

Bihar Government's request for Supply of Foodgrains

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*87. SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI G. P. YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar Government urged the Centre for the supply of 100,000 tonnes of foodgrains from January, 1973 due to the continuous shortage;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(c) to what extent foodgrains have been supplied to Bihar upto now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) The Government of Bihar requested for an allotment of 2,00,000 tonnes of wheat and 20,000 tonnes of rice for January, 1973.

(b) and (c). Taking into account the overall availability of foodgrains with the Government and the requirements of other deficit and drought affected States for the month of January, 38,200 tonnes of wheat and 500 tonnes of coarse grains were supplied to Bihar.

Decrease in Wheat Quota for Mysore State

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*88. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mysore State has been getting a quota of 25,000 tonnes of wheat per month, whereas the demand was to increase it to 50,000 tonnes per month and Central Government has reduced it to 15,000 tonnes per month in the month of November and January;

(b) whether 5,000 tonnes of wheat is required for only three districts of Bijapur, Bidar and Gulbarga; and

(c) if so, whether Central Government propose to increase this quota of wheat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) As against their demand for allotment of 50,000 tonnes of wheat during each of the months November 1972 to January 1973, Mysore Government was allotted 25,000 tonnes for November and 15,000 tonnes each for December 1972 and January 1973.

(b) The requirements of Bijapur, Bidar and Gulbarga as estimated by State Government are 25,000 tonnes wheat per month.

(c) Within the overall availability, the allocations of foodgrains from Central stocks are made to meet the reasonable requirements of the State Governments. Accordingly the allocation of wheat to Mysore State has also been made and will continue to be made.

Gujarat Government's Demand for Increase in Allotment of Wheat

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*93. SHRI VEKARIA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat State has demanded increase in the allotment of wheat; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the demand of Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Keeping in view the overall availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the needs of the other drought affected and deficit States, the reasonable requirements of the State are being met.

श्री रामेश्वर प्रसाद सिंह : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ—जितना फूड-ग्रेन्ड बिहार की मांग को दृष्टि में रखते हुए सप्लाइ हुआ, उस से परेशानी दूर नहीं हुई तथा बिहार ने और ज्यादा फूड-ग्रेन्ड भेजने के लिये निवेदन किया है—इस सम्बंध में आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं ? जनवरी तक जो फूड-ग्रेन्ड भेजा गया, उस की सूचना आप ने दी है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस के बाद कोई फूड-ग्रेन्ड भेजा गया या नहीं ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: We have been despatching regularly, every month, foodgrains to Bihar. But the demand which has been made by the State Government is 2 lakh tonnes, which we feel on objective assessment too high, because even in the peak period of the very severe drought from which Bihar suffered in 1966-67, the maximum that was being given was 1,80,000 tonnes.

Moreover, I would appeal to the good sense of the hon. member. There are certain States where the crops have suffered as a result of severe drought like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Mysore (*interruptions*). There are a number of other States. There are pockets of drought in each State. Bihar's crop this year is much better than last year's. Bihar is particularly in for a bumper crop of wheat this year. They would be harvesting a record crop. Therefore, I would appeal to Bihar friends not to press too much on this.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: As stated by the hon. Minister, the requirement of the drought-affected areas in Mysore is still 25,000 ton-

nes. The hon. Minister and Government know very well that prices have gone up and all over the State, people, particularly the poor and middle classes, are approaching the fair price shops where government foodgrains are supplied. Would Government revise the allotment and increase the quota for Mysore State? Also, is there any special quota allotted to the drought-affected areas in Mysore State? If so, how much is it?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: We are constantly in touch with the Mysore Government and other drought-affected States. We are very sympathetic naturally because people are suffering in the drought-affected areas. Only recently, two or three days back, the Mysore Chief Minister and his other colleagues were here; they discussed the matter with me. They mentioned to my senior colleague, Shri F. A. Ahmed, some of their difficulties. Therefore, this month, in February, we have decided to increase the allotment for Mysore by 5,000 tonnes. Naturally, we do not make the allotments district-wise or region-wise. That is the responsibility of the State Governments. We make allotment to the States.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: My question was, in view of the fact that the estimates for the drought-affected areas were so much, whether the Government will reconsider its decision and allot more so as to compensate other areas also.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: We always consider the requests from the State Governments.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. G. Y. Krishnan—not here. Now, question 93. Mr. Vekaria.

