

rule a bit high and not less and to that extent we shall take all possible care.

Secondly, the hon. members will please appreciate, as was indicated by my colleague, the consumption of natural rubber has gone to nearly 1,65,000 tonnes as against the production of 1,80,000 to 1,35,000 tonnes. Under the circumstances it will not be proper to export rubber. But we have taken up massive rubber plantation programmes not only in the traditional areas but all over the country including Tripura, Assam, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa, wherever it is possible and we would very much like to have these plantations to come up so that the country takes all care to meet the demand of our consumption here and also if it is possible for us to export, to do that too.

#### Guidelines in respect of New Distribution System

\*913. SHRI AMAR ROY PRAHDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have framed the guidelines in respect of the new distribution system to be sent to State Governments for implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha

#### Statement

(a) Guidelines indicating the steps to be taken to implement the Production-cum-Distribution Scheme for Essential Commodities have been framed and sent to the State Governments.

(b) The important points on which the State Governments have been

requested to take action are as follows:

(i) First of all an immediate review has to be made about the present number of fair price shops already in existence in the State and the additional retail outlets that would be necessary to provide coverage as envisaged under the Scheme. While reviewing, it may be necessary to keep in view the distribution and location of shops in rural and urban areas and particularly inaccessible areas where at present such facility is not available or not adequately provided.

(ii) If any of the fair price shops are not functioning properly, steps may be taken to replace such shops by either cooperatives or other agencies willing to undertake the work in accordance with the code of discipline.

(iii) Where new fair price shops have to be opened the State Government should consider encouraging, *inter alia*, the cooperatives to open the outlets particularly in the rural areas and inaccessible areas.

(iv) A review of the existing cooperative fair price shops may also be undertaken to improve their functioning.

(v) The Scheme as envisaged will initially cover wheat, rice, coarse grains, edible oils, sugar (may not be necessary at present), controlled cloth, kerosene oil. A few other selected manufactured items required by the farmers such as agricultural implements, bicycle parts, salt, tea, coffee, matches, washing soaps, toilet soaps, yarn, spices could be included in course of time.

(vi) The State Government may nominate suitable public agencies which will be responsible for procurement of essential commodities in bulk and for their distribution through the approved

retail outlets. These agencies could also be utilised to the extent possible, for supply of inputs like fertilisers, seeds, pesticides, cement, etc.

(vii) Emphasis have to be given to the establishment and development of effective production base for which priority must be given to the production, procurement, storage, transport and distribution of essential commodities. These aspects have to be emphasised and adequate provisions made therefor in the Annual Plan of the State Government.

(viii) While planning procurement, storage and distribution steps may be taken to locate storages closer to the areas of consumption, so that transportation cost could be kept to the minimum by avoiding unnecessary movements.

(ix) In order to make the retail outlets function efficiently, consumers' advisory committees may be constituted for fair price shops comprising prominent residents, social workers and consumers including card holders who have no direct or indirect interest in these shops.

(x) At the State level a committee may be constituted under the Food and Civil Supplies Minister along with other concerned Department and representatives of State level cooperative institutions to coordinate and review the functioning of the Production-cum-Distribution Scheme periodically.

(xi) A monitoring unit may be set up in the Department of Food and Civil Supplies to obtain information from the field areas regarding the functioning of the fair price shops and other related matters

and a suitable reporting system evolved, to ensure timely action in operational constraints that may develop from time to time.

(xii) As regards pricing of essential commodities based on Central issue price, consumers price at the fair price shops may be fixed at reasonable levels by reducing burden of administrative overheads, taxes and other levies to the extent possible.

(c) Does not arise.

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:** I am sorry to say that the fate of the new distribution system is still unclear. The new distribution system will be launched on 1st July, 1979 with three objectives—to increase production of essential commodities, proper distribution and to bring uniformity of prices all over the country. Though the Chief Ministers' conference was held on 5th January, 1979, the guidelines were sent so late that some of the State Government are unable to work out the framework and expenditure involved in this system in their Budgets as published in the newspapers. On the other hand, the prices of essential agricultural implements, bicycle parts including tyres and tubes, salt, kerosene oil, edible oil, sugar, soap, cotton yarn, spices and pulses are rapidly going beyond the capacity of the poor people's purchasing power.

