

against yen credit. May I also know how these prices compare with the price of fertiliser produced in India from Sindh and other places?

Shri Iqbal Singh: This comparison is not relevant, because there is bound to be difference.

Shri Ranga: How much is it, he asks.

Shri Iqbal Singh: It is given in the statement. There is bound to be difference because when somebody goes with cash and wants to purchase, certainly he will purchase cheaper than one who has to take a loan.

Shri F. Venkatasubbalah: On a point of order. Here the hon. Minister says this is limited in scope so far as his ministry is concerned to getting the fertiliser from Japan and giving it to the Fertiliser Minister. In that case, will it not be desirable that it should be clubbed on to the Minister of Fertilisers because all these questions arise in the course of supplementaries, and members will be naturally inclined to compare the price available in our country with prices elsewhere?

Mr. Speaker: That is a different question. This is on the imports of fertilisers. This ministry imports. If you want to compare prices, you must address the other ministry.

Shri F. Venkatasubbalah: But there must be scope for members to put question. In that case, it could have been passed on as a written answer.

Shri F. Gopalan: May I know whether it is a fact that the coal-based fertiliser plant proposed to be set up at Korba has been given up; if so, what are the reasons for giving up this plant? Is it a fact that it was due to the pressure exerted by the World Bank that this was given up by the Government?

Shri Iqbal Singh: It relates to the setting up of a plant and this question may be put to my hon. friend the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals. We do not deal with the setting up of these plants.

Shrimati Lakshminikanthamma: Do the Government propose to import more fertilisers from Japan and is Japan in a position to supply us more fertilisers? In the place of foodgrains, are we preparing to import more and more fertilisers from other countries?

Shri Iqbal Singh: Japan is in a position to supply us more fertilisers but we have to see our own capacity to find the foreign exchange resources, how much money we can spare and so on.

श्री श्री प्र० स्वामी : माननीय मंत्री महोदय जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में कम्पोस्ट खाद गोबर के रूप में बहुत बड़ी तादाद में पैदा होती है, जो कि पशुधन के रूप में इस्तेमाल हो रही है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने कभी उस की रक्षा कर के विदेशी मुद्रा बचाने का उपाय सोचा है।

Shri Iqbal Singh: This question may better be asked of the Agriculture Ministry.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Legislatures

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*362. **Shri F. K. Deo:**

Shri K. P. Singh Deo:

Shri D. N. Deb:

Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the period of reservation of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes so far as their representation in the State and Central legislatures is concerned; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri P. K. Deo: The constitutional reservation has been increased from ten years to twenty years. Is it not an admission on the part of the Government of complete failure to improve the conditions of the scheduled castes and tribes? In view of that are they going to take more vigorous steps to bring them in par with the other non-tribals and higher caste people?

Shrimati Phulrenu Guha: In the Constitution the reservation of seat was only for ten years, upto 25th January 1960. But in 1959, the matter was examined and it was felt that though the scheduled castes and tribes had made some progress, still they occupied a lower position in the matter of literacy and per capita income, etc. and so the period was extended by another ten years, that is upto 25th January 1970. It is too early to consider further extension.

Mr. Speaker: He is not asking for further extensions; he asks whether Government have taken steps during this period to bring up their condition.

Shrimati Phulrenu Guha: I mentioned that steps are being taken according to our resources.

Shri P. K. Deo: In view of the fact that the Maharaja of Tripura, Mr. Jaipal Singh, Kumari Rajani Gandha, Princes of Sarangarh—all these persons are being elected on tribal tickets though they can beat any post not tribal or high caste man in any walk of life, is it not desirable that these reservations should be made on economic grounds instead of anthropological and ethnic grounds?

Shrimati Phulrenu Guha: It is a suggestion which can be considered.

Shri K. P. Singh Deo: May I know if the Government has implemented the Lokur committee report to deschedule certain tribes and castes as they do not need the benefits of the reservation any more.

Shrimati Phulrenu Guha: The matter is under consideration and a decision will be taken later.

Shri D. N. Deb: I am speaking of Orissa. The Hindus who had been converted into Christianity in the coastal area are not treated as Adivasis but in the interior they are treated as Adivasi. I want to know why in one State there are two different kinds of rules because they are all Indian citizens.

