

हुई? मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्री महोदय इसके ऊपर रोशनी डालें?

Shri Govinda Menon: I did not say that it was being considered. When the question was referred to, I said that there was no such obligation.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि लोक सभा और विधान सभा के चुनाव एक साथ न करा कर अलग अलग कराने में क्या सरकार के सामने कुछ ऐसी भी कठिनाई आई कि उसके लिए सरकारी कर्मचारियों का दुहरा प्रबन्ध करना पड़ता है, यदि हाँ तो क्या इस चीज़ को भी इस पर निर्णय लेते समय ध्यान में रखा जा रहा है?

Shri D. R. Chavan: As a matter of fact, the question involves finance. If elections are held on two different dates, the expenditure that is likely to be incurred will be much more than the expenditure incurred when the elections are held simultaneously both for the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies.

Price of Imported American Wheat

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*903. **Shri Madhu Limaye:**

Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Shri George Fernandes:

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

(a) the C.I.F. price of imported American wheat and milo of different grades/varieties in the different years (average for each year) under PL480 to-date; and

(b) the selling prices in the different urban and rural centres (selective basis) of this imported stuff at the appropriate time?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha giving the average C&F price of imported

wheat and milo for each year from the year the PL480 imports commenced up to the 31st May, 1967. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-884/67]. Information relating to C&F prices of various grades and varieties of wheat and milo is not maintained separately.

(b) A Statement is laid on the table of the Sabha showing the issue prices fixed by the Government of India from time to time of wheat and milo imported from all sources during the above period. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-884/67]. Imported foodgrains are supplied to the State Governments at this price who, in turn, supply these foodgrains to the consumers after adding their incidental costs. Information about the selling prices in the different urban and rural centres for imported foodgrains relating to the above period are not, therefore, available with the Government of India.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का इसमें सम्पूर्ण उत्तर नहीं है। मैं ने यह कहा था कि अगर सब जगह के आंकड़ नहीं हैं तो कुछ खास खास केन्द्रों, देहाती और शहरी केन्द्रों, के आंकड़े जरूर इकट्ठा करें। बहुत दिन पहले मैंने यह मवाल दिया था। करीब दो महीने हो गये। क्या दो महीनों में यह जानकारी इकट्ठी करना मुश्किल था? क्या इसका कोई खुलासा मंत्री महोदय करेंगे?

Shri Annasaheb Shinde: If the hon. Member would be satisfied, I have got some additional information which I shall give. Of course, the figures are State-wise: for instance, Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 62 is the issue price of wheat for statutory rationing areas, while it is Rs. 56.79 to Rs. 56.93 for informal rationing areas, plus 3-1/4 per cent sales tax, incidental charges, margin of profit of wholesalers and retailers which varies from place to place; this is as on 9-1-1967. In Bihar the wheat price is Rs. 60.30 and the price of milo is Rs. 45.44 plus retailer's margin of Rs. 1.80 to Rs. 6.00 per quintal keeping in view the distance from

godown, local transport conditions and incidental charges. In Gujarat, the price of wheat is Rs. 60 and the price of milo is Rs. 45. In Haryana, the price of wheat is Rs. 60. In Kerala, the price of wheat is Rs. 61 to Rs. 64. In Madhya Pradesh, the price of wheat is Rs. 61 and the price of milo is Rs. 46. In Madras the price of wheat is Rs. 64 plus 1 per cent sales tax as on 6-1-1967, and so on.

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस बात की और गया है कि इस साल के प्रारम्भ में बिहार की कई राशन की दुकानों में 65 पैसे से लेकर 70 पैसे प्रति किलो तक अमरीकी गेहूँ बेचा जा रहा था? यदि उनका ध्यान गया है तो इसके बारे में उन्होंने खुद या बिहार सरकार का मार्फत क्या कार्रवाई की है?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: As I have already submitted, we are issuing to all States Governments wheat at a price of Rs. 55 per quintal and the State Governments are expected to sell to the consumers. As I have already mentioned, the retailer's margin of Rs. 1.80 to Rs. 6.00 per quintal is charged by the Bihar Government for meeting the incidental expenditure.

