

श्री श्रीकांत वर्मा : मंत्री महोदय ने अभी एन० सी० ई० आर० टी० का जो उदाहरण दिया है, यह सही है कि जब भी जुलाई का महीना होता है तब स्कूलों के विद्यार्थियों के माता-पिताओं की यह शिकायत होती है कि बाजार में सुनने को मिलता है कि एन० सी० ई० आर० टी० की किताबें नहीं मिल रही हैं और अगर नहीं मिल रही हैं, तो इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि पुस्तक प्रकाशन का उद्योग सरकार द्वारा अपने आप में गलत है। क्या मंत्री महोदय इन कारणों की जांच करेंगे कि किन कारणों से ये पुस्तकें बाजार में नहीं आती हैं और कैसे उनके उचित वितरण की व्यवस्था हो ?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: In many cases, Sir, the manuscripts were received at a late stage, and these have been sent to the press for printing. And, as you know, sometimes because of load-shedding, the presses cannot work in full strength. So it is taking some time. But I believe the books which are not available in the market will soon be available.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question.

*72. [The questioner (Shri Shyam Lal Yadav) was absent. For answer, vide col. 41-42 infra.]

♦73. [The questioner (Dr. Lokesh Chandra) was absent. For answer vide col. 42-43 infra.]

VISIT TO INDIA BY THE CHIEF OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION

*74. **SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :**
SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO :
DR. Z. A. AHMAD : **SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BURMAN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief of the Food and Agriculture Organisation

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bir Chandra Deb Burman.

I visited India recently and held discussions with the representatives of the Government of India;

(b) if so, what are the details of the discussions held;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to make available food stocks to F.A.O. for export; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK) : (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representatives of the Government of India discussed with the Director-General of the FAO, the global food and agricultural situation in general and the role of the FAO with particular reference to India. The following main topics were discussed in particular :—

(i) The role of the FAO in stimulating further multilateral and bilateral assistance for increasing food production in the developing countries and for ensuring that production level is stepped up atleast to an average annual growth rate of 4% as recommended by the World Food Conference.

(ii) Enlarging the scope of food aid under the World Food Programme to cover improvement of nutritional standards, livestock development programmes and coverage of new commodities like edible oils, dairy products, etc. in addition to aid in the shape of foodgrains.

(iii) Utilisation of the special fund of \$ 20.00 million proposed to be created by the FAO in order to reduce post-harvest losses, by the developing countries, including India.

(iv) Utilisation of \$ 18.5 million Technical Cooperation Programme Fund created by the FAO, by the developing countries, including India.

(v) Upgrading of the country Office of the FAO in India in order to provide for high level experts in keeping with India's requirements, for technical advice.

(vi) FAO's role in Livestock development and Animal Husbandry Programmes.

(vii) Allotment of 12500 tonnes of wheat under the World Food Programme for Emergency Food for Work Project in Orissa, to provide employment and relief to the people who were affected by serious drought in 1975.

(c) The Government of India have not taken any decision to export food stocks to the FAO.

(d) The question does not arise.

SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BUR-MAN : In view of the discussions with the Director-General of the FAO with regard to increasing food production in India, I want to know from the hon. Minister what concrete steps the Government intends to take for increasing food production in India.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Sir, it is a major question and requires a lengthy answer. If the hon. Member puts a specific question, I shall be able to answer specifically.

SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BUR-MAN : One of the items of discussion was the question of increasing food production and "ensuring that production level is stepped up at least to an average annual growth rate of 4 per cent". So this question is connected with it. I want to know how the Government wants to ensure the stepping up of the production level to an average annual growth rate of 4 per cent.

SHRI V. B. RAJU : The Minister is not ready.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : The Minister is ready. Then I have to take probably an hour to describe the entire process. If the Chair permits, I have no objection to do that. Now, it is not only 4 per cent, it is sought to be increased to 5 per cent. Although the FAO has suggested 4 per cent, we are not limiting it to 4 per cent. This time the Janata Party has decided to substantially increase the allocation in the field of agriculture which has been neglected over a period of two decades.

