

और केन ग्राउंडर्स के साथ आज जो यह बेइंसाफी की जा रही है क्या सरकार समझती है कि आइन्दा किसान गन्ना बोने के लिए अपना रुपया लगायेगा या मेहनत करेगा ? क्या सरकार ने इस बात की कोशिश की है इस में बुनियादी रूप से परिवर्तन किया जाय और 16 रुपये क्विंटल से कम का कोई भाव न हो ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Rs. 7.37 is the minimum price as has been announced by the Government of India, but it is not the price which is to be paid by the factories to the growers. It is a national price for calculating the price of a controlled sugar. In fact, the policy of partial decontrol has been adopted with a view that a major portion of the gains should be passed on to the growers by way of increased cane price. That is why in spite of the fact the minimum price is Rs. 7.37, the price paid by factories in various States ranges from Rs. 9 to Rs. 16 per quintal.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस वक्त मिल मालिकों को 40 प्रतिशत चीनी पर छूट दी गई है उस में जो भाव बढ़ेंगे और एक वक्त ऐसा आयेगा, जो आज गन्ने की पालिसी सरकार की है वह ऐसी है कि छः महीने बाद मूल्य आसमान को छुएंगे तो उस वक्त केन ग्राउंडर्स को उस मुनाफे में से कुछ मिलेगा ? जो मिल मालिक कमायेगा उस में से कुछ हिस्सा किसान को भी बाकायदा मिलेगा या नहीं मिलेगा ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The entire policy was formulated taking into consideration the interests of the cane growers. As a result of drought conditions during the last two years, the acreage of sugarcane has fallen very steeply. According to preliminary estimates, it has fallen from 67 lakh acres in 1965-66 to about 46 lakh acres this year, almost a drop of 2 million acres. In addition to drought conditions, the relative profitability of crops is also responsible. Farmers cultivating high-yielding varieties of other crops have an edge in regard to price over cane-growers. That is why there has been a reduction in the acreage under sugarcane. To remedy the situation the only way was that an incentive price

should be paid to cane-growers. This policy has been formulated with a view to giving maximum benefit to the growers. That is why in U. P. and Bihar the growers are getting between Rs. 12 and Rs. 16 per quintal now.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tyagi. His name is there in Question 477.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: But the minister has not answered question 477.

MR. SPEAKER: I said that it can also be answered together. All right; he can answer it now.

श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : मेरा निवेदन है कि 480 भी ले लिया जाय । यह भी इसी के बारे में है ।

MR. SPEAKER: No; I am not allowing it. Please do not waste the time in Question Hour.

गन्ने से चीनी के बजाय गुड़ और खंडसारी बनाना

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* 477. श्री श्री० प्र० त्यागी :

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी :

क्या छाछ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि किसान 1967-68 के लिये सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित किये गये अधिक दामों पर भी चीनी मिलों को गन्ना नहीं दे रहे हैं और वे या तो गन्ने से गुड़ बना रहे हैं या खण्डसारी उद्योग को अधिक दामों पर गन्ना दे रहे हैं, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप अनेक चीनी मिल बन्द हो गई हैं अथवा बन्द हो रही हैं, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश में चीनी की अत्यधिक कमी को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री श्री० प्र० स्वामी : क्या सरकार को इस बात का ज्ञान है कि इस वर्तमान समय में काश्तकारों को खंडसारी और गुड़ में अधिक लाभ हो रहा है बजाय मिलों को गन्ना देने के और वह मिलों को गन्ना न दे कर गुड़ और खंडसारी बना रहे हैं इस से क्या भागे भविष्य में चीनी का संकट पैदा होने की संभावना है या नहीं ? यदि है तो सरकार ने उसे रोकने के लिए क्या व्यवस्था की है ।

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Sir, the hon. Member is right when he mentions that diversion of sugarcane to khandsari and jaggery manufacture is causing considerable difficulty to the factories in regard to availability of sugarcane.

SHRI RANGA: Not to the country or to the farmers.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: After all, khandsari and jaggery manufacturers, many of them are farmers, and because of the high level of prices prevailing for jaggery and khandsari a considerable quantity of sugarcane is diverted to jaggery and khandsari manufacture. The result is that the sugar factories suffer because of non-availability of sugarcane due to which sugar production went down last year. This year also we are afraid there is likely to be keen competition from khandsari and jaggery. As a result of partial de-control of sugar we expect that the sugar factories may be in a position to get additional quantities of sugarcane. Recently the price of jaggery has also come down slightly. The present rate is Rs. 175 per quintal in many mandis of the country. Rs. 15 or 16 per quintal which is the sugarcane price compares favourably with that. This policy may perhaps help us to augment sugar production.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, in reply to a previous question the hon. Minister said that in U.P. sugarcane is being purchased at the rate of Rs. 15 or Rs. 16 per quintal. I have received a telegram from Golagokarannath where there are sugar factories in Kheri District saying:

“Nearly one lakh cane-growers of Gola and Palia zone of District Kheri

in UP have stopped cane supply to Hindustan Sugar Mills from 20th November Demand cane price of Rs. 15 per quintal.”