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum & Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): As far as the tribal people are concerned there is no distinction made on the basis of religion. If there is any such case, if it is brought to our notice, we will look into it and rectify it.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether the Government have received any representation from the Bhovi community in Mysore State where hitherto they have been considered as Scheduled Castes and seats were reserved for them and whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Mysore Government or this Government for denotifying them from the Scheduled Castes list and, if so, what were the reasons?

Shri Asoka Mehta: The whole matter is under consideration of the Government just now.

Shri E. K. Nayanar: May I know what is the Central Government's policy towards converted backward Christians and the other tribal sec-

tions? Do they get the same facility under the Constitution? I mean the converted backward Christians and tribals. Will they get the same facilities such as reservation according to the Government policy or what?

Shri Asoka Mehta: I have already answered that question, that as far as the tribal people are concerned, there is no distinction on the basis of religion.

Shri E. K. Nayanar: That is not the question; it is not a question of distinction on the basis of religion. I want to know if the same facilities, the same reservation and the same privileges are given.

Mr. Speaker: There is no distinction. That is what he means.

Shri E. K. Nayanar: There is distinction.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it is, you may differ from the answer, but the Minister says there is no distinction.

Shri Asoka Mehta: I have pointed out that if there are concrete cases, they should be brought to our attention.

Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta: The Minister was mentioning only about the tribes. But the question is whether there is any difference as far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned.

Mr. Speaker: That is a different matter.

Shri Asoka Mehta: That is a different matter. Under the Constitution, it has been made clear.

Shri Tulshidas Jadhav: Will the Government consider the inclusion of the Kolati community, a small, poor community, in the list of Scheduled Castes?

Shri Asoka Mehta: On the basis of the recommendation made by the Lokur Committee, we had held consultations with the State Government as well as Members of Parliament, the previous Parliament, and in the light of the discussions, we have now come forward with the proposals; as soon as the Cabinet has approved them we hope to introduce a Bill in this session of Parliament.

Shri Tenneti Viswanatham: Is the Minister aware that the Harijans who are converted into Christianity are not treated as Scheduled Castes in some States, for example, in Andhra Pradesh? The allotments that are made for the Scheduled Castes are not applicable to these converts.

Shri Asoka Mehta: The Constitutional position is that, as far as the Schedule Castes are concerned, they have got to be either Hindus or Sikhs in order to enjoy the facilities.

Shrimati Sushila Mohatgi: Sir, considering that this measure was taken as a handicap in the race of national progress, and gave privileges to the Schedule Castes, may I know whether the Government have been able to assess how far they have been able to take advantage of this reservation?

Shri Asoka Mehta: Every year, the Commissioner for Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes prepares a report, and that is laid before the House. In that report, the Commissioner, who is an independent authority under the Constitution, reports to the President as to how the safeguards are being enforced.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if the hon. Member is aware of the fact that certain people who work in the Assam tea gardens are treated as Adivasis in the State from where they had originally come and they are not treated as Adivasis in the State of Assam, and they are denied the rights and privileges and the benefits con-

joyed by other members of the Adivasi community?

Shri Asoka Mehta: I am not aware of this, and if the hon. Member will kindly give me concrete instances, I shall look into the matter.

Shri Hem Barua: I will.

Shri M. K. Krishna: May I know whether the Government has at any time examined the most unsatisfactory position regarding representation for the scheduled castes and tribes in the Upper Houses in the States and in the Council of States here? If so, may I know whether Government is thinking of making any changes in it to give them proper representation in the Upper Houses?

Shri Asoka Mehta: There is no reservation so far as the Upper Houses are concerned.

Dr. Easen Sen: A little while ago, the minister stated that the Government has no contemplation to extend the period of reservation for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. She also mentioned about the constitutional provisions. When the Constitution was adopted, it was envisaged that during this period, the members of the scheduled castes and tribes will be sufficiently developed due to the efforts of the Government of India. In view of the fact that such development has not taken place among the scheduled castes and tribes, may I know why after 1970 the Government propose to abolish this reservation?

Shri Asoka Mehta: My colleague never said that the Government wants to abolish it. All that she said was that this matter has not yet been considered. She also pointed out that on the previous occasion this matter was considered only in 1969 when the deadline was 1969. This time the deadline is 1970. Perhaps the Government will come forward with its proposal in 1969.

