

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, April 23, 1979/Vaisakha 3,
1901 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Durian Fruit Trees in Tamil Nadu

*824. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
AND IRRIGATION be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the experiments to
introduce and popularise Durian fruit
trees in Tamil Nadu have succeeded;

(b) whether the Union Agriculture
Ministry have any plans to introduce
this fruit tree in other States; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
AND IRRIGATION (SHRI
SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a)
Relevant information is being collect-
ed from the Government of Tamil
Nadu and will be placed on the Table
of the Sabha as and when received
from the State Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: What is
the nutritive value of the fruits and
whether it is a cheap variety of food?
If it is so, will it not be an additional
food to the poor people?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
There is not much interest in this
fruit. Unfortunately, there is not
much interest in this fruit anywhere
in the country. We tried to find out
the position from Tamil Nadu also.
There, the people are not inclined to
take it. This has a disagreeable
flavour. I have seen this fruit and I
have tried to taste it also. But it is
not liked by many people.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Whe-
ther the Government will instruct
the Indian Council of Agricultural
Research to take up the question of
popularising this fruit?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
It is not necessary to popularise such
a fruit because there is no liking for
it in the country.

Licence for Seed Dealers to Check Sale of Spurious Seed

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*825. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:
SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE:

Will the Minister of AGRICUL-
TURE AND IRRIGATION be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of
Maharashtra has suggested to the
Government of India to provide for
licencing of seed dealers under the
Seeds Act 1966 with a view to exer-
cise control over the sale of spurious
seed to the detriment of the interest of
the farmers; and

(b) if so, whether Central Govern-
ment have arrived at any decision
in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
AND IRRIGATION (SHRI
SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a)
and (b). A statement is laid on the
Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Seed Certification Board has advised against compulsory registration of seed dealers. The Board was of the view that we had not reached the stage when we could enforce it without interrupting the existing distribution arrangements. The Board felt that the objective to eliminate spurious seeds from the market could be better served by undertaking production of good quality seed in plenty through extension measures instead of by compulsory registration. The Government of India feel that these arguments need serious consideration and a policy of compulsory registration need not be rushed through.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: In the statement, the hon. Minister has said that the Central Seed Certification Board has advised against compulsory registration of seed dealers. Seeds are very important and the quality of a crop depends upon the quality of seeds. If the sub-standard seeds are sold to the farmers, they are going to suffer heavy losses. In this connection, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he has received complaints of supply of sub-standard seeds from Kolapur and Satara Districts of Maharashtra; if so, the action taken thereof?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: There are some complaints from some areas that the seeds supplied to the farmers are not of a very high quality. That, of course, is there. Wherever there are complaints, we are trying to look into them and try to find out how they have arisen; we are also trying to take action in some cases.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Have you ascertained the losses due to supply of sub-standard seeds to the farmers. There are some complaints about the supply of sub-standard seeds. In this connection, what are the main cons-

traints for not registering the dealers who are selling the seeds?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: It is not possible to register those persons who sell seeds, because a very large number of people are selling seeds. They are sold in the rural areas also. The registration of seed dealers rather creates a difficulty in the way of providing a good quality of seeds ultimately.

श्री भागीरथ शंकर : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय श्री महाराष्ट्र के बारे में प्रश्न पूछा गया लेकिन मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि देश के प्रत्येक सुबे में इस प्रकार के खराब बीज दिये जाते हैं और मनमाने ढंग से पैसा बसूल लिया जाता है। उन को दो दो सौ और ढाई ढाई सौ रुपये किलो के हिसाब से बीज दिये जाते हैं और ऐसी कई दुकानें हैं और कई लोग हैं जो किसानों को चोट भी करते हैं। खराब बीज दे कर उन को कष्ट में डाल देते हैं और उन से ठगी भी करते हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वे ऐसे उपाय करेंगे कोई ऐसी कार्यवाही करेंगे जिस से अनधिकृत रूप से जो ऐसा धंधा करते हैं या जो खराब बीज बेचने वाले लोग हैं उन के खिलाफ कोई एक्शन लिया जा सके। मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि अलग अलग प्रदेशों से इस प्रकार से खराब बीज बेचने की और किसानों को चोट करने की कितनी शिकायतें उन के पास आई हैं ?

