

high, the prices go on rising? We have successively three good monsoons and bumper crops and in spite of that the intake of those commodities which form the stable diet of the common man and the consumption of an average Indian are not going high. I do not have to quote the figures which Mr. Patodia just quoted from your own statement. May we know how he will explain this paradox? May we have an explanation of this phenomenon? The Government claims that there is a bumper crop. These cold statistics are not of help to the average housewife or the man who looks after his family. If the price of sugar for instances, rises, it means, lesser sugar for his poor family. It also means lesser rice if the price of rice rises.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make a speech.

SHRI NATH PAI: Apart from saving that productivity must go high, what is it that the Government is thinking to be more constructive, in this matter? Other countries have made certain experiments. There is the Prices and Stabilisation Board in the U. K., of which the Chairman is Mr. Obara Jones. The Tories have wanted to abolish it. You may ask the Professor of Economics sitting behind you. May I know if the Government is thinking of taking the price issue, by the horns and doing something constructive? Because, over the last so many years, this problem has remained with us, and is not solved. Therefore, apart from emphasising the need for productivity, which is not challenged by anybody, will any thing specific be done by the Government regarding this matter, like the Price Stabilisation Board?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The hon. Member said that there was a bumper crop season this year. Certainly it was a good season as far as production of cereals is concerned. This is the important thing. I indicated the unsatisfactory position so far as cotton and other commercial crops are concerned. There is not some percentage increase in productivity of these crops as in wheat or some other cereals. There was some sort of break-through in their respect but in the case of industrial raw materials, that break-through is not yet achieved—not that, efforts are not being made—but there are cer-

tain other aspects. We shall welcome any suggestion made by the hon. Member; we would like to have constructive suggestions because this is a national problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मीबाई: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहती हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER: I had not seen you; otherwise I would have allowed you to put a question. I have already passed on to the next question. I will give you some other time; there may be other question later on.

Retirement Benefits to Employees absorbed in Public Undertakings

*245. SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises of his Ministry has issued instructions regarding the grant of retirement benefits to Government employees on their permanent absorption in the Public Enterprises;

(b) whether these benefits are also applicable to those Government employees who have been/or are being permanently absorbed in the autonomous organisations which are partially/fully financed by Government of India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). For Government employees absorbed in autonomous bodies set up and financed by the Central Government, other than industrial and commercial undertakings, there are separate orders regarding grant of retirement benefits. This category is different from the category to which the orders of the Bureau of Public Enterprises apply.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: It is clear from the reply given by the hon. Minister that they have given retirement benefit to Government employees who go to public sector undertakings. He says, we have different

rules for the autonomous bodies. When a Government servant is deputed to serve in any other organisation, whether public sector, industrial undertaking or some other organisation what difference does it make to him? Why should the Government make a distinction between an officer who goes to one service and another officer who goes to another service? Is it conducive to the proper working of the services and the proper development of the managerial cadre?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The hon. Member must be knowing about the orders that have been issued recently that such of the Government officers as go to the industrial and commercial undertakings of the Government or the public enterprises that are different from the autonomous enterprises have to exercise their option of either getting absorbed in the public enterprises, within a year, that is, they should resign from the government service for good and permanently get absorbed in the particular undertaking or they should come back to the government service. These orders do not apply to such of the Government officers as go to the autonomous corporations of the Government of India, like the LIC and others which are created by the Acts of Parliament. This is the difference. Because of this difference in the terms and conditions which they are supposed to follow, these differential terms have been given on retirement benefit. This is the basis on which the difference has been made. If this difference was not there, the hon. Member's contentions would have been completely justified, namely that there should be no difference between the Government employee who go to autonomous corporations or to commercial or industrial undertakings under the Government. But because in the terms of deputation a certain distinction has been made, therefore, a distinction has also been made in the retirement benefits which will be available to these two sets of Government employees who have to choose between retirement or permanent absorption.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : The rules that have been made in regard to the industrial undertakings are that the officers who go there should identify themselves with the