Shri S. N. Sinha: May I know whether the Government has set up

any machinery, besides the Commissioner for Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes, to find out whether the Harijans have come up to the mark and whether reservation can be given up?

Shri Asoka Mehta: Of course, under the Constitution, the most important authority is the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But the Department of Social Welfare has also been appointing various committees. I am sure he is aware that there is a committee on untouchability and it has submitted its interim report. We are now waiting for its final report.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: महापति जी भारत और नेपाल की सीमा पर जो बड़ी संख्या में बाहु लोग रहते हैं चुनाव के दिनों में उन बाहुओं को प्रधान मंत्री की ओर से आश्वासन दिया गया था कि उन्हें वनवासी और वनजातियों में शामिल किया जायगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह आश्वासन अभी तक अमल में क्यों नहीं आया है या मैं यह समझूँ कि यह आश्वासन केवल पारुषों का बोट खेने के लिए दिया गया था और सरकार इस पर अमल नहीं करना चाहती ?

श्री असोक मेहता: इसका जवाब मैंने दे दिया जब मैंने लोकुर कमेटी के बारे में जिक्र किया था। लोकुर कमेटी ने जो कुछ सुझाव दिये थे उसके बारे में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से बातचीत करने के बाद श्री पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों से इसके बारे में बातचीत करने के बाद गवर्नमेंट के डिपार्टमेंट प्राफ सोशल वेल्फेयर ने अपने प्रोजेक्ट बनाए हैं जो कैबिनेट के सामने हैं। जैसे ही कैबिनेट की मीटिंग उस पर लग जाएगी आपकी जिदमत में अपनी तरफ से हम एक बिल पेश करना चाहते हैं जिसमें आप देखेंगे कि क्या सुझाव हैं और उसमें आप अपने गवर्नमेंट कर सकते हैं। जो आश्वासन प्राइम मिनिस्टर

साहिबा ने दिये थे उसके ऊपर धमल होगा उस बिल के जरिए से ।

श्री शिव नारायण : अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं सरकार के जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार को खबर है कि लोकुर कमेटी जो बनी उसने कमरे में बैठ कर रिपोर्ट लिखी थी । किसी मेम्बर को उसने इन्टरव्यू नहीं किया न एम० एल० ए० को न एम० पी० को और फिर 1970 में जब गवर्नमेंट इसको ममान करना चाहेगी उस के कब्ज क्या वह कोई हाई पावर कमेटी अप्वाइंट करेगी जो यह जांच कर ले कि हरिजनों का उत्थान हो गया या नहीं ?

श्री अशोक मेहता : जनाब मैं ने कभी नहीं कहा कि 1970 के बाद यह रिजर्वेशन चला जाएगा । इसके ऊपर क्या सरकार की राय होगी इसका मुझे अभी पता नहीं है ।

दूसरी बात—लोकुर कमेटी ने जो कुछ मुझाव दिये यह सही नहीं है कि कमरे में बैठ कर रिपोर्ट लिखी थी । जो कोई भी रिपोर्ट लिखी

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : रिपोर्ट तो कमरे में ही लिखी जायगी ।

Mr. Speaker: They made the report after enquiry.

श्री अशोक मेहता : जो रेकमेंडेशन उन्होंने की उन रेकमेंडेशन के ऊपर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के साथ भी हमने पूरी बातचीत की और जिड्यूस्ट कास्ट्स और जिड्यूस्ट ट्राइब्यूनल के अलग-अलग राज्यों के जो मेम्बरान के उन के साथ भी बातचीत तफसील में की और उनकी राय भी गई । इसके अलावा यह जब किम सामने आयेगा तब मेम्बर साहबान को पूरा भीषा मिलेगा वह चाहें सेनेट कमेटी के मे जायें बिल को या जो करना चाहें करे ।

श्री एल० ए० जोशी : क्या मंत्री महोदय जानते हैं कि महाराष्ट्र राज्य में

महाराष्ट्र शासन ने जिन जिड्यूस्ट कास्ट लोगों ने बीड धर्म स्वीकृत किया है ऐसे लोगों को विशेषाधिकार देने का सब किया है और उस पर धमल भी हो रहा है ? मैं यह जानना चाहूँगा कि उसी हिसाब से केन्द्रीय हकूमत के साथ भी जिड्यूस्ट कास्ट के कुछ रिप्रेजेंटेशन पक्ष के जो नेता लोग हैं उनकी बातचीत हो रही है और क्या यह सही है कि उनको यह प्राश्वासन मिला है कि पूरे भारत में जिन लोगों ने बीड धर्म को स्वीकृत किया है उनको वह विशेषाधिकार दिए जाएंगे ?