श्री मधु लिमये : विहार में तो ज्यादा दाम हैं न?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: I shall bring this to the notice of the Bihar Government.

श्री मधु लिमये : अमरीका से जो गेहूँ आयात किया जाता है या जो खुद फूड कारपोरेशन यहाँ खरीदता है, उस के खरीदने के दाम में और ग्राहकों को जिस दाम पर बेचा जाता है उस में इतना अन्तर होता है कि जो सरकारी अनाज व्यापार की नीति है वह बदनाम हो जाती है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि किसानों को जो दाम सरकार देती है और ग्राहकों को जिस दाम पर बेचती है उस में जो तफकी है और बितरण

पर जो सरकारी खर्च होता है उस को घटाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या इन्तजाम किया है, चाहे अमरीकी गेहूँ हो या देश में खरीदा हुआ अनाज हो?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: It should be our efforts to reduce the cost of distribution as far as possible. As the hon. Member might be aware, we are not getting any profit. In fact, we are subsidising very heavily the sales of imported wheat. As far as the indigenous wheat is concerned, of course, we are not subsidising it and, as I have already mentioned in the House, the Government is seized of the problem as to how the cost of handling by the Food Corporation can be brought down.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From the statement it appears that upto the end of 1964, the price was Rs. 37.51 per quintal. Then from 15-11-1966 onwards, the price is Rs. 55 per quintal. It appears that the price has risen from Rs. 37.51 to Rs. 55 from 1964 to November 1966. I would like to know whether this price is going to affect the Government's subsidy plus the retail price of wheat and if so, what steps have been taken to see that the prices are not increased.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: If I have followed the hon. Member rightly, as I have already submitted, the economic cost of imported wheat is about Rs. 66 and some naya Paise, while we are issuing the wheat to the State Governments at a price of Rs. 55 per quintal. That means, we are incurring....

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My question is this. Now the selling price was Rs. 37.51 per quintal upto 1964. Am I correct? This is in his statement. From Rs. 37.51 per quintal, it rose to Rs. 55 per quintal from the 15th November, 1966. So, there is a huge gap. I would like to know the causes for this. Did we get costly, wheat rotten wheat from the USA, or was the price

increased here, or did it increase after devaluation?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: One of the reasons for the increase in prices is the upward tendency in the international prices of foodgrains generally. Moreover, as a result of devaluation, there was a sharp rise in the price of imported foodgrains. That was the main reason for the prices going up.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यह अमरीकी गेहूँ का प्रश्न है और आज दुनिया के लिये एक बड़ा शुभ दिन है क्योंकि आज के दिन एक देश स्वतन्त्र हुआ था, और वह था अमरीका। तो इस शुभ दिन पर जब कि अमरीका वाले गेहूँ भेज रहे हैं, चाहे ज्यादा दाम पर हम लोगों को भेज रहे हैं, फिर भी मैं चाहूँगा कि इस लोक सभा की तरफ से उन की लोक सभा को अभिनन्दन दिया जाये। आज 4 जुलाई है, इस लिये मैंने कहा।

Mr. Speaker: It is the Question Hour now.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यह आप का काम मैंने किया है, अध्यक्ष महोदय।

आज के शुभ दिन मुझे मंत्री महोदय से एक तो यह पूछना है कि जो उन्होंने दाम बतलाये हैं गेहूँ बगैरह के, वास्तव में तीन चार किस्म का गेहूँ आता है जैसे कि उन्होंने 1966 के दाम 482 रु० बतलाये हैं—1967 वाला तो शायद अवमूल्यन के बाद हुआ है, इस लिये उस के ज्यादा दाम हैं—ऐसा भी गेहूँ आया है जिस का दाम 400 रु० के आस पास है। हो सकता है कुछ इधर उधर ज्यादा कम हो। सम्भव है कि उन्होंने सब से ऊँचे अमरीकी दाम बतलाये हों और अमरीका से जो कम दाम वाला गेहूँ आया है उस के दाम न बतलाये हो। दूसरे जो उन्होंने स्वयं यहाँ से 1966 का बेचने का दाम बतलाया है वह 55 पैसे है। उस में 48 और 55 अर्थात् 7 पैसे किलो का फर्क पड़

