

time, hon'ble Members had asked about it, but, we did not receive any plan from several states. Under the scheme, the State Government was to provide land measuring 100 sq. yards and funds were to be provided by the Centre. There is nothing like that. The scheme under the Indira Housing Scheme is implemented under Rural Development Programme.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If the non-resident Indians are allowed to invest in big houses, why are they not allowed to invest in houses.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Dandavate Saheb has told about big houses. Sometime back, it was considered but later on it was decided that no fruitful purpose will be served by it.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: By big houses I meant big industrial houses. He has misunderstood it, he is too innocent to understand the question. If the non-resident Indians are allowed to invest in big industrial houses, why are they not allowed to invest in houses?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Professor Saheb, why do you ask question in a round-about manner?

#### **Prices of Vegetables in Delhi**

\*336. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of the vegetables have skyrocketed in Delhi markets;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) The steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to bring down the rising prices of the vegetables?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). A statement is given below:

#### **STATEMENT**

(a) The prices of important vegetables in Delhi have generally shown an increase since the second week of July 1987. During the first fortnight of November, 1987, the prices of most of the vegetables have shown a downward trend.

(b) The main reasons for high prices have been drought conditions and seasonality factors.

(c) To contain the prices of vegetables particularly potatoes and onions in Delhi, the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED) has released adequate stocks of potato and onion to retail agencies like the Super Bazar, Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation, Kendriya Bhandar and their own out-lets for retail distribution. This has had a salutary effect on retail prices in Delhi.

The Mother Dairy is also selling vegetables from their retail outlets at reasonable prices.

A Special Scheme for increasing production of vegetables around urban agglom-

erations has also been sanctioned as a part of drought relief operations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the reply given by the hon'ble Minister, it emerged that the prices of vegetables shown an increase since the second week of July, 1987 but prices of most of the vegetables came down significantly in the first half of November. I have figures in this regard. I have come from village also. I have gone through the prices of vegetables brought by servants in Delhi for the months of June, July, August, October and November. But the reply of the Minister does not appear to be correct. I would like to quote. The price of garlic in the month of July was in the range of Rs. 40 to 42. Now it is in the range of Rs. 45 to 50. It is Mother's Dairy rate which has been directed to sell the vegetables at reasonable rates. Bottlegourd was available at Rs. 3/- a kg in the month of July, now it is available at Rs. 4/- a kg. Price of cabbage has registered an increase from Rs. 3/- to Rs. 4/- Similarly, except one or two, prices of tomato and most of the other vegetable have also registered an increase during the period from July to November. I think every Member of this House is feeling the pinch of increase in prices of vegetables. The hon'ble Minister has just summed up his reply in one line that he had controlled the prices of vegetables. I failed to understand from where he collected the figures of reduced prices. I would like to know the basis of the reply given by the hon'ble Minister. Let him name of particular vegetables, if he does not consider garlic as a vegetable, whose prices...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It can be taken as part of vegetable.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: There is a history linked with the prices of vegetables, that was the reason for downfall of the government i.e. the increase in the price of the onion, now it is the turn of garlic.

I wanted to make you cautious.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask question.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: May I know the vegetables, whose prices were more in July and came down in November and what is the basis of his contention?

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave him now?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: According to figures available with me, there is a marginal increase of 4.3 per cent in the index number of whole-sale prices of vegetables for week 7.11.87 as compared to corresponding week last year, and I have got the table of the whole-sale price index with me and I can read it over to the House if you permit me, Sir, otherwise, there are collected by the statistical departments and I have to reply based on these figures.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: If he cannot answer. Let him tell me the names of at least five or six vegetables whose prices come down during the period from July to November. This question is concerned with our day to day life, everybody is feeling the pinch of this increase. Perhaps, it may not be of much significance for the hon'ble Minister, but we are very much concerned with it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you talking to

each other? Please give answer, please name any one vegetable whose price has fallen.

[*English*]

DR. DATTA SAMANT: This is an important question, prices are rising.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I have already said that there has been a marginal increase in the prices of vegetables. The figures are based on the wholesale prices of vegetables, given like this; potato, tomato, cauliflower and all sub-groups of vegetables including the major vegetables, that is the group of vegetables including 'Louki' and everything there is marginal increase of 4.3 per cent. That is what I said.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: How could I say the hon'ble Minister is telling a lie. He has replied that there was downward trend in the prices of most of the vegetables in the first fortnight of November, 1987. He is saying that there is marginal increase only. When he speaks in English he uses the word marginal increase but when he speaks in Hindi he talks of decrease.

[*English*]

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The increase was 4.3 per cent. Now there is a decrease in the prices as compared to last few months. Earlier the price was more. But it has come down, and it has come down to the level where the increase is only 4.3

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S.DHILLON): There is marginal increase but it can't be said that the prices

had earlier increased. We have two methods, one is official figures and other gathered from housewives.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Do you keep officials in the category of wives... please allow me second supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed three.

