

राष्ट्रपति पद के लिये 9 उम्मीदवार ऐसे थे, जिन्हें एक भी वोट नहीं मिला। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इलैक्शन कमीशन की सिफारिश पर अमल करने में सरकार इतनी देर क्यों कर रही है ? क्या पांच साल का समय सरकार के लिये काफी नहीं है ?

**Shri D. R. Chavan:** As a matter of fact, the recommendations of the Election Commission were considered by the Government sometime back in 1966. Those recommendations were not accepted. The reason that mainly weighed with the Government was that it should not put fetters in respect of candidates contesting for the high office of President and Vice-President.

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Instead of considering a security deposit of Rs. 1,000 which many people will be prepared to pay for the publicity which they get, has the Government under consideration any scheme for restricting the number of candidates by imposing a condition like this that nobody can stand unless at least 50 Members of Parliament or 100 members of the Legislative Assembly propose his name as a candidate?

**Shri D. R. Chavan:** That is actually one of the recommendations made by the Election Commission. Now for contesting an election a candidate has to find out only two electors from the electoral college. The Election Commission in their report have mentioned that, in addition to this, there should be nearly about 8 electors who can subscribe to the candidature of a candidate. That is being examined.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

उड़ीसा द्वारा पश्चिम बंगाल को दिया गया चावल

S.N.Q. 22. श्री मधु लिमये :  
श्री कामेश्वर सिंह :  
श्री रवि राय :

श्री चिन्तामणि पाणिग्रही :

श्री रा० ह० सिंह :

श्री गणेश :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उड़ीसा के सब से बढ़िया चावल में, जो पश्चिम बंगाल को बेचा गया था, बहुत मिलावट पाई गई है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का ध्यान उड़ीसा के मुख्य मंत्री के उस वक्तव्य की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें उन्होंने यह आरोप लगाया है कि इसमें भारत के खाद्य निगम के कर्मचारियों का हाथ है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि मुख्य मंत्री ने केन्द्रीय जांच विभाग द्वारा इस मामले की जांच कराई जाने की मांग की है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार द्वारा क्या इसकी कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde):** (a) Some quantity of superfine rice sent from Orissa to West Bengal has been found to contain excess of foreign matter.

(b) and (c). Government have seen the reports in the papers of the statement said to have been made by the Chief Minister of Orissa in the State Assembly. Information has been called for from Orissa Government and is awaited.

(d) Does not arise at this stage.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बात की कम से कम जानकारी देंगे कि उड़ीसा के द्वारा यह जो सुपर फाइन चावल पश्चिमी बंगाल को बेचा गया था यह कि के द्वारा उड़ीसा में प्रोक्योर किया गया ? उस

का दाम क्या था और कितना यह चावल उड़ीसा के द्वारा बंगाल को दिया गया ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** As far as the procurement prices which operate in Orissa are concerned, superfine grade 1 is Rs. 85.67; superfine grade 2 Rs. 83.10; fine Rs. 78.23 and coarse Rs. 74.50. From month to month the quantities which we are able to export from Orissa to West Bengal differ. I have not got the other question of the hon. Member.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** मैंने यह कहा कि कितना सुपर फाइन चावल बेचा गया, किस दाम से बेचा गया, प्रोक्योर किसने किया था? उड़ीसा सरकार ने किया था या फूड कारपोरेशन ने किया था या दोनों ने मिल कर किया था ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** About the purchase price I have already mentioned.

**Mr. Speaker:** At what price have they procured?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** I have mentioned it already.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** किस ने प्रोक्योर किया था यह मैं केवल जानकारी के लिए पूछ रहा हूँ ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** The Food Corporation acts as an agent of the State Government but the payment of the price is made through the Orissa Government. The Food Corporation pays to the Orissa Government. Delivery from the millers is taken by the Food Corporation. Here I do not want to say anything which will unnecessarily cause misunderstanding between the State Government and the Centre, because the State Government has been co-operating with us in despatch of rice. As far as grades are concerned, the centre has suggested some grades. Unfortunately, the Orissa Govern-

