

nam Port Trust, the Hindustan Steel Ltd. and the Steel Ministry to go into this question in great detail to find out what can be done to facilitate speedier unloading from wagons and loading on ships.

**Shri S. S. Kothari:** The functioning of ports, Calcutta and Bombay in particular, is not satisfactory and there are repeated complaints that goods are not cleared immediately, that ships have to wait for a long time and there are difficulties in various other respects because of their improper functioning. Would the Minister kindly let us know what steps he proposes to take to improve the functioning of these ports?

**Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao:** This question does not directly arise from the main question. But I am prepared to place information on what steps are being taken by us to improve the working of the Bombay and Calcutta ports.

#### Rationing Policy

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- \*458. **Shri P. P. Esthose:**  
**Shri K. M. Abraham:**  
**Shri K. Anirudhan:**  
**Shri Vishwanatha Menon:**  
**Shri Umanath:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present rationing policy is under review; and

(b) is so, in what respects?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri D. Ering):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri P. P. Esthose:** May I know whether there has been any delay, in the arrival of foodgrains from abroad to India as a result of the closure of the Suez Canal? If so, may I know what is the extent of the delay, how far it has affected the supply of grains by the Centre to the States

and what will be its repercussions on the rationing system in the country?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde):** This is about rationing policy.

**Shri Umanath:** He has asked whether there is any delay in the supply of grains because the supply goes to rationing.

**Mr. Speaker:** It will affect the supply because of the delay.

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** The hon. Minister made a statement in the House the other day on the delay and its likely effect.

**Shri Umanath:** At present there are various kinds of rationing in the country, informal rationing, modified rationing, statutory rationing and I do not know what else. Those various differences are creating a lot of discontent among the people about their eligibility and other things. I would like to know whether there is any proposal with the Central Government to see that all these are merged into one statutory rationing in all the areas of the country.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** No, Sir. There is no proposal like that, and it will not be possible to have rationing throughout the country.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : क्या मंत्री महोदय बताएंगे—दिल्ली में राशनिंग काफी देर से है, इलेक्शन के दिनों में आपने यहाँ पर देशी गेहूँ दिया और उसके बाद दिल्ली एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के कहने के बावजूद भी आप यहाँ पर देशी गेहूँ नहीं देते हैं—इस का क्या कारण है ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** We very much wish that indigenous wheat is available to Delhi citizens. After all, availability depends upon the availability of foodgrains procured from

Punjab. At the moment we have no stocks of indigenous wheat available with us, but the Punjab Government is expected to allocate some quantity, and then perhaps indigenous wheat would be made available to Delhi citizens.

**Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta:** When?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Very soon. We are going to give indigenous wheat very soon

श्री तुलसी दास जाखन : इस समय राशनिंग व्यवस्था में श्रमजीवी वर्कर्स और पीजेन्ट्स को दिये जाने वाले राशन में और कन्हरी लोगों को दिये जाने वाले राशन में कर्क है। देहात में भ्राप चावल बिल्कुल नहीं देते हैं। शहर में भी जो वर्कर्स हैं, हाई बर्क करने वाले लोग हैं, उन के लिये ज्यादा राशन देने की व्यवस्था नहीं है। क्या सरकार मजदूरों और श्रमजीवी लोगों को ज्यादा राशन देने के बारे में विचार करेगी ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** As far as hard manual labourers are concerned, we are already giving in all rationed areas additional quantum of rations to workers falling in that category. As far as distribution in the rural areas is concerned, the detailed arrangements are looked after by the State Governments on the basis of available quantities with them.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In view of the fact that rationing introduced in the States has to be sustained by supply of foodgrains by the Union Government, and in view of the fact that the Union Government is at present in a tight position because of the closure of the Suez Canal and the lag in time in the matter of supply of foodgrains from foreign sources, may I know whether the Government have drawn up a scheme to distribute equitably the available foodgrains with them and also to purchase foodgrains from the surplus States so that these foodgrains might

be distributed to the non-surplus States?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Availability in any State depends not entirely on what is supplied by the Centre; but also on the foodgrain that is locally available. And in the rationed, area what is distributed is the foodgrains supplied from the Centre as well as foodgrain procured in the State concerned. As I informed the House, there will be some delay in the arrival of food ships in view of the difficulty of the Suez Canal. We are certainly revising the allocations and certainly we will take the State Governments into confidence in the matter, and we will also try to procure foodgrains from the surplus areas whatever can be procured.

**Shrimati LakshmiKanthamma:** May I know whether Government will make a permanent feature of procurement and controlled distribution of foodgrains in order to prevent hoarders and profiteers from exploiting a difficult situation, and also remove the doubt in the minds of the people that the Food Corporation will be dispensed with as soon as there is a bumper harvest?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I will not say that control and procurement will be a permanent feature, but so long as we have shortage we will have to take recourse to this device. So far as the Food Corporation is concerned, I may say that the Food Corporation will have to be retained as a permanent feature in order to maintain a sizable reserve for rushing to the areas which may be affected by drought or famine.

**Shri Bal Raj Madhok:** Is it a fact that the Delhi Administration has made a suggestion to the Government that the upper class people who can afford to get indigenous wheat from the rural areas or outside may be deprived of their ration cards and be allowed to get it from the open market even at a higher cost, and the mill labour and other people for

whom the ration is too small should be given increased rations so that they can also make both ends meet? If so, may I know whether similar facilities are going to be afforded in other capital cities also for the benefit of the lower class people, labour class?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** There has been no similar demand from other capitals. So far as Delhi is concerned, the suggestion was made that if certain categories of people want to bring some wheat and some wheat is available in the rural areas of Delhi—not from other States—they can bring that quantity to be of set against their ration quota.

