

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I am interested in this because he has brought in the point about the Sixth Finance Commission. It is categorically stated that that has aroused a considerable amount of criticism on behalf of the State Governments. Will the Central Government henceforth follow the same pattern of assistance as has been followed by the Centre in respect of the Tamil Nadu Government in the case of other States also? Secondly, the hon. Minister has complimented the well-organised effort to help the drought-affected areas. Yesterday's papers have been howling that the drought assistance has been misused. Will he kindly clarify the contradiction?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As far as the Sixth Finance Commission's recommendations are concerned, they are not with respect to any particular State. They enunciate certain principles with regard to all the States where there is a natural calamity and how the Centre will go to their help. The previous pattern which was in existence as a result of the Fifth Finance Commission is no longer in vogue. The recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission are being implemented throughout the country, whether it is Tamil Nadu or any other State. As far as the misuse is concerned, drought is a State subject and the State Governments have to take the responsibility. If the hon. Member has any specific instance in his mind, he can send it to me and I will pass it on to the State Government for scrutiny.

SHRI P. K. M. THEVAR: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that in east Ramnad district, in Mudukalathur area alone, more than 3 lakhs of people have been uprooted, they are migrating to other States and starvation deaths are also taking place?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: We have referred these migration reports to the State Government. The State Government says that they are exaggerated though migration on a

small-scale is taking place. The State Government is trying to see that maximum employment is provided in the area where migration is taking place.

SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Even in the statement, it is stated that the Central team has visited the drought-affected areas. But the hon. Minister did not say anything as to what was the assessment made by the Central team regarding the requirement of money for relief works. The State Government demanded Rs 55 crores but the statement says that only 7½ crores were allotted. Further the Minister has said that migration from one place to another is not taking place, is not serious. I come from Thanjavur and most of the people from Ramanathapuram and other places are coming to our area. Therefore, the problem of migration is very serious. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether, after getting the Central team's report the Government will sanction more money.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As I have said, a sum of Rs 7.50 crores has been sanctioned upto end of this financial year, upto the end of March, and for the next ten months as I have already mentioned, the State Government has estimated that Rs. 50 to 55 crores would be required. There is no contradiction in what I have stated. As far as the relief operations are concerned, the State Government is taking all possible steps to provide relief.

Nationalisation of Sugar Industry

*90. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:**

SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:

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

(a) whether more than 300 Members of Parliament demanded nationalisation of sugar industry; and

(b) if so, the decisions of the Government on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) Government have received a memorandum on behalf of the All India Cane Growers' Association signed by a number of Members of Parliament suggesting that nationalisation of private sugar industry in general and in U.P. and Bihar in particular would strengthen the national economy.

(b) In view of the sizable financial outlays and complex administrative issues involved in the nationalisation of sugar mills, no final decision has yet been taken in the matter.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The parallel economy is run mostly in these two States by the sugarcane growers and the sugar industrialists, and this has been brought to the notice of the Government not once but on several occasions, inside and outside, and pressure was also mounted upon the Government. In order to strengthen the national economy of our country, the sugar industry should be nationalised. I want to know why action has not been taken so far in taking a decision on nationalisation of sugar industry.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have mentioned in part (b) of my reply the reason why the Government has not yet come to any final conclusion. The recommendations of the Commission are still under consideration, in consultation also with the State Governments.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Is it not a fact that the delay in taking the decision is because of the fact that a certain pressure is being exercised by the big sugar industrialists who are operating in various States of this country and are bringing pressure on the Government to see that nationalisation of sugar industry does not see the light of the day?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Government is not afraid of nationalisation. The hon. Member knows about it. During the last few years, we have

taken a number of drastic decisions, nationalising the coal industry, taking over banks, etc. Therefore, Government is not afraid of nationalisation. As far as the merits of this particular case are concerned, I think, Government will have to take a decision on the basis of the merits, whether it is going to serve the purpose or not; all the factors will have to be taken into consideration. I do not think Government is going to succumb to any pressure of any lobby as such.

श्री नरसिंह मारायण बांडे : सही महोदय ने बताया कि फाइनेन्शियल दिक्कतों के कारण चीनी मिलों के राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के काम में सरकार को दिक्कत महसूस हो रही है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ—क्या भागवत कमीशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में प्राइवेट शुगर मिल्स के सम्बन्ध में, जो यू० पी० बिहार और दूसरी जगहों पर है यह सुझाव दिया है कि 300 करोड़ रुपये में इनकी बैल्यू के आधार पर इन शुगर फ़ैक्ट्रीज को नेशनलाइज किया जा सकता है ?

