

प्रनाज व्यापारियों की गिरफ्तारी

2585. { श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
 श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा :
 श्री प्रकाशचौर शास्त्री :
 श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धाप्ती :
 श्री युद्धवीर सिंह :
 श्री बड़े :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विभिन्न राज्यों ने प्रनाज के बढ़ते हुए मूल्यों को रोकने के लिये व्यापारियों को गिरफ्तार किया है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इन व्यापारियों की गिरफ्तारी के बाद एक मों वर्ष उन राज्यों में प्रनाज के मूल्य कितने बढ़े घयवा कितने कम हुए हैं ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री डा० रा० चव्हाण) : (क) खाद्यान्नों के भावों में बढ़ि को रोकना ही खाद्य नियमों के लागू करने का केवल उद्देश्य नहीं है। विभिन्न खाद्य नियमों के संदिग्ध उल्लंघन के लिये समय समय पर बहुत से व्यक्ति जिनमें व्यापारी भी हैं, गिरफ्तार किये जाते हैं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Famine relief in scarcity areas of Mysore

2585. A. Shri H. C. Linga Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Mysore has sent any scheme to the Central Government for famine relief in the scarcity areas of the State;

(b) if so, the broad details of the scheme;

(c) the expenditure involved; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The State Government of Mysore has not sent any scheme for famine relief as such. However, a pilot scheme for the integrated development of chronically drought affected areas of Madhugiri and Pavagada taluks of Tumkur District of Mysore State has been received from the Mysore State Government.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the required information is appended. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4917/65].

(d) The State Government has been requested to furnish certain essential details before the proposals can be examined.

Import of Rice from U.S.A.

2585-B. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the United States Government have issued purchase authorisations to India under P.L. 480 Agreement to finance purchase of a very large quantity of rice from the U.S. suppliers?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): None recently.

11.08 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

ALLEGED REFUSAL BY TELEGRAPH AUTHORITIES AT DURGAPUR TO ACCEPT TELEGRAMS

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Alleged refusal by telegraph authorities at Durgapur to accept on the 3rd September, 1965, telegrams from the Sikh employees of Refining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur, addressed

to the Central Government and non-delivery of telegrams sent by them to Akali Members of Parliament at Delhi."

The Minister of Communications and Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): On 3-9-1965, a number of telegrams were offered for booking at Durgapur Steel Project telegraph office containing almost identical text which tended to give an ordinary local fracas a communal colour. These telegrams were addressed to the Ministers of the Government of India, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and other senior Government officers and also to four other private addressees. All these telegrams were accepted and transmitted to Calcutta for onward disposal. At Calcutta, the telegrams excepting those addressed to the four private addressees, were allowed to be retransmitted onwards and duly delivered at their destination. The four telegrams addressed to the four private addressees were considered objectionable [Shri Ranga: Why? Have patience.] under Indian Telegraph Rule 17, especially on account of the very tense situation in the country and referred to the Government of West Bengal for advice. The Government of West Bengal considered these telegrams as objectionable and ordered the Central Telegraph Office, Calcutta to withhold them under section 5(1) (b) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

Shri Kapur Singh: Is it true that the Sikh employees at Durgapur were attacked causing death and grave injuries to them for the basic sin of being Sikhs and non-Bengalis and if so whether that was the reason for the non-delivery of these telegrams?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I do not think that such questions should be permitted. I do not like to answer that question. I said that it was a local fracas. It was because of that that it was also withheld.

Mr. Speaker: The question has been put. He can deny that it is not the reason.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: It cannot be the reason; absolutely it is not.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): How can he take a position like this? Is he the Home Minister either in Bengal or here?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kapur Singh: I shall now put my second question. Are the Government aware.....

Mr. Speaker: Only one question; he has already put one question.

Shri Kapur Singh: There is also a second question which is allowed, Sir, in respect of a Calling Attention Notice.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Buta Singh.

Shri Kapur Singh: As a matter of clarification, I want to put another question. He has not answered my question.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow him any other question.

Shri Kapur Singh: He has not answered my question properly. So, I am entitled to seek a clarification.

Mr. Speaker: He may seek a clarification. I would not allow another question.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: To which part of the question does he want a clarification?

