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SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Sir, arising out of parts (c) and (d) of the question I would like to know how many rigs at Baroda are lying idle?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Sir, Guiarat falls within division No. 1 of the Central Ground Water Board. That division has got seven rigs and may be one out of these seven rigs is out of order.

Plant set up by Modern Bakeries to Manufacture Nan

*797. SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Modern Bakerles has started a new unit to manufacture 'nan':

(b) if so, the cost of the plant set up, the installed capacity and other particulars thereof;

(c) whether he, while inaugurating this plant, said that the Modern Bakeries had not served the purpose for which it was established; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and remedial measures being taken/proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cost of equipments installed for production of Nan is about Rs. 5 lakhs. The installed capacity is 10,000 Nans of 100 gms. each per shift of 8 hours. The plant has been designed and fabricated indigenously.

(c) and (d) The remarks referred to were made in the context that the company was yet to introduce cheaper and more nutritious products from wholemeal atta and other formulations using potato flour, tapioca etc. The Company has been asked to introduce these products as early as possible.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: I would like to know whether the Minister, Shri Jagjivan Ram while commencing the pilot Nan making plant remarked that Modern Bakery does not serve the purpose for which it was established?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Sir, I have already replied. The remarks referred to were made in the context that the Company was yet to introduce cheaper and more nutritious products from wholemeal atta and other formulations using potato flour tapioca.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: I would like to know as to how many people can afford to buy this 100 gms. nan at 45 paise. Instead of that the Modern Bakery should utilise their installed capacity for producing bread which the common people can buy. What is the Government opinion about it?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Sir, this nan producing unit is a separate pilot plant and at the moment it is producing 20,000 pieces daily. The nan has been found to be popularly acceptable and, as such, Government would like to encourage them though regarding price we will have to see if it could be made available at a cheaper price.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Sir. I express my satisfaction with the statement that the Minister has made in reply to part (c) of the question about making use of other formulations using potato flour, tapioca, etc. Is it a fact that the Modern Bakeries' Nans in the market today are the cheapest and if Government are interested in reducing the price, will they consider reducing the price of wheat and atta? Secondly, why have not they sanctioned the plant for producing the wrapping papers? Why have the bureaucrats in your Ministry kept it in abeyance? Because, they want to help the people in the private sector, who want a big margin of profit. Are Government interested in reducing the price? Is it a fact that the Modern Bakeries which was headed by a retired ICS officer made a loss of Rs. 12 lakhs? Now, the same concern headed by an ex-M.P. has made Rs. 95 lakhs of profit in four years. If that is true, if the sale proceeds have

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gone up from Rs. 3 crores to Rs. 6 crores, why is it that your Ministry, the bureaucrats in your Ministry are against this public sector undertaking which is doing a wonderful job among all the public sector undertakings?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As far as reducing the issue price of wheat is concerned, I do not think, it will be a feasible proposition. As the hon. Member has said, the wrapping costs are really very high and because of that selling price of nan is really very high The point is that, this is meant for the poorer sections of the society. As I said the present level of prices is on the high side. They will have to reduce the price by reducing the wrapping cost etc. and by evolving handling techniques. Hon. Member, perhaps, is very emotional on this I appreciate what the hon. Member has said that the Modern Bakeries, which is a public sector undertaking under my Ministry, is doing very well. We would welcome the support of the hon. Member to expand the activities of this public sector undertaking. There is nobody in my Ministry who will come in the way of its expansion.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Why have you postponed it? There is a proposal to the Ministry for the setting up of a public sector plant for wrapping paper. Why have you kept it in abeyance? Why don't you sanctioned the project?

MR. SPEAKER: The same thing can be asked a little softly also.

