SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If the agreement that was reached in the meeting is to be discussed here, I would like to say something because I do not think Shri Vajpayee is correct. (Interruption),

SOME HON, MEMBERS rose-

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Complications are being created.

MR. SPEAKER : I will collect the relevant information...(Interruption)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Let us get it clarified.

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is not the proper time to raise this question.

भी रामदेव सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह ठीक है कि इस समय उसके लिये टाइम नहीं है, लेकिन आपको इसके लिये प्रापर टाइम एलाट करना चाहिए, ताकि लोग अपनी बात रख सकें। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब राष्ट्रपति का आदेश कायम है, तब यह परिवर्तन क्यों किया गया ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इसके बारे में मैंने कहा है कि इसको देख लेंगे ।

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Uniform Price for Foodgrains -+-

*91. SHRI B. S. BHAURA : SHRI R. V. BADE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agricultural Prices Commission wanted uniform price tor foodgrains, especially wheat ; and

(b) whether Government would announce the prices only after consulting the Chief Ministers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) The Agricultural Prices Commission recommended a uniform price of Rs. 68.00 per quintal for indigenous red wheat and Rs. 74.00 per quintal for all other varieties of wheat for 1971-72 marketing season.

(b) After obtaining the views of the Chief Ministers, Government have fixed the procurement prices of all varieties of wheat excepting the indigenous red wheat at Rs. 76 00 per quintal. The procurement price of indigenous red wheat have been fixed between Rs. 71 00 and Rs. 74 00 on the basis of the proposals received from the State Governments Most of the State Governments were not in favour of reducing the procurement prices as suggested by the Agricultural Price Commission.

SHRIB.S. BHAURA: I want to know whether it is a fact that the Government had rejected the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission under pressure of big land owners and landlords and, if not, I want to know under what conditions, under what grounds, the Government had rejected the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission when the Commission had recommended a reduction in the prices of wheat. Why had the Government not accepted that recommendation ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: The insinuation made by the hon. Member is not correct. The normal procedure is that after receiving the Report of the Agricultural Prices Commission, we discuss it in the Chief Ministers' Conference and, in consultation with the Chief Ministers, some price is suggested. Now, this time, there was a lot of discussion among the Chief Ministers and a consensus emerged that the same price which was being paid to the farmers last year should be maintained. The Agricultural Prices Commission had suggested only a maiginal reduction of Rs. 2/-. That was not accepted by the Chief Ministers. It was not done under any pressure because the argument of the Chief Ministers was that the cost of production has also gone up and that it will not be in the interest of production since we have yet to become self-sufficient and that in the interest of national economy, the same procurement price should be maintained as last year.

भो आर॰ वी० बड़े मध्य प्रदेश में केवल लाल गेहूँ नही है, दो-तीन प्रकार के गेहूँ हैं। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने आपसे सिफारिश की थी कि इनकी कीमनें बेरट के लिये 80 रु०, मीडियम के लिये 76 रु० और कोर्म के लिये 70 रु० रखी जाय। मै जानना चाहता हूँ कि इमके बारे में आपने क्या विचार किया है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : There are many varieties of wheat like any other foodgrains. As far as superior variety wheat is concerned, we have not fixed any price. That fetches a higher price than Rs. 76/- per quintal in the market and, therefore, that can be sold by the farmer at any price above Rs. 76/-. In addition the only price has been fixed in the case of indigenous red variety wheat which is between Rs 71/- and Rs. 74/-.

श्वी अं.र० थी० बड़े : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का ठीक जवाब नही आया है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपने इसमें कन्ज्यूमर का भी ध्यान रखा था या नहीं ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The consumer interest has been taken very much into consideration. We purchase at Rs. 76/- and issue at Rs. 78/- all over the country. Our cost price is much higher if we take into consideration mandi charges, freight charges, clc. It will come to Rs. 94/-. But we issue the same wheat at Rs. 78/-.

SHRIR. V. SWAMINATHAN : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Agricultural Prices Commission white sugsesting the uniform price for foodgrains have Suggested any uniform price for rice and, if ³⁰, what is the rate fixed. SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : This is regarding wheat prices. We get separate reports from the Agricultural Prices Commission about khatif cereals including rice. That is also discussed with the Chief Ministers. I can lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the prices which have been fixed for rice on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission and on the basis of the advice of the Chief Ministers.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : You have no idea about rice ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : 1 have the idea. But the broad structure varies from State to State. It is between Rs. 74/to Rs. 90/- per quintal. It varies from State to State. It is not uniform.

