

things are unfortunate. The Government has enacted many laws to check such incidents. I would suggest that the Government should provide loans and job on priority basis to those unemployed youths who are ready to marry poor girls without taking dowry. This is a serious question. The dream of a poor girl shatters because of dowry demand, and we are helpless...

MR. SPEAKER : Mamataji, Kindly, put the question.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I would urge the Government to formulate a scheme wherein those unemployed youth who come forward to marry girls without taking dowry should be provided jobs on priority basis.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I would only like to tell the hon. Member that we are very much in the process of telling young women that marriage is not the only course open to them. They should be educated; they should be able to look after themselves—like the hon. Member who has proved what a woman can achieve by pursuing a career on her own,

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is not a simple question, Sir.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Minister, don't give her wrong advice !

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, very little time is devoted on this subject in the House. I am glad that the hon. lady Minister has taken it very seriously. I want to ask the Minister whether the discussion in the House on this subject would lead us to any solution to the problem? Demand of dowry and dowry deaths have become very common now a days. It has become a street talk. Despite enactment of many laws for women, the problem of dowry is assuming serious dimension day by day. Dowry is asked in case

of educated girls also. If a survey is conducted in this regard in all the States you will get the reply. You can find out the number of bride-burning cases from hospitals and courts. This can be checked only when a detailed study is made in this regard. I would like to know whether such a survey would be conducted and the proposal for a family court is being considered ?

[*English*]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Sir, we are constantly giving instructions to the State Governments. But there is nothing much that we can.

**Setting up of food and Vegetable
Processing Units to Check
Loss in Transit**

*128 SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :
SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated annual production of vegetables and fruits in the country;

(b) whether due to climatic and other reasons fruits and vegetables do not reach the consumer in good condition and a large quantity of these items perish in transit;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up a network of fruit and vegetable processing units at various places with a view to check this avoidable loss; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :
(a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) It is estimated that about 23 million tonnes of fruits and 43 million tonnes of vegetables are produced annually in the country.

(b) It is estimated that about 25 to 30 per cent of the total production of fruits and vegetables go as post-harvest handling loss.

(c) and (d). Following initiatives have been taken by the Government for development of the fruit and vegetable processing industry :

- (1) Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, an undertaking of the Ministry, has diversified into fruit and vegetable processing. A separate Corporation viz. North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation has been set up at Guwahati to promote the marketing and processing of fruit and vegetables grown in that region.
- (2) There is Plan scheme to give financial assistance to State Governments/Cooperative Undertaking for development of fruit and vegetable processing units.
- (3) Requirement of industrial licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act has been dispensed with except in certain cases.
- (4) In order to facilitate modernisation of the industry, import of certain items of machinery and equipment has been placed under Open General Licence. Import duty on certain items of machinery/equipment and packaging material has also been reduced.
- (5) Incentives are provided to promote the export of fruit and vegetable products.
- (6) In the Budget for 1988-89, concessions in customs/excise duty have been given in respect of various items of fruit processing machinery and finished fruit and vegetable products.
- (7) A separate Ministry for Food Processing Industries has been created with a view to check this

loss by encouraging setting up of fruit and vegetable processing units in the small/medium/large/cooperative/State etc. sectors near the producing centres and other places.

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Sir, is it a fact that the fruit processing units under the Ministry are making loss every year? If so, the causes of this loss and the steps taken to improve the working of these units.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, as far as the Central Government is concerned, we have Modern Food Industries which are not making loss. But I would like to inform the hon. Member that the total number of FPU licences we have issued in 1987 was 3496 with the installed capacity of 5.56 lakh tonnes. We are only producing 2.10 lakh tonnes. That means, the plants are not utilising their own capacity.

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : The statement says that the Government will encourage the setting up of fruit processing units in the State Sector. I want to know whether there is any proposal to set up such units in Kerala in the near future.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Kerala has already got about 224 units—11 in the large-scale; 17 in the Small Scale sector and another 11 in the aided Small-Scale and Cottage industries.....(*Interruptions*) Let me answer this question please. At present, Kerala produces pineapple, coconut, Cashew-apple, banana and jack-fruit. Even the installed capacity for the total pineapple is not available at this time and fruit machineries are not working. They have to get right from Tripura. So, Government has no intention of opening up any more units. We would like to help as much as possible to see that the full utility of the existing units is fulfilled.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : These vegetables and fruits are very much required in the Gulf countries and there is export possibility especially from the areas where these are grown i.e. in Kerala and Karnataka. Is there any programme for the Government to export large-scale vegetables and fruits to near-by countries and if so

what are they? I would like to know the details.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would like to inform the hon. Members that we produce about 23 million tonnes of fruits—this is a rough figure, subject to correct—and 43 million tonnes of vegetables. I would like to inform the House that 25 to 40 per cent is the loss we have on these crops, and 25 to 30 per cent is the total production of fruits and vegetables which go on post-harvesting tending loss. It is roughly equal to about Rs. 5000 to 6000 crores a year. This Ministry has been specifically created to see that we have a chain of cold-storage facilities, we have to see that we get foreign technology to our country and we have to get new hybrid seeds so that everything possible is done. We have asked the Finance Minister certain things and he is coming out with the proposal. They should allow a lot of concessions. I would like to give some examples. For instance, I visited with the Prime Minister Turkey. Previously they were importing fruits and vegetables. Within four years, today they are exporting worth 1.5 billion dollars of fruits and vegetables and one billion Dollars worth of hybrid seeds. Turkey is a country with a population of 50 million people and hardly there is any fresh land. In our country, everything is possible and we have got facilities but we are not even exporting one per cent of the total export. We will make sure...

Mr. Speaker : That is why we have you here today. We can produce much more than 10 times, 20 times.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Yes. That is why, this Ministry has been created. We will make sure everything possible is done to see that we will also export.

SHRI V. SOBHANADRE ESWARA RAO : It is very heartening to learn that Japan is willing to buy fruits and vegetables from our country. Recently, in a meeting held between the Indo-Japan Business Cooperation Committee in Tokyo, they have taken a decision to this effect. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is thinking of setting up facilities for de-infection of mangoes

and other fruits and vegetables through vapour heat treatment process at Delhi, Madras and Bombay. My question to the hon. Minister is whether such facilities will be provided at Vishakapatnam also because Andhra Pradesh produces a lot of mangoes grapes and other fruits and vegetables in a large scale. I would request the Minister to consider this and set up such facilities at Vishakapatnam also in the near future.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I will consider this proposal. You also please write to me because we would like to do everything possible if we can help the growers and farmers.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Supply of Quality Fertilizers Pesticides to Farmers

*122. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been issued by his Ministry to the States to ensure the supply of quality fertilizers and pesticides to farmers for augmenting agricultural production;

(b) if so, whether State Governments have also been asked to see that the farmers get these inputs in correct measures while buying them ; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Governments have been requested to activate their enforcement machinery, ensure maximum utilisation of analysing capacity of testing laboratories and take vigorous follow up action.

Capitation Fee in Technical Institutions

*123. **SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :