

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: As the House is aware, the primary responsibility for the education at the lower stage remains with the State Government. Still, we have accepted the responsibility and we should work hand in hand with the State Government. They are also cooperating and the areas that have been mentioned by the hon. Member will certainly be taken into consideration.

श्री युवराज : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस गति से भारत सरकार ऐलिमेंटरी और ऐडल्ट ऐजुकेशन प्रोग्राम को फेजवाइज चलाना चाहती है उस के अन्तर्गत जो हमारी अनिवार्य शिक्षा की परिकल्पना है और जिस गति से सरकार कर रही है वह कब तक पूरी कर सकेगी, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ?

डा० प्रताप चन्द्र चन्द्र : मैंने पहले ही कहा कि अभी अनिवार्य शिक्षा को तो पूरा नहीं कर पाते हैं, इसलिये जो नक्शा बन चुका है उसमें 3 करोड़ 20 लाख तक बच्चों की औपचारिक शिक्षा तथा अनौपचारिक शिक्षा कार्यक्रम के लिये हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं। इसके बाद 1 करोड़ 32 लाख जो होंगे उसके लिये इंतजाम करा जायेगा।

Removal of Restrictions on Movement of Sugar

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*97. **SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:**
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that curb on sugar movement has ended;
- (b) if so, whether private trader can now despatch or receive sugar from any part of the country;
- (c) if so, to what extent the prices of sugar will be reduced;
- (d) to what extent they have been reduced; and
- (e) whether the free movement would ensure a uniform open market price throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) and (d). The withdrawal of restriction on inter-State movement of free-sale sugar on trade account is intended to facilitate movement from principal markets to areas where the volume of local demand is not sufficiently large to ensure direct movement from sugar factories. The prices of free-sale sugar are presently very subdued and have declined by Rs. 70/- per quintal in the last two months.

(e) No, Sir.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: After a long time, the price of sugar has declined. Now, the sugar mills have started threatening the Government that they would not be able to make payment to the cane-growers and they are asking for a rise in the price of levy sugar as well as of open market sugar. Keeping this in view, may I know from the hon. Minister what steps Government propose to take to ensure to the cane-growers a due return and not give any rise to the sugar mills, not to maintain the rise which has now declined fortunately for the benefit of the consumers?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: The answer to this question will be covered by the statement which I will be making just now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is going to make a statement immediately after this. The reply to your question may be covered by that.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: When is he going to make that statement? He has not given a reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER: A policy statement will be made on the floor of the House this morning. Therefore, it is not proper for him to cover that area now.

You may ask the second supplementary.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Is it a fact that the Sugar Mills Association have made a public statement that it is not possible now for them to make payments to the cane-growers and the mills are being closed, the mills are on the verge of closure. What measures do Government propose to take to restart these closed units?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: My reply to part one is that, it is true, they have represented that they are not able to realise their cost of production. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, that will be covered by the statement which will be made just now.

श्री राम किशन : जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने स्वीकार किया है कि चीनी के थोक भावों में काफी कमी हो गई है, तो क्या उन्हें यह भी जानकारी है कि थोक भावों में कमी होने के बावजूद भी सारे देश में जितनी भी चीनी से बनने वाली चीजें हैं, जैसे चाय, मिठाई वगैरह, इनमें फुटकर विक्रेता कोई भी राहत उपभोक्ताओं को नहीं दे रहे हैं ?

अगर यह सही है तो सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है ?

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह : यह बात तो सही है कि चीनी की गिरावट को चाय या मिठाई की कीमत में अभी नहीं देखा जा सका है, परन्तु यह निवेदन जरूर करना है कि जब गिरावट होती है तो उसे मूल्यों में बदलने में थोड़ा समय लगता है । गिरावट बहुत तेजी से हुई है ।

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH: The legacy of the past Government is such that no section of the society is satisfied—neither the consumer, nor the cane-grower, nor the mill-owners, nor the Government. Will the statement that the hon. Minister will be making on the floor of this august House this morning, satisfy all sections of the society?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: I can only say that we are facing a difficult situation with overproduction of sugarcane and also sugar. We are trying to meet this difficult situation as best as we can.

श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव : चीनी के दाम-निर्धारण के सवाल पर मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि एक किलो चीनी का उत्पादन-खर्चा कितना है और एक किलो चीनी की कीमत कितनी है—उस के उत्पादन-खर्चे और बाजार की कीमत में कितना अन्तर है और इस अन्तर को समाप्त करने के सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या नीति है ।

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise from this question.
आप अलग नाटिस दीजिए ।

श्री राम बिलास पासवान : मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि गन्ने के कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन और चीनी के कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन में कितना अन्तर है ।

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Literacy

*82. **SHRI G. Y KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any targets for achieving cent per cent literacy in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b). Consistent with the resources available, both finan-