SHRI V. B. RAJU : Not Janata Party, only Janata Party Government.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : The party has formed the Government and it follows the policy of the party. Therefore, we expect that the annual growth rate will go up to more than 4 per cent, more than what the World Food Organisation would have us to achieve. We hope that very soon we will be an exporting country over the years to come. As soon as the Budget is presented, which will be in another two days—the day after tomorrow—I have no doubt that the hon. Member will find out for himself that with the heavy allocation of funds in the field of agriculture, including irrigation—dams, canals, lift irrigation—and all the necessary inputs required to increase agricultural production . . .

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : The Minister is not briefed. He is speaking absolutely irrelevant things. The question has not been answered.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : The question is, what are the steps we are taking to increase food, production ? Kali Babu has not heard the question himself, much less the answer. The question was, what steps are being taken.

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : Is it a budget speech or a speech of party formulations ? A certain question was put here by Mr. Burman and we want a specific answer from them.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : If Kali Babu can repeat the question, I will be very happy to answer it. But he has not heard the question obviously.

(a) An increase in allotment of funds in the direction of agriculture, both to the Centre and the States, in the Plan Outlay.

(b) Increased funding for completing dams, for major, medium and minor irrigation schemes.

(c) Greater availability of Dower to the cultivators and greater nailability of pumping sets to the cultivators.

(d) Greater availability of inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, high yielding varieties of seeds—and all the inputs that go with them.

These would increase in our opinion, in the opinion of the Government, the agricultural production by not 4 per cent as

the World Food Organisation has recommended, but at least 5 per cent.

SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB BUR-MAN : Flood and drought are the main causes for the fluctuation in food production. In one case it is the excess of water and in the other the lack of it. What steps does the Government take to prevent these natural calamities so that there is a steady increase in production ?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : I have already answered that question. I said, greater irrigation facilities; that means building more dams—and the proposed dams—at a much more accelerated rate which will stop floods and also give the necessary storage of water for irrigation which will take care of the drought periods. But in the chronic drought areas where there are no water resources, groundwater resources are being surveyed and wherever possible lift irrigation will be provided.

FORMULATION OF NEW EDUCATIONAL POLICY

*75. SHRIMATI RATHNABAI

SREENIVASA RAO : SHRI PRAKASH

VEER SHASTRI : SHRIMATI

LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT :

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA :

SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to review the 10+2+3 pattern of education in its entirety while formulating their new National Education Policy;

(b) if so, what are the details of this proposal; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER):

(a) to (c) The 10+2+3 pattern is under review. Discussions are being held with some Members of Parliament, educationists,

(The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Prakash Veer Shastri.

Vice-Chancellors, representatives of teachers' Organisations Educational Administrators, parents and members of the public. It will be necessary to consult the States also. The final picture as a result of the review is yet to emerge.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : शिक्षा मंत्री ने जो अभी वक्तव्य दिया है शिक्षा प्रणाली के ऊपर, 10+2+3 की जो शिक्षा प्रणाली है इस के ऊपर देश में तरह तरह की भांति फैल रही है। एक पक्ष यह है कि सरकार इसको चलाये रखना चाहती है और दूसरा पक्ष यह है कि सरकार इसमें परिवर्तन करना चाहती है। अब जो जुलाई से शिक्षा का नया सत्र प्रारम्भ हो रहा है क्या शिक्षा मंत्री आज इस बात को कहने की स्थिति में हैं कि नया सत्र प्रारम्भ होने से पहले सरकार अपना मन बना लेगी और इस संबंध में कोई नीति की घोषणा कर देगी ?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER :

The original national policy on education was adopted in 1968 by both the Houses of Parliament. According to that the Government of India was to review every five years the progress made and recommend guidelines for future development. So we have taken up the review at the present moment, and it is not possible to conclude our deliberations within such a short time. So when the new suggestions ultimately emerge after discussion, the whole matter will be brought before both the Houses of Parliament and only when they are adopted by both the Houses of Parliament can we amend this. That is a democratic process.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : अभी तक जो उपकुलपतियों के साथ, शिक्षा शास्त्रियों के साथ और संसद सदस्यों के साथ आपकी बैठकें हुई हैं उससे आप किस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचे हैं ? क्या यह अनुमान लगाया जाए कि सरकार इस नीति को स्वीकार न करके कोई नई नीति निर्धारित करना चाहती है ? जो आपकी बातचीत हुई है उससे अभी तक क्या निष्कर्ष निकला है यह बतलाने की कृपा करें ?