ment did not agree with that; they have fixed their own grades. According to the Centre's specifications, for instance, broken up to 15 to 27 per cent are allowed. According to the Orissa Government grades broken up to 20 to 35 per cent are allowed. Then, foreign matter .5 to 1.5 per cent is permissible according to the Centre's specification while according to the specification of the State Government .5 to 2 per cent of foreign matter is allowed.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** यह किस उड़ीसा सरकार ने किया था, बीजू पटनायक की सरकार ने या बोरेन मित्र की सरकार ने ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** This is according to the control order issued by the Orissa Government. About red grains, according to the Centre's specifications only 2 to 4 per cent is allowed while the Orissa Government does not prescribe any limit to the extent to which red grain can be mixed with superfine variety. Then, admixture and inferior varieties, 10 to 20 per cent are permissible under Centre's specifications while according to the Orissa Government 10 to 30 per cent are permissible. The specification of the Centre for dehusked grain is 4 to 7 per cent while the Orissa Government does not impose any limit on the mixing of dehusked grain in the superfine variety. As for moisture, it is the same for the Centre and the Orissa Government. These are the different specifications as far as the Centre and the Orissa Government are concerned.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, इन के कहने के अनुसार फूड कारपोरेशन उड़ीसा सरकार के एजेंट के तौर पर काम कर रही थी और उन्होंने चावल के मिल वालों से यह चावल लिया। इस में जो मिलावट हुई है विलकुल साफ बात है कि इसमें यह चावल मिलों के मौखिक फूड कारपोरेशन और हो सकता है कि उड़ीसा

सरकार के अधिकारियों का या मंत्रियों का इस में हाथ रहा हो तो क्या इस की जांच करने के लिए स्वयं आप कोई इन्सिस्टिव लेकर इस के बारे में कोई कार्यवाही करेंगे ?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** My limitations are that we have no information from the State Government. Naturally, on such matters we can go only on the basis of information supplied by the State Government.

**श्री जयु लिमये :** फूड कारपोरेशन से तो पूछ सकते हैं वह तो आप के मातहत आता है ।

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** May I read out the telegram received from the Food Corporation explaining the position? At least, as far as the facts are concerned, the House should know the facts. We received one telegram from the Orissa Government and I am first reading out the telegram received from the Orissa Government. It is not about this; this was prior to the statement of the Chief Minister but it refers to this subject. It reads:

"Your telephone regarding rice supply to West Bengal. Slow movement due to difficulty created by Food Corporation in accepting superfine rice. Against the latest allotment of thousand tonnes from Balasore District 993 tonnes already moved out. 11,486 tonnes rice available with millers but Food Corporation refuses accepting the same alleging higher admixture of inferior grains. This not only slows down movement to Bengal but also disturbs out other programme to supply of seeds to Bihar. Difficulty about wagons has since been removed. When asked Food Corporation states West Bengal not agreeing accept superfine rice. Kindly instruct FCI to accept superfine rice. Available and accelerate movement."

**श्री जयु लिमये :** हां, दोनों पढ़िये ।

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** This explains the position.

**श्री जयु लिमये :** यह तो उड़ीसा गवर्नमेंट का हुमा । अब दूसरा तो पढ़िये ।

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** I am prepared to. It reads:—

"Understand from Jagannath Das that West Bengal Government's representative in Orissa has rejected stocks of rice supplied by Orissa Government. Jagannath Rao also confirms...."

**Shri P. K. Deo:** Who is this Jagannath Rao?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** "Jagannath Das also confirms that stocks of superfine rice which are now available for supply to West Bengal against allotment of fifteen thousand tonnes are below rejection limits. He also informs that if these stocks are not accepted it would be difficult to supply targetted quantity on account of lack of availability. Please consult Food Commissioner West Bengal and seek their instructions whether they are prepared to accept rice of quality below rejection limit. You may telephone Jagannath Das and convey decision taken. Addressed Mitra repeated by telegram Jagannath Das with reference to telephonic conversation yesterday. Repeated Balasumbaramaniam Khadyavibhag New Delhi with reference to telephonic conversation yesterday. It may be mentioned in this connection that Orissa Government have been objecting to cuts being imposed beyond rejection limits. This has already been reported to Ministry by Regional Manager Bhubaneswar vide his savingram....in reply to Ministry's telegram....dated 28.2.67."

