

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : The FCI is looking into it and the maximum possible help will be given by us.

SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT : Which are the areas which demand boiled rice ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : Kerala and West Bengal.

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : अमामयिक वर्षा से पूर्ण भारतवर्ष में, विशेषकर बिहार में, चने और गेहूँ की फमल को हानि पहुँची है। क्या सरकार यह आश्वासन देगी कि इसके कारण मूल्य-वृद्धि नहीं होगी ?

श्रीधर महोदय : यह गवाल तो केरल के वाते में है।

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : इसका अमर पूरे भारतवर्ष में पड़ेगा और केरल भी भारतवर्ष में ही है। क्या सरकार आश्वासन देगी कि मूल्य-वृद्धि नहीं होगी।

SHRI P. R. SHENOY : May I know whether the artificial scarcity of boiled and other rice in Kerala and some parts of Mysore cannot be removed by abolishing the present zonal system and creating one single zone for the whole of South India ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : I do not think a solution is so easy.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : The Food Corporation of India is supplying very bad quality rice at 20 per cent above the market rate. It is very bad quality rice and I wish I could produce it here to show how really bad it is. Why is it that such rice is supplied at such high prices ? Will the government enquire into the reasons ? Is it not a fact that the bureaucrats of FCI are corrupt and that is why this is happening ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : There is no shortage of rice in Kerala. In fact, even the market availability is easy.

If there are any specific cases where our standing instructions are not followed, if they are brought to our notice, we will take necessary action. Now the consumers can get their requirements from the FCI but there is no compulsion. Moreover, there are standing instructions that such rice should not be issued.

Nationalisation of Sugar Industry

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*95. **SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF :**
PROF. S. L. SAKSENA :

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

(a) whether Government have chalked out any programme to nationalise the sugar industry in the country ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Central Government have already set up a Commission of Inquiry on the 28th September, 1970 under the Chairmanship of a retired Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court to undertake a detailed and comprehensive examination of the working of the sugar industry and the various problems relating thereto, especially in the context of the demand for nationalisation of the industry. Government will examine the matter further on receipt of the report of the Commission.

SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF : May I know whether the Government expect, after the decontrol of sugar, any upward trend in the price of Sugar, particularly in Tamil Nadu where there is a glut of stocks ?

SHRI SHER SINGH : This question is about the nationalisation of the industry.

MR. SPEAKER : The upward trend of prices too big a question to be answered on this very simple question. You can ask another question.

SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF : Does he want notice ?

MR. SPEAKER : No, this is not within the scope of this question; it is not relevant.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Since the hon. Minister has mentioned that a commission has been appointed to investigate into the working and various aspects of the sugar mills and unless that report is submitted the Government is unable to take a decision, I would like to know whether he is aware that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, after a unanimous decision of the UP Cabinet, has requested the Central Government to give the green signal to the Uttar Pradesh Government to nationalise this industry. Why is this matter being delayed; is this due to the pressure of the sugar magnates? Why is the Central Government feeling hesitant to nationalise or to give the green signal to the UP Government to nationalise the sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (KRISHI MANTRI)—(SHRI F. A. AHMED) : The hon. Member is aware that there has been difference of opinion regarding the competency of the State Government or the Central Government to legislate so far as nationalisation is concerned. According to the opinion available to us, both the State Government and the Central Government are competent to legislate on this matter. We have given that information to the UP Government. So far as the Central Government is concerned, we cannot go in for legislation on a piecemeal basis because we have to take into consideration all the States concerned and that will be done after the report of the inquiry commission is available to us.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Sir, I want to seek a clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : No.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL : May I know from the Government whether cooperative sugar factories will be excluded from the proposal of nationalisation?

SHRI SHER SINGH : It depends upon the recommendations that we shall receive from the Commission.