जाता है। वह बहुत अधिक है, और अगर मेरा प्रश्न शामिल कर दिया जाये तब मैं समझता हूँ कि वह फर्क और बढ़ जायेगा, कोई 10, 15 या 20 पैसे किलो का अन्तर आ जाता है। इस किस्म का गेहूँ जो अमरीका से आता है क्या उस पर ध्यान दिया जायेगा ?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: As far as the prices of different grades of wheat are concerned, naturally as in our own country we have different grades of the same grain, similarly in other countries also there are different grades of wheat. It is the pooled prices which have been mentioned here. Our Supply Mission issues tender, and it is by the tender system that purchases are made. I have not been in a position to obtain the grade-wise prices, because the question put was different. We have given the pooled prices for the imported quantities.

श्री मधु लिये : आप प्रश्न को देख लीजिये। प्रश्न में यह था कि :

"the c.i.f. price of imported American wheat and milo of different grades and varieties in the different years."

Shri Annasahib Shinde: What I was submitting was this. The accounts maintained here by the Food Department are not maintained grade-wise. All the wheat that is imported is pooled, and the accounts are running accounts. So, it has not been possible for me to indicate the nature of the accounts grade-wise.

As far as the differential is concerned, for the information of Shri Lohia, I am sorry, Dr. Lohia....

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : वह कुछ नहीं। डाक्टर भी खत्म करो, श्री भी खत्म करो, हमारे सवाल का जवाब दो। यह कौन सा गेहूँ है जिस का दाम बतलाया गया पहले यह बतलाओ।

Shri Annasahib Shinde: For the information of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, I may say that sea freight which is added to the purchase price is one of the main components. The sea freight comes to Rs. 10.68 per quintal. Then, we have incidentals in India, that is, handling at the port; then rail transport comes in because we send the foodgrains to the various State Governments at the destinations indicated by them at the rail-heads. So, the rail freight is also included in that. It comes to Rs. 9....

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : सवाल कुछ है, जवाब कुछ है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : किस किस का गेहूं है ?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: I have already replied to that.

Mr. Speaker: He has already said that he does not have the separate prices for the different grades. He has already said that the prices given are pooled prices.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझको व्यवस्था का प्रश्न फिर उठाना पड़ेगा । यह सवाल का जवाब है ही नहीं । यह सरकार के ईमान की कमी को छिपाने के लिए जवाब दिया गया है क्योंकि तीन चार किसम के जो गेहूं हैं उन के अलग अलग दाम यह बताते और फिर उस के अलावा जो यह कह रहे हैं कि फोट नहीं शामिल है तो वह पहले ही लिखा हुआ है एस्टीमेटेड एवरेज कास्ट आफ फ्रीट वेल्यू पर मीट्रिक टन, वह तो सब पहले लिखा हुआ है, खाली यहां का जो अन्तर है रेलगाड़ी से भेजते भाजते हैं वह 15-20 पैसे किलो के हिसाब से हो सकता है। अगर कोई व्यापारी ऐसा करने लग जाय तो उसका सिर काटने लग जाते हैं लेकिन इन का सिर कौन काटेगा ?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: I have given the figures of the cost under

different heads. It may be that the hon. Members have different views as to what should be the reasonable cost. As I have already mentioned our effort has been to reduce the cost. There has been progressive decline in the cost of handling during the last few years. But it is a question of opinion and the hon. Member may have a different opinion about that.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : तो जवाब इसका दिलाइए अध्यक्ष महोदय ।