**श्री रवि राय :** मोटे घनाब के साथ मिलावट करके सुपरफाइन करके इस तरह

से बेचना यह कोई नयी चीज नहीं है। पिछले साल जब उड़ीसा में दुर्भिक्ष पड़ा था, अकाल पड़ा था तो बोलागीर और कालाहांडी जिलों में जो अनाज लोगों को दिया गया था उस को भी मिल मालिकों ने इस तरीके से सुपरफाइन करके बेच दिया था। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि कालाहांडी और बोलागीर में जो इस तरीके की चीज हुई और फिर उड़ीसा के मुख्य मंत्री ने फरमाया कि इनकवायरी होगी और अब यह बंगाल के चावल का सिलसिला हुआ। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि दोनों की जांच हो जाये ताकि दोषी लोग जो हैं उन का पता चल जाये।

**खाद्य तथा कृषि मन्त्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) :** जैसा कहा गया है उड़ीसा की सरकार से इस संबंध में जानकारी हासिल करने के लिये लिखा गया है और उन का उत्तर आने के बाद इस संबंध में जिस तरह की जांच करने का सुझाव उन की तरफ से आये, उसी तरह से उस में जांच होनी चाहिये ताकि जिन लोगों ने इस में गड़बड़ी की है उन का मामला साफ हो जाये और उन सब को सजा दी जा सके।

**Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** The hon. Chief Minister stated that corruption is rampant in the matter of despatches of rice from Orissa which is being carried on under the joint auspices of the Supply Department of the State Government and the Food Corporation of India. Of course Supply Department there is not under Swatantra. May I know whether the Chief Minister has formally requested the Government of India to carry out any C.B.I. enquiry into this rice deal? As it has been very clearly understood from the reply of the Minister that there is corruption in the matter of rice supply from Orissa to West Bengal, may I know whether the Government of India propose to make an enquiry *suo moto* in this affair?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** As I stated just now, we have not received anything formally from the Orissa Government. On receiving this information, we have written to the Orissa Government. My officers were trying to get in touch with the Orissa officers on telephone; the Supply Commissioner was not available. As soon as we receive the communication from the Orissa Government, whatever they suggest for making an enquiry into this affair will be taken up so that we can find the people who are responsible for this shameful affair.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** The hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture had stated a few days ago on the floor of the House and outside also that the Centre was undertaking a minimum allocation of 15,000 tonnes of rice per month to West Bengal—not more than that; they say, it is adequate and more than that they cannot guarantee—and these supplies were supposed to go mainly from Orissa to West Bengal.

Now, arising out of this question and answer here, that because of this sub-standard rice, etc., there has been some dislocation in the supply. The West Bengal Food Minister had made a public statement a couple of days ago saying that this minimum allocation of 15,000 tonnes of rice was not received in the month of June and that there is no certainty as to whether the supply for July will be received by them or not.

I want to know from the hon. Minister—this is connected with the question of supply of rice from Orissa—since there is no certainty of getting supply from Orissa because of this trouble, how does the position stand now in regard to the assurance which he has given about the minimum allocation of rice to West Bengal which they are not getting in June or in July. What is going to happen? The whole rationing system is breaking down there. I do not

understand how long we are going to live on bogus assurances.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not know what we can do. I had said that the monthly allocation of 15,000 tonnes of rice to West Bengal will be made available from Orissa and efforts were being made to see that 15,000 tonnes of rice do move from Orissa. This difficulty has now arisen. But we have taken some other steps. Rice that has been despatched to West Bengal from Orissa will be 6742 tonnes and from Andhra, where we had allotted 3,000 tonnes, out of 3,000 tonnes, 2,541 tonnes have been despatched. This makes a total of 9283 tonnes.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** For which month?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I am saying this for June.

Then, in view of the shortfall because of the difficulty that has arisen in Orissa in the movement of rice, we have also supplied 2000 tonnes of imported rice. All this makes a total of 11283 tonnes. I agree that the total quantity of 15,000 tonnes could not be made available in view of the difficulties that are being experienced in Orissa.

So far as July supplies are concerned we are still talking to the Orissa Government and I hope to hear in a day or two as to what they are going to do so far as July supplies are concerned. I am taking this opportunity to inform the House that, so far as the rice supply is concerned, it is going to be far more difficult in the month of July.

**Shri E. Barua:** The standard specification prescribed by the State is different from the standard specification prescribed by the Centre. In view of that, may I know how the F.C.I. officials could accept the sub-standard rice into the godown, as alleged by the Orissa Government?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** I have already mentioned the factual position. As far as specifications are concerned, the State Government have different orders in regard to specifications. When some question about acceptance of rice arose, the Food Corporation naturally consulted the West Bengal Government and the West Bengal Government, being in a difficult position, advised them to accept whatever quantity was there. On the advice of the West Bengal Government, the Food Corporation appears to have accepted the quantity.

