

कुमारी सईदा खातून : आपने भी अभी उत्तर दिया है कि 135 वर्कसीज हैं ?

श्री भंवर लाल पंवार : सभापति महोदय, इस प्रश्न के संदर्भ में राजस्थान के उदयपुर में स्थित हिंदुस्तान जिक लिमिटेड के संबंध में मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या भर्ती के लिए यही बैन है और क्या वहाँ रिक्त पद हैं क्योंकि वहाँ बहुत पिछड़ापन है ?

श्री माखन लाल फोतेदार : महादय राजस्थान में हमने हाल ही में जिक-स्मेल्टर की बुनियाद रखी है। उसके लिए कोई पाबंदी नहीं है और जहाँ जरूरत होगी कंपनों को प्रोत्साहित है कि वह रिक्त स्थानों की पूर्ति कर सकेंगी।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Though the hon. Minister has given a clear answer to the question stating that even though the ban was removed, there was a self-imposed discipline relating to some public sector undertakings, especially in the field of mines and steel, right from 1985 till 1989, most of the personnel have retired. Besides some transfers have taken place from one department to the other. Naturally, when we go through those records, we can see that there is a shortage of hands in various departments, including in the Department of Steel and Mines. Therefore I would like to know from the hon. Minister, though there is a self-imposed ban, which has been imposed by a particular public sector undertaking, whether the Minister will order a review. Because of four years of self-imposed ban there, no new recruitment has taken place and those persons who have retired, there is no replacement of them by way of new recruitment or promotion. Therefore, I would like to know if the hon. Minister will order a review in the public sector undertakings wherein there is a self-imposed-ban.

SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR: The hon. Members has not given any specific instance to show that certain categories of vacancies have not been filled.

Suppose a vacancy, that of a driver, occurs. A person who is not a driver cannot be appointed as a driver. Naturally, that vacancy has to be filled and a new driver has to be appointed. Similarly, skilled job is there. Only a person who is skilled in that particular job can be appointed there. It is a self-imposed ban. We have not issued any instructions to the companies not to make recruitments. It is the discretion of the company to increase the productivity and to increase the profitability and to see how labour can be suitably adjusted and re-deployed within the company.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 324.

श्रीमती सूर्यकांता जयवंतराव पाटिल : सर, आज राइट व रूट नहीं है, तो लेफ्ट साइड देखने में क्या हर्ज है? .. (व्यवधान) ..

श्री सभापति : हमारा वह लेफ्ट साइड है।

You are on the right side.

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Yes, that is what I am telling, Sir.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Chairman is a leftist. He is not a rightist.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: I am representing the entire Opposition, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is seeing only towards the right today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He monopolises the Opposition. Q. No. 324.

Families covered by the Public Distribution System

***324. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BAN-SAL:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the approximate number of families presently covered by the Public Distribution System in the country;

(b) what is the amount spent on subsidising the essential commodities under the Public Distribution System; and

(c) what would be the estimated savings if the Public Distribution System were to be confined only to the non-assessees of Income Tax in order to extend the same to more disadvantaged and vulnerable sections of the society?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) The entitlement to commodities supplied through Public Distribution System is universal. However, the details regarding modalities, extent of coverage etc., are worked out by the States/UTs.

(b) The food subsidy incurred during 1987-88 was of the order of Rs. 2,000 crores.

(c) The quantity saved would depend on the number of income tax assessee's taking advantages of PDS and the extent to which they buy foodgrains supplied through PDS. Since an estimate of such beneficiaries or the quantities of foodgrains drawn by them are not available, it is difficult to estimate likely savings.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The answer of the hon. Minister to this question betrays total lack of any worthwhile monitoring by the Government about the efficacy of the public distribution system. I acknowledge the fact that the Government has been doing its best to provide subsidy for food to the weaker sections of the society in particular; and at present, we learn, the amount of subsidy is to the tune of Rs. 2,000 crore. But, in the absence of any monitoring, I think there should be no scope for any complacency on this account and the Government should be really knowing as to who are the people who are drawing benefit from that and who are not. It is not very difficult for the Government to know the total number of beneficiaries in the country. The figures should be collected from different States and then tabulated to know as to where the benefit is really going. To my specific query about the position if the income-tax payees were to be withdrawn from this and these benefits

