Ministry does not take into consideration the plight of the farmers.

This year, when the groundnut production had fallen down, the agriculturists were expecting a better price. But the forward-marketing and the rackets of the mill-man and the middle-man under it impossible. There should be better marketing facilities. When the produce is ready, the agriculturist begins to face the difficulty of marketing and to get a better price. Here comes my complaint against the Ministry of Agriculture. This year, the producer or the grower of the groundnut is discouraged. From the consumers point of view also, groundnut oil is one of the daily necessities. Every man, from the poor man right to rich man, needs groundnut oil. The price has gone up from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 per kilo during the last week. If we are not going to take these things into consideration, if we are not going to have coordination between the Agriculture Ministry and the Commerce Ministry, the agriculture will suffer not only for 10 years to come but for the next 50 years also.

Our policy should be agriculturist-oriented, consumer-oriented, not mill-man-oriented or middle-man-oriented. About the imports, if we are not going to take into consideration our local products, if we are not going to give incentives to local products, we are not going to make any economic progress as far as the rural sector is concerned. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to insist upon a coordinated policy between his Ministry and the Commerce Ministry and give relief to the agriculturist.

18 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): I am thankful to the hon. House and particularly to Shri Naidu for having given this opportunity to discuss the problems of a very important crop in our country. We know, many matters are discussed in this House, but I have a feeling that many times many of the problems of agriculture are neglected by all of us. I am glad that, after persisting for the last few months, Mr. Naidu succeeded in having this discussion.

Groundnut, like sugarcane, cotton and jute, is one of the very important crops in our country. Lives of millions of farmers depend on income from groundnut. So, as far as my Ministry is concerned, we realise the importance of this crop in our national economy. Groundnut is not important only from the point of view of producers alone, but the edible oil which it produces is also important from the point of view of community as a whole. It is also one of the export-oriented crops because we have been exporting considerable quantities of de-oiled cake during the last few years.

Many hon. members have expressed their views in regard to the government's policies about groundnut, etc. Some of the hon. members

[Shri Annasaheb Shinde]

have, in the course of their speeches, made a number of helpful suggestions to us, but I must say that many of the points are not relevant to the subject, and, to my mind, they are based on incorrect appreciation of the present position.

Now, what is happening in the field of groundnut? The groundnut crop in our country is mainly dependent on rains; it is a rain-fed crop; only three per cent of the groundnut crop is irrigated and the balance of 97 per cent of the crop is dependent on rains. Unfortunately, the behaviour of the monsoon in our country is very peculiar unlike many other countries, and many times even if there are rains, if they are ill-distributed or if they are not evenly distributed, then also the crop suffers.

The difficulties in the field of groundnut started in the year 1965-66. We had a very good crop in 1964-65; we almost produced about 59 lakh tonnes of groundnut in that year. But, thereafter, there was a steep fall in the production of groundnut. For instance, in 1965-66, we had only forty-two lakh tonnes as against 59 lakh tonnes in the year 1964-65. In the year 1966-67 we had only 44 lakh tonnes as against 59 lakh tonnes in 1964-65. The position was retrieved or improved in the year 1967-68 when we had 58 lakh tonnes. But prior to 1967-68, the prices of groundnut went to a level which was not a very reasonable level, I should say. I appreciate the fact that the farmers should get a reasonable price. Unless we succeed in ensuring a reasonable price to the farmers, it will be very difficult to have a successful production programme. I concede that. After conceding that position, we have, at the same time, to realise that the prices of commodities should not go to a level where it will become impossible for the consumers to purchase the commodity.

From groundnut, like other oilseeds, we get edible oil. During the last three years, especially after 1964-65, the prices of edible oil had shot up to such a level that there was discontent among the consumers all over the country, and no Government worth its name can fail to take notice of this. So, during the last few years, we did import some Soyabean oil. If we had not imported Soyabean oil, the prices of the edible oil would have gone up still higher and that would have been a very harsh thing for the consumers. So, Government did a right thing in importing a little quantity of Soya-bean oil....

SHRI R. K. AMIN: What about the wide fluctuations in the prices?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I am coming to that point. I am attaching a great importance to that also. The time at my disposal is very limited and still I am going to deal with that point.

Apart from the edible oil, in the raw form, we also produce Vanaspathi in our country. Hon. members are aware that there have been some problems in regard to the maintenance of the level of Vanaspathi prices in our country. The Soyabean oil which is imported into our country is not consumed in the same raw form; it cannot be sold directly to the consumers. We only make it available to Vanaspathi factories and the vanaspathi factories are in a position to make available the vanaspathi product at reasonable level of prices. And it is my own conviction that because of the availability of soyabean we have succeeded in maintaining a particular level of vanaspathi in our country. And that has been very helpful. There is one point which hon. Members should appreciate. After all, what is the quantum of import that we do in this country as compared with the total requirements of the country? Hardly 3 to 4 per cent has been the

to year. That point is under examination. It should be possible for Government to come to certain conclusion in regard to that. Not only that, but, I think that some stabilisation steps will have to be taken, constitution of buffer stocks etc. Suppose there is more production then there is some agency to purchase the surplus in the market. Then the price will not be unduly depressed. Suppose there is a shortfall; then, the buffer stocks can be released. Government is considering whether some price stabilisation measures can be adopted so that the price level can be maintained both in the interest of the producer and the consumer. A high-level committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Agriculture, has been constituted. A number of other ministries are also represented on this committee.

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE:** I concede the point.

In the end I would like to touch upon one point only. An important point in respect of groundnuts is this. Unfortunately the productivity per acre in this country as far as groundnut is concerned, is very poor. I have got some figures with me. In Nigeria it is 19.6 quintals per hectare. In USA, 18.6 in Brazil, 13.7 Senegal 10.8. South Africa 6.3, India 5.6 and Burma, 5.8. We are at the lowest level. Unless this per-acre productivity is raised in this country, I do not think that it would be possible for us to have really reasonable economy for the farmer. Our entire concentration should be how to raise productivity. As far as raising productivity is concerned it involves the problem of research, making good seeds available, having extension services in the fields and all that, so that our farmers are in a position to adopt new practices, new techniques and new technologies to increase production. Government are taking a number of steps. I do not want to take the time of the House to go into details, indicating what measures Government are taking. But this is the main approach to the problem. Unless per acre productivity goes up, it

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE:** Professor Amin and many other hon. Members were referring to the fact that high fluctuations prevail in the groundnut market. This is a phenomena which is causing much concern to the Government also. I took some trouble into going into this aspect of the problem and I found that this has been a common feature of our economy during the last many years. As soon as the harvest is done, immediately, in the post-harvest period the price level went down, and as soon as the harvest season is over the prices go up. This is not confined only to groundnuts but this has been a feature almost with many of the agricultural commodities. I also agree that as far as groundnut is concerned, this is in some accentuated form. I quite agree with that point. We are examining the position as to whether some support price for groundnut can be fixed up from year

[Shri Annasahib Shinde]  
will not be possible for us to have a  
reasonable return to the farmer.

will receive due consideration of my Ministry.

**18.11 hrs.**

In conclusion, I am thankful to all hon. members who have participated in the discussion. They have made a number of helpful suggestions which

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Wednesday, November 27, 1988/Agrahayana 6, 1890 (Saka).*