**Shri P. K. Deo:** While congratulating the Chief Minister of Orissa for having taken this bold decision to root out corruption and for suggesting to the Central Government a CBI probe, may I know whether it is not a fact that the responsibility could be squarely placed on the shoulders of the officials of the Food Corporation who are primarily responsible to receive rice from the mill-owners and whose job it is to see that the rice supplied is of the quality prescribed?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It does not seem desirable at this stage to apportion the blame on the officers of the Supply Department of the Orissa Government or on the officers of the Food Corporation. As I have said, we have taken up the matter with the Orissa Government and a thorough investigation into the matter is very necessary. Whether it is the officials of the Food Corporation or the officials of the Supply Department of the Orissa Government or both of them jointly, the matter has to be looked into and has to be investigated.

**Shri Sradhakhar Supakar:** The difference between the Food Corporation of India and the State Government seems to be based on the fact that the State Government insists on a higher standard of adulteration instead of a higher standard of purity. In view of that, may I know whether

the price that is being received by the State Government of Orissa is on the basis of the standard prescribed by the Food Corporation of India or their own standard, by which more rice of inferior quality is mixed thereby reducing the prices.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Obviously that appears to be coarse rice. It appears that coarse rice is being passed on as superfine rice. Naturally the price paid to the State Government by the Food Corporation will be on the basis of the price of superfine rice.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** Just now the hon. Minister has said that there has been some difficulty in the supply of rice and that is why, the promised quantity of rice has not been supplied to West Bengal. He promised something like 15,000 tonnes of rice for June to West Bengal. May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of India last month had promised to the Food Minister of West Bengal that 3,000 tonnes over and above these 15,000 tonnes of rice from Orissa would be supplied to West Bengal and whether it is also a fact that the Punjab Food Minister was prepared to offer, besides their quota for supplying Kashmir, some amount of rice to West Bengal in order to tide over the crisis? I want to know why, in spite of these so-called promises and the offers that were made from certain quarters, the Government of India did not take sufficient measures to collect this rice and supply to West Bengal. May I also know whether it is a fact that the shortfall in the supply of wheat that was due to West Bengal has not been fulfilled and if so, when it is going to be fulfilled.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** The hon. Member has made many presumptions and I wish that his presumptions were correct to some extent. As I have said the 3000 tonnes allotment that we made from Andhra Pradesh was not additional allotment. But I had approached the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to give me a loan of rice to be supplied to the West

Bengal Government, in view of the delay that might occur in the movement of 15,000 tonnes of rice from Orissa to West Bengal. That is one thing.

The second thing is that much has been made about the supply of rice from Punjab to West Bengal. I wish rice were available in Punjab. What I have said is that in respect of whatever quantity Punjab is in a position to supply in addition to their commitment to the Central Pool, I would not create any difficulty in the way of its movement to West Bengal.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** But what steps have the Central Government taken to bring that food to West Bengal?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I am just answering that.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** That was the point of my question.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I am giving the answer to the question that has been put. Much is being made of the fact as if rice was available in plenty in Punjab. I have said that we have no objection. As a matter of fact, I had asked the Food Minister of Punjab to get whatever broken rice was available with the trade there....

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** They offered 5,000 tonnes and the hon. Minister knows it.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** They offered 5,000 tonnes of broken rice. The public statement is there.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I am saying that if broken rice is there to the extent of 5,000 tonnes or even 10,000 tonnes, I shall be happy to move that to West Bengal. But that rice is not with the Punjab Government. It is with the trade. I had myself personally requested the Food Minister of Punjab to procure it from the trade so that it could be supplied to West Bengal.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** But where did that go?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It has not been procured yet. But it is for the Punjab Government. I have already requested them.....

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** Everywhere, the Food Corporation is the procuring agent. They are sabotaging this. It is the statement of the Chief Minister of West Bengal that they are sabotaging procurement in West Bengal in Orissa and also in Punjab.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Again, my hon. friend is raising this cry without knowing the facts.

So far as Punjab is concerned, the Food Corporation has no authority for this; except purchasing barley and gram they have not been permitted to purchase anything else. My hon. friend must be sure of the facts before making these allegations. I have already made a personal request to the Food Minister of Punjab to procure the broken rice with the trade, and he has not yet succeeded in that.