श्री बी० पी० चौधरी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपके द्वारा मैं मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहूँगा कि चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाय या न किया जाय इसके सम्बन्ध में एक मुद्दा से चर्चा उत्तर प्रदेश में चल रही है, इस कारण से मिल मालिक एक पैगा भी मशीनरी को री-प्लेस करने में या उसे सुधारने में लगाना नहीं चाहते, तो यह हमेशा के लिए निश्चित हो जाय, इस सम्बन्ध में कोई निर्णय केन्द्र के द्वारा होगा क्या? क्योंकि उत्तर प्रदेश यह कहता है कि हम केन्द्र से मिफाउन्स कर रहे हैं और केन्द्र यह कहता है कि प्रदेश की सरकार राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के लिए काम्प्रीटेड है।

दूसरे यह कि शुगर इण्डस्ट्री हमारे यहाँ गिरती चली जा रही है। क्या आपके यहाँ कोई ऐसी योजना है कि शुगर मिलों को काम्प्लैक्स यूनिट बनाएं जिसमें कि वह कोई और बाइ-प्रोडक्ट्स बनाएं?

श्री शेर सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी हमने निवेदन किया कि इसके ऊपर भारत सरकार विचार कर रही है और यह निर्णय भारत सरकार लेगी। आयोग की जब रिपोर्ट आ जायगी तो उसके आधार पर निर्णय लिया जायगा।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, चीनी मिलों के राष्ट्रीयकरण के सम्बन्ध में यह कानूनी पेचीदगियां बताई जाती हैं कि यदि राष्ट्रीयकरण का निर्णय करना होगा तो वह सारे देश की चीनी मिलों के बारे में करना होगा। केवल एक प्रदेश के चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण कानूनी दृष्टि से ठीक नहीं होगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने इस मामले की जांच कराई है और क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर-प्रदेश सरकार तो चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करना चाहती है लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार उसको करने की इजाजत नहीं दे रही है?

श्री शेर सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें कानून का प्रश्न इतना नहीं है क्योंकि यह बात तो स्पष्ट हो गई कि राज्य सरकारें भी इस सम्बन्ध में कानून बना सकती हैं और यह राय उनसे दी जा चुकी है। जहां तक भारत सरकार का प्रश्न है वह सारे भारत की तस्वीर देखकर ही कोई कानून बना सकती है।

श्री एल० एम० बनर्जी : तस्वीर को हम 23 साल से देख रहे हैं।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न के दूसरे भाग का उत्तर नहीं आया। क्या भारत सरकार की तरफ से उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार को मना किया जा रहा है कि चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण न करें ?

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : नहीं, नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है। भारत सरकार मना नहीं कर रही है।

Construction of Bokaro Steel Plant

*96. **SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of Bokaro Steel Plant is being handicapped at present owing to an acute shortage of steel material ; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to solve the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) (SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b). To a certain extent, the progress of structural fabrication and erection work for the Bokaro Steel Plant has been affected by the shortage of some strategic sections of steel. Necessary steps have been taken for import of such of the critical requirements as cannot be met in time from the indigenous production.

SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA : Sir, the indigenous production comes from the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi and the Mining and Metals Corporation, Durgapur. May I know whether during the last three years, those two Corporations did not supply indigenous steel and, therefore, the cause of Bokaro Steel Plant is going to be hampered ?

SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The hon. Member is not entirely correct in saying that steel is coming from the Heavy Engineering Corporation and the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation. The shortage of steel has nothing to do with the shortage of equipment that is not manufactured in time by the Heavy Engineering Corporation. Steel is produced by the Steel Plants in the country. But in certain sections, we have not been able to produce an adequate amount of steel. That is the reason for the shortage.

SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA : The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Government is going to import steel. May I know from which countries the Government is going to import steel ?

SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : We are planning to import steel from USSR and Japan.

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI : May I know whether as a result of these difficulties and delay in importing the required steel for strategic construction sectors, the cost schedule of the first phase of Bokaro Steel project will be further raised ?

SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : No, Sir,

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Supreme Court Judgement on Applicability of Provident Fund Rules

*97. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANTRI) be pleased to State :