

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Restructuring of Town and Country Planning Organisation

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*289. DR. A. U. AZMI:

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any representations from Members of Parliament regarding the restructuring of the Town and Country Planning Organisation, a subordinate office of his Ministry; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken to give benefits to junior and middle level staff who are facing stagnation, retrenchment or have been shown as surplus?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a part of the restructuring of the Organisation, a study has been conducted with a view to assess the requirements of technical posts. It has been assessed that some posts in certain categories may be surplus to the requirements of the organisation. No final decision has been taken in the matter.

डा० ए० यू० आजमी : यह जो स्टडी कंडक्ट की गयी है, इसकी टर्म्स आफ रेफरेंस क्या हैं, उसका हवाला आपने नहीं दिया। जो पोस्ट्स सरप्लस हो गयी हैं उन पर काम कर रहे लोगों को आप रख लेंगे या उनका कहीं और इंतजाम करेंगे ?

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: The reports are in the process of being finalised. The staff associations also will be consulted and will be taken into confidence in the process.

डा० ए० यू० आजमी : वह कब तक करेंगे और कब तक बतायेंगे ?

संसदीय कार्य तथा निर्माण और आवास मंत्री (श्री भीष्म नारायण सिंह) : हम लोगों की चेष्टा होगी कि इस पर निर्णय शीघ्रातिशीघ्र हो जाए। एक बात मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि जो छंटनी-ग्रस्त हैं, उन सब को हम एबजोर्व कर लेंगे, कर लेना चाहेंगे। यह डिटेल्स का मेटर है, इस में थोड़ा वक्त लगता है।

डा० ए० यू० आजमी : यह जो स्ट्रैगनेशन है, जो कि हर डिपार्टमेंट में चेचक की तरह फैल गया है, उसको दूर करने के बारे में आपने कुछ नहीं बताया। मेहरबानी कर के यह बताइये कि सरकार इस विषय में क्या करने जा रही है ?

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: The question of providing promotional avenues to the staff is also under consideration. For this purpose the recruitment rules for various posts may have to be amended. The associations will be duly consulted in the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Uttam Rathod.

Land Acquisition Act

*290. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great discontent among the land owners throughout the country whose lands have been acquired for public purposes due to meagre compensation paid to them;

(b) is it a fact that some of the States have already amended their Land Acquisition Acts and these are pending for years together for Presidential assent;

(c) is it also a fact that the House was assured to amend the Land Acquisition Act suitably to give justice to the land owners; and

(d) what action has the Government taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) There is no evidence to suggest country wide discontent although, as is usual there have been instances of local discontent against alleged inadequacy of the compensation.

(b) The Government of West Bengal have proposed some amendments to the Land Acquisition Act; the proposal is under consideration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(b) A bill is under preparation.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: The reply to the first question seems to be most typical. They have replied that there is no evidence to suggest countrywide discontent. In fact, Bills of so many States have been pending with the Central Government for several years for President's assent. One such case is that of Maharashtra State. The Government of Maharashtra was requested on behalf of the Central Government to withdraw their Bill because the Central Government itself was going to bring forward a comprehensive Bill. Will the hon. Minister kindly tell the House the number of Bills that the Central Government has sent back to the States and asked them to withdraw on the assurance that it is going to bring forward a new Bill here?

SHRI BALESHWAR RAM: Only one i.e. from Maharashtra. The President's assent has not been accorded.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: For the last two years I have been after the hon. Minister....

MR. SPEAKER: Has he not felt your presence uptil now?

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Because I sit just behind him.

I had introduced a non-official Bill about the Land Acquisition Act two years back and I was assured by the hon. Minister that he was going to bring forward a Bill. Last year, when Badli issue was raised by my friend, Mr. Sajjan Kumar, he too was assured that very soon the Minister was going to bring forward a Bill. At that time, I had asked the Minister whether he was going to give it retrospective effect. On that, the hon. Minister for Housing said that he could not say anything. When you also made a request, he did not say anything. May I know whether he is going to bring forward a Bill during this session? If so, will he give it retrospective effect right from 1975?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): As has been stated by my colleague, the Bill is under preparation. Unless we receive it back from the Law Ministry it is very difficult for me to say whether we shall be able to introduce it during the session. Of course, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here and he is taking note of the sentiments of the Members. Along with the Members, I also request him to see to it. I would request the hon. Speaker to try and accommodate our measure if it comes before the House during the session.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall do the needful.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will it be given retrospective effect?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I cannot say anything at this stage. It is for the Law Ministry to examine.