Mr. Speaker: He has given all the information he has.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : अब अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपसे कहूंगा, नियम निकाल कर के व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाना पड़ेगा । यह इत्तिला का है, प्रीपिनियन का प्रश्न बिलकुल है ही नहीं । यह इत्तिला का सवाल है । अगर कोई चीज मिलती है 48 पैसे किलो और वह बिकती है 68 पैसे किलो तो यह राय का सवाल नहीं है । यह इत्तिला का सवाल है ।

Mr. Speaker: He has no information now.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : राय का सवाल है यह उन्होंने कहा और टाल दिया अगर मैं टालता तो आप मुझको टोकते, तो इन को भी जरा टोकिए ।

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीस : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो स्टेटमेंट मंत्री महोदय ने रखा है इस को देखते हुए कई सालों से जब 357, 359, 360, 375 रुपये में गेहूं लगाया गया तो उस को बेचने का जो दाम रहा वह 48 रुपये क्विंटल रहा यानी हर क्विंटल के पीछे 12 रुपया, 11 रुपया ज्यादा पैसा सरकार ने लिया है यह साबित होता है । अब मन्त्री महोदय ने कहा है कि कुछ पैसा इसमें रेलवे इत्यादि पर जाता है और यह भी उन्होंने कहा कि हम सन्डिडी देते हैं वह गेहूं भेजते हुए तो मेरा

यंजी महोदय से यह प्रश्न है कि यह सभी कुछ देखने के बाद 56 से लेकर 66 तक हर साल कितनी सिसडी दी गई और अगर किसी साल सिसडी नहीं दी हो तो उस साल कितना पैसा कमाने में घा गया ?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: The total figure is not with me but the per quintal figure of the loss incurred by the Central Government was Rs. 2.87 for 1960-61. For subsequent years it was Rs. 2.87, 3.47, 5.12 and 8.11 upto 31-12-1964. From 1-1-65 to 31-3-1965 there was a gain of Rs. 2.38 per quintal. Again from 1-4-65 to 14-11-1965 the figure is Rs. 2.45 per quintal. From 15-11-1965 to 31-3-1966 there is a gain of Rs. 4.46 per quintal. From 1-4-66 to 5-5-66 it was Rs. 4.56 loss, and Rs. 16.65 per quintal was the loss, and at present Rs. 11.46 is the per quintal loss incurred by Government.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question. **Mr. Banerjee.**

Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta: This is a very important question.

Mr. Speaker: I know, I have called **Mr. Banerjee.**

Fertilizer Crisis in India

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- *904. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee:

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

(a) what positive steps have been taken to overcome the fertilizer crisis in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that not more than 50 per cent of the expected imported fertilizers has so far reached India; and

(c) if so, the reason or the same?

The Minister of State, in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community

Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

There is no crisis in the supply position of fertilisers. Adequate availability has been ensured to meet the target of supplies laid down for the year. It is, however, a fact that due to delays arising out of factors beyond our control such as non-availability of vessels for lifting of cargoes in time, the recent closure of the Suez Canal and consequent diversion of shipments via Cape of Good Hope involving longer time in voyage, only 75 per cent of the contracted quantities due for deliveries upto June, 1967 are estimated to have arrived. The backlog is expected to be cleared by the end of July, 1967. This delay is not expected to lead to any difficulties in supplies to meet Kharif requirements as the States had adequate stocks on 1-4-1967.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From the statement it is found that there is no crisis in the supply position of fertilisers. It adds:

"It is, however, a fact that due to delays arising out of factors beyond our control such as non-availability of vessels for lifting of cargoes in time, the recent closure of the Suez Canal....."

It has become a fashion in this House to attribute everything to the Suez Canal, because I tabled the question without knowing that there was going to be a crisis, I sent it long ago. So, I would like to know whether the crisis or non-availability of adequate vessels existed even before this crisis, and what was the reason for this non-availability of vessels for lifting the cargo in time.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: As I have already mentioned in the statement, the supply position is not very difficult at all. In fact, the State Governments have a carryover of 2.4 lakh tons of nitrogen, which means 33 per cent of the requirements. Thereafter: imports are going on, but their has been a