

officers who have failed in their duties. If the hon. Member gives notice for this, I shall be in a position to collect it from the Delhi Administration.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Is the hon. Minister aware that in Delhi some non-official bodies like the Citizens Committees and certain organisations set up by various mass organisations and political parties have offered to cooperate by supplying the volunteers and so on in this de-hoarding drive and also by supplying information regarding the concealment of hoarded stocks at various places? Is it also a fact that the Delhi Administration is not showing any enthusiasm to cooperate with these non-official agencies? What is the Government's policy in this regard?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I can only say that if comments are required about Delhi Administration they should be complimented. So far, 1,601 raids had been conducted by the Administration in such a small area. It shows their earnestness. Therefore, it would not be right to say that they have not been acting. If there are any other suggestions, we welcome those suggestions from the public as well as from the hon. Members which we shall pass on to the Delhi Administration. The very fact that they carried such by raids which had a salutary effect on making available in the market the foodgrains shows that the Delhi Administration deserves a compliment.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I want to know what is their stand. Will the Government take the cooperation and help of the anti-hoarding and citizens committees which is readily available?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): We certainly welcome the help and cooperation of voluntary organisations in this regard. As a matter of fact the Prime Minister has made an appeal to this effect.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: May I know after these raids and arrests whether the Government finds greater arrivals of foodgrains in the market?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Delhi is a deficit area. Whatever wheat comes here it comes under licence from Punjab and Haryana. As a result of these raids we find the tendency to hoard is less. The market available of foodgrains in there Delhi being a large city almost 35,000 tonnes of wheat and 4,000 tonnes of rice are being allotted from the Central Pool.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: Sir, the Minister is totally incorrect when he says that the premises of almost all the big dealers of foodgrains were raided. I can give a number of names of such dealers in Narela, Najafgarh and Mehrauli where hundreds of foodgrain dealers are reported to have stocked large quantities of wheat and their premises were not raided at all because of their having political backing. I want to know from the Government what action they propose to take against them?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I referred to all wholesale dealers in wheat. Their number is 280 and all these establishments were checked. I stand by that statement.

Demand for Vanaspati Decontrol

*103 **SHRI TARUN GOGOL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for Vanaspati decontrol.

(b) if so, whether the Vanaspati manufacturers have expressed complete dissatisfaction with the increase in the prices of Vanaspati, and whether they had warned that the country would face a shortage of this commodity for a long time; and

(c) whether in spite of the price increase, the shortage of Vanaspati is continuing in the country and action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA) (a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vanaspati industry has expressed its dissatisfaction with the increase in vanaspati prices ranging from Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 2,200 per tone at producer's level in the different zones sanctioned by the Government on the 15th June 1974 as it fell short of its expectation by about Rs 500 per tonne. The industry has pointed out that unless, the vanaspati prices are de-controlled or alternatively, allowed to fluctuate in step with the prices of indigenous oils used in its manufacture based on fortnightly reviews, the production of vanaspati will fluctuate, rising or falling, according as the prevailing oil prices are lower or higher than the oil base in the vanaspati prices.

(c) Though the production of vanaspati has noticeably picked up after the last price increase, shortage is continuing to be felt. Vanaspati production can be improved principally by augmenting the availability of edible oils. Government's attempts are concentrated at increasing the production of traditional, and non-traditional oil seeds like soyabean and sunflower seeds, and encouraging the industry to use more of cottonseed oil, rice bran oil etc. by continued grant of fiscal incentives.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: May I know from the hon. Minister that there is scarcity of availability of Vanaspati at the controlled price while it is not so at the black-market price which is round about Rs. 14-15 per kilo. Is it a fact that this scarcity is especially created in order to put

pressure on the Government so that the Government may accede to their demand for de-control? If so, what steps have been taken?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: In the month of June the total production was 17,600 tonnes while the need of the day is about 50,000 tonnes per month. So, it is not correct to say that there is artificial shortage. Secondly, it is an admitted fact when there is shortage of any article some portion of it goes in the blackmarket. It is correct there are some cases when the vanaspati was available in blackmarket and not on the controlled rate but this blackmarketing is there only because of short production.

SHRIMATI MAYA RAY: Would the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether there is in fact a shortage of vanaspati or not in the market? Can we get our facts straight in the beginning? Is there a shortage or not?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Yes, there is shortage.