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : We have a Seeds Act, 1966.

मैं हिन्दी में इन के सवाल का जवाब दूंगा। अगर कोई आदमी सीड्स एक्ट का उल्लंघन करता है तो सीड्स एक्ट के अन्तर्गत एक्शन लिया जा सकता है, स्टेट भवनमेंट उस को प्रोसीक्यूट कर सकती है लेकिन हमारे पास ऐसी कोई एजेन्सी नहीं है कि हम सारे देश में जो इतने सारे सीड्स तैयार किये जाते हैं सिर्फ इस काम को ही देखें। बीज के काम में बहुत से लोग लगे हुए हैं और कहीं पर तो अच्छे क्वालिटी के सीड्स मिल जाते हैं और कहीं पर कम अच्छी क्वालिटी के सीड्स मिलते हैं।

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: There have been several complaints of sub-standard seeds or adulterated seeds being sold to the farmers. What arrangement exists with the Government to find out that the outdated seeds whose germination Validity is over are not sold. The provisions of Seeds Act 1966, if they cannot be applied to every dealer, cannot it be made applicable to those

who sell them at the district level at least, so that the source at which seeds are adulterated can be checked in time, if not with every dealer but at least with the main distributor?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
The Seeds Act applies to all those persons who sell seeds of specified qualities and they have to sell the seed of specified qualities under this Act. If the seed sold is not of specified quality, there are methods of finding that out and checking the seed too. If it is found that he is not selling seed according to specified qualities action can be taken against him. It is provided, first the offender is punished and then if he is a second time offender he is punished more heavily i.e. with imprisonment.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : क्या सरकार कानून बनाएगी ताकि जिनने मीठ बेचने वाले हैं उन के अपर पाबन्दी लग सके और वे लिख कर दे कि कहाँ से उन्होंने मीठ लिया है और इस तारीख को लिया है ताकि यह जो दिक्कत पैदा होनी है कि मीठ समय से ज्यादा का हो गया है और उस में पैदा करने की कंपैमेंटी नहीं रह जाती है वह दूर हो सके ? क्या सरकार इस किस्म के क्लब और रेग्युलेशन बनाएगी ताकि किसान को सही किस्म का बीज मिल सके, अच्छी बवालियो का मिल सके ?

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : पहले से ही क्लब बना हुआ है। क्लब 17 के नीचे जो गर्टिफिकेट दिया जाता है उन में ये चीज शामिल करनी पड़ती है।

Certification tag shall contain the following particulars, viz., the name and address of the certification agency, the kind of variety of the seed, lot number and the other mark of the seed, the name and address of the certified seed producer, the date of issue and certificate of its validity, an appropriate sign to designate the certified seed, an appropriate word denoting classification of the seed, etc.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : कोई नहीं करता है।

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : नहीं करता है तो उसके खिलाफ एक्शन लिया जा सकता है।

News Item 'Arab Prince Bags Six Bustards'

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*826. SHRI HUKAM CHAND
KACHWAI:

SHRI CHHITUBHAI
GAMIT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister's attention has been drawn to the news item 'Arab Prince bags six bustards' appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated 9th March, 1979 and state as to who gave the permission to shoot the prohibited birds in the Saurashtra area to the Arab Prince; and

(b) whether such acts by the visiting Arab country Princes have taken place earlier also and the reason for the inefficiency to control these in unpleasant acts by these Princes and the action proposed to be taken against the staff/officer who allowed such extinction of this rare species of birds, if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) According to the information received from the Government of Gujarat the press report of hunting of six bustards by Arab Prince in Saurashtra is not correct.

(b) The Government of India have allowed certain very important persons from the Gulf countries to hunt the lesser bustards on a very restricted scale in the border areas of Rajasthan involving 14 such hunting parties between December 1974 and January 1979. This was done in consideration of India's relations with these countries and in its national interest taking into account the