were to be passed on to the poor people, the answer again shows just a total lack of ignorance. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to let us know the details about this and the specific question that I would like to ask him is what steps the Government is taking to see that there is no diversion of the foodgrains meant for the PDS. What really comes to our notice is that shops particularly in the rural areas do not even open and the people have their ration cards but they do not get anything.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA: Sir, every effort is made to impress upon the State Governments to see that the foodgrains supplied to the State must not be diverted and it should be available to those for whom these foodgrains have been supplied. If some specific cases are brought to our notice, we would write to the concerned State Governments for taking action. If the hon. Member gives us some specific cases, we shall certainly look into them.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has ever tried to find out that there is a large scale of complaints about the functioning of the Public Distribution System in different States. My giving one or two cases would not really do away with the malady as such. But Sir, I would again like to emphasise that the basic idea of providing this food subsidy was to help the weakest of the weak and to the poorest of the poor. Unfortunately, Sir, the poorest of the poor are not even entitled to get the ration cards and I am laying emphasis on this with a bit of anguish. Why I say so is because there is one stipulation in the rules framed that person has got to have a permanent residential address for being entitled to a ration card and the poorest of the poor do not have houses, do not have shelter and for that precise reason, they are denied access to the PDS. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would think of some change in that so that the benefit goes to the people who are dwelling on the roadside or on the pavements.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA: Sir, all these complaints, all these grievances, have always been sent to the State Governments and the State Governments have been impressed upon to consider all these points and issue ration cards and supply foodgrains to all these categories of persons because as I have stated, the foodgrains are for all the people living in the country. Nobody is excluded from that and therefore, it is not correct to say that all the persons are not getting ration cards or the foodgrains. Therefore, I requested the hon. Member if he is in possession of information in respect of certain cases, the same may be made available to us so that we can take action.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, it is with full sense of responsibility that I say that the poorest people do not get the ration cards. Kindly bear with this. (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He knows that you are very responsible and that is why he is telling you to give.... (Interruption).

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, he is saying that it is not correct to say that they are not getting ration cards. Sir, if the Ministry were just to open its eyes to see what is happening to the people on the pavements, they will realise it. They are denied cards and not in one or two cases but hundreds and thousands of them are denied and I only urge upon the hon. Minister to just see what is happening to those people. My giving just one or two instances would not be enough and, Sir, my pointed supplementary was regarding the particular policy. Sir, I am saying that there is a stipulation that only a person who can furnish a permanent address, gets the ration card. Sir, I wanted his reaction on that and my grouse was not that a person who has a permanent address is denied this facility. That would be a specific case. I am wanting that shift in the policy, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether the ration will be supplied

to a person who does not have a permanent address, who is a pavement dweller. That is the word he used. (Interruption).

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: In instalments even he wants for two days at a time.

श्री डी० एल० बैठा : महोदया, इस बात पर पूर्ण विचार करने की आवश्यकता है कि जो निमित्त रूप में नहीं रहते हैं उनको आप कैसे अन्न सप्लाई कर सकते हैं क्योंकि कोई चार दिन के लिए कहीं से आया और चार दिन वहाँ रहा, उसको राशन कार्ड कैसे दिया जा सकता है। तो कम से कम यहाँ पर रहने के बारे में आश्वस्त हो जाए, अभी उसको राशन कार्ड दिया जा सकता है।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the question is very important in the present context and I am really surprised that Mr. Bansal should have raised the first point. Sir, the question is, "What is the approximate number of families presently covered by the Public Distribution System in the country?" The reply is, "The entitlement to commodities supplied through the Public Distribution System is universal." What does this mean? I do not understand. Nobody has asked whether it is universal or non-universal. The question is about the number of families covered. Sir, you will see the irrelevance of the reply. I do not want to spend my time on that. I only want to know this from the hon. Minister. The really rational suggestion made by my colleague is that the PDS must work for the poorest of the poor like Adivasis, etc. I am aware of the difficulties of the Government of India. Our food stocks are going down because of drought and we have got a very limited reserve. However, the hon. Minister is aware of the pressing demand in various States. In my State the Assembly is now meeting in Bombay. There is a persistent demand made in the Assembly that the normal ration of 10 kgs per head should be maintained. In fact, the Government is under great strain and pressure to increase the supply. I am aware of the fact that your Ministry, Mr. Minister,

has increased the supply a little. But, as you are aware, in the State of Maharashtra, particularly in Bombay, various types of pressure groups like labour activists, etc. stay. There, the difficulty is that the State Government is not in a position to maintain the supply of 10 Kgs. per head because the Central Government is not able to supply food-grains. Bombay, as you know, is a very sensitive area and if something happens there, it has countrywide repercussions. In this connection, I want to know from the hon. Minister what the present stock with his Ministry is and whether it will be supplied to the various States, especially Maharashtra and Bombay in particular. Would he consider reaching the target of 10 Kgs. per head there so that villages will also receive their quota in proportion to that?