I would like to know whether it is a fact that in many factories sugarcane is not being purchased at Rs. 15 per quintal but at a far less price? If that is so, may I know whether any steps have been taken to issue necessary instructions to all the factories in U.P. whether western U.P. or eastern U.P., not to pay less than Rs. 15 per quintal to the cane growers?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I cannot say about individual factories. There are 202 factories all over the country. I have mentioned in my previous reply that generally the market price level that is obtaining now is between Rs. 12 to Rs. 16 per quintal. We want—I would reaffirm on behalf of the Government of India—the factories to pay remunerative and incentive prices to the farmers. The minimum price I have mentioned is Rs. 7-37. The market price is Rs. 12 to Rs. 16 per quintal. We want that the factories should not retain all the additional earning by sale of free sugar, and that a substantial portion of it should be passed on to the cane growers That is the approach of the Government of India in regard to this matter.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that with regard to the policy of sugar and sugarcane prices the Government is not adopting a uniform policy, that the linking of the recovery is not being uniformly adopted with the result that the farmers who produce more are at a disadvantage, that there has been an unhealthy competition between khandsari-gur manufacturing factories and sugar mills with the result that in spite of the Government taking adequate steps to see that gur and khandsari factories are not mis-utilising the concession being given by Government to the mills this sort of sugar scarcity has arisen in the country; if so, in the context of this, may I know whether they are going to adopt a uniform policy so as to avoid all these pitfalls and to see that the real proper price is given to sugarcane cultivators?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: About his first point, I would like to say that a

very scientific policy has been adopted in regard to the price structure of sugarcane. The price of Rs. 2.75 per maund is linked to a recovery of 9.4 per cent and for each additional .1 per cent of recovery, the price is to be increased by 1½ paise. So, the growers who grow cane with the highest sucrose content get higher prices.

About the other aspect, I have already stated that there is keen competition from jaggery and khandsari manufacturers. Millions of farmers manufacture jaggery and Government does not consider it feasible to have any control on jaggery at the moment.

SHRI RANGA: The Government have said that they are only trying to advise the mill-owners to pay as much as possible to the farmers. At the same time, they do not have the power to insist upon a proper price being paid. Are the farmers doing any injury to the national interest when they take advantage of the competition between Khandsari, jaggery and sugar production? Is it not a fact that while in Maharashtra, Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 more is being paid to the growers than what is paid by the Nizamsagar factory owned by the Government and situated on the borders of Maharashtra, the Government of Andhra was not able to help the farmers to get at least as much as the Maharashtra farmers are able to get, with the result that one other Government factory is being closed cane because is not made available?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. member is a knowledgeable person as far as the problems of the farming communities are concerned. The prices which the farmers are getting now are almost double and in certain areas more than double that of the level of last year. Last year the price per maund of sugarcane was Rs. 2.12. This year it is between Rs. 4 to Rs. 6 in many parts of the country. I think it is a good price and indications are already available that a large sowing is likely to take place under sugarcane. This is an encouraging sign, because the problem of availability of cane will be solved thereby.

About the disparity in price paid to Maharashtra farmers and Andhra farmers, as I said, the cane price is linked with re-

covery. For every additional point, the increase in price is 2 paise, not 1½ paise as I said earlier. The sucrose content in Maharashtra is high compared to Andhra and that is why the farmers in Maharashtra get more. Of course, compared to many other areas, the sugar content in Andhra is also high.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : अभी जो शुगर पालिसी सरकार ने दी है, उस के सम्बन्ध में क्या समाचार है, क्या हमारा शुगर प्रोडक्शन बढ़ रहा है तथा अगले साल में शुगर प्रोडक्शन कितना हो जाएगा—क्या इस का कोई एसटीमेट दिया जा सकता है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. member has raised a very important question. I cannot give an exact estimate of next year's sugar production or the size of acreage under sugarcane. But the indications are there that large-scale plantation of sugarcane is taking place.

