

subsidised rate from FCI, under the open sale scheme, have been selling atta, maida and other products of wheat at exorbitant rates;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken against mill owners who have neglected the very purpose of the scheme; and

(c) the outcome in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Food Corporation of India is selling wheat under open Market Sale Scheme to buyers including Roller Flour Mills, Foodgrains wholesalers and retailers, State Civil Supplies Corporations, Cooperatives etc. with the objective of stabilising the open market price behaviour of wheat and at the same time to liquidate certain stocks to minimise carrying cost of stocks and hence subsidy. Since the delicensing of Roller Flour Mills, Government has no control over the working of RFMs, and the prices of their bye-products of wheat. However, all the states, where open sale of wheat is in operation, have been advised to ensure the availability of wheat products to consumers at reasonable rates in conformity with the open sale prices of wheat in the State in view of the wheat being sold to them at subsidised rates. A copy of the instructions issued to State Govts. is given in the statement.

Statement

Instructions issued by Govt. in regard to the prices wheat.

No. 9.(9)/94-DR-III
Government of India

Ministry of Food
(Deptt. of Food Procurement and Distribution)

krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
dated the 5th Sept. 1995.

To

All the Food Secretaries (Except J&K & N.E. States)

Subject:—Availability of wheat and wheat products to the Consumers at, reasonable rates.

Sir,

I am directed to say that FCI has been allowed to sell wheat in the open market at prices which are lower than its economic cost. Among other objectives, the main aim of the Govt. was to ensure availability of wheat and wheat products to consumers at reasonable prices.

2. The Standing Committee on Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies and Public Distribution in their 12th Report has observed that the roller flour mills who have been supplied wheat at subsidised rates under the open sale operation of FCI were selling Atta, maida and other bye-products of wheat at exorbitant rates, thus negating the very purpose of the open sale scheme.

3. As the raw material for atta, maida, suji and other wheat products is being provided at reasonable rates, miller/traders are expected to pass on the benefit to the consumers by selling the wheat products at reasonable rates. You are, therefore, requested to take necessary action in the matter to ensure that the prices of wheat and wheat products remain at levels in conformity with the open sale prices of wheat in your State.

Yours faithfully,
SD/-

(SURENDRA KUMAR)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

हरियाणा में भारतीय खाद्य निगम को हुई हानि

1149. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:

श्री अनन्तराम जायसवाल:

क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारतीय खाद्य निगम को हरियाणा क्षेत्र में करोड़ों रुपये की हानि हुई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितनी धन-राशि की हानि हुई है और क्या सरकार ने इसके संबंध में किसी जांच के आदेश दिये हैं; यदि हां, तो जांच प्रतिवेदन कब तक प्राप्त होने की संभावना है;

(ग) सरकार द्वारा जांच में दोषी पाए गए अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध (सेवा-अवधि सहित) क्या कार्यवाही की जाएगी और कब से तथा सरकार निगम को हुई करोड़ों रुपये की हानि को किस प्रकार पूरा करेगी; और

(घ) भारतीय खाद्य निगम से संबंधित अनियमित-ताओं के अधिकांश मामले, विशेष रूप से हरियाणा में होने के क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य मंत्री (श्री अजीत सिंह): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Energy crisis due to non-availability of coal

1150. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3078 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th April, 1995 and state:

(a) whether attention of Government have been drawn to the media reports and public resentment about the energy crisis almost all over India due to non-availability of coal; and

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to solve the problems?

THE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to the news item regarding inadequate supply of coal to thermal power stations during the current year.

The Planning Commission has assessed the demand for coal for power sector for the year 1995-96 at 184.20 million tonnes. The total despatches of coal to power sector from Coal India limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) during April, 1995 to January, 1996 were 151.048 million tonnes as against the target of despatches of 150.168 million tonnes for this period. This is 100.58% of the target. The despatches have also shown an increase of 10.9% over similar period last year.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has also reported that no thermal power station is on the verge of closure. However, some thermal power stations are having low stocks. The reasons for low stocks with the power houses include:

(i) Excess consumption of coal as compared to the quantities which the coal companies are required to supplied of these power houses.

(ii) Unloading constraints at the power house end.

(iii) Coal supplie being restricted due to non payment of coal sale dues by the power houses.

(iv) Movement constraints of the Railways; and

(v) uplies getting affected on account of sporadic strikes in SCCL and due to inundation of some mines in the eastern parts of the country.

Supply of coal to power houses is accorded top most priority and is monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Committee. Moreover, coal can be freely imported and the power houses can supplement their supplies through imports to meet any increase in demand above the agreed levels. The option of captive mining is now available for power sector.

दिल्ली में लघु औद्योगिक एकक और बाल श्रम अधिनियम

1151. श्री ओ० पी० कोहली: क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली में चल रहे लघु औद्योगिक एककों की संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) उनमें कार्यरत बाल श्रमिकों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इन एककों के विरुद्ध बाल श्रम अधिनियम को कार्यान्वित न करने के लिये क्या कार्रवाई की गई है?

श्रम मंत्री (श्री जी० बेंकट स्वामी): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।