

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, August 12, 1971|Srivana 21, 1893 (S.A.K.A)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Working Results of Delhi Milk Scheme

*1712. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are complaints about the Delhi Milk Scheme for the poor quality of its products and also for the losses it incurred during the past ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government intend to take to rectify this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. During the years 1970-71 and 1971-72 (up to July, 1971) 132 and 52 complaints respectively were received in Delhi Milk Scheme alleging curdling, presence of foreign matter in the milk and poor quality of the milk, and rancid flavour and discolouring in Ghee. Losses suffered by the Delhi Milk Scheme from its inception in 1959 until 1968-69 amounting to Rs. 417.68 lakhs were also commented upon adversely by the Audit, the Public Accounts Committee and in the Parliament. However, during 1969-70, the Delhi Milk Scheme made a profit of Rs. 73.34 lakhs. The accounts for the year 1970-71 are yet to be prepared and audited.

(b) The following steps are being taken by Delhi Milk Scheme to avoid various types of complaints :—

(1) **Curdling** : Curdling was found to be

due to exposure of milk for unduly long time to high temperatures. Action has been taken to regulate the temperature conditions of milk while in storage in Delhi Milk Scheme so that the quality is maintained.

(2) **Presence of foreign matter** : Foreign matter mostly consists of insects. A sanitary squad has been constituted in Delhi Milk Scheme for improving sanitary conditions.

(3) **Quality of Milk** : The standards prescribed for different grades of milk and various milk products sold by Delhi Milk Scheme are being rigidly enforced by Quality Control Laboratory. As regards complaints of adulteration, whenever depot staff are found responsible, prompt and suitable action is taken against them. Surprise checks over the milk booths have also been intensified to guard against possibility of adulteration.

(4) **Rancid flavour in Ghee and Discolouring** : Long storage of ghee often results in off-flavours. In such cases, the tins along with the contents are replaced by Delhi Milk Scheme on receipt of complaints. Attempts are also being made by Delhi Milk Scheme to lengthen the shelf-life of ghee.

(5) **Losses suffered by D. M. S.** : The main reason for the losses during the earlier years was that there was time lag in revising the selling price of milk consequent on increase in cost of production. Steps taken/proposed to be taken for avoiding/minimising losses are indicated below :—

(i) Selling price of milk is being reviewed from time to time with a view to ensuring a proper correlation between the cost of production and the sale price.

(ii) Efforts have been made/are being made to keep down the expenditure on handling, processing and distribution charges as well as on administrative establishment to the minimum. For this purpose norms with regard to handling losses of fat have been laid down from the stage of the

receipt of the milk at the Milk Collection and Chilling Centres upto its receipt at the Central Dairy. Norm in respect of handling loss during processing has also been prescribed. Road milk tankers have been calibrated to ensure accurate measurement of the quantity of milk delivered at the Central Dairy. Norms have also been laid down for controlling the breakage of bottles.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, it is a very lengthy statement and it is very cleverly-worded. The Delhi Milk Scheme is a concern run most inefficiently and to the detriment of the people...

MR. SPEAKER : You have started adding introductions also.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : I am just coming to the question. It is a very lengthy statement. He has admitted there that there was a big loss and to avoid the loss, the Government propose to increase the prices of milk. I would like to know whether the profit shown in 1969-70 as Rs. 73.34 lakhs is due to the increase in price.

Secondly, why has the DMS stopped the supply of quarter litre bottles which were much used by common people because they used to get the milk in quarter-litre bottle which was very much preferred by the single man, the poor man? Why was it stopped?

SHRI SHER SINGH : As far as the losses are concerned, I have explained it in the body of the statement itself.

The profits that we earned in the year 1969-70 were because of several factors. One of them is, of course, rise in price of milk as also reducing the expenditure on handling, processing and distribution etc. as also in the establishment and administrative expenditure. All these factors are there.

As far as the quarter litre bottle is concerned, we are introducing that for double-toned milk now because the double-toned milk is supplied to the poorer classes of our society and we are re-introducing it for double-toned milk.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : There is another complaint about the Delhi Milk Scheme regarding the finding of insects and

foreign matter in the milk bottles. When we take milk we should be very much careful whether we will die when such insects are coming in in the milk bottles. They say that they are going to examine it. In spite of it why should such things be happening? In the *Patriot* there was a report 2 days back. Milk bottles were produced before the newsmen. Why should such things be happening? And also, about the quarter litre bottle, why should it be for double toned milk only? Previously you used to supply all types of milk in quarter litre bottles. Why cannot all types of milk be supplied in quarter litre bottles? This is something I cannot understand. I would like to know what is the policy regarding that. Quarter litre bottle will be helpful to the common poor man.