SHRI D. L. BAITHA: Sir, as the hon. Member is aware, we have increased the supply to Maharashtra. The scale of supply to a particular family or person is fixed by the respective States. Regarding the suggestions made by hon. Members, we shall certainly look into them and try to solve the problems.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Mr. Minister, "we shall look into or try to" is IAS man's language. We are politicians. Our problem is, in Bombay, an agitation is going on. The Assembly and the Opposition parties are hammering upon the State Government to reach the target of 10 Kgs. per head. Even millets are not available. I am not asking for wheat or rice. That may be a little bit higher. I am asking for millets, coarse grains. Would you please assure the Chief Minister of Maharashtra that at least millets will be made available? I am not asking for rich man's food. Please make a categorical reply. Otherwise, the Government there is in trouble.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA: As I have said, the distribution of grains in a particular State is the responsibility of the State Government. As the hon. Member has stated, we are looking into the matter. We shall discuss it with the State Government and try to solve this problem.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You should increase the quota.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him discuss. He has promised to discuss it with the State Government.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: The point is that the granary is with the Central Government. The State Government is not procuring anything on their behalf. They procure on behalf of the Central Government. He says that the State Government is responsible. I am pleading with my dear friend that he should first go to the 10 kg. standard. Do it with millet and coarse grain. Please assure that. That is all.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA: I have assured the hon. Member that we shall discuss it with the State Government because we only supplement the supplies.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: When the people are dying, what are they going to discuss?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said that he would talk to the State Government. He cannot deal with it directly. He is going to discuss it with the State Government.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA: Sir, this question does not particularly relate to Maharashtra.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Appa Sahib is playing the role of opposition because there is no opposition.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: People are dying and you are talking of opposition.

(Interruptions)

श्री अजीत जोगी : मान्यवर, अभी जो सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली है उसका लाभ केवल मेदानी इलाकों में मिला है और जो पहाड़ी इलाके हैं, जहाँ आदिवासी रहते हैं, वहाँ इसका लाभ बिल्कुल नहीं मिला है। उनकी आबादी बहुत बिखरी होती है, वे दुर्गम स्थानों में बसते हैं। इसलिए जो वर्तमान मापदण्ड

है कि इतनी जनसंख्या पर एक कंट्रोल की दुकान होगी उसका फायदा आदिवासियों को नहीं मिलता। इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आदिवासी इलाकों में कोई विशेष प्रकार की सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली लागू की जायेगी और क्या आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में चलित राशन की दुकानें लगाई जायेंगी जिससे कम से कम बाजार के दिन, हाट के दिन राशन बाजार के स्थान पर उपलब्ध रहे और आदिवासी इन अत्यावश्यक वस्तुओं को प्राप्त कर सकें? मंत्री महोदय से मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस संदर्भ में शासन का क्या दृष्टिकोण है और शासन राज्य सरकार की क्या मदद करेगा, क्या निर्देश देगा, इस विषय में हमें बतायें।

श्री डी० एल० बंडा : महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो सवाल पूछा है वह सही है और सरकार के ध्यान में है। सरकार ने उन क्षेत्रों में जहाँ, आदिवासी जनसंख्या है वहाँ पर उन लोगों के लिए विशेष प्रकार की व्यवस्था की है, उन लोगों के लिए अन्न पहुंचाने की विशेष व्यवस्था है, उन क्षेत्रों में चलित दुकानों की व्यवस्था की गई है। चलित दुकानों के जरिये वहाँ पर फूडग्रेन की सप्लाई की जाती है।

श्री अजीत जोगी : पूरे आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में अपनी चलित दुकानें नहीं हैं। इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या पर्याप्त चलित दुकानें आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में लगाने के लिए राज्य सरकारों को मदद करेंगे? अभी तो नाम के लिए, करने के लिए चलित दुकानें हैं।

[उपसभापति पीठासीन हुईं]

श्री डी० एल० बंडा : हमारी नीति है कि चलित दुकानों के जरिये अन्न पहुंचाया जाये अगर किसी राज्य सरकार की कोई विशेष कठिनाई है तो वह राज्य सरकार लिखती है, उस समस्या को उपस्थित करती है और हम उनकी मदद करने की कोशिश करते हैं और अगर माननीय सदस्य की जानकारी में ऐसी कोई समस्या हो तो वे राज्य सरकार के जरिये उपस्थित करायें तो फिर उसको देखा जा सकता है।

श्री अजीत जोगी : मध्य प्रदेश ने 12 सो और 13 सो चलित दुकानों के लिए

सहायता मांगी है उसके लिए केन्द्र सरकार क्या कर रही है?