This is likely to correct the situation of sugar availability within the next eight to ten months.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : जब सरकार ने चीनी पर से लगा हुआ नियन्त्रण आंशिक रूप से हटाया है, खुले बाजारों में चीनी 6 रुपया किलो बिक रही है और देश के अनेक भागों में गन्ने के अभाव के कारण चीनी मिलें बन्द हो गई हैं, क्योंकि मिल मालिक गन्ना पैदा करने वाले किसानों को उचित मूल्य नहीं दे रहे हैं। क्या इस का अर्थ यह है कि सरकार की चीनी नीति न तो उपभोक्ताओं के हित में है और न गन्ना उत्पादकों के हित में। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को क्या कठिनाई है कि वह मिल मालिकों को आदेश दे कि उन्हें कम से कम 15 रुपया क्विंटल के भाव में गन्ना खरीदना चाहिए। क्योंकि चीनी को खुले बाजार में बेच कर जितना मुनाफा मिल मालिक कमायेंगे, वह मुनाफा किसान को किस तरह से जाएगा ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the sugarcane price policy is concerned, I have adequately explained the Government point of view, but I would come to the other important point raised by the

hon. Member and I would like hon. Members to appreciate that with a little patience. The controlled sugar price is likely to be between Rs. 144 and Rs. 170 a quintal. If we calculate the price of sugar on the basis of Rs. 12, Rs. 15 or Rs. 16 a quintal for sugarcane the cost may go up to Rs. 250 or Rs. 260 a quintal. That means, the cost price is Rs. 250 while the prevailing controlled price is Rs. 100 less. Naturally, as a result, the open market price is likely to be higher, and much higher, than the controlled price.

श्री मधु लिमये : इससे भी और ज्यादा क्या होगा । 40 प्रतिशत खुले बाजार में बेचने से मिल मालिकों को कितना मुनाफा हो रहा है । अध्यक्ष महोदय, वह पूरा जवाब दें ।

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHATTERJI: While the sugar policy is a scientific one, quite a lot of confusion exists in the public mind. The sugar producers are not getting proper remunerative prices and the result has been that there has been short supply of cane to the sugar mills. Not only that, the competition between Khandsari and gur production on the one hand and sugar production on the other is so great that a great deal of difficulty has arisen about securing sugarcane for the mills. Then, the price of the partially de-controlled sugar that is being sold at a very high price is also creating difficulties for the consumers. Is the hon. Minister prepared to have some kind of scientific planning with regard to removing consumers' distress? That has to be done.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE *rose*—

MR. SPEAKER: I thought, it was only a useful suggestion made.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: There are three parties in the sugar industry—the farmer, the mill-owner and the consumer. When sugar production starts by November, if the Government wanted to relax control or have partial control they must have done it for the next year. By imposing partial control for this year they have done great wrong because sugarcane is not grown within a day or two. They have rather been pressurised by the mill-owners.

MR. SPEAKER: No speech, question please; the food debate is coming.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: May I know from the Minister whether the price of sugar, which was Rs. 3 a kilo in the black market before de-control has risen to Rs. 6 a kilo merely because the Minister has been pressurised by the sugar mill-owners in order to boost the price of sugar at the cost of the consumer?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. Member is unnecessarily labouring under wrong notions.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: You have misled the House on so many occasions. There has been meddling in the sugar policy.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. Member may have different views on the matter; that is a different thing, but I wish he is less excited about the affair. The Government of India did not take the decision under the pressure of anybody; in fact, the sugar situation was so difficult that had we not taken this decision, sugar famine would have developed in the country. In order to overcome a very difficult sugar situation, this partial de-control policy was adopted.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: You de-control completely.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt in the middle. This is Question Hour. I can understand cross-examination during the debate at least but not in the question Hour. The food debate is coming and all of you can talk about sugar the whole time; I do not mind, but in the Question Hour we cannot give one hour to sugar.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I was explaining.....

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: He has not answered the question.

MR. SPEAKER: He is answering.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I was explaining that sugar production was going down steeply during the last two years. From a figure of 35 lakh tonnes, we had come down to 21 lakh tonnes and it was estimated by knowledgeable persons.....

MR. SPEAKER: In reply to a previous supplementary, he explained all this.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I have only one more point to make. This year it was estimated that the production may come down to 15-17 lakh tonnes. This was a very serious situation. In order to meet it this new policy was adopted. It would have been late had we not taken the decision right now.

श्री मु० अ० खा० : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि गन्ने का भाव दुगुना कर दिया गया है। यह गलत बात है। दुगुना नहीं किया गया है। दो रुपये के बजाए उसको पौने तीन रुपया दिया जा रहा है। चालीस परसेंट चीनी खुले बाजार में बेचने की छूट भी मिल मालिकों को दे दी गई है। मंत्री महोदय को शायद यह भी मालूम होगा कि खंडसारी में चार प्रतिशत चीनी अ.श. के जरिये जला दी जाती है और उसके साथ-साथ मौलेसिस के नुकसान से गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया को करीब सौ करोड़ रुपये की एक्साइज ड्यूटी में हानि हो रही है। चालीस परसेंट जो खुले बाजार में चीनी बेचे जाने की छूट दी गई है इससे क्या यह सही नहीं है कि ब्लैक मार्केट को और ज्यादा प्रोत्साहन मिला है, ब्लैक मार्केट करने के लोगों को ज्यादा चांसिस मिल गए हैं। इसका नतीजा यह है कि तीन रुपये के बजाय छः रुपये किलो के भाव पर चीनी बाजार में बिक रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप इस पालिसी को रिवाइज करने के लिए तैयार हैं ताकि जो शार्टेज शुगर की देश में है वह दूर हो सके ?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think he has anything at all to say.