MR. SPEAKER: The wishes of the whole House are like that. That is what I want to convey to you.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The legal implications will have to be looked into. On such a measure, it is impossible to commit anything.

MR. SPEAKER: You follow the example of Mr. Uttam Rathod, who is in after you. You be after the Law Minister.

श्री सज्जन कुमार : क्या यह सच है कि पिछले साल जब बादली का विवाद उठा था जिस के कारण दिल्ली के देहाती क्षेत्रों के लोगों में बहुत असन्तोष है और उन्होंने बार-बार आप से आग्रह किया है और संसद् के सदस्यों ने भी आप से आग्रह किया है कि इस बिल को आप संसद् में लाए तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कब आप इस बिल को लाने की बात सोच रहे हैं। और जिस तरह से अभी कहा गया है कि पिछले जो केसिस हैं क्या उनको भी इस में सम्मिलित आप करने जा रहे हैं ?

राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने अभिभाषण में कहा था कि इसी सत्र में हम लाने जा रहे हैं। क्या इसी सत्र में आप इस बिल को ले कर आएं ताकि वहां लोगों में जो असन्तोष है वह दूर हो सके ?

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह मैं सारी चीजों का जवाब तो दे चुका हूँ, कोशिश यही कर रहे हैं कि इस सेशन तक बिल आ जाये।

श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव : मैं कृषि मंत्री से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उनका ध्यान पिछले वर्ष की लोक-लेखा समिति की उस रिपोर्ट की तरफ गया है जिसमें यह आबजर्वेशन किया गया है कि यह किसानों की सरासर लूट है कि उनसे सस्ती जमीन ले कर इतनी महंगी बेची जाती है ? एक तरह से यह किसानों के जीवन की कीमत पर ब्यापार हो रहा है। उदाहरण के लिए सवा तीन रुपये प्रति गज

जमीन ली गई और साढ़े 29 रुपये प्रति गज जमीन यमुना-पार बेची गई, और एक गजह 1 रुपये 75 पैसे प्रति गज ली गई और साढ़े 12 हजार रुपये प्रति गज के रेट से बेची गई। है

इस तरह की लूट किसानों की जो खुले आम हो रही है, न केवल दिल्ली में बल्कि सारे देश के किसानों की स्थिति इसी प्रकार की है, जो बिल है पता नहीं उसमें क्या है, किस तरीके से क्या रेट तय किया गया है, कोई आधार है या नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय जैसा आपने भी कहा, इस सदन की और किसानों की पूरी भावनाओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या मंत्री महोदय किसानों की इस लूट को बन्द करेंगे ?

क्या कृषि मंत्री जी सारे देश के मंत्रियों की बैठक बुलाकर एक नियम बनायेंगे कि जो किसानों को कीमत दी जा रही है, उसके बाद अगर ज्यादा महंगी जमीन बिकेगी, तो उसमें से किसानों का हिस्सा उसी अनुपात से उनको दिया जायेगा ?

यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है, इसलिए लम्बा प्रश्न कर रहा हूँ, वरना लम्बा प्रश्न करने का मैं आदि नहीं हूँ।

क्या मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कृषि मंत्री इस बात को भी ध्यान में रखेंगे कि जिन किसानों की सारी की सारी जमीन ले ली जाती है, उनके बच्चों को नौकरियों में, मकान एलाटमेंट में, दुकान एलाटमेंट में जहां वह अपनी जीविका का साधन चला सकें, क्या वह इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था करने का विचार कर रहे हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने कहा कि—
क्या मैं जानना चाहता हूँ—अब आप
बताइये कि जानना चाहते हैं या नहीं ?