श्री डी० एल० बंडा : यह प्रश्न मूल प्रश्न से नहीं मिलता है।

SHRI A. K. ANTONY: Madam, Kerala is a State where there is statutory rationing and the reduction in the allocation by the Centre to the States is creating difficulties for the people there. I would like to know whether the Minister will sympathetically consider the case of Kerala and try to increase the rice quota to Kerala.

श्री डी० एल० बंडा : महोदय, यह प्रश्न किसी खास राज्य के बारे में है। इसलिये पूरा जवाब देने के लिये अलग से सूचना चाहिये।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Jagesh Desai.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Madam, twice I have raised this question by way of Special Mention and yesterday also I raised the same thing and I think the thing goes into the ears of the Minister. I had talked to Mr. Sukh Ram also about the acute position with regard to foodgrains in Maharashtra, especially in the city of Bombay where the ration shops are dry, the queues are very big and people do not get their foodgrains. That is why I have pleaded with the Minister that if this is not attended to immediately, it will create a law and order situation in Maharashtra because the anti-social elements and communal elements will take advantage of this situation and will try to start agitations and that will create a big law and order problem. As you are aware, for metropolitan cities the Central Government has taken the responsibility for the supplies and, therefore, I think they would give the necessary quotas for these cities.

[Mr Chairman in the Chair:]

Now, there is a bumper crop of foodgrains. In view of this and also, in order to see that this situation does not become worse, I would like to know

whether the Government will increase the quota of rice and wheat to Maharashtra so that the villages in Maharashtra and Bombay and other cities get their quota because, otherwise, the situation will go out of your hands and you will be held responsible. So, I would like to know whether the Government will look into it and see that immediate supplies are rushed to Maharashtra.

श्री डी० एल० बंठा : महोदय, मैंने इसके

पहले भी बताया कि महाराष्ट्र का जो आपूर्ति का कोटा था उसकी बढ़ाया गया है। उसके बाद भी माननीय सदस्य ने यह बात रखी है। मैंने पहले ही बताया है कि राज्य सरकार से बातचीत करने के बाद इसका जो भी उपाय होगा उसकी कोशिश करेंगे।

श्री डी० एल० बंठा : महोदय, मैंने इसके

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : मान्यवर सभापति जी आपके माध्यम से मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि जो सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली खाद्य और आपूर्ति मंत्रालय तय करता है उसमें सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानों के माध्यम से जो अनाज जीवन यापन की वस्तु है वे वितरित की जाती हैं। अग्नी प्रदेश की बात की गई है, महाराष्ट्र की बात की गई है। मैं बनारस की बात करता हूँ। बनारस में...

श्री सभापति : पान तो कम नहीं है।

श्री अजीत जोगी : मुंह में है पान।

श्री डी० एल० बंठा : महोदय, मैंने इसके

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : बनारस में जो सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली है और सस्ते गल्ले की दुकानों की सार्वजनिक वितरण के लिये जो वस्तुएँ दी जाती हैं उस संबंध में मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि उसमें से अधिकांश चीनी, गेहूँ, चावल और अन्य चीजें बहुत सी दुकानों से ब्लेक में बिक जाती हैं और वे उपभोक्ताओं को प्राप्त ही नहीं होती हैं। इसकी शिकायत जब लोग कलेक्टर से लेकर मुख्य मंत्री तक करते हैं तो उसका कोई जवाब नहीं मिलता है। मैं अपने प्रश्न के माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो वितरण प्रणाली आपने बनाई है इसके क्या कोई चेक प्वाइंट बनाये हैं ?

ग्राम स्तर पर, ब्लॉक स्तर पर और जिला स्तर पर सरकार उन चीजों की पहुँचाती है तो उसका सही ढंग से वितरण हो इसके लिए क्या कोई मॉनिटरिंग और चेक प्वाइंट भारत सरकार ने बनाये हैं ? मैं यह जवाब नहीं चाहता कि यह स्टेट सबजेक्ट है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस संदर्भ में उनका क्या कहना है ?

