

हिसाब से नेहूँ करीवा जाय, लेकिन उन्होंने किसानों को 68 और 69 रुपये क्विंटल पर नेहूँ बेचने के लिये मजबूर कर दिया? क्या इस प्रकार का बीच का कमीशन लिये जाने की शिकायतें आप को मिली हैं?

भासाम में चावल बहुत अच्छा हुआ था, वहाँ पर भी इसी प्रकार की घटनाएँ हुई हैं, व्यापारियों ने बहुत ज्यादा कमीशन कमाया। इस को रोकने के लिये आप ने कौन से ठोस कदम उठाये हैं जिससे कार्रवार का हेरेसमेन्ट न हो और उस की मेहनत की सही कीमत उस को मिले?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We are reviewing the position. We are shortly convening a conference of Food Ministers of the various States and the very problems which the hon. Member has referred to would be reviewed in that conference.

SHRI B. R. KAVDE : What is the percentage of procurement by the private agencies and the co-operatives and by what time do Government desire that all trade would be through co-operatives?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The latest figures available with us indicate that about 24 per cent of the total procurement is offered through co-operatives or direct and the rest of it through the State Government agencies; of course, most of it is through private trade.

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA : If it is the policy of the Government to procure rice through co-operative societies, may I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that in a number of places, private trading agencies are allowed to procure rice in spite of the fact that there are co-operatives because the co-operative societies are not allowed to procure rice or other foodgrains?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : If any specific cases are brought by hon. Members to our notice, I would be very happy, because I do not think that there would not be failures here or there in a vast organisation which is working on an all-

India basis. But, broadly, our directives to the Food Corporation is, where co-operatives are in a position to function, they should operate through co-operatives.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO : May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has received complaints from the farmers to the effect that the Food Corporation officials at the district level are in collusion with the traders and they are compelling the producers whenever they take their paddy to them to go to the traders by creating difficulties in their way, because they share in the profits earned by the traders, and if so, what action he is going to take against these officials?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We have been receiving complaints from time to time. As far as UP is concerned, we have requested the UP Government to entrust the specific work to the CID of that Government. We also received complaints from the Rajasthan Government, and we have suggested to them that popular committees with representatives of the producers etc. be set up at *mandi* level so that they can have supervision over all these operations.

Security of Tenureship to Small Farmers

*1292. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any measure to provide the security of tenure-ship to small farmers to increase the productivity of land in order to achieve the plans, goal of 129 million tonnes of foodgrains by 1975-76; and

(b) the measures Government have taken to assure the farmers to get them maximum return in every rupee, they spend on their land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Provisions for security of tenure and regulation of rent have been taken in the tenancy laws.

(b) Apart from tenancy reforms, the measures undertaken by the Government to

help small farmers in particular include the setting up of Small Farmers' Development Agencies to provide institutional credit and inputs to small farmers.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : It is a fact that the small farmers' agencies find it difficult to lend money to the cultivators because the majority of them hold land on oral lease and secondly, is it a fact that since there is no proper national network of soil-testing laboratories to guide the farmers in regard to proper application of fertilisers in land, the farmers in some cases get adverse results ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The small farmers' agencies do not directly give credit. They encourage credit to flow from the co-operatives and commercial banks to small farmers. But it is true that in many parts of the country, land records not being up to date and the names of the tenants not having been entered in the record of rights, we find that the tenants are facing some difficulties. In regard to soil-testing laboratories, Government are expanding the facilities, and I hope that by the next two or three years, quite a few thousand laboratories would be established all over the country.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : May I know whether Government are aware of the various practices adopted by the landowners to evade the provisions of the Tenancy Act ? For instance, the landowners who do not till the land treat the tenants as employees. If so, what action is Government going to take in this regard ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : This is a well known fact. The Government of India have drawn the attention of the State Governments from time to time to this aspect of the problem. Our policy approach has been that the permanent or inheritable right of cultivation should be conferred on the tenants. The hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture have written to the State Governments recently also, drawing their attention towards this problem.