श्री मु० अ० खा० : क्या मेरे प्रश्न का कोई जवाब नहीं आएगा ? सौ करोड़ रुपये का एक्साइज ड्यूटी में नुकसान हो रहा है और ब्लैक मार्केट को प्रोत्साहन मिला है, क्या यह सही नहीं है ? इसका जवाब तो आना चाहिये ।

MR. SPEAKER: He has no answer. It is such a difficult question.

श्री रवि राय : सरकार की जो शुगर नीति है यह न तो उपभोक्ताओं के हित में जाती है और न ही उत्पादकों के हित में। इस नीति के तहत चालीस प्रतिशत चीनी मुक्त बाजार में बेची जाएगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो मिल मालिक तथा जो व्यापारी हैं उनको इस नीति के चलते कितना मुनाफा मिलेगा ? चालीस प्रतिशत चीनी जो वे खुले बाजार में बेचेंगे उससे मिल मालिकों और व्यापारियों को कितना मुनाफा मिलेगा ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: There very wrong notions that mill owners are likely to get....(Interruptions).

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Kindly pull up the Minister. He is always giving wrong information. He is confused over the sugar policy.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete his answer.

श्री रवि राय : क्यों छूट दी है और कितना मुनाफा उनको होगा ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: There are two sectors in the sugar industry. As far as the co-operative sector is concerned, all the profits go naturally to the cane growers leaving something for taxation. As far as the private industry is concerned,....(Interruptions)

श्री राम सेवक यादव : प्रश्न बिल्कुल साफ है कि चालीस प्रतिशत से उनको कितना मुनाफा होगा ?

MR. SPEAKER: Will he kindly sit down? The member who has asked the question has a right to ask for clarification, or the leader of his party can do that. If every member gets up and starts doing it, I do not know how we can proceed. (Interruptions). Shri Kachwai's help is not necessary. The hon. Member can take care of himself.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGJWAN RAM): I presume that some of the members are conversant with the sugar industry. What the profit will be to the factories on the basis of the 40 per cent free sugar

will depend mainly on what price they pay for the sugarcane, and the loss on the 50 per cent for which the price has been calculated on the basis of Rs. 2.75 has to be compensated by the 40 per cent free sugar; so, what profit they will make ultimately it is very difficult to calculate at this point, unless, it is known what price they have paid for the sugarcane. As far as my information goes, at present the sugarcane price in the country varies from Rs. 4 to Rs. 6 per maund. Nowhere is it being supplied at less than Rs. 4, except in some areas in Madras and Andhra Pradesh where the cane growers have entered into an agreement with the factories that at present they will supply at the minimum price of Rs. 2.75 and they will get a share in the profit that the factories make on the free sugar.

श्री एस० एम० जोशी : महाराष्ट्र में स्टेट फार्मिंग का क्या किया ?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: So far as Maharashtra is concerned, I was looking into the details, the prices are varying from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 and in certain areas they are supplying at even less than Rs. 4 on the understanding that they will get a share in the profit made on the 40 per cent sugar. So, it will all depend on what price they pay for the sugarcane, and it is very difficult to say at this stage what profit the mills will make. That will also depend on the production. If the production comes to our expectation. . .

श्री मधु लिमये : आपका क्या अनुमान है, कितनी पैदावार होगी ?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: My expectation is that we may reach the figure of last year's production, but with the stiff competition that factories are having at present in certain areas from gur manufacturers it is very difficult to say whether we will reach that figure or not.

श्री मधु लिमये : जब नीति बनाई जाती है तो कुछ तो अंदाज किया जाता है, अनुमान किया जाता है ।

MR. SPEAKER: I agree. The Minister may give full details in the debate at least, so that they may get the information.