Shri Kapur Singh: Are the Government aware that it is a common practice with the telegraph authorities throughout the country to refuse to accept or to deliver any such message or communication which they consider as injurious to the interests of the majority community? (Interruption)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. About the first question, I also did not like very much that it should be put to the House. I should say that the implication of it was like this: he said that because it was an attack by one State employee on one community, that

[Mr. Speaker]

State had to decide whether this should be transmitted or not, and because of this, those telegrams were not forwarded.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): I was taken aback a little; I was thinking how you could allow that question because it would give a handle to Pakistani propaganda.

Shri Kapur Singh: I want to know whether the consideration of anything said here, whether a certain speech or a certain observation made in the House, will give a handle to foreign countries. (*Interruption*).

Shri Hem Barua: I am afraid it should not be allowed.

Shri Kapur Singh: If the majority community does not want or desire anything to be said here, that is no conclusive reason for not saying it. He should not take advantage of that. We are not afraid of that. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He will sit down. Everybody will sit down.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): The whole thing should be expunged.

Shri Kapur Singh: Yes, Sir. What they want is that my observations here should be expunged and I should be expelled from Parliament.

Shri Hem Barua: We do not demand that he should be expelled from the House, he is a very important Member.

Shri Kapur Singh: This is what they ultimately aim at.

Shri Hem Barua: What he said amounts to discrimination; it is an insinuation.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member might confine himself only to the fact that if such an assault was made, it might be due to other circumstances, and the answer might be given. Therefore, I gave that opportunity to the Minister and asked him that he can deny it and say that that was not a fact. He might say so. It

should be for the Minister to say and not for me to say.

Some hon. Member rose—

Shri Nath Pai: Let the Minister deny it.

Shri Kapur Singh: He should not guide the proceedings of the House when the Chair is still occupied.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): The Minister has bungled.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not allowing any other question.

Shri Nath Pai: The Minister should be a little more serious about it.

Shri Buta Singh (Moga): I want to know whether anybody has been challenged for the murder of a Sikh leader, Sardar Ratan Singh, killed on the evening . . . (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The other Members should also realise that there is some delicacy in the matter, and I would request all hon. Members to remain calm and cool. Now, the question was put as to whether anybody has been challenged. . . .

Shri Buta Singh: I have not completed my question, Sir. The question is, whether anybody has been challenged for the murder of the Sikh leader, Sardar Ratan Singh, killed on the evening of 2nd September by the Bengali hooligans and the West Bengal police is holding the ring for the murderers.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I have no information about it. It does not concern the Communications Ministry anyway.

Mr. Speaker: He might find out.

Shri Buta Singh: On a point of order.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta South West): May I, with your permission, make a short submission because this matter has aroused a lot of controversy, and. . . .

Shri Kapur Singh: If he is allowed to state the facts, then I might also

be allowed to controvert them if necessary.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I want to make a brief submission, for whatever it is worth; I think it is necessary. I reached the spot within 24 hours of this very deplorable incident. I can assure Shri Kapur Singh that this incident is deplorable. But I only want to say that it was not due to the fact that, or rather, it did not take place because anybody belonged to a particular community. I can assure you, Sir, it is a deplorable thing. Over 100 people have been arrested, perhaps many of them rightly so. I do not know, but it was due to a domestic quarrel over the ownership of a goat. That was how it began.

Shri Buta Singh: On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: There is no point of order.

Shri Kapur Singh: Mr. Kachhavaia had just remarked that Sikhs are in the habit of stealing goats. I want to know.... (Interruptions).

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): All that he said is perhaps Sardarji wanted a bakra. That was the only thing he said. No question of Sikhs; nothing has been mentioned. This is too much for Sardar Kapur Singh to say.

Shri Kapur Singh: Let him controvert it. (Interruptions).

श्री हुकम चन्द कच्छवायः प्रध्यक्ष महोदय,
मैंने ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं कहा।

11.16 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUNDS ACT, 1952.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications:

- (1) G.S.R. 1166 dated the 14th August, 1965, extending the Employees' Provident Funds

Act, 1952, to magnesite mines. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4905/65].

- (2) The Employees' Provident Funds (Eleventh Amendment) Scheme, 1965, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1241 dated the 28th August, 1965, under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4906/65].

11.16½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

FOURTEENTH REPORT

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): I beg to present the Fourteenth report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

11.16¾ hrs.

PATENTS BILL*

The Minister of Heavy Engineering and Industry in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri T. N. Singh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to patents.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to patents."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. N. Singh: I introduce the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps hon. members might be interested to know when the Prime Minister is going to make that statement which he promised yesterday. It would be made at 3.45 P.M.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Will the Defence Minister also make a statement?

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II section 2, dated the 21st March, 1965.