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** The West Bengal people are being starved deliberately by the Central Government only for this crime that the West Bengal people did not vote the Congress to power. Let that be known to the House.

**Shri Ranga:** With your permission, I would like to submit that two departures have been made by Government. One is in regard to the use of the word 'adulteration'. We have always understood that if rice and wheat or milo and wheat are mixed together it is adulteration because it is a mixture of two different things. But if two types of rice are also mixed and that is to be treated as adulteration, then we shall have to ask for a separate definition in the Oxford Dictionary for it.

Secondly, hitherto, we have understood that any correspondence between the State Government and the Union is always treated as a

great confidential secret. Now, we have been favoured with that correspondence, and we shall take note of it when we have to deal with the question of the relations between the Centre and the States. Now that the Union Government and the State Government have become merchants and have displaced the normal traders and normal merchants, may I know whether the specifications suggested by one merchant, namely the Orissa Government were accepted by the wholesaler merchant, namely the Government of India, and if the Government of India have accepted their specifications and the prices that they have themselves quoted and achieved that deal, how it lies with the Government of India to complain that the Orissa Government have stuck to their own specifications and as a result of those specifications, some sub-standard supplies have resulted? And so the Orissa Government, the other merchant, is at fault and not the wholesale merchant, the Government of India.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I do not know how the professor says I have said that I am not responsible or the Food Corporation is not guilty. I have not said that, I have never said that. I have said the whole matter requires to be looked into, and whosoever is guilty should be punished.

**Shri Ranga:** Including the Government of India?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Yes, of course, including the Food Corporation. I have not absolved the Food Corporation. I do not know how the professor says so.

**Shri Ranga:** What about the Government of India?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** The Food Corporation is the agent of the Government of India.

**Shri Ranga:** The Government of India was also responsible because it was the wholesale merchant.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Though the Food Corporation act as the agent

of the State Government, all the procurement programme of the Food Corporation is conducted through the officials of the State Government because the Food Corporation has no independent agency in the States. In view of this position, may I know whether the Government is taking into consideration the difficulties which the Food Corporation faces, whether the difficulty in procurement of foodgrains has been pointed out by the Food Corporation of India, and what the Government proposes to do in order to mitigate their difficulty because even now the blame is cast on the State Food Corporation?

**Shri Badrudduja:** I rise on a point of order. Without questioning in any way the bona fides of the Central administration am I to understand from the statement of the Food Minister that the people of West Bengal will have to starve? (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** There is no point of order. First of all, you must quote some rule.

**Shri Badrudduja:** I have been to the district myself, and I have seen with my own eyes thousands of people are starving. They do not get even a square meal a day. (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** There is no point of order.

**Shri Badrudduja:** \*\*

**Mr. Speaker:** This will not go on record.

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** Both the Food Corporation and the Orissa Government jointly carry out the procurement but in Orissa the procurement which is made for export to West Bengal is from millers. So, the millers make deliveries to the Food Corporation, but through the State Government.

**श्री कंशर लाल गुप्त:** मंत्री महोदय के सभी यह माना कि बेस्ट बंगाल को जो

चावल दिया गया उस में मिलावट थी और वह ठीक क्वालिटी का नहीं था। इसी तरह की शिकायतें और स्टेट्स से भी आई हैं जहाँ बढ़िया तरीके का चावल दिया गया है ता मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि कौन कौन सी जगहों से सरकार के पास इस तरह की शिकायतें आई हैं और वह शिकायतें क्या क्या हैं? क्या सरकार जो एन्क्वायरी करने वाली है जहाँ जहाँ से शिकायतें आई हैं सब के बारे में एन्क्वायरी करेगी?

**श्री जगजीवन राम:** मेरी जानकारी में चावल के संबंध में तो और कोई शिकायत हमारे पास नहीं आई है।

**श्री एस० एम० जोशी:** जब कि मंत्री महोदय ने यह बताया कि पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री ने यह कहा कि हमारे पास चावल है लेकिन वह मिलता नहीं है तो बाघ निगम जो है वह अपनी तरफ से वहाँ वह चावल क्यों नहीं खरीदता है जब बंगाल की हानत इतनी बुरी है?

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** The Food Corporation can operate in respect of the State only at the will of the State Government, and with the consent of the State Government. In Punjab, the work of procurement of rice has not been entrusted to the Food Corporation by the Punjab Government.