SHRI BANABHADUR SINGH : Are Government contemplating any uniformity

in regard to giving tenancy rights to small farmers on a national basis ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The principles have broadly been enunciated by us. But conditions in our country vary greatly in this matter. It has been suggested to State Governments that they should have their laws enacted by their Legislatures broadly on those lines.

श्री भूलचन्द्र झा : क्या मंत्री यह बताने के लिए कि जो भूमि आप खर्बटन करते हैं दस साल के लिए उस खर्बटन के समकाले कारतकारों को कर्जा देने के लिए कोई नियम बनाए है या आप उनको कर्जा नहीं देते हैं जब तक कि उनको पट्टा नहीं मिल जाता है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : As has already been explained, this is a State subject. As I said, the tenants are experiencing some difficulty in regard to the right of cultivation and availability of credit as a result of permanent rights not being conferred on them. Particularly in the area from which the hon. Member comes, there are tenants experiencing some difficulty on this score.

SHRI D. BASUMATARI : It is loudly propagated in the State of Assam that 100 persons will be appointed in every block development area to increase food production by assisting small holders, big landholders and so on. What are the qualifications of such personnel who will be appointed to bring about agricultural development ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : May I seek your protection ? This is not relevant.

SHRI D. BASUMATARI : This propaganda is being done in the name of the Central Government.

MR. SPEAKER : No, He may put a specific question.

श्री बल सिंह शीखा : मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहता हूँ; उन्होंने क्या बताया है कि

बहु स्टेट सर्वेजिट है और इस मामले में स्टेट्स को बाइड करते हैं, लेकिन अब जिन स्टेट्स की बाग और जापके हाथ में है प्रेसीडेन्ट क्लक के कारण वही पर क्या जाप कोई ऐसे करक उठाने का रहे है जिसे कि यह जो जमीन का मामला है वह प्रच्छी तरह से सलूब हो जाये और कायतकारों को टिनेन्सी राइट्स मिल जायें ।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The hon. Member must be aware that in some States where there was President's Rule, as for instance, for some time in Bihar, we did enact a law giving protection to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In west Bengal also, both the law conferring permanent tenure rights on tenants as well as fixing a ceiling were enforced as Presidential Acts. In other States, elections are likely to be held in the near future. Perhaps the elected representatives would be the proper representatives to take a view on these matters and proceed.

Settlement of Cultivable land in West Bengal with Scheduled Castes/Tribes for Increased Agricultural Production

*1294. **SHRI GADADHAR SAHA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme to settle cultivable land in West Bengal with landless Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people with the object of raising agricultural production ; and

(b) whether Central Government have issued instructions to the State Government for taking steps in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) In West Bengal all available Government land is settled with landless persons and those having less than 2 acres of land. This scheme benefits members of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. So far about 1,40,000 hectares of surplus land and 49,000 hectares of cultivable waste land have been distributed.

(b) The Government of India has advised the State Government to expedite the distribution of available land to landless labourers with special preference to Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : To what percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have such lands been distributed ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The precise figure is not with me. I will write to the State Government and find out.

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that a large number of persons have got lands above the ceiling and, if so, what effective measures have the Government taken to take them over ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : As I have said in my main reply, it will be seen from the figures how much surplus land has been distributed. Now, as per the new law, the new ceiling which has been fixed according to that enactment, 31st July was the last date for giving or declaring the statement on surplus land. After that, the legal procedures will be taken up to declare the land surplus.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : It is now almost a year which has passed since the land Reform Act of West Bengal was enacted, but unfortunately the provisions of that Act have not been implemented as yet. They have given the benefit to the sharecroppers and the quantum of land of hereditary landlords has been sliced down to 17 acres. May I know whether it is a fact that a large amount of surplus land can be distributed to the landless labour and there by to the Scheduled Castes also to whom this benefit could accrue and the sharecroppers may have more land and, if so, may I know why it has been delayed and when are the Government going to implement the Land Reform Act of West Bengal with special reference to the distribution of land to landless labour ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : I do not think there would be delay. We are very serious about it and we have advised the State administration to take the necessary steps expeditiously in this regard. (Interruption) Let there be an elected government there; let us wait.