SHRI SHER SINGH : As regards the presence of foreign matter and insect, I have already stated in the main reply that a sanitary squad has been constituted and we are not just examining only, but we have actually constituted a squad and they are working. As for quarter litre bottle, as I said, we have introduced it for double-toned milk because that is supplied to the poorer people. For richer people, they can afford to buy half a litre of milk and they buy more than half a litre, one litre or two litres. They never buy quarter litre. For the poorer persons who need this quarter litre bottles, we are doing that.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ क्या यह सही है कि बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में दूध का पाउडर दिल्ली मिल्क स्कीम से निकल कर बाजार में चोरी छिपे बिकता है और उसके कारण दिल्ली मिल्क स्कीम को बहुत बड़ा घाटा हो रहा है ?

दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ क्या यह सही है कि मिल्क बूथ पर जो दूध दिया जाता है वह जब खत्म होने को आता है तो डबल टोन्ड की सील निकाल कर सिगिल टोन्ड की सील लगाकर उसको बेचा जाता है ? जनता में इस बात की बहुत अधिक शिकायत है तो इसको दूर करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है ?

श्री शेर सिंह : ऐसी कोई शिकायत अभी तक हमारे सामने नहीं आई है। जो शिकायतें कई हंग की छोटी-मोटी आती हैं उनका हिसाब लगाकर हमने देखा है तो रोज माड़े पांच लाख बोतलें दूध की दी जाती है और इसमें एबरेज निकालने पर एक दिन में दो शिकायतों का एबरेज आना है। जब कोई शिकायत आती है तो हम उस पर एकजान लेते हैं, वहाँ पहुँचते हैं और देखते हैं।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : दूध का पाउडर चोरी में जो बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में बिकना है उसका जवाब मन्त्री महोदय ने नहीं दिया।

श्री शेर सिंह : ऐसी कोई शिकायत नहीं है।

श्री भूलचन्द डागा : क्या दूध का क्वालिटी टेक न होने से कछवाय जी के स्वास्थ्य पर असर पड़ा है ?

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : The other milk schemes, like, for example, the Kaira Milk Scheme is working on profits. Why should the Delhi Milk Scheme be working at a loss? On the one hand they are increasing the price; on the other hand, they are not able to maintain the quality. Again, they say, they are going to get 7 lakh litres by 1974. At present they are getting 2 lakh litres. How are they going to achieve 5 lakhs litres within 2 years?

SHRI SHER SINGH : As for quality of milk, we always examine about the quality of the milk. As for the other question about profit in Kaira Dairy Scheme, they are earning profit no doubt. We have also started earning profit now.

SHRI SEZHIYAN : By increasing the price.

SHRI SHER SINGH : If we compare the price our prices compare favourably with their prices. They sell at the rate of Rs. 1-31 p. in the Bombay Milk Scheme. But here we are supplying good milk or first grade milk at the rate of Rs. 1.16 a litre. Now, we are increasing the price a little bit, but as compared to the prices in other cities, the prices in Delhi are still very low. In Bombay, they charge Rs. 1.50 per liter, and in Calcutta it is Rs. 1.70

or something like that. So, the prices that we charge in Delhi are less than those in other cities.

As regards the hon. Member's second question, I would like to submit that we are thinking of increasing the capacity, and we are putting up another plant with a capacity of 3 lakhs litres a day.

खाद्यान्न फसलें उगाने हेतु किसानों को प्रोत्साहन

*1713. **श्री विभूति मिश्र :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1971 के दौंगत पैदा हुए खाद्यान्नों के मूल्य में भारी कमी हुई है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या किमान जुलाई, 1971 के पश्चात् खाद्यान्न-फसलें उगाने के प्रति उत्सुक नहीं है ; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार खाद्यान्न फसलें उगाने हेतु किसानों को प्रोत्साहन देने की कोई योजना बना रही है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB P. SHINDE) : (a) The foodgrains produced during 1971 so far are the rabi grains. The open market prices of these grains have been some what lower than last year. However, prices of all foodgrains of fair average quality have been ruling near or above the level of procurement prices which are assured to the cultivators and are quite remunerative.

(b) So far as Government are aware, it is not so.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष जी, 1971 में गेहूँ की फसल के अनावा धान की भी फसल 1971 में हुई तो धान का भी दाम गिर गया, और मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि पिछले साल से इस साल बाजार में कीमत कम थी, हालाँकि इन्होंने किसानों के गेहूँ को खरीदा है, इंसेंटिव