श्री अशोक मेहता : मुझे पता नहीं है कि कौन से विशेषाधिकार की बात मेम्बर माहब कर रहे हैं

श्री मधु स्वयंसे : रिजर्वेशन में मतलब है ।

Shri Asoka Mehta: रिजर्वेशन का तो They do not take advantage of the reservation. They do not want it.

Shri Hem Barua: They want it.

Shri Asoka Mehta: They do not want to enjoy the reservation of seats. So what you are talking about is scholarship and that kind of facilities.

जहां तक इन सब रियायतों का सम्बन्ध है यह रियायतें कान्ट्रीट्यूशनल तो नहीं दी जा सकतीं लेकिन जो सरकार के पास फाइनेशियल प्राब्लेम होते हैं उसके अन्दर बैकवर्ड क्लासेज के लिए भी काफी रकम रखी जाती है । उन में से उनको काफी हिसाब मिलना चाहिए । इस तरह की कॉमिज हमारी हो रही है ।

Shri Humayun Kabir: Would the hon. Minister be pleased to state if the Government have any scheme for reducing the quantum of reservation by stages so that it is not withdrawn all at once but spread over a number of years?

Shri Asoka Mehta: As my colleague pointed out, the Government has taken no view on the matter just now. And, as she also pointed out on the previous occasion, a view was taken only one year before the elections. It remains to be seen when this view will be taken by the Government. I shall look into the suggestion that the hon. Member has made.

Shri S. Xavier: The hon. Minister was just now telling us that there is no distinction made between the Tribal people who are Hindus and those who have been converted into Christianity. May I know whether the hon. Minister will give an assurance that he will follow the same policy in respect of the Scheduled Caste people who are Hindus and who have been converted into Christianity, because....

Mr. Speaker: He need not explain.

Shri S. Xavier: If he cannot, may I know what are the reasons for it?

Shri Asoka Mehta: As far as the facilities to Scheduled Castes are concerned, under the Constitution they are available only to those who belong to Hindu religion and Sikh religion...

An hon. Member: Why?

Shri Asoka Mehta: Why, because it is under the Constitution. You can change it. I am guided by the Constitution. If they accept any other religion, then our effort is to take care of their requirements and give them the provisions that are made for other Backward Classes.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: So many hon. Members still want to put supplementaries on this. We have taken sufficiently long on this. Let us go to the next question.

An hon. Member: Sir, only one question.

Mr. Speaker: Yours is only one, but there are others also. Let us go to the next question.

Collaboration with Kuwait for Fertiliser Production

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*363. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri George Fernandes:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri J. H. Patel:
Shri A. Sreedharan:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to collaborate with Kuwait in regard to fertilizer production;

(b) if so, in what respects; and

(c) the terms of the collaboration?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या श्री जी यह बतलाने की कोशिश करेंगे कि इस समय हम किन किन देशों के कॉन्सीडरेशन से यह मॅनोफिग की मसम्या का हल करना चाहते हैं ?

श्री कृष्णक मेहता : कई प्रॉपोजन्स हमारे सामने हैं और उन प्रॉपोजन्स के अन्दर प्राइवेट सेक्टर के प्रॉपोजन्स में कुर्बान के साथ भी कॉन्सीडरेशन करने के कुछ प्रॉपोजन्स हैं। इसके अलावा अमेरिका के साथ है; वही जापान में डेकॉर्ड गैमेंट लेकर गए रहे हैं। कई देशों के साथ है और हमारी कोशिश जर्मनी के साथ भी हो रही है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : इस वकन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी आवश्यकता कितनी है और कितना हमको मिल रहा है और कब तक हम सेल्फ सफिश्येंट हो जायेंगे ?

श्री कृष्णक मेहता : बाँधे प्लान के अखिर तक हमारी आवश्यकता रूँबी 24 लाख टन नाइट्रोजन और दस लाख टन