

Sugar Production during Fourth Plan

✓*665. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new capacity has been sanctioned for sugar production in the Fourth Plan period;

(b) if so, how much;

(c) the break-up in terms of private sector and cooperative sector, State-wise; and

(d) the estimated yearly production of sugar in the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 8.36 lakh tonnes of annual sugar production capacity.

(c) and (d). 6.30 lakh tonnes in the cooperative sector and 2.06 lakh tonnes in the joint stock sector as given in the statement laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

STATEMENT SHOWING THE STATEWISE BREAK-UP OF 6.30 LAKH TONNES IN THE COOPERATIVE SECTOR AND 2.06 LAKH TONNES IN THE JOINT STOCK SECTOR.

| State | Coop. | Joint stock | Total |
|----------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Maharashtra | 3.59 | .. | 3.59 |
| Gujarat | 1.14 | .. | 1.14 |
| Mysore | 0.52 | 1.12 | 1.64 |
| Tamil Nadu | 0.44 | 0.33 | 0.77 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 0.19 | 0.32 | 0.51 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 0.42 | 0.12 | 0.54 |
| Bihar | .. | 0.13 | 0.13 |
| Punjab | .. | 0.04 | 0.04 |
| TOTAL : | 6.30 | 2.06 | 8.36 |

The estimated production of sugar during the next 5 years if sufficient sugarcane is available to sugar factories might be as under:

| | |
|---------|----------------|
| 1969-70 | 39 lakh tonnes |
| 1970-71 | 41 " " |
| 1971-72 | 43 " " |
| 1972-73 | 45 " " |
| 1973-74 | 47 " " |

श्री मधु लिमये: जो किसानों को इस वक्त गन्ने का दाम दिया जा रहा है क्या इस संबंध में यह सही नहीं है कि किसानों को जो दाम देने का वचन आपने दिया था उसको पूरा नहीं किया जा रहा है और वह दाम किसानों को नहीं दिया जा रहा है? यदि हां, तो उसके कारण से क्या गन्ने का उत्पादन घटेगा नहीं और क्या तब आपके जो लक्ष्य है वे पूरे हो पायेंगे;

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I do not think that the production is likely to go down because last year the production has increased from 22 lakh tonnes to almost 30 to 35 lakh tonnes.

श्री मधु लिमये: मैं गन्ने की पैदावार की बात कर रहा हूँ।

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Even in regard to production of sugarcane, our tentative reports indicate that the acreage in all important sugarcane-growing States is increasing.

✓ श्री मधु लिमये: मेरे प्रश्न को आप समझे नहीं हैं। इस साल किसानों को गन्ने का दाम कम मिलने के कारण—यह हो सकता है कि इस साल चीनी के उत्पादन पर असर न पड़े—लेकिन अगले दो साल के बाद तो पड़ेगा। यह सही है न? हो सकता है कि इस साल गन्ने का उत्पादन न घटा हो, लेकिन अगले साल घट सकता है चूंकि किसानों को उचित दाम नहीं मिले हैं। मैंने आने वाले पांच साल के लिये सवाल पूछा है। इसलिये मैं पूछ रहा हूँ

कि आने वाले वर्षों में गन्ने का उत्पादन घटने का खतरा है या नहीं है और अगर है तो उसके लिये आप क्या कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I would be very specific in this that there is no fear that the cane acreage or production is likely to go down. In fact, in the statement I have already mentioned the likely trend in production in the next four or five years. We expect that next year the production may go up to 39 lakh tonnes and by the end of the Fourth Plan the production may reach even 47 lakh tonnes.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि आने वाले वर्षों में —या कम से कम अगले साल में— गन्ने का दाम क्या रखा जायेगा और इस वक्त किसानों को कितना दाम मिला है ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the minimum prices are concerned, they have already been announced and notified and hon. Member must be aware of it.

श्री मधु लिमये : उसके अनुसार नहीं मिल रहा है ।

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the last year's production is concerned, the position is fairly well-known to the House and the hon. Members and I do not think I should be in a position to add to the information which the House is already in possession of.

