

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY : In view of the statement that the hon. Minister has made, may I know whether the non-official agencies that have been entrusted with the work of ascertaining the cost of cultivation are required to do it annually and whether their findings are authoritative ones for Government ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : So far as the present thinking goes, it is proposed to have detailed surveys for a crop periodically. I cannot say whether it will be done annually. But whenever the recommendation is made by them, we shall give due consideration to it.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY : I am not able to understand the purpose of entrusting such cost of cultivation enquiries to non-official agencies without any stipulation about their periodicity or their authenticity. May I know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the reduction of ceilings which is being proposed and the floor price which is going to be fixed as a production incentive, this machinery or any other machinery would be devised as an authoritative machinery to go into the matter annually and produce authoritative cost of production figures so that it might help agricultural planning in the future ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I have said that we would like to do it periodically, but if necessary, it will be done annually also.

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI : Fruits are the principal crops in the hill States like Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and UP hill regions, and Rs. 100 crores worth of fruits are sold outside in the plains. May I know what steps are proposed to be taken to ensure proper price for these fruits in the hill areas and for giving a price guarantee for them ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : We are examining how steps can be taken in that area also.

श्री रासबल्लभ बिकल : मैं कृषि मंत्री से जानना चाहता हूँ कि मुख्य फसलें कौन-कौन सी हैं जिनके मूल्य निर्धारित किये जा रहे हैं, और जो समितियाँ पन्द्रह राज्यों में बनाई गई हैं उन में सेती

के जानकार भी कुछ लोग हैं जो कीमत तय करवाने में सहायता करें।

SHRI F. A. AHMED : We are concerned now with fixing the price of wheat and rice as early as possible so that before next year we shall be able to fix the price for procurement.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : There is great disparity in the price of wheat in various parts of the country. In Punjab, Haryana and Western UP, the price of wheat is much lower than what it is in Madhya Pradesh and Eastern UP. May I know what steps the Ministry of Food and Agriculture or the Food Corporation of India is going to take to see that this disparity is not there ? For the information of the hon. Minister, may I tell him on the floor of the House that in Punjab, the price of wheat is something around Rs. 75 or Rs. 78 whereas in Madhya Pradesh it is over Rs. 90 ? May I know how he proposes to remove this disparity ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : All the assistance that is required from the Agriculture Ministry for the purpose of bringing down the cost of production by increasing productivity or by giving various inputs etc. will be given.

Request from Tripura for release of Forest Reserve Area for Jhumia Tribals

*934 **SHRI DASARATHA DEB :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Tripura for the release of certain areas of the Forest Reserve for providing facilities to Jhuming to the Jhumia tribals of Tripura who have no other occupation than that of Jhum cultivation ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to that effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b). The necessary information is being collected from the Government of Tripura and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

SHRI DASARATHA DEB : May I know whether Government are aware that a large

number of tribal jhumia families in Tripura have lost their occupation because of the fact that the vast forest areas where they used to have jhum cultivation have been brought under reserve forests where jhumming is strictly prohibited, and if so, what effective steps are being taken to provide them with alternative lands elsewhere?

PROF. SHER SINGH : The percentage of reserve forests in Tripura is 39.8 and of protected forests 20. In protected forests, they are permitted jhumming. In reserve forests also, in some cases, Government have been allowing jhumming. But we have been insisting on the Tongia system in the interest of the cultivators themselves, because under the other system after sometime the land becomes wasteland. So we try to convince the people about the Tongia system, but we do not deny them the facility of jhumming for a year or so in the reserve forests.

SHRI DASARATHA DEB : The hon. Minister has replied that they are providing them the facility of the Tongia system as an alternative system. But once you have this Tongia system and the forest is planted, you do not have any chance to cultivate it. In view of this, do Government propose to release a certain portion of this forest land where the tribals can have their own cultivation?

PROF. SHER SINGH : The Tongia system also takes 3-4 years. It takes time for the trees to grow to a certain height when the shade of the trees do not allow crops to grow. It is not that it is meant only for one year. It will be useful for 3-4 years only. But in the case of jhum cultivation, we could come back to that area after four or five years. There is the advantage of the Tongia system. There will be a lot of soil erosion if we do not plant trees there. Therefore, at certain intervals we do insist that trees should be planted so that there may not be soil erosion to that extent.

SHRI DASARATHA DEB : Do Government propose to release that portion of forest reserve land where these tribal people have been traditionally cultivating jhum?

PROF. SHER SINGH : Now it is for the State Government to examine this question because Tripura is now a full-fledged State. It is no longer a Union territory. We cannot

interfere in these matters. But as I said, we have been allowing jhum cultivation in reserve forests for one or two years. Then we try to convince the tribal people to take to the Tongia system because in the long run that will be useful to them.

SHRI R. V. BADE : Is it a fact that settling the tribals is the responsibility of the Centre? Therefore, are Government going to settle them under the Tongia *padhihi* or any other *padhihi* when they have been in the reserve forest land for the last 10-12 years?

PROF. SHER SINGH : As I submitted earlier, we try to convince the tribals to take to the new system because in the long run that will be useful to them. But we do not deny them the other system. If they insist, we have been giving them this facilities for one or two years in the reserve forest areas.

SHRI R. V. BADE : It is a Central responsibility because they have to report to the President.