श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव : मैं यह जानना
चाहता हूँ कि इस भावना को ध्यान में
रखते हुए क्या यह लूट बन्द होगी ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो मैं समझ
गया। आपने यह कहा था कि क्या मैं
यह जानना चाहता हूँ, इसलिए मैंने प्रश्न
किया है कि क्या आप जानना चाहते हैं।

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय,
जो भावना माननीय सदस्य की है, और
जो भावना आम किसानों की है, वही
भावना मेरी भी है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरे ख्याल में
सारे हाउस की यूनिनिमिटी है।

I never heard any dissenting voice.

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : स्पीकर साहब
की भावना का भी खासतौर पर हमें एहताराम
है।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir,
he is softening you in this way.

MR. SPEAKER: I never get soft-
ened on such points, as you would
have seen so far.

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : किसानों की
कुछ जमीनें डाली जाती हैं कि सरकारी
काम के लिए उसकी जरूरत होती है,
कहीं रेल के लिए, कहीं सड़क, नहरें और
पुल बनाने के लिए। सरकारी काम के
लिए जो जमीन ली जाती है, उसमें
फायदा उठाने का कोई सवाल नहीं होता,
यह काम तो जनता के फायदे के लिए ही
किये जाते हैं।

कुछ जमीनें ऐसी ली जाती हैं, जिनकी
तरफ माननीय सदस्य न इशारा किया कि

जमीन लेकर कालोनियां बनाई जाती हैं।
उसमें कितना सरकार को मुनाफा होता है,
इसका इस चीज से अन्दाजा लगता है कि
डैवलपमेंट पर आज के दिन क्या खर्चा आता
है। उसमें से एक-तिहाई जमीन तो
छोड़ दी जाती है। उसके बाद डैवलपमेंट
का खर्चा जो होता है, उसके हिसाब से
शामिल कर के प्लॉट दिये जाते हैं। मुझे
ज्यादा नहीं मालूम, लेकिन कई बार
हमारे साथी माननीय श्री भीष्म नारायण
सिंह यहाँ बजाहृत कर चुके हैं और यह
भी बता चुके हैं कि जिन लोगों की जमीनें
ली जाती हैं, उनको क्या सुविधाएं दी
जाती हैं प्लॉट के लिए, सर्विस के लिए या
दूसरे कामों के लिए। पीछे भी हाउस में
यह सवाल उठा था, उन्होंने काफी
विश्वास भेम्बरों को दिलाया था कि इस
बात का आम तौर पर ख्याल रखा जाता है।

अइन्दा किस शकल में बिल आयेगा,
यह तो जब हाउस में इंट्रोड्यूस होगा तभी
पता लगेगा, लेकिन हमारी कोशिश यह
है कि किसानों की जमीन आम तौर पर
ऐसे कामों के लिए न ली जाये जो बहुत
जरूरी न हों और जो जमीन ली जाये वह
घटिया किस्म की जमीन हो, बहुत अच्छी
जमीन न ली जाये। प्राइवेट फ़ैक्टरीज
के लिए और दूसरी चीजों के लिए जो
जमीनें ले कर दूसरों को दे दी जाती हैं,
उसके बारे में हमें ख्याल है कि इसमें
हमें इतनी छूट नहीं देनी चाहिए, कुछ
सख्ती से काम लेना चाहिए। इस आधार
पर हम उस बिल को बनाएंगे।

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, re-
ferring to this question, I do not know
about the farmers in the rest of the
country, but the farmers of Delhi last
time, especially referring to the far-
mers coming from Badli, had gone on
a hunger strike and they had been
sitting on dharna there. At that parti-
cular time a delegation had gone to
the Minister and the hon. Minister

had assured them that proper compensation would be given to them. Not only that. Last year when the Calling Attention was raised by me in respect of these farmers, the Minister had categorically assured that the farmers would be paid better compensation.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Which Minister?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The Housing Minister. (*Interruptions*). Not only that. He also assured that the farmers/children would be given commercial plots and they would be given jobs, and apart from that, the farmers would be protected from those elements who are buying the lands and selling them at a big price. That was the assurance given. Now, I want to put my question.