श्री डी० एल० बंठा : महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो कहा है कि "यह स्टेट सबजेक्ट है ऐसा मैं सुनना नहीं चाहता।" लेकिन जब है तो सुनना ही पड़ेगा।

श्री सभापति : वे जानते हैं। वे आगे की बात पूछ रहे हैं।

श्री डी० एल० बंठा : महोदय, हमने बार बार राज्य सरकारों को लिखा है कि अन्न की आपूर्ति जिस उद्देश्य से की जाती है उसकी पूर्ति अवश्य होनी चाहिए। अगर यह उधर उधर डाइवर्ट होता है तो इसकी देखना चाहिये। सरकार अपनी एजेंसी के जरिये उसको कंट्रोल करे नियन्त्रित करे इसकी कोशिश बराबर रहती है। बीच बीच में हम लोग बैठक भी करते हैं राज्य सरकार के मंत्रियों से जो आते हैं उनको भी कहते हैं कि इस पर निगरानी रखें ताकि जिसके लिए अनाज की आपूर्ति की जाती है वह उन्हें मिले।

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न अनुत्तरित रह गया है। क्या कोई मॉनिटरिंग या चेक प्वाइंट ब्लॉक स्तर पर इस वितरण प्रणाली को चेक करने के लिए आप बनाएंगे जिससे यह पता चल सके कि यह जो सारी चीजें आप वितरण के लिए यहां से देते हैं उनको मिल रही है ? क्या ऐसी कोई योजना आप बनाएंगे ताकि सरप्राइज चेकिंग कर सके ?

श्री सभापति : क्या आप यह चाहते हैं कि भारत सरकार विलेज लेबल पर भी चेक प्वाइंट बनाए ? यह तो सम्भव नहीं है।

श्री डी० एल० बंठा : महोदय, राज्य सरकारों को हम लिखते हैं कि वे एंडवाइजरी कमेटियाँ और बिजनेस कमेटियाँ भिन्न

भिन्न स्तरों पर बनावें और यह सुनिश्चित करें कि आपूर्ति सही जगह ~~है~~ सही ढंग से हो।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, last year the foodstocks have gone down considerably. In view of that, has the expansion of the public system been slowed down? Secondly, what steps has the Government taken to meet the shortages so that the grain supplies can cover the entire vulnerable population? Sir, what was the import during the last year? What is the programme of imports this year?

श्री डी० एल० बेठा : महोदय, राज्यों को जो हम लोग आबंटन करते हैं उसके पहले हम यह देखते हैं कि आप टेक कितना हुआ है। उसके आधार पर हम आबंटन करते हैं। अभी जो माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है कि इम्पोर्ट करने की कोई योजना है या नहीं है। अभी कोई योजना इम्पोर्ट करने की नहीं है मगर यह भी नहीं कहा जा सकता है कि जरूरत पड़ने पर भी नहीं होगा। अभी ऐसी कोई योजना नहीं है। वैसे यह प्रश्न तो अलग से उठना चाहिये।

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Sir, you have not asked the Opposition.

श्री सभापति : अपोजीशन ने हाथ ही नहीं उठाया। आपने हाथ नहीं उठाया।

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण : सभापति महोदय, आजकल वो हाथ नहीं उठाते हैं, घुटने उठा रहे हैं (व्यवधान) मैं मंत्री जी से एक चीज जानना चाहता हूँ। वैसे तो अनुभव यह हुआ है जो अंग्रेजी में प्रश्न करते हैं उनका हिन्दी में जवाब देते हैं और जो हिन्दी में प्रश्न करते हैं उनका जवाब अंग्रेजी में देते हैं परन्तु मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो लोग टेम्पोरेरी तौर पर रहते हैं उनको टेम्पोरेरी राशन कार्ड 14 दिन का, 10 दिन का एक सप्ताह का इश्यु करने का प्रावधान है वह क्यों नहीं किया जाता है? दूसरा यह है कि जो लोग परमानेंट तौर पर झुग्गी झोपड़ी में रहते हैं 6 महीने या साल से जिनको

यह सम्भावना नहीं है कि निकट भविष्य में उनको उठा दिया जाएगा या वे स्वयं उठ जायेंगे उनको राशन कार्ड दिल्ली में क्यों बन्द कर दिया गया है?