क्या यह बात सही है कि इंडियन शुगर मिल्स एंजिनियरिंग के लोग इन मिलों के मीडियाइजेशन के लिये रिजर्व बैंक से 500 करोड़ रुपये चाहते हैं और इसके लिए सरकार पर दबाव डाल रहे हैं ?

यदि ये दोनों बातें सही हैं तो माननीय मंत्री जी शुगर मिलों के नेशनलाइजेशन पर क्या खर्च न कर के इन मिल मालिकों को रिहैबिलिटेड करने के लिए रिजर्व बैंक की क्रेडिट स्वीच पालिसी को क्यों बॉन्ड कराने के दबाव में धार रहे हैं, क्यों उनको भी शुगर में बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है और आज जब कि देश में फ़ारन-एक्सचेंज की कमी है, तथा चीनी का निर्यात कर करोड़ों का फ़्लैट-एक्सचेंज प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। अतः क्यों इन मिलों को टेक-ओवर नहीं किया

जा रहा है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी को इसमें क्या दिक्कत है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Sir, at the moment, the production of sugar is not less because we have not nationalised the sugar industry. Our performance on sugar production as well as for export is very good. And therefore these are not factors which are coming in the way of the sugar industry as such. But the hon. Member has referred to one thing, whether there is any contradiction in the Government of India and the Reserve Bank considering the proposals for modernisation. Sir, the Government of India has not taken any specific decision about the modernisation but I may submit for the consideration of the hon. Member that sugar industry is a vital sector. Whether it is nationalised or not, modernisation is a very important part of the sugar industry. So, there is no contradiction in the position of the Government of India. If and when the Government of India decides to nationalise, no decision of Reserve Bank or anything else will come in the way.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: I have put a specific question, whether it is a fact or not that Rs. 500 crores are being demanded by the Indian Sugar Mills Association for the rehabilitation of the sugar factories. I also asked whether it is a fact or not, that the Bhargava Commission has proposed that with the investment of only Rs. 300 crores the sugar mills could be taken over? That is my specific question.

MR. SPEAKER: The question was whether Members of Parliament demanded nationalisation of the Sugar Industry.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: He has mentioned money being one of the difficulties. Only on that basis I have put a specific question. I asked him whether it is not a fact

or not that the Indian Sugar Mills Association has demanded..

MR. SPEAKER: No, please don't repeat; it is already there.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As far as these figures are concerned, the Nationalisation Report has been made available to the hon. Members. The hon. Members can refer to that. He can draw his own conclusion about that. As far as the proposal of the Reserve Bank is concerned, I am exactly aware what is the amount they have proposed; I can find out what is the estimate. An hon. Member: what is the difficulty?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Is it not true that because of the decision about sugar industry nationalisation being kept pending, 104 sugar mills which have age beyond 30 or 40 years are not at all rehauled? Private sector is not having any stake in rehaul of those units as a result of which production is going down. Because of the fact that quick decision has not been taken, the gains of nationalisation have not accrued. It is further not true that you are keeping decision about nationalisation of sugar industry pending and hanging on the heads of the sugar magnates so that you can extract patronage from them, threatening them without nationalisation and at the same time not doing it, and thus to gain advantage from the sugar industry?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: With due respect to his views, I may say this. He has studied the problems of the sugar industry. With due respect to his views, I may say, it would be attributing motives in this matter, which is not correct. The Government of India would have to take a decision after considering all the pros and cons.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: My specific question was regarding concrete results vis-a-vis production.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As far as production is concerned the

sugar production is catching up to almost to the level of the installed capacity of the sugar industry's production. This year the production is expected to touch 42 to 44 lakh tonnes. So, this is almost at the level of the installed capacity. So, on that count the hon. Member need not have any misapprehension. At the hon. Member knows, we have to take all factors into consideration before coming to any decision. It is a very complex question and we have to take into account the general interest of the country's economy and the complexities involved have to be gone into.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE You can indicate the pious wish. Are you prepared to indicate that?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE I am not prepared to indicate that. While we are discussing this subject, we need not attribute motives to any body. That would not be fair to any body.

