

[श्री रामचन्द्र भारद्वाज]

कार कर दें तो वह नाकामयाव होजायेगा, निरस्त हो जायेगा। मगर उस बीच में जो टैक्स वसूल कर लिया जायेगा वह जायज होगा या नाजायज होगा, इसका कुछ पता नहीं है। फाइनल अधिकार सदन को है तो दिल्ली प्रशासन बीच में जो टैक्स वसूल कर चुका होगा उस टैक्स का क्या होगा ?

श्री उपसभापति : अब आधका भाषण लंच के बाद होगा।

There is one Special Mention by Shri Jacob.

REFERENCE TO THE INADEQUATE SUPPLY OF RICE FROM THE CENTRAL POOL TO KERALA

SHRI M. M. JACOB (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am very happy that you granted me time. I draw the attention of the Government through you, Sir, to a special situation existing in Kerala because of the non-availability of adequate quantities of rice.

Sir, Onam festival is the national festival as far as Kerala is concerned. The speciality about the Onara is that during the Onam days, there should be full meal to everybody even if one is poor. Sir, we used to get a supply of ration of 1,35,000 tonnes every month. During the last few months, the supply from the Central Pool is substantially reduce. So one request is to resume the supply of the original 135,000 tonnes from now onwards because monsoon has also set in and it is a period of lean months and people are finding it difficult. Sir, the alternate source of our food was from the neighbouring States— Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. And Tamil Nadu is also facing difficulties.

Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have sealed their borders. So, no free movement of rice to Kerala is coming. That is a handicap for the free market operations. From the Central pool for inter-State purchase the Government of Kerala Has asked for permission and your Government was kind enough to give permission from Haryana and Andhra Pradesh for a smaller amount. But our requirement at the rate of 12 ounces per person per day comes to 2.20 lakh tonnes. The gap is 60 per cent and 40 per cent is our production. So, we want more facilities to "purchase from other States. The Food Corporation of India is having only 1.16 lakh tonnes as buffer stock in Kerala. That buffer stock must be raised to at least four lakh tonnes to avoid any difficulties.

Sir, I want to mention one more point about this. The Reserve Bank is the credit giving agency for purchasing inter-State foodgrains. But, at the same time, the Reserve Bank has imposed a restriction of 18 per cent interest on such kind of food purchases from other States. That is a very hard thing. I request that some steps must be taken to reduce the interest rate from 18 per cent to a token of 4 per cent or something like that so that Kerala may not starve at this time.

श्री उपसभापति : सदन की कार्य-वाही 2 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned for lunch at two minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at six minutes past two of the clock,

Mr. Deputy Chairman; In the Chair-