श्री द्वा० ना० तिवारी : शूगर प्राइवक्शन में मिल मशीनरी का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा होता है । देश में ऐसी बहुत सी फैक्टरियां हैं जिन की मशीनरी आम्सोलीट हो गई है जिस के कारण शूगर का प्राइवक्शन कम होता है और सूक्रोस कन्टेन्ट भी कम आता है । क्या सरकार ऐसी फैक्टरियों को भाड़नाइज करने के लिये कोई स्टेप ले

रही है जिन की मशीनरी आम्सोलीट है और जिन में प्राइवक्शन कम हो रहा है यदि हां, तो वे कौन कौन सी ऐसी फैक्ट-रियां हैं, जिन को सरकार मदद करेगी वह मदद कितनी होगी ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the recoveries are concerned, recoveries can be low because of two factors. If the sugar content in the sugar cane itself is low, the recovery will be low. So the quality of cane is one of the important factors.

Secondly, I also concede the point of the hon. Member. If the machinery is outdated and old, then again it affects to some extent the recovery of sugar from the sugarcane. From that angle the problem of sugar industry is important. The Government is well aware of the problems of the sugar industry, particularly in the northern States and there was a Committee which went into the problem of modernisation of the sugar industry. I think the sugar industry should find the resources for modernising the industry from institutions which provide long term finance and Government would be prepared to recommend on merit such cases which are fit for recommendation for long-term finance.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: In spite of the increased production of sugar in this country for the current year, the fact remains that the hon. Food Minister, Shri Jagjiwan Ram promised in this House that he will see that every sugarcane grower in this country will get a minimum of Rs. 100 per tonne of sugarcane, but we have got only Rs. 73 per tonne and of late we have been paid Rs. 44 FOR factory. That means Rs. 2 per quintal of sugarcane. . . That shows that the Government of India is not helping the sugarcane growers in some parts of the country. In Tamilnadu there are more than 2 lakhs tonnes of sugacane perishing without any factory coming forward to crush even at rate of Rs. 2 per

quintal. That shows they have not increased the capacity of the mills which the Tamilnadu Government wanted. They are crushing the kishan and they are crushing the sugar cane. They are making promises in the Lok Sabha but they are not at all implementing their promises. I want to know from the hon. Minister for Agriculture whether the Tamilnadu Government have approached the Government for licensing of 3 co-operative sugar mills with a capacity of 3.49 lakhs tonnes. Why have you not given any licence to Tamilnadu State when they are seeking it for the last two years?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: We have granted licence to Tamilnadu also.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: They wanted 3 new licences. That is still pending.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: 2 cases have already been sanctioned. One case is already under active consideration. 5 cases of expansion have already been cleared.

SHRI RANGA: He has made a very serious complaint. Contrary to the assurance given by the Food Minister that Rs. 100 per tonne would be assured not even Rs. 40 is being given.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Not even Rs. 20 per tonne of sugarcane.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM): What I have said is this. In the areas where the sugar factories had not started for long periods—and that was mostly in northern India—the cane-growers were virtually on a strike. I had said that the price should be Rs. 10 and if by paying Rs. 10 the sugar industry faces any loss the Government will determine how to compensate this. By and large the sugar industry has paid Rs. 10.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: In Madras they have not said.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Please have a little patience. I will take notice of what you have said. It so happened that the competition from gur this year was not so intense as it was last year with the result that while normally the cane and those areas which was not taken to the sugar factories they now wanted the sugar factories to crush that. There are some areas as the area about which Mr. Krishnamoorthy referred to where the sugar factories have not been able to crush that and some instances have come to notice where they have offered lower price because it was late and recovery was very much below normal. I know of certain cases where recovery is 4 per cent and still the factories have crushed it and I can't ask the factory to pay Rs. 10 where the recovery is 4 per cent.

SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: The hon Minister has conceded that the sugar recovery in factories where the machines are worn out is much less than in other factories. We have begun growing beet and the sugar recovery from beet is much more than from sugarcane. May I know from the Government if the new factories would be compelled to have arrangement both for crushing sugar beet and sugar cane so that sugar recovery is proper?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: We are already having some experiments in this direction. Not much modification in the machinery will be required. If adequate quantity is available it would be feasible to do that.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Mr. Shinde has said that he was sure that increased production in past years will not have any impact on the price of sugarcane showing downward trend. I am sure, perhaps more sure, that he will be proved wrong. The increasing production and carry over

of stocks will definitely affect the prices of sugarcane and thereby determine the acreage under cultivation. What steps are Government taking to increase the export of sugar so that the carry-over stocks are not at a high level and do not decrease the prices of sugarcane and decrease the area under cultivation?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the fears expressed by the hon. Member that the sugarcane prices may be depressed too much are concerned, I do not think that those fears have any foundation, because we have declared the minimum prices and to pay anything less than the minimum price prescribed is a criminal offence.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: This is the first time that I am rising to put a question after nearly two and a half years. So, kindly allow me to ask a supplementary question.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: This question about sugar and sugarcane prices is raised here very often, and a large number of Members are very anxious to ask questions, supplementary questions, and then we have half-an-hour discussions also. I would like that since this subject is so important, rather than taking away the whole of the Question Hour on this by way of supplementary questions, the hon. Minister may have some discussion on this.

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY: I come from a State which has got the largest number of sugar factories....

MR. SPEAKER: All the Members come from sugarcane areas, but the time at our disposal is very limited.

श्री बिश्वनाथ राय : हों पता नहीं लगता आप हमारी तरफ देखते हैं या नहीं? मैं ऐसी परिया से आता हूँ जहाँ सब मे अधिक सुगर की मिलें हैं . . .

MR. SPEAKER: It is better to have a debate on the subject rather than ask more supplementary questions.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: Let me complete my reply to Shri S. K. Tapuria's question. Our approach has been to protect the interests of the farmers, and to see that the farmers get a remunerative price. That broadly is the position.

As far as exports are concerned, the hon. Member is well aware how our people suffered because of scarcity of sugar during the last two or three years. So, we must see that local consumption receives priority before we can consider foreign exports.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would like to know whether it is a fact that some of the sugar factories . . .

श्री रणधीर सिंह : वैनर्जी का जुग केन या तात्लुक है ? य तो लेब : लीडर है, इन का सिनो से क्या ता लुक ?

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : यह गने का सवाल है, भैस का सवाल नहीं ।

MR. SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member agree to the proposition that I should not call him on any other subject except the subject of kisans? Does he agree to it? What is this objection that he is raising?

श्री रणधीर सिंह : मैं कितनी दफा जडा हुआ, आप ने मुझे नहीं पूकारा ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: May I know it is within the knowledge of the hon. Minister that some of the sugar factories both in UP and in North Bihar have been mismanaged, and if so, the number of such mills which have been taken over and the number which is being taken over? May I know whether in the case of the Samastipur factory which has been taken over, and the period for which exprise in November, 1969, the period will be extended for another five

years so that the employees do not suffer?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I would require notice.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH rose—

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY: I come from a State which has the largest number of sugar factories . . .

श्री रणधीर सिंह : मैं अपना क्लेम अपने माननीय मित्र के लिए फारगो क ता हूं, आप उन को बुला लीजिए ।

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the practice. Now, Shri M. V. Krishna-

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: The hon. Minister Shri Annasahib Shinde was saying that the production this year had gone up to 3.4 or 3.5 million tonnes, and it was likely to go up next year to 3.9 million tonnes and thus likely to reach the target. But our experience during these last fifteen years has been that the targets as fixed by the planners are not kept up. It depends upon the price of food-grains or the alternative grains in the country. If the prices of food-grains go up, then there is a big shift from cane cultivation to foodgrains cultivation. When we suffer from marginal surpluses once in four years, the sugar acreage goes down . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has himself been a Minister. This is not the way the question should be put . . .

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: May I know whether Government are aware that the targets fixed in the Plan cannot be kept up, unless a stable price policy is followed in the case of the other grains in the country?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. Member is well aware of the problems of the sugar industry and the sugarcane prices, and Government will bear this aspect in mind.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: There are as many as 20 hon. Member who are repeatedly standing, but I cannot ask them to speak at one and the same time. Members should wait for their turn.