SHRI S. A. KADER The aim of nationalisation of any industry is that the farmers and the labour are protected and the consumers are given the benefit of the lower price. After the nationalisation of industries that has been done so far, does the Government think that its aims are so far achieved? My second question is, will the cooperative sugar industry be nationalised along with other sugar industry, if it is done?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE I do not think that I can express my view on general nationalisation problems as such. If the hon. Member is anxious, he can put the question to the appropriate Ministry. As far as sugar industry is concerned, the Commission's recommendations are being taken into consideration by the Government of India and a decision is yet to be arrived at. While doing so, all these factors such as whether the cooperative sectors should be nationalised or not will be taken into consideration. But, I think, the cooperative sector is not the right sector for nationalisation.

Even in the future set up of industry, we will see to it to bring about the involvement of workers, cane-growers and others. It would, therefore, be more or less on cooperative lines that we shall try to develop sugar industries whenever we take steps in future.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY: May I know from the hon. Minister whether in Bihar, the sugar factory's equipment has become outmoded and the contents extracted from the sugarcane are very low because no innovation has been done there?

(b) Also I want to know whether Government was under any misapprehension or not because its parent body Congress, in 1970, had passed resolutions for the nationalisation of sugar industries and it had taken five years or more for Government to think about it? Why is it so?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As regards the first part of his question, it is true that a number of mills in Bihar was set up decades ago and so most of the machinery has become outmoded and therefore there is need for modernisation of this industry in Bihar. This is well-known to the hon. House and to the hon. Member himself. As regards the second part of his question, namely, the implementation of the resolution, the hon. Member is aware that after this Resolution was passed by the ruling party, the Commission was set up to go into the problems, and naturally, we have to see that all pros and cons are gone through. I don't think this decision is to be taken with emotions. We will have to take a decision in the interests of the economy and the present state of affairs.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : चीनी उद्योग के क्षेत्र में जो अनिश्चितता व्याप्त है, उसे दूर करने के लिए क्या सरकार यह ऐलान करते की स्थिति में है कि प्रायामी बो बॉर्षों के लिए चीनी उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं किया जायगा और बीच में यह मामला नहीं उठाया जायेगा ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: I do not think any such positive declaration can be made. But, Government desires to arrive at some conclusion on the recommendations of this Commission in the near future.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: The hon. Minister has not concretely given what are the real obstacles—administrative or financial—to take a decision. This matter is still under active consideration after three hundred Members have signed and presented a petition to the Prime Minister and also in the Assemblies of both Bihar and U. P., they have passed Resolutions. Taking into consideration the pros and cons they have recommended for the nationalisation. Also they have passed resolutions at the Assembly level and those resolutions are unanimous. And, recently, in U. P. also 200 Members of the Assembly have signed a paper. In view of these, I want to know from the hon. Minister what concrete difficulties are there specially when there is no constitutional bar and when the financial position is very clear. Also I want to know when a final decision will be taken on this?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE. Sir, as I have mentioned earlier, many factors will have to be taken into consideration like political, administrative, managerial, and the present state of economy and so on before coming to a conclusion. We appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Members. We know that the Members of the House have a strong feeling in regard to nationalisation. Ultimately, this decision will have to be taken on the basis of merits, on the basis of what is demanded by the present set of circumstances and considerations of national priority and in the interest of the national economy as a whole. I do not think these decisions can be hustled in by pressurisation by anybody.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS Shortfall in Production of Foodgrains in Haryana

*81. **SHRI M. M. JOSEPH:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the production of foodgrains in the State of Haryana during the last three years despite the fact that more land had been brought under the high-yielding variety of crops, and

(b) the measures Government propose to take to better the present food scarcity condition in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government have taken the following measures to improve the present foodgrains production situation in the State:—

- (i) Distribution of certified seeds of improved varieties to the farmers.
- (ii) Extension of irrigation facilities by providing loans to the farmers for installation of tubewells and sinking of wells.
- (iii) Reclamation of alkaline and saline land.
- (iv) Advising farmers for judicious use of fertilisers through large scale soil testing programme.
- (v) Intensification of plant protection measures.
- (vi) Intensive training programme of farmers and extension workers in the latest production techniques.
- (vii) Organisation of mass contact campaign on wheat and nursery campaign for planting high-yielding varieties.
- (viii) Organisation of weeding campaign on bajra.