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to say whether, in view of the fact that the Chief Minister of Orissa himself has admitted that the rice supplied was not of Super-fine quality, that rice will be supplied as rice of inferior quality? And secondly; what is there to prevent the Food Corporation of India from acquiring broken rice from Punjab, because as he himself said the Corporation are doing it only in respect of barley now and not in respect of rice.



**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Perhaps Members do not remember things; I have repeated that on many occasions. So far as the Food Corporation of India is concerned, it can function in any State only with the power and authority given to it by the State Government concerned. If any State Government does not permit, the Corporation is not competent to do that. As to the quality, it has been admitted on all hands that a few wagons were despatched to West Bengal from Orissa and they were not superfine rice but coarse rice. The whole thing has to be looked into.

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** What stands in the way of selling that rice as coarse rice if it is not superfine rice?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That can be looked into if it is agreed to by the West Bengal Government.

**श्री भोगेन्द्र झा :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं व्यवस्था का सवाल उठाता हूँ, आपकी व्यवस्था के बिनाफ। आपने एक दिन कहा था कि एक बार कोई खड़ा हो और आप उसे देख लें तो उस के बाद दोबारा खड़े होने की जरूरत नहीं है... आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिये। मैं देखता हूँ कि आप के देख लेने के बाद भी सदस्य कभी आठ आना खड़े रहते हैं, कभी बारह आना खड़े रहते हैं...

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप बैठिये आपको भी बुझाऊंगा।

**श्री भोगेन्द्र झा :** जो आप कहें, उस का पालन कीजिये।

**श्री जगजीवन राम :** क्या माननीय चाय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह बात सही है कि गले के प्रोक्प्योरमेन्ट की मुख्य रूप से जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकारों

की है और राज्य सरकारें खुद गल्ला बसूनी का काम करती हैं। केन्द्रीय सरकार ने जब से यह बात स्पष्ट की है, तब से दिक्कत और बढ़ गई है, लगातार इस बात पर जोर दिया जाता है कि राज्य सरकारें अधिक से अधिक गल्ला उगाहा करें, लेकिन वह हो नहीं पाता है। बंगाल सरकार ने उगाही का जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया था, उतना प्राप्त करने में वह असफल रही है, उस ने प्रोक्प्योरमेन्ट का काम नहीं किया है। आज जो संकट बंगाल में पैदा हुआ है उस को हल करने के लिये केन्द्रीय खाद्य मंत्री ने जब पंजाब सरकार को लिखा कि बंगाल की स्थिति को हल करने के लिये जो चावल वह अधिक से अधिक दे सकती है, उन को उपलब्ध कराये, लेकिन पंजाब सरकार ने आज तक न तो उस का कोई जवाब आया और न गल्ला देने की स्थिति आज तक है—क्या यह बात सही है?

**श्री जगजीवन राम :** यह बात सही है। जहाँ तक राज्यों के प्रोक्प्योरमेन्ट का प्रश्न है—यह राज्य सरकारों का काम है और इस सदन में बराबर कई अवसरों पर मैंने कहा है कि चाहे वह राज्य वैसा हो जहाँ जरूरत से ज्यादा अनाज है या ऐसा हो जहाँ जरूरत से कम अनाज है, दोनों का यह कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि जहाँ तक सम्भव हो अपने अपने राज्यों में अधिक से अधिक अनाज प्रोक्प्योर करें। यह सही बात है कि बंगाल सरकार ने जो मन्सूबा बाँधा था—दो लाख टन चावल उपलब्ध करने का, उस में उन को सफलता नहीं मिल पाई है।

**Dr. Ranen Sen:** At the time of food procurement in West Bengal, there was the Congress Government.....  
(Interruptions.)

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to have a little silence in the House. The food problem in Bengal may be a bit difficult.

cult and perhaps they are trying to ask questions a little more forcefully.

**श्री भोगेन्द्र झा :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो शिकायत आई है और जिसका स्वीकार किया गया है, कि जो चावल उड़ीसा से बंगाल को जा जाने वाला था, उस में मिलावट थी। मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह वह मिला हुआ चावल आप बिहार को भेजने का कष्ट करेंगे.....

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** यह प्रश्न बंगाल के बारे में है।

**श्री भोगेन्द्र झा :** हम तो मिला हुआ चावल मांग रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह बिहार को मिलेगा या नहीं।

दूसरी बात, बिहार इन से न्याय की आशा तो नहीं करता, बिहार के साथ इन का जो वायदा था, वह फेल हो गया है। बिहार के लोग आज सोच रहे हैं कि दिल्ली कूच करे या क्या करें?.....