श्री मधु लिमये : इन्होंने साधारण बातों की हैं । जब नीति बनाई जाती है तो कुछ तो अंदाज किया जाता है ।

श्री बूटा सिंह : भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों में गन्ने की कीमत में बहुत अन्तर है । उत्तर प्रदेश और पंजाब में गन्ने की कीमत में बहुत अन्तर है । इसका विवरण श्री शिन्दे साहब को जब वह पंजाब की यात्रा पर गए थे तो पंजाब के किसानों ने उनके सामने रखा था । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कब गन्ने की कीमत ऐसी निर्धारित करेगी कि यह अन्तर न रहे तथा किसानों को ज्यादा गन्ना पैदा करने का प्रोत्साहन मिले ? मंत्री महोदय ने कहा था कि वह पंजाब गवर्नमेंट से पता करेंगे इस के बारे में । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन्होंने पता कर लिया है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Our approach I have already mentioned on the floor of the House. I would say that the Punjab farmers roughly, are getting about Rs. 4 a maund. Government would always like to support the farmers in case they want a slightly higher price. I do not think it will be possible to have parity of prices all over the country, because the situation differs from place to place. In certain areas, there is keen competition from jaggery and khandasari, naturally the factory owners have to pay a higher price; in areas where there is less competition, the prices are likely to be slightly less.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR: Apart from the question of giving a reasonable price to the cane grower, I would like to point out that large amounts are due to the cane growers during the last many years by way of arrears from the sugar mills. In our State, we have only three mills. Two of them are already closed, and the third one is on the verge of closure. In one particular mill, the peasants were complaining to this Government, and when Mr. Subramaniam was the Minister I had asked him about it, and he said that he could not do anything in the matter. What is the Government going to do at least in compelling the millowners first to pay the large amount of arrears that are due to the cane growers, and then preach sermons to the cane growers to give the cane to the mills? Have they the courage to do that?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the Government of India is concerned,

we are very clear on this. We have been saying that the provisions of the land revenue code should be utilised by the State Governments in order to recover these arrears and we have been requesting the State Governments from time to time that they should use, if necessary, coercive measures to recover the arrears of sugarcane prices from the factory owners. I wish the State Governments extend the necessary co-operation to us and also recover the arrears.

As far as the factual position is concerned, last year, sugarcane worth Rs. 124,69,00,000 was purchased and out of that, the arrears are Rs. 1,22,00,000 and half of that are from Maharashtra. The Maharashtra arrears, however, are not indicative of the true arrears because most of them are from co-operatives and they have a mutual relationship; it is mutuality, because, whatever profits are earned by the co-operatives in Maharashtra, they are passed on to the cane growers. But whatever arrears are there, I would only request the State Governments to use necessary measures to get the arrears and pay them to the cane growers.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: The Khandsari factories are paying Rs. 170 to Rs. 180 per ton of sugarcane, whereas they produce only inferior quality of sugar and they get more profit. The co-operative sugar factories and other factories are not able to pay Rs. 170 or Rs. 180 because the molasses which the khandsari factories produce are not controlled and they are selling it at Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 a ton of molasses, whereas the Central Government have controlled the molasses in the sugar factories and it is being sold at Rs. 6.18, just for a song. Will the Government consider the decontrol of molasses produced in the sugar factories and see that the price of sugarcane is increased? Secondly, in the States, the managing directors of sugarcane factories, the co-operative sugar factories and other government sugar factories are appointed by the Government, and the Government are imposing a restriction on those managing directors not to increase the cane price. Will the Government of India advise them not to interfere in fixing the price?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the first part of the hon. Member's question is concerned, it is true that there is

considerable disparity in the price of molasses, in the open market and the controlled prices, but I think the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals is the appropriate Ministry to consider this question and not my Ministry.

SHRI S. KUNDU: May I know whether the Minister is aware that in 1964 an enquiry commission was set up to regulate this price of sugarcane and that Commission is popularly known as the Sen Commission. The Sen Commission has submitted a report wherein it is said that Andhra, Orissa and Kerala should be taken as one zone and in this zone the prices of sugarcane should be uniformly fixed. But this Government has not paid any cognizance to this recommendation and has fixed three different prices for the sugarcane in the three States. So far as Orissa is concerned, the price is at Rs. 149; in Andhra it is Rs. 161 and in Kerala it is Rs. 170, or more. Would the hon. Minister let me know why they have fixed such prices and not followed the report of the Sen Commission?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. Member's information. (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: I am giving only chance to every party. So many Members want to put questions. You may shout.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : इस में पार्टी का क्या सवाल है ? जिन सदस्यों का गन्ने से सम्बन्ध है, आप उन को चांस नहीं देते हैं। हम ने पचासों तरीके से गन्ने का सवाल उठाने की कोशिश की, लेकिन आप ने इजाजत नहीं दी। आप ने काम-रोको प्रस्ताव खारिज कर दिया, ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव खारिज कर दिया, अल्पसूचना प्रश्न खारिज कर दिया। अब आप एक पूरक प्रश्न पूछने की भी इजाजत नहीं दे रहे हैं। क्या एक पूरक प्रश्न पूछने के लिए भी बगावत करने के अलावा और कोई तरीका नहीं है। (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now I may be allowed to say something. They are not being fair to me. I have spent 40 minutes on this question. The first question I finished in six minutes. The rest of the time I have spent on this question about sugarcane and yet 20 Members are getting up on both sides. There are only another 15 minutes left. If hon. Members