SHRIB.S. MURTHY: Is the Minister aware that the cost of production varies from area to area and also from State to State? In that context, how is it that the Commission was able to arrive at a uniform rate of foodgrains for the whole country?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : It is in the interest of national food economy that some broad pattern, uniform pattern is evolved as far as the price structure is concerned so that the interest of the producers and consumers are fully protected. There is also one long-term aspect of the problem which has to be taken into consideration. Even from the point of view of land use and crop pattern it is desirable that that crop should be encouraged which gives the maximum income to the farmer. Naturally this broad, uniform pattern of prices will help proper land dues and crop pattern in the long run.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The rising prices is a matter which is worrying all of us, in West Bengal. Could you tell us what steps you propose to take to narrow down the regional disparities in the prices of essential foodgrains that exist in the country today ?

MR. SPEAKER : This is about 'Procurement'...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He is almost a mobile encyclopaedia in agricultural matters...

MR. SPEAKER : For me, the question must be relevant.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : The position in West Bengal is alarming A kilo of rice in West Bengal today costs Rs. 3-50 whereas in the neighbouring State of Andhra Pradesh, paddy is available at Rs. 40 per quintal. That is why I want the Minister to tell us the position.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is about procurement price. I am sorry. You think of another question in the meanwhile.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL RFDDY : Cost of production has gone up. In spite of that he is giving the rate of last year only. Cost of production goes up. If it is not paid in proportion to cost of production, yield will go down. What is the explanation of the Minister for this ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : As an intelligent Member, the hon. Member should know that there has been some marginal rise in cost of production. But there has been also increase in productivity. The whole society has some share in the rising productivity, because there is investment of public exchequer in research and infra-structure which helps to increase production and contribution by society as a whole. As a result of increasing productivity the society is entitled to have its share.

Meeting of Central Trade Union Orgaalsations to Evolve Labour Policy

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*92. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have called all Central Trade Union Organisations to a meeting in order to evolve a better labour policy; and (b) if so, the outcome of the meeting ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHA-BILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANTRALAYA MEN UP MANTRI SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sit.

(b) Although there was some divergence of views, there was near unanimity on what were the essential problems demanding solution and also a broad measure of agreement on the lines along which solutions could be found.

श्री भोगेन्द्र सा : अध्यक्ष महोदय. मन्त्री जी ने ऐसी भाषा में जवाब दिया है जोकि सदन में तो म्पप्ट नही है, भले ही उनके लिये स्पष्ट हो। मैं आप के जरिए से चाहता है वे स्पष्ट करे कि जिन मवालो पर श्रम सम्बन्ध बिगडते है, हडनाले होनी है. असनोप होना है उसमे एक तो यह भी है कि कछ श्रम संगठन ऐसे है जिनका मजदरों में कोई अगर नहीं है और जो मालिक है गरकारी उपक्रमो मे भी और गैर सरकारी उपकमो में भी वहां श्रमिक तो दूसरी जगह हैं और ये मामला दूगरी जगह देते है और उसमें ये बात भी नही करते है और हड़तालें भी होती हैं ...व्यवधान.. इसलिए मै जानना चाहता ह क्या श्रमिक संगठनो की यूनियनो की मान्यता के लिये ये गुप्त मतदान का नियम लागु करने जा रहे है या नही जिसके आधार पर यूनियनों को मान्यता दी जाये ?

दूसरी बात जिसकी चर्चा हम लोग अक्सर करते है, जिसपर मंथर गति से कभी-कभी एलान भी होता है और वह यह कि प्रबन्ध में अभिकों को सासीदार बनाया जायेगा या नही प्रबन्ध समितियों मे और उसकी शुरूआत के लिए जो सरकारी उपकम है उनमें सभी में उसको लागू करना मंत्री जी समझ सकते हैं या नही ? खासकर पिछले आम चुनाव के समय में अभिक तबके में कुछ आशायें जगाई गई लेकिन असीय बहुमत से उनपर तुषारापात हो रहा है, कुछ मिलें करोड़पतियों के हाथों में आ रही हैं और