**Mr. Speaker:** No, please. Mr. Banerjee. I will call one after the other. I cannot call everyone at one and the same time.

**डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, उन्होंने एक सवाल उठा दिया है कि बिहार के लोगों को विश्वास नहीं है।

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mr. Ajoy Mukherjee and the Deputy Chief Minister, Shri Jyoti Basu, when they came here, explained to the hon. Food Minister here that the condition in West Bengal has far more deteriorated and the conditions there exceed the beating done elsewhere in that State (Interruptions.)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order; he is referring to something else.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether he is aware that rice in the open market is being sold there at Rs. 4.50 per kilo and it is impossible for any family there to have rice even once in the course of the day. I would like to know what steps have been taken by the Central Government to save them from starvation, apart from the foodgrains from Punjab which he has mentioned in the statement.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** As I have explained, the situation in West Bengal so far as food is concerned, is not comfortable, and that is why we took steps to see that 15,000 tonnes of rice do move. The difficulty has arisen, and I have explained it already.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** You are more concerned about Naxalbari than food.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is irrelevant.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That is the reflex of your own point coming out. As I said, we have supplied 75,000 tonnes of wheat; we have allotted 10,000 tonnes of extra wheat from Punjab to West Bengal. We have supplied 4,000 tonnes of milo in view of the difficult situation in West Bengal. We are trying to do the utmost that we can do, with the availability of foodgrains in the country.

**श्री शिव नारायण :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम लोगों को भी एक-आध सवाल पूछने दीजिये। हम भी भूखे मर रहे हैं।

**Mr. Speaker:** The more I wait, I find a large number of new people are getting up.

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** The whole question has arisen because of the supply of sub-standard rice to West Bengal, for which an enquiry has been promised already. But what about the difference in the specification? So far as difference on the specification is concerned, between the Government of Orissa and the Government of India, may I know whether at any time the

Government of India sat with the representatives of the Government of Orissa to resolve this difference and fix a price according to the specification.

**Shri Annasahib Shinde:** This matter has been taken up by the Food Minister with the Government of Orissa. Moreover, this problem is an all-India problem. So, the committee under Dr. Ramiah has been going into this problem, because there are more than thousand varieties of rice and some sort of common approach is required in order to remove the difference between the Centre and the State Government with regard to this.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** The present government in West Bengal, after coming to power, immediately removed all restrictions on the movement of paddy that the previous government had imposed. The result was that the grains which could not come to Calcutta before.....

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not a debate on food now. What is your question?

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** The ex-Chief Minister of West Bengal had issued a warning that the removal of the restriction would lead to a crisis. Did the Food Minister here take note of that warning and bring it to the notice of the State Food Minister or the State Chief Minister there, that the warning given by the ex-Chief Minister had to be heeded and that the crisis might be averted by keeping the restrictions that had been imposed previously by the previous government?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a matter for suggestion.

**Shri J. M. Biswas:** A few days back, the hon. Food Minister visited my constituency in the Purulia and Bankura districts in West Bengal and was impressed by the saddest position there and the worst conditions of the people due to want of food. He made some promise to supply some extra

food such as milo to Purulia and Bankura districts. I want to know from the minister to what extent he has implemented his promise to the people of my constituency?

**Shri Jagjiwan Ram:** As I said, 2000 tons of wheat for free distribution will be supplied. Another thing I said was that for running free kitchens, 500 maunds of wheat will be supplied free of cost every day for three months.

**Shri J. M. Biswas:** Has it been supplied?

**Shri Jagjiwan Ram:** I asked the Food Minister of West Bengal to go on advancing 500 maunds as people start the free kitchens. That commitment is there and we will supply them. As the kitchens are started, it will be given.

**Shri J. M. Biswas:** There is already a short-fall of wheat supply.

**Mr. Speaker:** Two or three members get up. By the time I finish them, another 10 people get up.

**Shri J. M. Biswas:** Quite a number of people have already died in West Bengal.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Speaker cannot help it.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Remunerative Price to Farmers

\*906. **Shri Randhir Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what effective steps Government have taken to make available remunerative prices to the farmer for his produce;

(b) what percentage will be the margin of profit to the farmer for his different agricultural commodities; and