

(b) whether this tea consignment has since been recovered by Singapore Police from warehouses in suburban areas of Singapore;

(c) the facts stated and the names of the parties which have been put to loss due to hijacked tea; and

(d) the assistance being provided by Government to the interested parties to get their claims settled soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI K. K. GOYAL): (a) and (b). 632 tonnes of Indian tea worth about Rs. 1.28 crores were shipped in steamer "Twilight" in early July 77 for Sudan Tea Company, a Government organisation in Sudan. The steamer after leaving the Indian shore was heading for Aden on its way to Sudan, but subsequently changed its course and reached Singapore sometime in the end of July 77. It is not known whether the steamer was orally 'hijacked' but according to the reports available, the owners of the steamer had purchased the ship on instalment basis and because of their non-payment of instalments, the ship was "arrested" on arrival at Singapore under an order of the Singapore High Court. According to the reports available from the shippers, out of 632 tonnes of tea shipped, about 420 tonnes have been recovered by the Singapore Police. Part of this was recovered from Private Warehouses and the balance from the ship.

(c) The following exporters had shipped their teas in the said steamer:

1. M/s. Madhu Jayanti Pvt. Ltd.

2. M/s. Tea Land.

3. M/s. Associated Tea Enterprises.

4. M/s. Steward and Dholakia Pvt. Ltd.

5. M/s. Tara Agencies.

6. M/s. Mahavir Plantations Pvt. Ltd.

7. M/s. Tata Finlay Ltd.

(d) The exporters and their bankers are in direct contact with the buyer and the Sudanese Insurance Co., who had insured the tea, and they are trying to resolve their problems. Tea Board and the Indian Embassy, Khartoum are also in touch with the Sudanese authorities including Sudan Tea Company to resolve the matter.

उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री द्वारा भांगी गई सहायता

\* 99. श्री रामचंद्र कृष्णका : क्या बिस् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के विकास के लिए सहायता मांगी है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कितनी और क्या ; और

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की मांग पर केन्द्रीय सरकार क्या कार्रवाही कर रही है ?

बिस् मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) से (ग). उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के विकास में तेजी लाने की आवश्यकता की ओर संकेत करते हुए योजना आयोग से अनुरोध किया कि योजना आयोग के मार्ग-दर्शन में एक विशेष समिति की स्थापना की जाए जिससे कि राज्य सरकार को आयोजना के संबंध में उपलब्ध उच्चकोटी की जानकारी मिल सके और एक सही नीति तथा विभिन्न व्यवहारिक कार्यक्रम तैयार किए जा सकें और पूर्वी/उत्तर प्रदेश के लोगों की सामाजिक आर्थिक दशा में सुधार लाने के काम की शुरुआत की जा सके ?

सोचना बायोके से खाने के मुख्य मंत्री को सुझा दिया है कि इस योजना में राज्य सरकार की सहायता करने का सबसे अच्छा तरीका यह है कि एक उपयुक्त कार्यक्रम का विकास किया जाए, जिसके लिए वर्तमान में योजना आयोग द्वारा प्रयत्न किया ही जा रहा है, और यह कि आयोग सूचना वितरण केन्द्र के काम में भी काम करें। इसके अतिरिक्त योजना आयोग ने कहा है कि यह दूसरे राज्यों के बारे में ऐसी सूचना भी उपलब्ध करा सकेगा जो कि राज्य सरकार के लिए लाभदायक हो सकती है। योजना आयोग ने यह भी सुझा दिया है कि कृषि विज्ञान विभाग, सामाजिक विज्ञान अनुसंधान की भारतीय परिषद के अन्तर्गत प्रादेशिक संस्थान, भारतीय कृषि उद्योग संस्था जैसी अनेक संस्थाओं और विश्व-विद्यालयों के विशेषज्ञों की सहायता को भी सार्थक तरीके से काम करने के लिए प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है।

**Percentage of Increase in Consumer Price Index**

\*100. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the average percentage of increase in the consumer price index during the first six months of 1977-78 and how does it compare with the corresponding figures of 1975-76 and 1976-77; and

(b) what are the reasons for the failure of the Government measures to arrest the price rise so far and the details of further steps Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL: (a) During the first six months of 1977-78, the All India Industrial Workers' Consumer Price Index (1980-100) rose by an average of 1 per cent per month. This compares with an increase of 0.9 per cent per month in the corresponding

period of 1976-77. In the first six months of 1975-76, there was first a rise and then a fall, the net decline averaging 0.1 per cent per month.

(b) The increase in the Consumer Price Index this year does not compare unfavourably with that in the previous year; and the relative stability of the wholesale price index in the current fiscal year will make itself felt, with a time lag, in the Consumer Price Index. The rise in the Consumer Price Index reflects the effects of the large increase in money supply and of short-falls in the production of certain commodities, last year. Government have tried to mitigate the same by increased public distribution of foodgrains, sugar and rapeseed oil, supply of imported oils to the vanaspathi industry, liberal imports of cotton, viscose and polyester, taking steps to raise the production of cotton, oilseeds and pulses, and slowing down the expansion of money supply through a restrictive credit and monetary policy. These efforts will continue.

**Procurement prices of Essential Commodities procured from Maharashtra for Delhi**

801. SHRI U. S. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the quantity of essential items of consumption like onions and pulses which Government have procured from Maharashtra State for distribution in Union Territory of Delhi;

(b) the rate at which these items have been procured and the rate at which they were sold in Delhi at Fair Price Shops, Consumer Cooperative Stores and other agencies;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have earned huge profits by paying less to State Government and selling these items at higher rate to the consumers in Delhi; and