SHRIMATI MAYA RAY: If there is shortage, the answer that my colleague was wanting was whether Government were taking any steps to control the blackmarketing that was obviously going on.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: So far as the Government of India is concerned, there is control on vanaspati and we have fixed the prices. But unfortunately, because of acute shortage, that vanaspati is not available at that price.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER: What is the present total production of vanaspati in the country and what is the estimated demand?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: The estimated demand is something like 6.5 lakh tonnes per year. The total production last year was of the order of 4.49 lakh tonnes. In April this year it was 40,400 tonnes; in May it came

down to 35,200 tonnes and in June, it came down to 17,600 tonnes.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: While replying to a supplementary question, the hon. Minister had said that the demand was 6.5 lakh tonnes per annum while the production had come down to 17,600 tonnes and therefore, there was shortage. May I know the reasons why production is not increasing? Is there shortage of raw material? What are the main reasons why production is not coming up, and what are Government doing about it?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: The price of the edible oils which are used in the manufacture of vanaspati, and especially groundnut oil and other oils is almost higher than the oil base in vanaspati price.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SURAMANIAM, II) I may supplement the answer, I would say that in the past, the production of vanaspati was mainly based on imported cheap oil. In the international market also, the prices have shot up, and we are not in a position to import these oils for the purpose of their being sold to the vanaspati producers. This is the real difficulty. Therefore we have to mainly depend upon purchases in the market within the country where the prices are ruling high. The raw material for vanaspati is itself an edible raw material, and that is why unless there is some relation between the two, the processing cannot be done. If, as has been suggested to us, we decontrol, that would mean that there would be a raid on the raw oil here, further pushing up the prices here. That is why we want to control it.

की जगजाह मिश्र देश में वनस्पति का सर्वथा अभाव है, क्या उस का कारण यह तो नहीं है कि वनस्पति-उत्पादकों में सूख-सूख की जो मांग की थी, यानी 2500 रुपये प्रति-टन से बढ़ा कर 3000 रुपये

प्रति टन, उस की पूर्ति नहीं हुई, जिस के कारण 70 या 74 कम्पनियों ने उत्पादन बिल्कुल ही बन्द कर दिया है, 20 कम्पनियों अमता से कम उत्पादन करती हैं, और जो भी उत्पादन होता है, वह खोर-बाजारी में बिकता है, और जिन टिन के डिम्बो में वनस्पति रखा जाता है, उन का भी सर्वथा अभाव है, अगर हाँ, तो इन कारणों से निपटने के लिए सरकार की क्या योजना है ?

श्री बी० पी० मौर्य : जैसा कि श्री मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है, पहले हम विदेशों से सस्ते दाम पर तेल ला कर इस इन्स्ट्री को एक तरह से सब्सिडाइज करने थे—एक प्रकार में उस की मदद करने थे। हम विदेशों में सस्ते दाम पर तेल खाने थे, और यहाँ पर कच्चे तेल के दाम कितने बढ़े, उस का हिमाज लगा कर इन्स्ट्री को सप्लाई करने थे। महीने में करीब 18,600 टन इमपोर्टेड आयल या जितनी आवश्यकता पड़, उनका, देते हैं। अब वह व्यवस्था नहीं रही है, क्योंकि दुनिया में तेल के दाम बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ गये हैं। हमारे विदेशी मद्रा का भी मकट है। मात्र की परिस्थितियों में यही परेशानी है। ऐसा नहीं है कि नयाय कारखानों में बनाना बन्द कर दिया है लेकिन जो निर्वागिन दाम है उन दामों पर दे तथा उस के बनाने में कच्चा माल बाजार के भाव पर खरीद कर लाया जा पड़ता नहीं खाना है—उस वजह से प्राइवजन गिरनी जा रही है।

SHRI PILOO MODY: I heard a most peculiar policy statement from the Cabinet Minister on this subject. He says that the raw material for vanaspati is also edible and that the price of this raw material would go up if vanaspati was made. Therefore, it appears that it is the policy of Government to stop vanaspati from being made because the installed capacity of vanaspati in this country is $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the demand in this country, the installed capacity

being something more than 15 lakh tonnes and the demand being in the neighbourhood of 64 lakh tonnes. The Minister says that they were subsidising imports and imports are no longer available. It is not a question of subsidy. Would it, not, therefore, be logical to come to the conclusion that vanaspati cannot be made in this country unless they decontrol vanaspati and allow the price to be at least in keeping with that of the raw materials put into it?

MR. SPEAKER. It is a suggestion

SHRI PILOO MODY. I want to know the policy. Is it the policy of Government to stop manufacturing vanaspati?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM. It is not the policy to stop production of vanaspati but certainly it is not the policy of Government to allow them to exploit the situation

SHRI PILOO MODY. What is exploitation? Exploitation is non-availability. Just because they get ghee from Parliament House, they do not want vanaspati to be made

श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर : क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि सरकार वनस्पति उद्योग वालों को जलना को लुटने के लिये छूट दे रही है इसी लिये वनस्पति का उत्पादन कम किया जा रहा है । क्या सरकार के लिये यह सम्भव नहीं है कि प्रोडक्शन प्वाइन्ट में लेना डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन प्वाइन्ट तक एक अच्छे डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को बना कर सरकार वनस्पति का लोगों में बंटवारा करे । आज जो वनस्पति में ब्लैक-मार्केट होता है, गड़बड़ी होती है उस को रोकने के लिये सरकार प्रोडक्शन प्वाइन्ट पर ही सारा माल खरीद कर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम से बंटवारे का इंतजाम करे ।