SHRI VEKARIA: May I know from the Minister if it is not a fact that the need of the Gujarat State is for more than 1,10,000 tonnes but that the Centre is not supplying even half of the quantity which is demanded by the Gujarat Government and hence price of wheat and other foodgrains has gone up like anything; I would

also like to know from the Minister whether the Government will take steps to bring the prices down and to lift the ban on the movement of coarse grains in States like Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As you are aware, the Government is very much concerned about the price rise. But the hon. House should appreciate that because of this drought and other difficulties, the prices have gone up. We are trying to do our level best to procure and intensify production efforts and see that the requirements of the drought-affected areas are met.

As far as the specific suggestion by the hon. Member is concerned, namely, the removal of the ban, bans are imposed with a view to procure and isolate the pockets where the difficulties are more so that we are in a position to procure in the surplus States and make the grains available to the deficit States. I think this is done in the larger national interests and in the interests of the drought-affected areas also. I would appeal to the hon. Members not to press this demand too much.

SHRI VEKARIA: I have myself visited two or three districts, and I have got reports from the other districts also. I know from the reports that the supply of wheat in the villages and the small towns is two to three K. Gs. per month per person. The people are not getting sufficient wheat and other foodgrains, and so the situation is very, very bad, and there is every possibility of starvation deaths in the Gujarat State. Looking to this situation, I would like to know whether the Central Government is going to release more quota of wheat to the Gujarat State.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: The Gujarat Ministers have been in touch with us; both the Chief Minister and the Food Minister met me and my senior colleague. We are aware of the hardship of the Gujarat State. I would also like the hon. Members to

appreciate one thing. With the stocks we have got, we have to rationally distribute them to the country. For the Gujarat State, naturally we have the highest priority, but in order to keep our imports to the minimum in the national interests, and to see that our stocks are conserved and reasonably distributed on the basis of the assessment, naturally, the Centre makes an objective assessment. But we are in touch with Gujarat and we shall try our level best to see that the Gujarat Government is helped to the maximum extent possible.

श्री अरविन्द एम० पटेल : मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मन्त्री जी से कहूंगा कि गजरात में आज की अकाल की स्थिति में अनाज की जो जरूरत है वह पूरी नहीं हो पा रही है। एक मेहनत करने वाले इन्सान को हफ्ते में 5 किलो गेहूँ की जरूरत होती है लेकिन आज उसे सिर्फ आधा किलो या एक किलो गेहूँ मिलता है। ऐसी स्थिति में वह आदमी अपना जीवन कैसे गुजार सकता है ? मैं मन्त्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ यदि वह स्टेट की गेहूँ की जरूरत पूरा न कर सकें तो क्या उसके बदले में वहाँ पर कोई दूसरा खाद्यान्न भोजने की बात सोच रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: We have allotted about 15,000 tonnes of milo over and above the previous allotments to Gujarat. As shipments unload from March onwards, additional allotments will take effect.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: The hon. Minister just now stated that there is a short supply in a number of States of wheat and other foodgrains. He also said about wheat import from Canada, Argentina, etc. that Government did not propose to import more than what was actually necessary. Because of what he has said just now, may I know whether the Government are thinking of buying more wheat from Canada and other countries so that a few months

later, the Minister may not have to come to this House and say again helplessly: "we had no knowledge and there we had to buy at a still greater price". I want to know whether the Government is going to buy more wheat from foreign countries at this stage than at a later stage, when it might be too expensive.