undertakings. May I know whether that is not equally necessary with the Government officers who are drafted to the LIC or other commercial organisations? They should also identify themselves with the organisation and give of their best to them. Therefore, will Government consider the question of applying the same rules to the officers going to industrial and commercial organisations which they have applied for industrial corporations, so that the working of the commercial organisations also improves and the officers do not have a feeling of discrimination and neglect?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : There is a difference between the commercial and industrial undertakings and other autonomous bodies like the CSIR, for instance. The CSIR is an autonomous body. But it cannot be compared with the Bhilai or the Rourkela steel plant or the HMT. Those people who go to such bodies need not necessarily stay in those bodies for good. I think that this is a suggestion which can be examined.

But there is an obvious distinction between the autonomous bodies which function under the Government of India and the commercial and industrial undertakings which function under the Government of India. The distinction is quite clear. But whether the same set of rules for option can be applied or not is a matter which can be considered.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : May I know whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken that those officers who belong to the IAS, whose services are being utilised by the public undertakings have to take a final decision whether they wish to continue in the IAS or get absorbed in the public undertakings permanently? The question which is agitating the minds of these officers is whether they will get the same benefits while in the public undertakings. I would like to know what final decision has been taken by Government in this regard.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : A final decision has been taken by Government and the conditions also have been communicated to those people who are working in the public enterprises. They have been given the

terms and conditions and they have been asked to exercise their option by February, 1971.

Financial Assistance from International Development Association

*246. SHRI S. KUNDU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given to India by the International Development Association during the last three years ;

(b) what are the projects for which the money has been given, the amount of such money per project and place where the projects are located ;

(c) the amount which is likely to be available during the Fourth Plan period and the names of the projects under the International Development Association Scheme ; and

(d) the money received from the International Development Association schemes under aid and loan so far and the rate of interest charged on it ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4338/70*]

(c) As indicated in the Statement, Agreements worth 255 million (Rs. 191.25 crores) have been signed with the International Development Association, since the commencement of the Fourth Five Year Plan. It is difficult to say for what value agreements will be signed in the remaining period of the Fourth Plan. This will depend upon actual resources available to the IDA, the nature and number of projects and programmes that we are ready to execute which are in line with the interests of the IDA, the extent to which they satisfy the criteria of IDA etc.

(d) The total value of IDA assistance given to India so far is \$1264 million (Rs. 948 crores). IDA credits are interest free.

SHRI S. KUNDU : From the statement you will find that for the last three years, IDA aid is increasing. Is the Minister aware that due to a faulty and unsound investment programme, this aid is not properly utilised

and also there is a backlog of this aid which has still not been properly utilised. Under this programme, has Government thought of getting this aid to spend for equipment for minor irrigation programmes and also for components ? Has Government thought over it and instituted a machinery to find out whether the aid which is got is also invested in proper, good and sound programmes ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is not only Government representatives but even representatives of the World Bank also go into the preparation of the projects. They go into the economics of the project. It is only after that the further processing of the proposal is taken up.

I do not think it is correct to say that the money is not properly utilised. The World Bank has also agreed to take to assisting certain agricultural projects as well.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

चम्बल की बीहड़ों को कृषि योग्य बनाने के लिए मध्य प्रदेश को विश्व बैंक से सहायता

*243. श्री यशवंत सिंह कुशवाह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास प्रस्ताव भेजा है कि चम्बल की बीहड़ों को कृषि योग्य बनाने के सम्बन्ध में 70 करोड़ रुपये की योजना को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए विश्व बैंक से सहायता मांगी जाए ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त प्रस्ताव केन्द्रीय सरकार को कब प्राप्त हुआ था और उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

वित्त मंत्री (यशवंत राव चव्हाण) : (क) मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने विश्व बैंक से सहायता प्राप्त करने के उद्देश्य से विचार किये जाने के लिए भारत के पास चम्बल प्रायोजना के अंतर्गत