

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Some Sava was booked from some railway station in Maharashtra to a railway station in West Bengal and to some station in U.P. and also New Delhi. I have already said that the CBI investigations so far do not indicate that such exports have taken place.

Development of Malpe Port for Fishing

***65. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for the development of Malpe Port for fishing purpose in collaboration with a Yugoslav firm;

(b) if so, whether the plans and estimates have also been finalised; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The Government of Mysore have proposed construction of a fishing harbour at Malpe for which a preliminary project report has been drawn up by a Yugoslav firm.

(b) No, Sir. The State Government have been requested to furnish a detailed project report for consideration.

(c) The detailed project report is awaited.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: In view of the serious shortage of food in the country, may I know whether the Government of India would have a new line of thinking for implementing the development of Malpe port in order to increase fishing in this country? Recently, the Government of Mysore has said that they met the Government of India with a view to taking action in this respect. What steps have the Government of India taken in this aspect to accelerate the action in order to develop this port?

MR. SPEAKER: The report is awaited.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The scheme is awaited. I would like to add

that recently I myself visited some of these ports and harbours. During the last one year and a half, Rs. 42 lakhs have been sanctioned to the Mysore Government, for developing these harbours, by the Government of India.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Second question.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. He would not give any better answer. Next question.

FOOD ZONES

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***67. SHRI R. BARUA :**
SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :
SHRI J. SUNDER LAL :
SHRI LOBO PRABHU :
SHRI S.S. KOTHARI :
SHRI S.M. SOLANKI :

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

(a) the present position of the Government stock of foodgrains;

(b) whether it is a fact that the prices of foodgrains in States have comparatively dropped;

(c) whether in view of this, Government propose to do away with the Single State Food Zone system; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The present stock of rice, wheat and coarse grains with Central and Governments is about 4 million tonnes. (b) to (d). Although the prices of foodgrains have generally been easy the situation does not warrant a major change in the zonal pattern of restrictions on movement of foodgrains in the middle of the season. The policy will be reviewed as usual in the next Chief Ministers' Conference before the ensuing Rabi harvest.

SHRI R. BARUA: In view of the improved food position, public opinion is gaining

ground for the abolition of the food zones, but, at the same time, we cannot forget that India's food policy is largely dependent on the vagaries of Nature. Therefore, may I know whether the Government will give the assurance that they are not going to change this position before getting a greater assurance or more proof that the scientific improvement in food production is largely developed, particularly the irrigation aspect?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As I have already indicated in the main part of my reply, generally the food policy is formulated on the basis of the advice of the Chief Ministers of the various State Governments. We usually have a conference twice a year, one before the Kharif harvest and the other before the Rabi harvest. We will naturally consult the Chief Ministers and on the basis of a consensus emerging, we shall formulate the future policy on food.

SHRI R. BARUA: In view of the different political complexion of the governments in different States, may I know whether the Government have finally decided to follow a uniform policy in the matter of food procurement?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Our general experience has been that despite the different parties ruling in the different States, there has been the necessary co-operation forthcoming from the State Governments.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Government have been promising to reconsider this question of zonal barriers for nearly two years. Ever since I came to Parliament, that has been the promise: that the Government will consider it the next season. There are three factors which have to be considered here. First, the big, steep difference in price in the producing areas and the consuming areas rising from 40 to 100 per cent. Is it fair to the grower that he should get a price which is 40 to 100 per cent less? Is it fair to the consumer that he should pay 40 to 60 per cent more than what is obtaining in the place where it is grown? The third point is this: it is more important and I hope the Minister will not deny it. These barriers are maintained to sustain smuggling.