MR. SPEAKER: To which Minister do you like to put your question?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: It is joint responsibility (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I want to address it to you. Let them decide over it.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It is for you to require a Minister for reply.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: My question is: (a) whether the farmers or owners of lands notified for acquisition as far back as in 1959 and 1981, nearly 20 years after the notification, have not been given the correct compensation, and (b) what steps the Government propose to take for ensuring adequate and *timely* compensation being paid to the farmers and the villagers from whom less land was acquired.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, I am not in a position to say anything on the assurances, if any, given by my colleague, Mr. Bhishma Narain Singh. He can separately give notice of a question for information on that point.

MR. SPEAKER: May be he will be giving you a notice, or you will *suo-motu* give the answer?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): What answer? Sir, the answer is very clear. You will see that the Land Acquisition Act is an old Act and it is of 1894. You can imagine.

MR. SPEAKER: Outdated.

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: And you will see that under Section 4 of the Act a notification is issued and since the notification is issued, the market rate prevailing at that time is calculated for giving compensation. Because of this drawback you can say, we are bringing an amendment to the legislation.

MR. SPEAKER: You just say that you are bringing an amendment.

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: Definitely my colleague, Rao Birendra Singh, will be bringing this amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: This is what you said last time. You stick to your assurance.

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: Whatever I had said on the floor of the nary this Act? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Sir, should be celebrate the Centenary this Act (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is really a sad thing that lands belonging to poor farmers are acquired by this Government for various purposes including Government industrial as well as house building activities. Rao Birendra Singh has just referred to the acquisition of farmers' lands for railway purposes. Now, it is on record that nearabout 1,75,000

acres of railway land is under authorised occupation by people not belonging to the farmers' community. On the one hand you acquire their properties for railway purposes and on the other hand as per Government records, 1,75,000 acres of railway land is under unauthorised occupation. I do not want to go into much more details. Similarly, the amount is not paid (1) Will the Government assure this House that under the Land Acquisition Act the amount shall be mandatorily paid with one year of the determination of compensation? (ii) If the farmer is not satisfied with the amount of compensation, whether the Government will see to it that legal assistance is provided to the farmer to take the matter to a higher court for proper compensation to be paid?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Hon. Member's suggestion will always be taken into consideration. We are conscious of the need to provide in the new legislation that farmers should be paid compensation in time. The rate of compensation should also be adequate.

The Prime Minister herself has declared on several occasions that farmers' interests have to be looked after and their land should not be indiscriminately acquired and they should get a fair amount of compensation. All these points will be looked after when we bring legislation before the House.

Crop statistics scheme

*291. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Improvement of Crop Statistics Scheme is a sample check of the Timely Reporting Scheme under operation in the States under the technical guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) whether there is avoidable duplication and delay, in this sensitive work of national importance, due to

apportionment of the work in two Ministries i.e., Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Planning; and

(c) if not, the rationale for the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). The Timely Reporting Scheme operated by the Ministry of Agriculture is designed to obtain advance estimates of area under crops through priority enumeration and tabulation based on a sample of 20 per cent of the villages (about one lakh villages). The Improvement of Crop Statistics Scheme operated by the National Sample Survey Organisation and the State Statistics Authorities seeks to locate deficiencies in the field work relating to crop statistics through supervision of the crop cutting experiments and crop enumeration of patwaris in a sub sample of T. R. S. villages. This is done with a view to improving the accuracy of area and yield statistics. The objectives of the two schemes being entirely different, the question of duplication does not arise.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: As you are an agriculturist you know that nearly half of the national income comes from agriculture. It accounts for 70 per cent of the working people. Therefore, survey has a crucial importance. But there is a serious lacuna in the functioning of the National Sample Survey.

In view of all these, I would like to know whether the Minister will consider the suggestion for former Member of the Planning Commission, Prof. Minhas, who suggested that the services of the educated unemployed youth in the rural area who know the villages better should be utilised?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: This is a suggestion.