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : मैं ने जो प्रक्त पूछा था उस के सेवकन्ड पार्ट का जवाब नहीं आया कि रेपिंग पेपर का जो प्रोपोजल इन की मिनिस्ट्री में गया है, Why has it been kept in abeyance? How can the price be reduced?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: This is a suggestion for consideration.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: This is not a suggestion for consideration.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir. in view of the good work done by the Modern Bakeries, will Government consider the proposal of expanding it and setting up units all over the country in urban areas. branches of the Modern Bakeries, by subsidising or by giving proper atta and maida from the flour mills? If necessary. have some captive flour mills of your own, under the Modern Bakeries or otherwise and thus expand the supply of Nans, which is a wholesome bread. A packet had come to us. I am not an expert in this. But, my wife has certified that they are very good. I will trust her more than anybody else.

MR. SPEAKER: You have no other choice.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am very fond of Nans.

MR. SPEAKER: You are more fond of your wife.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, now we have a plant which has proved successful and it has proved to the whole country that the public sector under proper management can be very successful. Will you now have a full-fiedged plan of expansion all over the country with branches of Modern Bakeries in at least towns with a population of more than 5 or 10 lakhs?

MR. SPEAKER: He is the only M.P. Chairman who has succeeded so much.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: That is true.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As far as wheat is concerned, it is being given to Modern Bakeries at controlled price and there is no difficulty on that score. Even in difficult times we have been ensuring reasonable supplies to the Modern Bakeries plant as a public sector plant.

As regards the popularity, since this is a very recent effect, my Ministry is in fact very keen on this and we would like to see that the experiment proves a success and then we can expand the activities in other cities also. 19

Oral Answers

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SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: At the very outset, I would like to congratulate the Chairman and the workers of Modern Bakeries on the excellent nan which not only the wives like but everybody likes. I have used it. But is it a fact that the present Chairman of Modern Bakeries supplied bread to every corner of the city when Britannia Bread was on strike, which was of course a cooked-up strike with a view to raise the price of their bread? For this Modern Bakeries deserve our compliments. But is it also a fact that for every bag of wheat or flour the Chairman has to struggle hard with the Ministry and fight and sometimes the poor fellow has to resort to buying it in the black market? Can he give an assurance that wheat and atta will be supplied to this public undertaking at reasonable rates and within reasonable time so that they do not have to resort to black market purchase of these items?

Also since Modern Bakeries has produced nan which is liked by all and which is a serious competitor to Britannia and others, will it be encouraged and given all powers so that they can produce nan at a cheaper price and in more quantities? Will more financial encouragement be given by way of cheap or subsidised atta to Modern Bakeries so as to benefit the common man and not a select few?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Modern Bakeries being a child of my Ministry, we are proud of it. We have been supporting it. If there is any apprehension in the minds of some members that there are some bottlenecks etc., I would like to say that we have been unreservedly supporting it and will continue to do so.

As for subsidising the, wheat supplied, that will be very difficult.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Let him at least not have to go to the black market.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पाँडे: नान की प्राइस जो ज्यादा हो रही है, तो क्या रेपिंग पेपर की प्राइस को रिड्यूस करने के लिए या उस के सम्बन्ध में जो अभी तक इकाबर्टे हैं, उन को दूर करने के लिए, माननीय मंत्रीजी कुछ प्रक्रिया अपना रहे है?

दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या माननीय मंत्रीजी को इस बात का पता है कि प्राइवेट बेकरीज के लोग बार बार फुड मिनिस्ट्री पर दबाव डाल रहे हैं और मंत्री जी के पास रिप्रेजेन्टेशन भेज रहे हैं कि माडर्न बेकरीज का एक्सर्रेशन न किया जाए और इस नाते आज माडर्न बेकरीज को तमाम दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा उन को ब्लैक मार्केट से गेहं खरीदना पड़ रहा है और आटा खरीदना पड रहा है। क्या इन सब दिक्कतों को दूर करने के लिए मंत्री जी कोई प्रयास करेंगे और कोई कदम उठाएंगे. जिस से माडनं बेकरीज का एक्सपेंशन किया जा सके?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: May I assure the hon. member that no pressure from any quarter, particularly the private sector, will be allowed to come in the way of the expansion of the activities of Modern Bakeries. In fact, when this project was visualised, we took into consideration all these factors and my Ministry and the Government of India gave unreserved and generous support to this public sector undertaking. That is why it is coming up. If there is any fear in the minds of hon. members that somebody perhaps at the lower level is putting spokes, we will not allow that sort of thing to happen. We are giving it generous support and will continue to do so and if there are any bottlenecks, we will go into those things.