श्री शिकरे : गोवा की आजादी के बाद पिछले साढ़े सात सालों में गोवा में गन्ने का उत्पादन बहुत बढ़ गया है और जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है गोवा की एक कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी ने चीनी का एक कारखाना खोलने के लिए लाइसेंस की मांग की है और वहां की सरकार ने उस का समर्थन भी किया है । तो मैं आप से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि गोवा से जो मांग आई है वह पूरी करने के बारे में आप क्या कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I am sorry to say that we did not receive any recommendation from the Goa Government earlier . Only recently we have received such recommendation and it is under consideration.

SHRI NATH PAI: His question is what will be the reply if one is received.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: We shall be very sympathetic.

श्री शारदानंद : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने उत्तर में बताया कि पिछली बार जब किसानों ने हड़ताल की तब मंत्री महोदय ने यह आदेश दिया कि मिलों को दस रुपये मन के हिसाब से किसानों को देना चाहिए और इस से अगर कम देंगे तो जो घटा आएगा उस पर हम विचार करेंगे । तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले साल जब मंत्री महोदय ने देखा कि दो महीने तक अगर फैंक्ट्रीज उत्तर प्रदेश में बन्द रहीं उस के बाद आप ने घोषणा की दस रुपये मन देने के लिए तो इस बार क्या मंत्री महोदय वह स्थिति नहीं उत्पन्न होने देंगे और पहले ही घोषणा कर देंगे जो कीमत देनी हो ?

दूसरी चीज मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन मिलों ने काश्तकारों को कम पैसा दिया है उस

पर क्या आप जांच करा कर के जिन को कम पैसा दिया गया है, उन को दस रुपये के हिसाब से दिलाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the cane price is concerned, the hon. Minister has already replied to the question why those prices were fixed and why it was not possible to follow that in certain areas, and I do not want to add to that.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जवाब नहीं आया। इस तरह से कैसे चलेगा ? सवाल यह था कि अगले साल के लिए, क्या अभी से सरकार गन्ने का दाम घोषित करने का विचार कर रही है ?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Strictly speaking, many of the questions which are being raised are not quite relevant to the main question. But as we have made it clear, last year, in view of special circumstances, I made that announcement, and I have also said that by and large the sugar industry has paid that price . . .

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : एक बात मंत्री जी यह बताइए

श्री जगजीवन राम : अरे, पूरा तो हो जाने दीजिए। जरा सब करिए। बीच में कैसे खड़े हो गए ? यह तो सीखिए कम से कम वाक्य पूरा हो जाय तब खड़े हों। मैं यही कह रहा था कि पिछले साल यह परिस्थिति थी। उ। मे उत्तर प्रदेश में अधिकांश स्थानों में दस रुपये दिया है। कुछ ऐसे भी स्थान रहे हैं जहाँ नहीं दिया है और उस का कारण भी सदस्य लोगों को मालूम है

श्री शारदानन्द : मेरे जिले में तीन शुगर फैक्ट्रीज हैं तीनों में से एक ने भी . .

श्री जगजीवन राम : मैं यहाँ बहस करने के लिए नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। एक एक कारखाने के बारे में और किसी सदस्य के क्षेत्र का कोई एक कारखाना होता उसका बारे में मैं जानकारी

इस वक्त कैसे दे सकता हूँ? अगले साल के लिए जहाँ तक न्यूनतम दाम है, वह तो निर्धारित कर के घोषित कर दिया गया है।

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Strike by Tea Plantation Labour in West Bengal

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S. N. Q. 7. SHRIMATI ILA PAL-CHOUDHURI:
SHRI D. N. PATODIA:
SHRI TRIDIB KUMAR CHAUDHURI:
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI:
SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newspaper reports that the Tea Plantation Labour in West Bengal, following the failure of the tripartite negotiations due to the stiff attitude of the tea garden owners, are reported to have decided to go on an indefinite strike from the 18th August, 1969, in support of their ten-point demands, including an upward revision of the minimum wages; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to avert the strike?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHAUDHARY RAM SEVAK): (a) and (b). The Tea Plantation workers of West Bengal presented a charter of tea demands to the managements and gave notice to go on strike failing settlement. The demands relate, *inter alia*, to restoration of land-labour ratio as it existed up to the year 1956 and setting up of a wage fixation machinery at the state level to revise the wage structure of workers in the industry. The State Labour Commissioner held discussion with the parties on August 11, 1969. Subsequently, the State Labour Minister also had talks with the