

the law? Would the Government try to avoid this anomaly?

Shri Annasaheb Shinde: The hon. Member comes from Andhra Pradesh. I know that the fertiliser consciousness in Andhra is so much and the farmers are so progressive and they are not satisfied with the allotment and they are trying to get fertilisers from all over India. But may I assure the hon. Member that as far as Andhra Pradesh's requirements are concerned, we have really been very liberal in allowing substantial quantities to Andhra Pradesh.

Election for Presidentship and Vice-Presidentship

*965. **Shri R. K. Sinha:**
Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:
Shri K. N. Pandey:
Shri D. N. Deb:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission have made any suggestion that candidates for the Presidential and Vice-Presidential election should be required to deposit security which should be forfeited in case of their failure to secure the prescribed minimum of electoral support; and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined it and if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government are examining the Question and have not yet come to any decision.

Shri R. K. Sinha: When no security is taken from the candidate contesting for the office of President and Vice-President, why should the poor man contesting for the Assembly or Parliament be asked to pay security money? Will the Law Ministry examine the machinery through which a poor man who goes on a

cycle may be elected to the Assemblies and a man with at least a motor cycle may be elected to the Parliament? Will they think of cheapening the elections in order to make the poor man's entry to the legislatures possible?

Shri D. R. Chavan: Under the Representation of the People Act, candidates contesting for the Lok Sabha or an Assembly are required to deposit a certain amount of money with the returning officer, while in the case of the election for the President and Vice President, the only thing a candidate has to do is to secure one elector as a proposer and another as seconder. Therefore, after the third general election, the Election Commission in their report recommended that the Presidential Election Act should be amended by making it obligatory on the part of a candidate contesting for this office to deposit Rs. 1000 with the returning officer by way of security and in case the candidate fails to get one-tenth of the valid votes, that amount should be forfeited.

Shri K. N. Pandey: Is it a fact that certain persons contest the election for the office of President and Vice-President simply with a view to make themselves known to the public and if so, has the ministry found out any way to check such a tendency, so that such people may not be allowed to contest the election at the cost of public money?

Shri D. R. Chavan: Regarding candidates light-heartedly contesting the election, it is a matter of their intention. I cannot possibly go into their intentions, unless there are certain facts from which I can draw certain inferences.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस मामले में इलेक्शन कमीशन की रिपोर्ट 1962 के आम चुनाव के बाद आई थी। 1967 में जो चुनाव हुए उस में

राष्ट्रपति पद के लिये 9 उम्मीदवार ऐसे थे, जिन्हें एक भी वोट नहीं मिला। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इलेक्शन कमीशन की सिफारिश पर धमल 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