As for a wrapping paper plant, Shri Azad also mentioned it. We will examine it.

श्री शशि भूषण: माडनं बेकरीज द्वारा नान जो बनाया गया है वह जामा मस्जिद में बने नान के कम्पीटीशन में बराबर रहना है। अशोका होटल में तीस रूपये किलो और यहां साढ़े चार रूपये किलो के लगभग है। इसके Oral Answers V

लिए मैं माडनं बेकरीज को मब।रिकबाद देना, चाहता हं। क्या यह सही नहीं है कि हिन्दूस्तान की महिलाएं, देश के नागरिक दनिया में सब से ज्यादा पर केपिटा कंजाम्पदान फ्यूल का चूल्हा पकाने पर करते हैं? आने वाले भविष्य के लिए वर्किंग मदर्ज और सिस्टर्ज की सहलियत के लिए और साथियों की सहलियत के लिए नया आप हर पांच लाख के कसबे में एक फुलोर मिल पब्लिक सेक्टर में और दो लाख के कसबे में एक माडर्न बेकरी लगाएंगे ताकि हमारी बहनों को सहूलियत हो सके। बर्मा, सीलौन और भारत को छोड़ कर सारी दुनिया में लोक बेकारी की रोटी खाते हैं। आप भी अध्यक्ष महोदय सैंकडों जगह जाते हैं। आपको तो पताही है कि रैपिंग पेपर की भी जरूरत नहीं है। फ्रांस आदि जगह तो सस्ती रोटी इस तरह से बनाते हैं। क्या आप भी रिसर्च सैटर मार्डन बेकारी के मातहत करने को तैयार हैं ताकि देश को भविष्य में सहूलियत मिल सके?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: The question put by the hon. Member is very relevant because the cooking process undertaken separately in each house, apart from the work it entails to the housewife, creates other problems in fuel shortage. etc. and leads to household budget being upset. An organised way of supplying prepared bread is a necessity in this country. In fact Modern Bakeries were set up with a view to explore the new facilities. I think the encouraging results which we are getting would lead us to the suggestion which the hon, Member is making and it will be the effort of the Government.

Schemes in Respect of First Farmers Development Agency

*798. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state (a) the schemes finalised and funds budgeted for the current financial year in respect of Fish Farmers' Development Agency, in the different States;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa have already submitted a scheme in this regard;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) specific steps the Central Government have taken to expedite the sanction of the schemes in respect of Fish Farmers Development Agency for their early execution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The total outlay for the Scheme "Fish Farmer's Development Agency" comprising of 30 pilot projects during the Fifth Plan is Rs. 9 crores. The States submitted proposals which under the Scheme as advance action during the Fourth Plan, were Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka and Assam, for which the requisite sanctions have al-During the Fifth Plan ready issued. period, proposals have been received from Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh. Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala and Haryana. A sum of Rs. 65 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimates 1975-76 for these Schemes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to set up an Agency in Ganjam District with Headquarters at Barhampur. To start with, 62 hectares of water area will be developed; 46 hectares of new fish ponds will be created and reclamation of 16 hectares of derelict ponds carried out. It is proposed to train 32 selected candidates in the techniques of fish culture for a duration of 9 months at a Fisheries Training Centre and to provide training to 75 fish farmers or lessees for a fortnight at one of the State farms. One fish seed farm at Dhobabandha at Berhampur, having a total area of one hectare and capable of producing 7 lakhs fish seed annually, will be placed at the