**An hon. Member:** Why do you recognise such class in Delhi—high class?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** There is no question of upper or lower class, any Delhi citizen is entitled to do this.

**श्री राम सेवक यादव :** यह सुझाव किसकी तरफ से आया ?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It came from the Delhi Administration, the Metropolitan Council and we have accepted that. So far as the working class is concerned, there is no discrimination between an ordinary worker and others in Delhi and other rationed areas, in the quantum of rations given.

**Shri Tenneti Viswanatham:** In areas where there is statutory rationing, will higher ration be allowed to students studying in secondary schools and colleges?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not think they are hard manual workers.

**Shri Tenneti Viswanatham:** They are of growing age; they are our future assets.

**श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री :** अभी हाल में बिहार में काम करने वाले सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट

के कर्मचारियों ने एक बार-सूची में नोटिफिकेशन प्रधान मंत्री के पास भेजा है। उस में एक मांग यह भी है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को बिहार गवर्नमेंट के कर्मचारियों के बराबर राशन दिया जाय। क्या इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने कोई विचार किया है, यदि किया है, तो वह क्या है ?

**श्री जगजीवन राम :** इस पर विचार करने की कोई बात नहीं है। हम यह उम्मीद करते हैं कि बिहार सरकार जो वहाँ पर लोगों को राशन दे रही है, सब को बराबर राशन देगी।

**Shri Manubhai Patel:** In these adverse circumstances, the Government is not able to supply even the committed quota of foodgrains to areas where there is statutory rationing. In these circumstances, will the Government do away with rationing?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not think that any State Government approached the Central Government for doing away with rationing; if they do we will give sympathetic consideration to that proposal.

**Shri E. K. Nayanar:** In the present position, there is unequal distribution in the country of rice and other cereals through statutory rationing. Will the Government take steps to acquire grains from the hoarding sections and make out a plan for equal distribution of rice, cereals, etc. throughout the country?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Equal distribution may be a theoretical conception. It will never be a practical proposition.

**Shri Hem Raj:** Are some of the Union Territories deficit in foodgrains, and what is the quantity supplied to them? Will the hon. Minister give the quantity supplied to Himachal Pradesh?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not think there is rationing in H.P.

**Shri G. Viswanathan:** In view of the fact that both the Central and the State Governments are interested in procurement and rationing, may I know from the hon. Minister what is going to be the role of the Central Government in procurement and rationing in future?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** Our policy is well known. We very much desire that the State Governments exert themselves to intensify procurement, and foodgrains is made available to the State Governments.

**Copyright Conference at Stockholm**

S.N.Q. 11 **Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:**

**Shri Ram Avtar Sharma:**  
**Dr. Surya Prakash Puri:**  
**Shri Y. S. Kushwah.**  
**Shri Mahant Digvijai Nath:**  
**Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai:**  
**Shri Shiv Kumar Shastri:**  
**Shri Raghuvir Singh Shastri:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Delegation would be going to attend the Copyright Conference to be held at Stockholm (Sweden);

(b) whether India is put to certain disadvantage for being a member of the Copyright Convention;

(c) whether Government have received any suggestion requesting them to relinquish the membership of the said Convention; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen):** (a) to (c). Yes, Sir

(d) The question will be examined after the result of the Stockholm Conference is known.

श्री प्रकाशविर शास्त्री: मैं प्रश्न पूछते हुए आप के द्वारा शिक्षा मंत्रालय से बिरोध भी प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ कि यह प्रश्न जिस समय दिया गया था उस समय तक यह भारतीय प्रतिनिधि मंडल स्वेडेन नहीं गया था। अच्छा यह होता कि उसी समय इस प्रश्न का उत्तर दिया जाता जिन से भारतीय सभ्य की प्रतिक्रिया का पता भी इस शिष्ट मंडल को लग जाता, श्रीर सभ्य की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है इस आधार पर वह अपना निर्णय कर लेता। खैर, जो कुछ हुआ वह हुआ। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्रतिनिधि मंडल बहा गया है क्या उस को भारत सरकार ने अपने किमी प्रकार के निर्देश दिये हैं कि वहाँ जा कर वह किस प्रकार का रख-रखाव करे? यदि हाँ, तो वे क्या है?

**Dr. Triguna Sen:** Sir, perhaps hon. Members know that the East Asian Seminar on Copyright which was held in New Delhi from January 23 to 30, 1967, adopted a copyright protocol regarding developing countries; this protocol will be considered by the Stockholm conference. The main idea behind the protocol is to enable a developing country to have the right to restrict the protection of works required primarily for educational, scientific and scholastic purposes. It will also enable the developing countries to have the right to issue compulsory licences for translation for the purposes other than education, scientific and scholastic, when such translation in a particular language has not been published by the owner of the rights or is absent in the country concerned within a time to be specified by the domestic law of the country, but these rights will not be exercised without suitable compensation. It will be the intention of the Indian delegation who have gone to Stockholm for participating in this conference that this compensation should be in local currency. The Indian delegation has also been authorised to move for the international protection works of folklore in which India is rich. The