

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, December 12, 1977/
Agrahayana 21, 1899 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Central Financial Assistance for updating law records and consoli- dation of land holdings

*266. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND
IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments
have asked for Central financial as-
sistance for updating land records
and for consolidation of land hold-
ings; and

(b) if so, decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT
SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). A
Statement is placed on the Table of
the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

Formal request for financial assist-
ance for consolidation operations has
been received from Orissa Govern-
ment; Andhra Pradesh has sent a pro-
posal for survey and Settlement ope-
rations and for up-dating Record of
Rights.

(b) The Government of India are
proposing to take up during the cur-
rent year a Central Sector Scheme of
financial assistance for assisting the
States in consolidation operations, in
the command-areas of irrigation-pro-
jects. The Government of India's
assistance would be available at the
rate of Rs. 120/- per hectare. Formal
proposals in this regard have been

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called from the State Governments.
The request of Orissa Government
will be considered when allocations
are made to the State Governments.
The question of 'modalities' of assist-
ing the State Governments for up-dat-
ing of land records is under considera-
tion.

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: The infor-
mation contained in the statement is
very disappointing. It is a typical ex-
ample of lack of seriousness in the
implementation of very important
schemes. The statement says this, in
regard to the operations for the con-
solidation of land holdings also:

"The Government of India are
proposing to take up during the cur-
rent year a Central Sector Scheme
of financial assistance for assisting
the States in consolidation ope-
rations, in the command-areas of irri-
gation-projects. The Government of
India's assistance would be available
at the rate of Rs. 120/- per hectare.
Formal proposals in this regard have
been called from the State Govern-
ments....".

We are now in December, i.e. at the
end of the year. The proposals have
now been called for. This is how im-
portant schemes are allowed to lapse—
and money allotted also allowed to
lapse. Therefore, I want to ask the
hon. Minister whether the schemes for
assistance for consolidation operations,
which have been included in the sche-
mes for the current year, whether they
are going to be implemented this year
or the amount allotted will be allowed
to lapse.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
This scheme has been taken up this
year and the work has to start. The
amount would not be allowed to lapse.

We will try to utilize the amount allotted for this year during the course of the year itself.

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Up-dating of land records is a very important and vital question. If you want to introduce land reforms and want to have meaningful planning for agricultural development and promotion of agricultural production and productivity, proper land records, showing the rights of the tenants, share-croppers etc. is very essential. The success of any land reform programme, and even agricultural development programme depends on this very vital problem. Yet, Government do not seem to have accorded any priority to this vital problem. The statement says "The question of modalities of assisting the State Governments for updating land records is under consideration." The year 1976 was declared as Land Record Year by the previous Government. It was also decided to have the second agricultural census completed by the end of 1978, on the basis of the up-dated land records. May I know whether the Government propose to give priority consideration to this very vital question of up-dating of land records and whether the Government would expedite the sanction of assistance to the State Governments to take up this very vital task?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: The up-dating of land records is very important. It is important not only for the owners but also for share-croppers. Due importance was not given to this aspect in the past. The economic policy resolution of the Janata Party says that in those States in which the land records are not available, or are not up-to-date, they should be prepared after on-the-spot verification by the revenue staff and the work will have to be completed within a period of two years. We are taking it up very seriously because in some States the records are not at all up-to-date.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : अभी राजस्थान के अन्दर एक राजस्व अभियान एक महीने से चलाया गया है जिसके अधिन रेवेन्यू अधिकारियों ने, पटवारी से लेकर एस० डी० एम० तक, मौके पर जा कर के नामान्तरण के सारे के सारे केसेज को हल किया है। इस प्रकार का अभियान अगर सारे देश में चलाया जाये तो यह प्रौब्लम जिसको लेकर सबर्णों और हरिजनों के नाम पर नामान्तरण के मामलों को लेकर विवाद होते हैं, इस प्रकार के मामलों को इस तरह के अभियान के जरिए निपटाया जा सकता है। जहां तक लैंड रेकार्ड को ठीक करने का प्रश्न है उसको एक अभियान के जरिए ठीक किया जाय। तो क्या सरकार ने इस बारे में जांच की है कि राजस्थान में यह अभियान कितना सफल हुआ है और उस तरह के अभियान को क्या सारे देश में लागू करने की कोई योजना है?

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : जैसा माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं कि राजस्थान सरकार कर रही है, ऐसे ही दूसरी स्टेट्स में करना पड़ेगा तभी काम हो सकेगा। बहुत टाप प्रायरेटी दे कर इस काम को किया जाय इसकी बहुत जरूरत है। पंजाब, हरियाणा और यू० पी० में यह काम हुआ है। और स्टेट्स में कुछ कम हुआ है, वहां भी ऐसा ही करना पड़ेगा।

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I am grateful to the hon. Minister for saying that land records will be finally settled within two years. Having that statement in view, may I know whether he agrees with me that land reforms have been a dismal failure during this year and that upgrading of land records is an important and key factor in the matter of land reform implementation? Would the hon. Minister kindly let me know whether the State Government requested the Government of

India for financial assistance in the matter of preparing and up-dating records of land rights? Apart from this, is there any other modality, and if so, what?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Maintenance and up-dating of land records is primarily a State responsibility. Some States have not been taking it very seriously at all. For example, in Bengal, my information is that the person known as Tehsildar is not a Government servant and gets only Rs. 53 per month. Provision of more funds to the State Government is not the only modality, but we are looking into that also to see whether we are in a position to supply them more funds, and if so what amount because such demands are coming from almost all the States.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बताएंगे कि यह जमीनों को इकट्ठा करने वाला कंसालिडेशन का काम क्या दस सालों के बाद अपने आप खत्म हो जाता है क्यों कि वह जर्मन फिर हिस्सेदारों में, लड़कों में, भाइयों में बंट जाती है? क्या सरकार इस बारे में इस स्कीम को अपनाते की कोशिश करेगी कि सिर्फ खेती बाड़ी के लिए जो जमीन इस्तेमाल होती है उसको इकट्ठा करने के लिए अगर आपस में लोग तबादला कर लें तो उस पर स्टैम्प ड्यूटी नहीं लगेगी?

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : ऐसा कोई विचार नहीं है और स्टैम्प ड्यूटी का काम तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का ही है। वह भी जो आप ने बताया कि भाइयों में और दूसरों में बंट जाती है।

Our succession laws are such that it goes to different sons and now even daughters. For that probably a law of primo-geniture has to be introduced. That we cannot do for the time being.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The question is regarding Central financial assistance for up-dating land records and consolidation of land holdings, and his reply has brought out the quality of the Janata Party. May I know to what extent the Janata Party in its party resolution and as a Government believes in land reforms and their implementation, and what financial assistance has been given to the various States, particularly Karnataka, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra where consolidation is more important? If they have not given any assistance, shall I put it to him that the present Government does not believe in land reforms at all?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Without entering into controversy on this issue, I would only tell my hon. friend that in the Fifth Plan period the target of 14.5 million hectares had been set out for consolidation but probably the last Government forgot about it and out of 14.5 million only 0.5 million hectares was achieved, which is one-third of the target. We are taking up this matter and we have received requests from Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments which are under consideration. We have actually provided for this year a crore of rupees for this project.

पशु चारे के लिये मूंगफली विलायक निस्तारण

*367. **श्री धर्म सिंह भाई पटेल :** क्या कृषि और सिबाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1977-78 के लिए पशु चारे आदि के लिए मूंगफली विलायक निस्तारण की कितनी मात्रा आरक्षित की गई है ;