

राज बोरेश्वर सिंह : वह आज की है ।

Programme for storage of Agricultural produce

*108. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes proposed and undertaken by Government of India to provide facilities to farmers to store their produce and to get interim credit till the final disposal of the produce, during the current year and the years following;

(b) the estimated number of farmers likely to be benefited and the

agricultural produce likely to be covered by these programmes; and

(c) the probable relief estimated to be obtained by the Public Credit System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) The scheme for establishing a National Grid of Rural Godowns has been launched with the object of providing facilities to farmers to store their produce and to get interim credit till the final disposal of the produce.

The targets fixed for the current year and the years following under this scheme are as under:

Year	Target (Lakhs tonnes)
1981-82	5.00
1982-83	6.00
1983-84	3.53

(b) Storage capacity of 20 lakh tonnes is proposed to be created under the scheme. At this stage it is difficult to estimate the number of farmers likely to be benefited by the scheme. However, on a rough estimate, approximately 30 lakh small and marginal farmers are likely to take advantage of the scheme.

(c) It is difficult to make an estimate at this stage. But, small and marginal farmers will be entitled to get loan upto Rs. 5,000 at an interest rate of 12-1/2 per cent.

SHRI A. T. PATIL: Sir, the question was about the linkage provided between the storage credit and recovery of loans. I wanted an answer to this problem. But unfortunately, the answer that is given says that thirty lakhs marginal farmers will be benefited. The estimate is approximate. I have not got the figure. Anyway, what are the details of the National Grid of Rural Godowns to provide the linkage between storage credit and recovery of loans.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): I exactly cannot follow the intention of the hon. Member.

SHRI A. T. PATIL: I shall explain. The question put by me is like this:

"(a) The programmes proposed and undertaken by Government of India to provide facilities to farmers to store their produce and to get interim credit till the final disposal of the produce...."

That was the question. In short, it means that you store the goods of the farmers, especially, the small and marginal farmers, give them credit and, then, at the appropriate time, they dispose of the goods and you give the final price recovered to the farmers deducting loans so that there will be avoidance of exploitation of the farmers by the traders.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants you to pass on the profits to them.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: That is exactly the intention, the propose, of this scheme. The farmers who do not want to sell when there is slump in the market would be entitled to store their goods in the rural godowns and they will be allowed a ready cash upto a certain extent, say, upto 80 per cent. There will be 20 per cent margin for small farmers and if they want to sell their goods, they can withdraw their goods and sell them. They will only be paying the storage charges for keeping their produce in the rural godowns. My hon. colleague has already stated that there has been a ceiling fixed for the purpose. Advance against stocks at lower rates of interest will be available upto a maximum of Rs. 5,000 worth of goods. This Rs. 5,000 will be advanced to the farmers so that the big farmers and traders and hoarders cannot take undue advantage of this scheme.

That is the whole purpose. And for that purpose, it has already been stated that 20 lakhs tonnes of capacity is intended to be created within the Sixth Five Year Plan.

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर : इस स्कीम के अन्दर आपने बिहार में कितनी क्षमता पैदा की है उस और से बिहार के कितने छोटे और मध्यम किसानों को लाभ हुआ है ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: They have not asked for information State-wise. But, the scheme was started only in 1979-80. It is a new scheme, recently started scheme. Before the start of the Sixth Five Year Plan, the capacity of only 47,000 tonnes could be asserted. It is intended to be increased.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the hon. Minister assure the House to take steps to nationalise the private godowns already existing as they are nothing but to misuse the public institution's funds, especially, by paying uncalled for huge rental income to the parasites who do not deserve that by any moral justification?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, the nationalisation of private godowns may not be in public interest. Mostly, the private godown owners would like to hand over their godowns to Government. Government is creating its own capacity. Government is also pursuing the policy of constructing its own godowns for the F.C.I., for the Central Warehousing Corporation and for the various States Warehousing Corporations. With the new scheme of rural godowns which we want to create for such a large capacity, it will automatically become uneconomical for the private godown owners to construct the same and to be able to exploit the situation.

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Sir, in Punjab during the Janata Party, Akali Dal regime under integrated rural development scheme they had decided to have godowns in the rural areas for every 25 villages group and 100 godowns were built up during the first year and 100 were to be built up next year. They are under construction. Is it true that the present Government has stopped the scheme for the present and if so whether Government would take into consideration the scheme that has already started in 1978-79 and give a green signal to it?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The hon. Member is talking of this very scheme

which I said started in 1979-80. Under the integrated rural development programme, we have no scheme for construction of rural godowns. It is a beneficiary-oriented programme to bring up the people above the poverty line. It is an individual programme.

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: One hundred godowns were constructed in the first year. What about the second instalment of 100 godowns?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I do not know Madam. I do not think there was much done during the Janata regime which is worth remembering or mentioning.

SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Under the scheme of storage-cum-credit what percentage of the total produce of the farmer is being benefited?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: As I said very small capacity has so far been created.

Installation of Statues of Late Shri Kamraj and Mahatma Gandhi

110. **SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in the installation of the statue of Late Shri Kamraj in the Capital though the committee for this purpose is headed by the Finance Minister; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in the installation of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the Capital?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF): (a) The statue is not to be installed by the Government. Therefore, question of any delay on their part does not arise.

(b) Some aspects of the project are under consideration of the Government. The work will be taken in hand as soon as these are finalised.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Mr Speaker, Sir, even though the installation of the statue of Kamaraj is invested with the private person I would like to know whether the permission has been given to Nadar Mahajan Sangam, Madurai for the last three years yet they have not done it. Sir, now a separate committee is formed under the Chairmanship of our Finance Minister and other responsible persons. So, why not the Government come forward to cancel the permission already given to a private party and hand it over to this committee?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): The hon. Member is correct. They have not done and, as such, the permission has been cancelled. We have now written a fresh letter to Mr. K. T. Kosalram who is convener of the Kamaraj National Memorial Committee on 20.8.1981 and the site for installation of Kamaraj statue has also been decided. It is near about Duplex Road. We are expecting reply from Mr. Kosalram.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: About the installation of Mahatma Gandhi's statue in the capital, reply has been given by the Hon. Minister that 'some aspects of the project are under consideration of the Government.' What are those aspects?

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: Earlier there were some different views which were expressed about the installation of Mahatma Gandhi's statue at India Gate. Keeping in view the personality of Gandhiji and his status, we have been trying to evolve some consensus. By and large, some consensus has been evolved and therefore it has taken some time.

श्री मन्त्री राम बाराड़ी : विदेशियों की मूर्तियों को हटवाने के सवाल को लेकर हम लोगों ने दिल्ली में सत्यग्रह किया था । जार्ज पंचम की मूर्ति जब हटाई गई थी तब हमें विश्वास दिलाया गया था कि इसके