Because of this steep difference, smuggling arises. I would like to know, without imputing motives, and find out from Government if they are concerned with supporting smugglers.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM): These are arguments often heard from the hon. member. He should remember that except for rice and wheat, as and when the situation in the country cases, the various restrictions on the foodgrains are being relaxed or removed. In many States, restriction on the movement of all other grains except rice and wheat has been relaxed. But it is not an unmixed blessing. Recently there was a fall in the price of maize in Mysore and I advised the removal of restrictions. Only a few days back, I have received a letter from Mysore Government that although for a few days after the removal of the restriction there was some rise in prices, it has not been an unmixed blessing to farmers in Mysore. This oft-repeated argument of the hon. member that removal of restriction itself will give a very high price for the producers is not correct.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: The country's balance of payments position has considerably improved, thanks to increase in exports and reduction in imports. It is expected that in two or three years, the balance of payments is likely to balance, if — it is a big 'if' — the Food Ministry does not require any import of foodgrains. Would the hon. Minister assure the House that he will make every effort to ensure that the foodgrain imports will be stopped within the next few years? What are his plans in this regard and what are his expectations?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: We are making every effort to see that the production goes up and as early as possible we become self-sufficient in food production. If the hon. member examines the figures for the last few years, he will find a progressive reduction in imports.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: We have said so many times in the House that we have fixed that by the year 1970-71, all con-

cessional imports of foodgrains will be stopped.

श्रीमती जयाबेन शाह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, फूड जॉस के सवाल पर यह हाउस बहुत समय से एजिटेड है। इस मिनिस्ट्री में कई मिनिस्टर्स बदले गये। जब श्री जग-जीवनराम इस मिनिस्ट्री में इन्चार्ज होकर आये तो हमें यह आशा बंधी थी कि वह इस बारे में एक व्यावहारिक एप्रोच लेंगे और इस बारे में कोई एक उचित फैसला लेंगे लेकिन दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि हमें निराशा ही पल्ले पड़ी है। क्रीप के आने के पहले जब हम यह फूड जॉस एबालिश करने के लिए कहते हैं तो वह कह देते हैं कि क्रीप जब तक आ नहीं जाती तब तक बीच में हम अपनी फूड पालिसी में कोई फर्क नहीं कर सकते। लेकिन जब क्रीप आ जाती है तब कहते हैं कि उस के आँकड़े आदि इकट्ठे करने हैं और सारे देश से ग्रंदाजा मिलायेंगे। कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि सरकार के इस तरह के दृष्टिकोण से प्रोड्यूसर्स और कंज्यूमर्स दोनों को भारी नुकसान हो रहा है। मैं समझ रही हूँ कि इस नीति से किसानों को कितना नुकसान हो रहा है। मुझे ताज्जुब है कि वह हरियाणा के हमारे किसान भाई कहाँ गये जो कि इस बात में मेरा समर्थन करें कि वाकई सरकार की इस नीति से किसानों और जनता को बहुत नुकसान हो रहा है। देश का भारी नुकसान हो रहा है, जनता बहुत नाराज है। मेरी सरकार से प्रार्थना है कि इस फूड जॉस को हटाने के लिए शीघ्र कदम उठायेँ और मैं जानना चाहूँगी कि कब तक वह इन जॉस को हटाने के लिए कार्यवाही करेंगे ?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I have said that when the position improves, we have been relaxing the restrictions. Even the wheat zones have been enlarged. I do not think the hon. member can arrogate to herself the right to speak on behalf of all the farmers.

SHRI S. M. SOLANKI: We have discussed this question often in this House and Government is persisting in not abolishing the food zones. Either the Government should abolish the food zones or they should allot sufficient quotas to the States. Regarding the quota of rice, the claim of Gujarat Government is being ignored without justification and the Government of India is not allotting sufficient quota of rice to Gujarat. We are not shouting in this House because, we are not accustomed to shouting. I request the Government to increase the quota of rice to Gujarat.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a question; it is only a request.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : सरकार ने जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है 1971 में बाहर से अनाज मंगाना बन्द करने का उसके सन्दर्भ में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह साल के हिसाब से चलना चाहती है या जो पैदावार होगी उस के हिसाब से चलना चाहती है, क्योंकि सालों का क्रम तो बहुत दिनों से चलता आया है। सरकार ने जो अनाज का बफर स्टॉक इकट्ठा किया है उस को वह उन लोगों पर थोपना चाहती है जो कि उसको खरीदना नहीं चाहते। ऐसी स्थिति में अगर आप पैसे की कमी की वजह से उस अनाज को निकालेंगे तो यह देश के लिये बड़ा खतरनाक होगा। सरकार क्यों नहीं ज्यादा रुपये का इन्तजाम करती और ज्यादा अनाज इकट्ठा रखती ? अगर वह 1971 के बजाय अगले साल ही बाहर से अनाज मंगाना बन्द कर दे तो क्या हज़ है ?