want that also to be spent on the same question, I have no objection. But, even then, I cannot call all hon. Members who want to ask questions, party or no party (interruptions) At least when I am on my legs, hon. Members should sit down. They should not shout now. If they want to shout, they can do so later.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : मैं कभी शाउट नहीं करता हूँ, लेकिन आप मजबूर करते हैं कि शाउट किया जाये ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं भी एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ ।

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : As far as the hon. Member's question is concerned, may I assure him that the Government of India have accepted the recommendations of the Sen Commission in regard to the fixation of the price of sugar on the basis of five zones? The prices which would be announced for the sugar which would be produced in this season would be on the basis of five zones, as enunciated by the Sen Commission.

SHRI S. KUNDU : The Sen Commission has said that there should be uniform price in the zone consisting of Orissa, Kerala and Andhra. What is the meaning of accepting it if you are not implementing it?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We are implementing it.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या सरकार की जानकारी में इस प्रकार के उदाहरण आए हैं कि जिन राज्यों में क्रशर या कोल्हू कम हैं, जैसे बिहार और पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश, वहाँ के किसानों को गन्ने का मूल्य बहुत कम मिल रहा है, लेकिन जिन क्षेत्रों में क्रशर या कोल्हू अधिक हैं, जैसे पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश आदि, चूँकि वहाँ पर किसानों ने मिलों को गन्ना देना बन्द कर दिया है, इसलिए वहाँ पर गन्ने का भाव पंद्रह रुपये प्रति-क्विंटल तक पहुँच गया है, जो कि बहुत कम है। ऐसी स्थिति में सारे देश में, विशेषकर उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, हरियाणा और पंजाब के क्षेत्रों में, किसान को उसके परिश्रम के अनुसार गन्ने का पूरा मूल्य

मिले, इस उद्देश्य से क्या सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में कोई एक जैसी नीति निर्धारित करने का विचार कर रही है ?

श्री जगजीवन राम : जैसा कि मैंने बताया है, गन्ने का जो निम्नतम दाम निश्चित किया गया है, वह 2 रुपये 75 पैसे है, लेकिन यह इन्तजाम इसलिए किया गया कि गुड़ या खंडसारी की जो प्रतिद्वंदिता है, उसमें गन्ने का दाम अधिक मिले। जैसा कि मैंने अभी बताया है, इस वक्त कहीं भी चार रुपये से कम नहीं मिल रहा है। उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में 3 रुपये 50 पैसे शुरू किया गया था, लेकिन मैंने इशारा दिया था कि 4 रुपये से कम नहीं होना चाहिए।

श्री रणधीर सिंह : आज जलाने वाली सूखी लकड़ी का भाव 8 रुपये मन है और गन्ने का भाव पौने तीन रुपये मन, जब कि गन्ना पैदा करने में किसान सब से ज्यादा इनवेस्ट करता है। क्या सरकार को इस बात का पता है कि किसान गन्ने की पैदावार के लिए जो इनवेस्टमेंट करता है, उस को उस का रिटर्न नहीं मिलता है, इसलिए किसान गन्ने के बजाये दूसरी फसलें पैदा करता है, जिसका मतलब यह है कि देश में शूगर कम होती जा रही है ? मैं मिनिस्टर साहब को कहना चाहता हूँ कि शूगर का और ज्यादा फ़ेमिन होगा। क्या इन हालात में गवर्नमेंट इस बात पर गौर करेगी कि किसान को गन्ने का दाम कम से कम सूखी लकड़ी के दाम, यानी आठ रुपये मन से कम तो न मिले ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : With the adoption of the new policy I am quite confident that sugarcane growers' interests would be adequately protected and there would be substantial expansion in acreage in the next season.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Reports have been received that there are several States in the South where there is closure of sugar factories for want of sugarcane. The sugarcane growers complain that the uniform

policy of this government in regard to sugarcane prices has not been indicated to the various State Governments. I have also received reports from the public that they are in the hands of big merchants who are making fabulous profits. Therefore, it is a swindling policy of the Central Government, so far as sugar is concerned. Will the Government form a uniform sugar policy so that all the people in this country will have sugar and the closure of sugar factories removed? Will the Government take steps in this direction?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Most of the factories in southern India have commenced their production.....(Interruption)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: But the co-operative sugar factories have been closed.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. You must hear the answer.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I do not know what the hon. Member means when he says that there should be a uniform policy. We have adopted a policy. There are various aspects of the policy. As far as sugarcane price is concerned, even during complete control period some disparity was always there because the price is linked with recovery percentage and recovery percentage differs from State to State.