Under the above circumstances, I would like to know from the hon. Minister (a) the exact date when the Government sent the guidelines to the States so that they may be able to introduce new public distribution system; and (b) due to increase in the prices of essential commodities, whether the Government will take over the entire wholesale trade in foodgrains, sugar, pulses, salt, edible oil, etc. immediately?

श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल : जो ग्राहक लाहम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को भेजी है, उसका कि स्टेटमेंट

में बताया गया है, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहूंगा कि 3 फरवरी को ही यह गाइड लाइन्स भेज दी गई थी। जिस प्रकार का यह डिटेल्ड स्टेटमेंट है, उसमें यह कहना कि पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन के लिये कोई तैयारी नहीं है, यह ठीक नहीं है। स्टेटमेंट में जो कुछ डिटेल्ड दिया गया है, वह अपने आपमें बताता है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट लैबल बनाया तैयारिया हो रही है। इन कार्य को पूरा करने के लिये नैट वर्क तैयार किया जा रहा है कि राज्यों में कितने फेयर प्राइस शाप्स हैं, एग्जिस्ट करती हैं, कितनी बढ़ानी हैं, और कितने फेयर प्राइस शाप्स बायबल हैं, कितनी स्टोरिंग कैपैसिटी कहाँ फिण्ट करनी है, अधिक से अधिक स्टोरिंग कैपैसिटी अधिक से अधिक नजदीक बनाये यह सारे गाइड लाइन्स में दिये गये हैं जिन पर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को-ऑपरेट कर रही है।

इसके साथ-साथ मैं माननीय सदस्य को कहना चाहूंगा कि सेंट्रल लैबल पर सैक्रेटरीज की एक कमेटी बनी है, मिनिस्ट्रीस की एक कमेटी बनी है जिनके कई डिस्कगान्स हो रहे हैं और वह फाइनल पर होने वाले हैं। किन-किन मैनुफैक्चरिंग आइटेम्स को और हम आइडेन्टीफाई कर सकते हैं डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम में देने के लिये उनके भी डिस्कगान्स चल रहे हैं।

यह ठीक है कि 1 जुलाई से जो प्रोडक्शन कम पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम है, यह देश में पूरे जोर-शोर से के साथ लागू होगा और मैं माननीय सदस्य से निवेदन करूंगा कि जो वैस्टेड इन्टरेस्ट इस पर किसी प्रकार से ब्रांच पहुंचाना चाहते हैं, उनका मुकाबला सब मिलकर करे और इसको सफल बनाने में सहयोग दें।

जहा तक होलसेल ट्रेड के बारे में आपने बातचीत की है, मैं समझता हूँ कि आज की स्थिति में इस पर कोई विचार नहीं किया जा सकता।

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:** The distribution of essential commodities cannot be successful without the co-operation of people in general and consumers in particular. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister: how many States have already constituted the consumers' committees from State level to Panchayat level and in different States how the MPs, MLAs, Panchayat members and co-operators have been included in these committees to make the distribution system a success?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA:** As was pointed out by my colleague, we had discussed this matter threadbare in the conference of the Chief Ministers

where several Civil Supplies Ministers were also present. At that time itself, we had given them all these guidelines on the basis of which this matter is being pursued. I have been personally discussing with the Chief Ministers. Simultaneously, we have constituted a cell in our Ministry. My colleague and the Secretary will be touring the country, going to important centres, to give more information and to take the State Governments into confidence with a view to implement the scheme. I have two days back addressed an important letter to all the Chief Ministers suggesting what are the points of action which also include the involvement of the people in the implementation of this scheme. And when I said 'involvement of the people' I have also said that the Members of Parliament and the elected representatives should also be included in this whole operation. Sir, I know it is a very massive operation. The public distribution system is not as if it is absolutely new for the country, but what we are trying is to create a permanent system to take care of the essential commodities and articles and this is not only a distribution plan, but right from production, procurement, storage, transport and distribution, there are various operations and here without the active involvement of all sections of society it will not be possible for us to implement the scheme and therefore, we would like to have this involvement of all sections, and I would like to say that several vested interests are very much disturbed. They are just to see that the whole scheme is disrupted and therefore, as a House we should say to the country that this is a national decision and keeping aside these vested interests, we shall see that this is implemented.