MR. SPEAKER: This was answered in this House a few minutes back.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: He says that Government expects the last shipments to arrive by June this year. In view of the answers given by him just now, does he expect more wheat to be imported? If so, will he do it now or at a later stage? Why does he want the country to spend more foreign exchange? That is my question.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Government has given considerable thought to this problem. We think that with proper administration and co-operation from the hon. Members we shall be in a position to manage the food economy of the country by keeping the imports at the minimum level.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA: The allocation is 38,000 tonnes of wheat and 500 tonnes of coarse grains for Bihar for January 1973. What is the actual arrival in the districts, in the ration shops in that State?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have mentioned the quantities which have been allotted. Almost 39,000 tonnes had been supplied to Bihar. As I said the open-market availability is also there. Because there is much difference between the price of the public distribution system and the price in the open market, there is more pressure on the public distribution system. In Bihar this year's kharif prospects are better and whatever is reasonable about Bihar's re-

quirement, we are trying to meet their requirements.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that the public distribution system in Gujarat has collapsed and the State Government has started giving potatoes as part of the ration and people are starving and they are not getting wheat or rice regularly. Under these circumstances, may I know from the Minister whether he would meet the reasonable demands of the Gujarat State and increase the supply?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I am aware that there are certain stresses and strains but to say that the distribution system has collapsed in Gujarat—I would not agree with the hon. Member... (*Interruptions*) As far as potatoes are concerned, I do not think the hon. Member should blame the Gujarat Government. We suggest to the Gujarat Government. Ultimately, my own assessment is that this country's deficit is only marginal—that people should substitute non-cereals. If they do it even marginally, then our food situation can be brought under control. Therefore, I would seek the co-operation of the hon. Member and ask him not to criticise. We shall continue to make endeavours to look into the reasonable requirements of Gujarat.

SHRI RASIKLAL PARIKH: For three consecutive months—December, January and February—the Government fair price shops in Gujarat were able to supply only 250 kg. of food-grains to the people. May I know whether this is a fact?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I am not aware of the quantum of foodgrains distributed in a particular area by particular fair price shops. We are constantly in touch with the Gujarat Government and it will be our constant endeavour to help them.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: The price of coarse grains in drought affected areas of Gujarat is more than that of wheat. May I know whether Government intend to advise the State Governments to remove the ban on free movement of coarse grains?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have already replied about the ban.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Job of Family Planning Propaganda Entrusted to Teachers in States

*81. **SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA:**
DR. SARADISH ROY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the family planning movement has not made much headway and the idea of fixing targets in vasectomy was leading to all kinds of coercion;

(b) whether Teachers in Ujjain District in Madhya Pradesh were asked to bring at least two men to the Sterilization Camps; and

(c) whether it is proposed to set up a Committee to find out the reasons for slow progress of the family planning movement and suggest remedial measures?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) According to the information received from the Madhya Pradesh Government, District Family Planning Committee, Ujjain decided to avail of the services of teachers and other officials of Development Departments and non-official social workers for motivating acceptors. But no such instructions were issued by the State Education Department.

(c) A Committee of some State Health Ministers has already been

formed to study the various factors responsible for the slow progress of Family Planning Programme in certain areas, and to suggest ways and means to give it necessary impetus.

विश्वविद्यालय स्तर पर तीन वर्षीय पाठ्यक्रम पद्धति लागू करना

85. श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्र सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को सुझाव दिया है कि वे अपने राज्यों में विश्वविद्यालय स्तर पर तीन-वर्षीय पाठ्यक्रम पद्धति लागू करें;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राज्य सरकारों की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) इस दिशा में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्री (प्रो० एस० नुबल हसन) : (क) से (ग) : विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है ।

विवरण

(क) से (ग). जैसा कि शिक्षा आयोग (1964-66) द्वारा सिफारिश किया गया है तथा राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति के संकल्प (1968) में स्वीकार किया गया है, केन्द्रीय शिक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड ने नई दिल्ली में दिनांक 18-19 सितम्बर, 1972 को हुई अपनी 36वीं बैठक में यह निर्णय किया कि सभी राज्य सरकारों से यह सिफारिश की जाए