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, 3 रुपये•मन में गुन्ना मिलों ने खरीदा था और इस शर्त पर खरीदा था कि 1 रुपया 50 पैसा किलो चीनी वह बेंचेंगे। लेकिन आज वह चीनी 5 रुपये और 6 रुपये किलो बिक रही है। अब न उस मुनाफे का हिस्सा किसान को मिलेगा न ही गवर्नमेंट को टैक्स के रूप में मिलेगा। वह सारे का सारा पैसा ब्लैक मार्केट में चला जायगा। यह नेशन का पैसा उन की जेबों और तिजोरियों में चला जायगा ब्लैक मनी के रूप में। तो क्या मंत्री महोदय बताएं कि यह पालिसी एनाउंस करने के पहले उन्होंने कोई निश्चय लिया है जिससे कि वह पैसा ब्लैक मनी न बन सके और सरकार को और किसानों को उसका हिस्सा मिले ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: We have to consider all pros and cons of the policy and, as was expected by us, a major portion of the sugar proceeds will have to be passed on to the sugarcane growers. I have said this many times on the floor of the House.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, ईख की कीमत के सवाल को ले कर पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में हंगामा है और बिहार के अन्दर भी है। आप लोगों को मालूम है और सरकार को भी मालूम होगा कि बिहार असेम्बली और उत्तर प्रदेश असेम्बली ने एक मत से सरकार के पास सिफारिश की कि ईख की कीमत कम से कम 4 रुपये मन तय की जाय। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को क्या कठिनाई है उन के सुझाव को मानने में? और (ख) अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि सरकार ने 2 रुपये 12 आने मन कीमत तय किया है लेकिन इसके बावजूद पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में कहीं 4 रुपये और कहीं 6 रुपये मन की कीमत पर ईख मिल रही है। तो फिर 2 रुपये 12 आने मन कीमत तय करने का क्या मतलब है और सरकार क्यों नहीं उस निर्णय को बदल कर कम से कम 4 रुपये मन पर आ जाती है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. Member has drawn my attention to a very important point. No State Government recommended any time a price beyond Rs. 3.50 a maund. As a result of Government of India's policy now the sugarcane growers are getting a much higher price than what was demanded by any State Government in the country.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : आप उसी प्राइस को फिक्स कर दीजिए। इसमें आप को क्या कठिनाई है? यह सवाल मैं ने पूछा था। इस सवाल का जवाब दीजिए।

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The Andhra Pradesh Government have recommended a price of Rs. 80 per tonne. The Bihar Government has recommended Rs. 7.50 per quintal. Haryana Government

has recommended Rs. 5.04 per quintal. Maharashtra Government has recommended Rs. 3 per maund, related to recovery of 8.4 per cent. The Punjab Government has recommended a price of Rs. 8 per quintal. UP Government has recommended a price of Rs. 3.25 per maund. West Bengal, where there is only one factory, broadly mentioned how it should be fixed. The Mysore Government has recommended a price of Rs. 3 per maund. These are the prices recommended by the various State Governments. But, as I have mentioned, the prices which the farmers are getting as a result of our policy are much higher, and we are happy over that position.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : तो वही तय कीजिये, इसमें क्या कठिनाई है ?

श्री सीताराम केसरी : मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जो हमारे देश की डिमांड है, रिक्वायरमेंट है शुगर की उसको देखते हुए डिमांड और सप्लाई को सन्तुलित रखने के लिए ईख के उत्पादन के लिए सारे देश में जो खेती के लिए उपलब्ध भूमि है उस में से कितने बीघे भूमि में ईख उपजायेंगे। इस तरह के नियंत्रण की कोई योजना है जिसमें कि सप्लाई और डिमांड में संतुलन हो ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : As far as the requirement of sugarcane in this country is concerned, the Planning Commission and our Ministry have drawn up certain estimates. We think that if sugarcane is planted within an area of 65 lakhs to 70 lakhs acres, that should meet the requirements of sugar, khandsari and jaggery industry in our country.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : लगातार पिछले सालों में आप की नीति खराब रही। कम पैसा किसान को मिला और उससे गन्ने की पैदावार घटी जिस की वजह से इस साल आप ज्यादा दाम दे रहे हैं। तो मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पूरे देश में साढ़े सात से लेकर और 15 रुपये क्विंटल तक गन्ने के दाम अलग अलग मिल रहे हैं इसको क्या गन्ने की नीति कहा जा सकता है ? इसको