श्री अमर राय : संत्री महोदय ने अपने स्टेटमेंट के पैराग्राफ बी (ii) में बताया है कि इस बारे में एक कोड आफ डिस्प्लिन बनाया जायेगा और जो कोई फेयर प्राइस शाप उसके वृत्ताधिकारों की तरह से काम नहीं करेगी, उसे मैं सिल कर दिया जायेगा। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि

क्या हर एक स्टेट अपना कोड आफ डिस्प्लिन प्रलग से बनायेगी, या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कोई गाइडलाइन्स इस्तु करेगी, जिनके अनुसार सारे देश में एक ही कोड आफ डिस्प्लिन होगा, ताकि 'वभिन्न स्टेट्स में प्रलग प्रलग कोड आफ डिस्प्लिन होने के कारण छोटे-छोटे व्यापारियों और दुकानदारों को परेशानी न हो।

श्री मोहन धारिया : मैं सब डीटेल डिस्कस करने के लिए मई के तीसरे और चौथे हफ्ते में स्टेट्स के सिविल सप्लाय मिनिस्टर्स और सेक्रेटरीज की कॉन्फरेंस यहाँ होगी। उसमें हम ये गाइडलाइन्स तय करेंगे। हम डायरेक्शन दे सकते हैं, किसी कानसेन्स पर पहुँच सकते हैं, लेकिन आखिर इम्प्लीमेंटेशन तो स्टेट लैबल पर ही किया जाना है। हम इस बात की कोशिश करते कि किसी का हैरसमेंट न हो।

श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि वह मारे देश में पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन की व्यवस्था करेंगे। यह एक बहुत बड़ा काम है, और शायद इससे पहले किसी सरकार ने यह काम करने का प्रयास नहीं किया। इसके लिए सरकार को बफर स्टॉक बनाना पड़ेगा और इस बात की भी व्यवस्था करनी पड़ेगी कि डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन लाइन ठीक तरह से गांव गांव तक पहुँचे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार बफर स्टॉक पर कितना पैसा लगायेगी और डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन लाइन आखिर तक बनी रहे, उसके लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है, और क्या उसने लोगों का सहयोग प्राप्त करने के लिए कोई विशेष योजना बनाई है या ही।

श्री मोहन धारिया : जैसा कि मैंने बताया है, हमने तो पूरे प्लानिंग कमीशन को इसमें इनवाल्व किया है, और कौन सी एंसेंजल कामोडिटीज और एंसेंजल आर्टिकल्ज हैं, हम उनका प्रोबेशन कैसे करें, हमने इसका पूरा प्लान बनाया है। उसके बाद प्रोब्युरेमेंट और स्टोरेज की स्कीम आती है और वह भी हमने तय की है। हमारे सीमावर्ष से प्राज मुल्क में गेहूँ, चावल और दूसरे प्रनाज की निमित्त तो बहुत झंझड़ी है। उसके बारे में तो गेसा सवाल नहीं आयेगा। फिर भी हम चाहते हैं कि जहाँ वे पैदा होते हैं, वहीं पर हम ज्यादा से ज्यादा स्टोरेज कर सकें और झंझड़ी तरह से स्टोरेज करके डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन कर सकें। यह सब काम एक प्लान्ड गफर्ट के अन्तर्गत किया जा रहा है। इसीलिए हमने प्लानिंग कमीशन और स्टेट्स गवर्नमेंट को इसमें इनवाल्व किया है। माननीय सदस्य से जो सवाल उठाये हैं, उनको ज्वाल में रख कर ही काम किया जा रहा है।

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:**  
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a proverb that you can take thousand horses to water, but you cannot make the horses drink water. The Minister

may do anything. Suppose the States do not implement it, what is the other alternative proposal with the Minister to implement the scheme?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA:** This House should be happy to know that on the 5th of January when I had the Conference of the Chief Ministers, all the Chief Ministers have given their consent and they have agreed to participate in the implementation of the scheme. There is no such doubt whatsoever in my mind.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Question Hour is over. Now Papers to be Laid on the Table.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Increase in Fares by Air India

\*914. **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the International Air Services meeting in Geneva recently it was decided to increase the fares for all international travels;

(b) if so, facts thereof; and

(c) when are Government accordingly increasing the Air India fares and by how much?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK):** (a) and (b) At the International Air Transport Association Composite Passenger and Cargo Traffic Conference held in Geneva from 28-3 1979 to 3-4-1979, it was resolved that in view of escalation in the cost of fuel prices, all fares and cargo rate; (With some exception) be increased with effect from 1-5-1979 by 5 per cent to 10 per cent subject to the approval of the Governments concerned. It was also resolved that in respect of passenger transportation the increase will be made