श्री बी० पी० शर्मा : यदि माननीय सदस्य का यह कथन नहीं ठीक है कि सरकार वनस्पति बनाने वाले लोगों को छुपी छूट

दे रही है तो वनस्पति का प्रोडक्शन बढ़ता नहीं, बल्कि घोर ज्यादा बढ़ता । जो सरकारने देने दिये हैं उन के अनुसार जून में केवल 17600 टन की प्रोडक्शन हुई, जब कि देश के अनुसार कम से कम 50 हजार टन माल बनना चाहिये था—इस लिये सरकार यह कथन नहीं करती है । जहाँ डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन का मवाल है, वह नीति की वान है, उस को देखा जा सकता है ।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He did not reply to the last part of Shri Madhukar's question. What prevents Government from taking the stocks from the manufacturers at the controlled rate and distributing them through the public distribution agencies?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: I have submitted it is a question of policy and needs consideration. It can be considered.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: It may not be a deliberate, wilful policy to cause harassment to the consuming public who are exasperated on account of the shortage of vanaspati. The installed capacity is more than double the demand, the only thing correctly stated by Shri Piloo Mody in his question May 1, therefore, know of the Minister whether or not this year the position of oil in the international market is far better than what it was in the preceding year? If so, will the Government assure the House that they will import adequate oil not to enable larger profits in the hands of those who have been exploiting people but to take up the working of the vanaspati units at a nominal rate of one rupee per year and manufacture vanaspati and remove the curse under which the whole country is suffering today?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: There is a programme for importing some oil, but not adequate, to meet all the demands because of the constraints of foreign exchange. With regard to

taking over vanaspati units, it is a policy question and certainly the hon. Member does not expect a statement during the Question Hour.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: One of the reasons why there is shortage of vanaspati is that refined oil and vegetable butter are not controlled. Most of them refine the oil because they get the benefit. Similarly they are producing some kind of butter. That is why production is less. Are the Government considering the control of the prices of the refined oil and vegetable butter so that the units may make more vanaspati ghee.

SHRI B P MAURYA: So far as fixation of price of edible oil is concerned, it is very complicated

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: They are refining oil

SHRI B P MAURYA: That can be considered

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: I want to know whether they will consider controlling the prices of refined oil and vegetable butter

MR SPEAKER: His answer is that it will be considered

श्री डॉ. का. लाल बेरवा देश में वनस्पति की कमी तो है ही, लेकिन जो 1 किलो, 2 किलो के डिब्बे घाते हैं उनमें 50 ग्राम में 100 ग्राम तक की कमी पाई जाती है। कुछ तेमों केलेख पकड़े जाये हैं, मैं जाना चाहता हूँ कि उन के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की गई है तथा यह पूरा माता में मिले इन के लिये क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रहे हैं?

श्री डॉ. पी. मॉय. ऐसी कुछ शिकायतें हमारे पास आई हैं कि जिनकी विक्रय में वह डिब्बे में होना चाहिये, उन में कम मात्रा है। सरकार ऐसी शिकायतों में घायें तथा जनता को विक्रय न हो, इस के लिये हम पूरी कोशिश करेंगे।

श्री डॉ. का. लाल बेरवा क्या किया है ?

श्री डॉ. पी. मॉय यह नहीं है कि कुछ शिकायतें आई हैं। काम तौर से दिल्ली की गणेश फलीर मिल के बारे में शिकायतें आई हैं, उन की जाच पड़ताल चल रही है। मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह विश्वास दिला सकता हूँ कि सरकार ऐसी शिकायतों में घायें, उस के लिये हम पूरी कोशिश करेंगे।

कृषि उत्पादन पर उर्बरको की मूल्य वृद्धि का प्रभाव

105. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :
श्री कमल मिश्र मन्थर :

क्या कृषि मंत्रों यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या जन जन 1974 में 75 प्रतिशत में 95 प्रतिशत तक हुई उर्बरको की मूल्य वृद्धि के फलस्वरूप कृषि उत्पादन पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ने की सम्भावना है, और

(ख) यदि हा. तो कितने प्रतिशत ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE): (a) and (b) Agricultural Production is dependent on a number of factors of which fertiliser use is one. Fertiliser use in turn, may be influenced not only by the prices of fertilisers, but also by other factors such as availability of fertilisers, availability of credit to purchase fertilisers, and the prices of agricultural produce etc. Since the increase in prices was notified only in June 1974, it is also too early to assess its effect on offtake and agricultural production. It is, therefore, difficult to say, at this stage, whether the recent increase in the fertiliser prices will have an