MR. SPEAKER : Not everything is a Central responsibility. He has already replied.

श्री नवल किशोर सिंह : भारत सरकार की यह नीति है कि राज्यों में वहां की भूमि का कुछ प्रतिशत बचा कर रखा जाए जिसमें चाहे दस साल या पन्द्रह साल में एफारस्टेशन की योजना बनाई जा सके और उसको लागू.....

SHRI R. V. BADE : I want a guidance from you; he says about Tongia; but what is that system? That system is borrowed from Burma and no State has followed it so far because they do not know. Let the Minister say what is the tongia system.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह जनरल सवाल नहीं है। यह झुम और टोंगिया का है।

श्री नवल किशोर सिंह : हमारे यहां भी यही समस्या है। वहां भी आदिवासी क्षेत्र हैं। सरकारी आदेश के मुताबिक राज्य सरकार ने आदिवासी क्षेत्र में बहुत सारी जमीन रिजर्व करके रखी हुई है जंगलों के लिए लेकिन पन्द्रह बीस साल से एफारस्टेशन की कोई योजना नहीं बन

पाई है और वहा के आदिवासी लोग बेजमीन हो गए हैं ।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : एक कमेटी भारत सरकार ने बिठाई जिसका नाम था शीलो आओ कमेटी । उसकी एक स्टडी टीम ने सारे प्रश्न पर विचार किया और उसकी फाइडिंग यह थी कि रिजर्व्ड एरियाज में शिफ्टिंग कल्टीवेशन को ज्यादा एनकरेज नहीं करना चाहिए बल्कि यह टोगिया सिस्टम जो है इसको करना चाहिए जिसके अन्दर आम साथ-साथ दरख्त भी लगाते जा रहे हैं कुछ फासले पर और वे भी साथ-साथ उगे तो उससे सायल कन्वेंशन भी होगा, सायल इरोजन नहीं हो सकेगा और वे कल्टीवेशन भी कर सकेंगे कुछ साल के लिए । बिहार में भी आदिवासी क्षेत्र है, नेफा में भी है, त्रिपुरा में भी है । सब जगह विचार करके कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट दी । उनकी सिफारिश यह थी कि हमें टोगिया पद्धति जो है उसको अपनाना चाहिए, उसी को एनकरेज करना चाहिए और लग रन में यही ज्यादा फायदेमन्द रहेगी । कारण यह है कि भूमि पद्धति में जमीन आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता खराब होती चली जायगी और आगे के लिए जमीन नहीं मिल सकेगी ।

SHRI B K DASCHOWDHURY Sir, in view of the fact that the jhuming cultivation is otherwise known as the rotational or shifting cultivation, may I know whether the Government of India have any specific proposal to save the tribal people, who do not know any other form of cultivation except this rotational or shifting cultivation, by allowing them certain portions of forest land to settle there permanently so that they can have their convenient form of cultivation and, if so, what are the schemes, and whether the Government of India are thinking on this line ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : Sir, it is a fact that the tribal people have been doing this work of shifting cultivation, and we have not been denying them. Under protected forests, permissions have been given for this shifting cultivation, but for reserve forests also, as I have submitted, we do not deny them facilities. We give it to them. We try to convince them of the other system which we may

be in the long run better even for themselves. So, we are trying to convince them of this new system. But we are not denying them this jhuming facility.

श्री लालजी भाई आदिवासी लोगों के पास जंगलो में और जंगलो से बाहर दोनों स्थानों पर जमीन है और हजारों लोगों ने उस जमीन पर कब्जा कर रखा है । कई सालों से वे उस पर कब्जा किए बैठे हैं । इस तरह से उनके कब्जे में जिनकी भी जमीन है उसकी नाजायज मिसले बना कर सरकार सालाना उन से पेंनेल्टी और जुर्माने वगैरह के रूप में बड़ी-बड़ी राशियां वसूल कर रही है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन से कदम उठाए गए हैं ताकि इनको रेग्युलराइज किया जा सके और ये जमीनें उनको पट्टे पर दी जा सकें, उनके नाम पर ये एलाट की जा सकें ?

प्रो० शेर सिंह मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि रिजर्व्ड फारेस्ट के अन्दर हम आम तौर पर परमीशन नहीं देते हैं लेकिन स्पेशल कमिस में परमीशन देते रहे हैं और जो कमेटी बिठाई थी उसने जो गाइडलाइज दी है उनको हम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को भेज रहे हैं ताकि उनके आधार पर वे दफ्ताजान दिया करें ।

श्री लालजी भाई अध्यक्ष महोदय हर साल आदिवासियों में जुर्माने आदि के रूप में पैसे वसूल किए जाते हैं । तहसीलों में 70-80 हजार मिसले पड़ी हुई हैं । उनके आधार पर हर साल आदिवासियों को लूटा जा रहा है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपने कौन से कदम उठाए हैं या कौन सी नीति निर्धारित की है ताकि उनको यह भूमि मिल सके और वे एक निर्धारित राशि साल की जमा करा सकें । क्या यह जो लूटने का तरीका है यह इसी तरह जारी रहेगा ?

प्रो० शेर सिंह माननीय सदस्य ने जो सूचना दी है इसके बारे में हम जांच करवायेंगे और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से कहेंगे कि ऐसा कुछ हो सके तो करें ।