SHRI. MURLIDHAR MANE: Please sit down, let me speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Mr. Speaker, you allow two supplementaries, you have not allowed my second supplementary.

[*English*]

DR. DATTA SAMANT: It should be properly replied at least.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: If you are to conduct the business of the House according to your sweet will, even half the supplementary has not been asked. According to my calculation, three supplementaries have already been allowed by me.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: You have given us right for making submission.

MR. SPEAKER: If it satisfies you, you go on making submission...

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: This is for the first time in this country that a RAJ KUMAR is talking about vegetables.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: I do not know whether your hatred is confined to the *Rajas* or is directed against *Raj Kumars* also.

MR. SPEAKER: It is more against the *Rajas*...

**SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to my question, the hon. Minister has stated that a special scheme for increasing production of vegetables around urban agglomerations has also been sanctioned as a part of drought relief operations. I want to know the names of these schemes. Although the hon. Minister has already stated that it is not possible to indicate the names of the items whose prices have increased, yet he must tell the names of the schemes that have been launched for price-control.

[*English*]

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:** It is supplying mini kits of seeds and fertilizers to vegetable growers in those areas, five hundred kits, to each District for rabi 1987 as well as kharif 1988.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE:** Sir, the hon. Minister has just now stated in reply to hon. Member Shri Raj Kumar Rai's question that the prices of vegetables have gone up considerably in the cities and as a result thereof the people are facing a lot of hardships. Speaking on behalf of the farmers, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the benefit of this price rise in cities is going to the farmer also who grows vegetables by putting his sweet labour and then transports them to the markets in the cities or it is pocketed by the middlemen or the agents who are sitting in cities? Has the hon. Minister any such information? Will he evolve such a system whereby the benefit of price-rise reaches the farmer because according to my information, the entire profit is pocketed by the middlemen?

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is a well known fact that these middlemen earn in 12 hours what a farmer earns after 12 months' hard labour. That is the difference.

**SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE:** I want a specific answer from the hon. Minister whether the benefit of the price-rise goes to the farmers or it is pocketed by the middlemen?

[*English*]

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:** Sir, wherever there is an organised cooperative operating in Mandi like Super Bazar, Mother Dairy, it goes to the farmers. So far as the private trade is concerned, I cannot say anything.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You better organise cooperative for marketing of vegetable growers. You should encourage cooperatives. The farmers themselves should be involved in marketing

[*Translation*]

The entire profit is pocketed by the middlemen. The middlemen earns in three hours what you earn after 12 months' hard labour.

[*English*]

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Did the Minister take note the Speaker's suggestion? He has suggested that the cooperatives should be introduced.

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:** We are for the cooperatives. We have introduced cooperative trade in vegetables through NDDB, through Super Bazar and through many agencies. It is for the members to cooperate with us in promoting cooperatives.

[*Translation*]

**MR. SPEAKER:** You should encourage the farmers' cooperative by including them on the marketing. This is how they can be

helped. Now, Shri Tulsiram, you may speak.

PROF. MADHU DANDAAYTE: Mr. Minister, this is the ruling given by the Hon. Speaker.

[English]

### Canadian Aid for Fisheries

1338. SHRI V. TULSIRAM:  
CH. RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement between Canada and Indian Fishermen's Cooperative Federation has recently been reached for Canadian aid for production of fishing nets in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the location of the establishment for producing fishing nets and the annual expected production thereof?

(d) the states that will be benefited as a result thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to set up a factory in Andhra Pradesh for the purpose, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA, (a) to (f). A statement is given below:

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). An agreement between the International Cooperative Alliance, Regional Office New Delhi and National Fed-

eration of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited has been signed on 29.10.1987 for providing assistance by Cooperative Development Foundation of Canada for supplying hand operated net making machines at a cost of Canadian dollars 56,180 equivalent to Rs.5.31,463. Of this Rs. 3,79,469 will be shared by Cooperative Development Foundation of Canada, Rs. 79,719 by beneficiary societies and Rs.72.275 by National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd.

(c) and (d). Three hand operated net making machines will be supplied to three Fishermen's Cooperative Societies one each to be selected in States of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Each machine can produce 1600 kgs of webbing per year if it works 8 hours per day for 200 days in a year.

(e) and (f). The project is to supply net making machines to Fishermen's Cooperative Societies and not to set up any factory in any State.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know that Andhra Pradesh is surrounded by sea from all the four sides but the hon. Minister has stated that hand operated net making machines will be supplied to Fishermen's Cooperative Societies of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The case of West Bengal seems to be justified but the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have no sea coast at all. Had these machines been supplied to the Fishermen's Cooperatives of those States who have coastal area such as Andhra Pradesh, one could have understood but the hon. Minister has flatly refused in spite of the fact that there are number of Fishermen's Cooperative Societies there. The way the hon. Minister has evaded reply, I want your advice, Mr. Speaker, Sir,.... (Interruptions) what treatment should be given to him for this, whether he is to be