गन्ने की नीति नहीं कहा जा सकता। जहाँ किसानों में गुड़ पैदा करने और राब बनाने की शक्ति है और जहाँ किसानों में स्टार्चक करने की शक्ति है उनको तो 15 रुपये क्विंटल मिल रहा है और जहाँ किसान में गुड़ और जैंगरी बनाने की शक्ति नहीं है, और हड़ताल करने की शक्ति नहीं है वहाँ उनको 8 और 9 रुपये मिल रहे हैं। अभी अभी सिहीरा की मिल बन्द हुई है। इस तरह की स्थिति कई जगह है। तो मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसको सरकार अपनी शुगर पालिसी कहती है या नीति-बिहीन नीति कहती है ? क्या है यह ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : I have already explained the position in regard to the disparity of prices prevailing in various parts of the country. Now I would revert back to the first part of the hon. Member's question wherein he has said that because of Government's policy the production of sugarcane has reduced. May I submit for the information of the hon. Member that up to 1965 the compound rate of growth of sugarcane in India was far higher as compared to many other crops. In the case of other crops the compound rate was 1.5 to 2 per cent while in the case of sugarcane crop the increase has been of the order of 6 per cent from 1951-52 onwards. But, after 1965-66 there were difficult periods from the point of view of rainfall. Rains failed in many parts of the country, especially in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Because of the failure of the rain, the crop has been substantially reduced. It is not because of the failure of the government policy.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Is it a fact that on account of the sugarcane prices at many places being very high and unremunerative, factories do not find it workable to purchase sugarcane and is it a fact that at many places several factories have not yet started working? May I know how many factories have not yet started working and how many of them are government controlled?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : Out of the 202 factories about 148 factories have started working. I think the figure now

may be 150 or 152. As compared to last year, four more factories have gone into production this year.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: [How many government-controlled factories have not started working?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: That information is not available with me at present.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो सरकार की पार्शियल कंट्रोल की नीति है यह फेल हो चुकी है। जैसा कि मंत्री जी ने कहा किसान को लाभ और उपभोक्ता को लाभ की बात, उसके बजाय 50 करोड़ का लाभ इंडस्ट्रिलिस्ट्स को हो रहा है। क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि दिल्ली के पास जो कारखाने चीनी बना रहे हैं वह खुल्लमखुल्ला बेचते तो सवा पांच सौ रुपये क्विंटल के भाव हैं और परची सवा चार सौ की देते हैं, उसको रोकने के लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है और क्या सरकार इस नीति पर दोबारा विचार करेगी ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I think, if the factories are maintaining false accounts, they will be legally liable for criminal action.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: What action will you take? This is what I asked. Sir, the minister is silent. What is the remedy?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as free sale of sugar is concerned, there is no price control whatsoever; therefore, I do not understand why the mills should maintain false accounts under these circumstances. But I submitted for the information of the hon. Member that if the factories are maintaining false accounts, they will be criminally liable.

MR. SPEAKER: Now it is 12.01. The Question Hour is over. Short Notice Question—Shri Rajasekharan. He is absent.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, what is the net outcome of sugar?

MR. SPEAKER: The net outcome of sugar is very bitter now. Nearly 50 minutes

we have lost in sugar. The food debate is going on and you can speak about sugar. But even, now, after 45 minutes, I have not satisfied all the Members; there are still some Members who want to make it much more bitter than what it has become already. I do not know who is the loser now. It is not the Speaker. It means, the House and the hon. Members are losers. After all, if the Minister has not given satisfactory answers, as I have been saying, there are other methods of eliciting information. But now the House has lost all the other questions; only a few questions have been answered today and more important questions have been lost. Still, Shri Shastri may shout and somebody else may shout. What is it that the Chair could do, is a point which I would like to know from the leaders. You have suffered today and if this repeats tomorrow, I would allow only one question during the whole hour. It does not matter.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: No.

MR. SPEAKER: I am glad, at least some of the Members say "No". I think, 5 minutes a question should be all right. If 50 Members get up and want to ask a question, it will be difficult. I would request the leaders to help me later on.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: You have got discretionary power. What can the leaders do?

MR. SPEAKER: I am so helpless.

SHRI HEM BARUA: No Speaker who sat on that Chair got so much of power as you have got. You have the discretionary powers and all that. You are armed with all the powers by Parliament.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[HIGH-YIELDING VARIETIES PROGRAMME IN
A. P. AND MADRAS

*452. **SHRI ESWARA REDDY:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has started pilot schemes in selected areas of Andhra Pradesh and Madras for the supply of inputs and credit to farmers for popularisation of high-yielding varieties of paddy;