श्री डी० एल० बेठा : महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने इस प्रकार का प्रश्न पहले भी इस सदन में किया था और उस पर हमने दिल्ली प्रशासन को लिखा था कि इस पर कार्यवाही की जाए। यदि माननीय सदस्य ऐसा कहना चाहेंगे कि यहाँ पर यह समस्या है तो वह मेरे नोटिस में लाएं मैं उसको देखूंगा और दिल्ली प्रशासन को भी लिखूंगा।

श्री शांति त्यागी : सभापति जी, हमारे पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में जो उचित दर की दुकानें हैं मंत्री जी उधर क दौरा करें और देखें वहाँ सिर्फ मिट्टी क तेल और चीनी मिलती है। मैं यह कहता हूँ गांव वाले यह कह रहे हैं कि क्या इन दुकानों पर कभी भी गेहूँ, चावल साबुन, माचिस, पकाने का तेल, मोटा कपड़ा मिलेगा। क्या यह सरकार कभी सोचेगी कि ग्रामीणों को मिट्टी के तेल और चीनी के अलावा इन चीजों की जरूरत है। क्या कभी इन दुकानों पर यह चीजें भोजन की व्यवस्था आप करेंगे?

श्री डी० एल० बेठा : महोदय, केन्द्रीय सरकार के जरिये से कुछ आवश्यक वस्तुओं की आपूर्ति की जाती है इसके अलावा जैसे कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है हम लोगों ने राज्य सरकारों को लिखा है कि इसके अलावा भी जो आवश्यक वस्तुएं हैं उन दुकानों में लोगों को मुहैया कराई जाए और राज्य सरकारों को हम लोग बार बार इसके लिए ताकीद करते हैं।

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to go to the basic question. If we have faced the severest drought of the century, it is because we had some buffer stocks in the Public Distribution System. We had enough stocks with the F.C.I. and, therefore, we withstood even the worst drought in the history of mankind. There has not been even a single death. The point

at issue is that the Public Distribution system is not in a position to get the required grains from the Mandis for the obvious reasons. Take for example the granary of India, i.e. Punjab and Haryana. The present price is Rs. 2.80 per kg. The Government has fixed a price of Rs. 1.84. So, what is the Public Distribution System doing to replenish the dwindling stocks? On the one hand, there are demands from the States for more stocks. How is he going to replenish the dwindling stocks in the light of these anomalies that exist?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is the stock dwindling? If so, what are you doing?

श्री डी० एल० बेठा : स्टॉक ड्रिडल कर रहा है। मगर इन्होंने प्रोक्योरमेंट का सत्राल उठाया है। यह बात सही है कि प्रोक्योरमेंट जो सपोर्ट प्राइस है हम लोग उस पर करते हैं और कभी-कभी यह देखा जाता है कि सपोर्ट प्राइस से मार्केट का प्राइस ज्यादा रहता है। अगर हम लोग सिर्फ मार्केट के प्राइस से ही इसको परचेज करें तो रिटेल प्राइस ज्यादा हो जायेगा और हमारा उद्देश्य डिफीट हो जायेगा। हम इस पर इस तरह से देना चाहते हैं कि बाजार पर भी उसका असर पड़े और लोगों को यह अवैलेबुल भी हो जाये। इसलिए हम सपोर्ट प्राइस पर खरीदते हैं।

Setting up of a Monitoring Cell for the Radio Television programmes of other countries

*325 SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:†

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Monitoring Cell for the Radio and Television programmes of other countries has been set up; if so, when and the details of the work done by it so far and the reports, if any, submitted by it;

†The question was actually asked on the Floor of the House by Shri Kapil Verma.

(b) the money spent on it during the last three years, yearwise; and

(c) whether a number of Video Cassettes are missing from the said Cell; if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Monitoring Cell was set up on the 26th June, 1986. The Cell makes an analysis of the transcripts of broadcasts/telecasts monitored at Aya Nagar, Jammu and Berhampur. The Cell has submitted 130 weekly reports and 50 special reports.

(b) The money spent on the running of the Monitoring Cell during the last three years is given below:—

1986-87	—	Rs. 4.19 lakhs
1987-88	—	Rs. 10.00 lakhs
1988-89	—	Rs. 9.06 lakhs upto 28-2-89.

(c) A packet containing video cassettes sent by the Field Unit, Berhampur to Delhi under registered post have not been received. A complaint has been lodged with the Post Master, Berhampur.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, the hon. Minister has given the number of certain reports received. I want to know how many of them are about the A.I.R. monitoring, how many of them are about T.V. monitoring, which countries are doing propaganda against us, what use the monitoring reports are being put to and what measures are being taken to counteract that propaganda on our T.V. and radio. They have opened office in the North-East and Northern region. I am not going to name those countries because it may embarrass the Government. But I want to know how many T.V. cassettes they have received. My information is that it is not being done on a regular basis at all. For example, Bangladesh started a propaganda barrage against us trying to internationalise the