श्री जगजीवन राम : मैं तो यह मानता हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य स्वयं किसान हैं और अनाज का कुछ तजुर्बा उन को है। कोई स्टॉक रखेंगे तो उनको उसे बदलते रहना होगा। वह स्टॉक साल के बाद दो या पांच साल तक नहीं रह सकता है। जब हम देखेंगे कि स्टॉक खराब हो रहा है तब हमारे पास रुपये की इफरात रहते हुए भी हमें उस स्टॉक को निकाल देना होगा।

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती: अपना स्टाक आप एक साल में बदलेंगे लेकिन जो आप अमरीका से ले रहे हैं वह आठ साल पुराना है।

श्री जगजीवन राम : मैंने यही कहा कि मैं समझता था कि माननीय सदस्य को अपना रखने का कुछ तजुर्बा है। अगर अपने घर में अपना खराब होता रहेगा तो उसको बेच ही देना पड़ेगा, चाहे रुपया कितना भी हो। हमारे पास बहुत स्टाक है और उसको हमें जल्दी निकालना है। मैं दन को आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि रुपये की कमी का कोई असर हमारे बफर स्टाक पर नहीं रहेगा।

Written Answers to Questions

उत्तर प्रदेश के इटावा जिले में विकास परियोजनायें

*66. श्री अर्जुनसिंह भवौरिया : क्या साख तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि: (क) क्या सरकार को संसद सदस्यों से एक विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मिली है, जिसमें इटावा जिले में कौशलपुरी, अशोकपुरी और महेवा की विकास परियोजनाओं के भूतपूर्व अधिकारियों द्वारा बहुत बड़ी राशि के दुर्विनियोग और गबन का उल्लेख किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

साख, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० एस० गुरुप्रवर्धन) : (क) तथा (ख) : राज्य सरकार से जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और प्राप्त होने पर सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Satellite Station at Arvi (Poona)

*68. SHRI N.K. SANGHI:

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA VEERAPPA:

SHRI Y.A. PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Atomic Energy Department has been entrusted to set up a Satellite Station at Arvi, near Poona;

(b) if so, what would be the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) by what time the project is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) The Department of Atomic Energy have been entrusted with the construction of the Satellite Communications Earth Station at Arvi, which on completion will be operated by the Overseas Communications Service.

(b) Rs. 522 lakhs approximately.

(c) 31st October, 1969.

एक समान सिविल संहिता

*69. श्री नारायण स्वरूप शर्मा :

कुमारी कमला कुमारी :

श्री राम स्वरूप विद्याधी:

क्या विधि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल ही में चंडीगढ़ में आयोजित किये गये अखिल भारतीय महिला सम्मेलन द्वारा सर्वसम्मति से पारित किये गये संकल्प की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया गया है जिसमें यह मांग की गयी है कि समूचे देश में एक समान सिविल संहिता के बारे में संविधान के अनुच्छेद को 44 अविलम्ब लागू किया जाये :

(ख) क्या उस सम्मेलन में भाग लेने वाली मुस्लिम महिलाओं ने भारत में इस्लामी कानूनों में संशोधन करके, जैसा कि तुर्की, ईरान और पाकिस्तान में किया गया है, बहुविवाह तथा ऐसी ही अन्य बुरी प्रथाओं से उन्हें मुक्ति दिलाये जाने की मांग की है ; और