

चूँकि दिल्ली भारत की राजधानी है और यहाँ पर चारों तरफ से देश के निवासी आते रहते हैं। इसलिए क्या दिल्ली को पंजाब और हरियाणा के साथ मिलाकर एक क्षेत्र बनाये जाने के संबंध में सरकार विचार करेगी जिससे कि दिल्ली में गेहूँ की कठिनाई न रहे ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :

Sir, as far as the bogus ration cards are concerned, of course, this is a country-wide problem. In all big cities, this problem of bogus ration cards is there. As far as Delhi is concerned, we have taken up with the Delhi Administration, and the Delhi Administration is running some campaign to see that bogus ration cards are eliminated. But my submission to the House would be that without the co-operation of everybody, both inside the House and outside the House, this would really be a very difficult proposition. The Delhi Administration proposes to pursue it.

As far as the opening of zones for coarse grains is concerned, there is no restriction of movement. Delhi is a part of the larger zone. At least, there is no restriction of movement from one State to another. As far as rice is concerned, Delhi is a part of Northern zone which comprises of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi. Only in wheat, it is a State zone. And I think this is not the right time to reconsider the policy.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : Sir, I ask a very specific question. Is the Minister aware of the fact that in many Fair Price Shops in Delhi, they are not supplying any wheat or rice for the last one month? For example, in my ration shop in North Block, for the last one month, I am not getting any wheat or rice. I have repeatedly brought this matter to your notice, but no action has been taken.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We will take note of what the hon. Member has said, and I would take up with the Delhi Administration. But, as I said earlier, Delhi has no problem of availability of foodgrains. In fact, the stocks are not being lifted. There is no problem of availability.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : If there is no problem of availability, then, are they doing blackmarketing? . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yours is a personal question. Next Question.

Formation of Panchayat Finance Corporations by States

*730. **SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MURTHY :**†

SHRI B. RACHAIAH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have advised the State Governments to form Panchayat Finance Corporations to boost up cottage and village industries and rural employment;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Institute of Research and Training at Hyderabad has been asked to study the working of village and other rural youth organisations in various States and to suggest model provisions for incorporation in the Panchayat laws in the States; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The Santhanam Study Team set up in July, 1962 by the erstwhile Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation to study the resources and finances of Panchayati Raj institutions had recommended, *inter-alia* the establishment of Panchayati Raj Finance Corporation in the States for advancing loans to Panchayati Raj institutions for the provision of public utility undertakings, building up of re-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri B. P. Nagaraja Murthy.

munerative assets, providing on hire the requirements of machinery and implements for agricultural operations and for starting certain types of industrial undertakings, etc. The Government of India had addressed the State Governments apprising them of the recommendations of this Study Team and also proposing that the Corporations may be set up, with the share capital participation limited to the Centre, the States and Panchayati Raj institutions. The State Governments had also been requested to indicate their specific willingness about their share of the share capital, guarantee the repayment of share money of the share-holders as also of the bonds and debentures etc. The response from the State Governments was, however, not encouraging and the proposal was, therefore, not pursued further.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The National Institute of Community Development has been addressed recently to undertake a study on the subject. The details of such a study are, however, under examination by this Institute and these will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MURTHY: Sir, according to the statement laid on the Table of the House, the Government of India had addressed the State Governments apprising them of the recommendations of this Study Team and also proposing that the Corporations may be set up with the share capital participation limited to the Centre, the States and the Panchayati Raj institutions. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what was the share capital participation proposed by the Centre, the States and the Panchayati Raj institutions?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir, this problem was examined some time ago. A Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of one of the Members of the Rajya Sabha in the year 1962. But somehow or the other, the recommendations were not found to be acceptable to the Reserve Bank of India. Then, some of the State Governments also had reservations about it. Therefore, the Government of India did not

pursue the matter. At the moment, U.P. and Bihar Governments have come forward with some proposals and they are under consideration.

SHRI B. P. NAGARAJA MURTHY: Sir, it is said in the statement that the National Institute of Community Development has been addressed recently to undertake a study on the subject. May I know from the hon. Minister as to when this report is expected.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: They would take about a few months more to submit the report.

SHRI B. RACHAIAH: Sir, already there are two reports of the Committee with regard to this. Then, where is the need to refer it to another study team?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: The reason is this. Dr. Santhanam Committee went into this problem. Their recommendations were not found to be acceptable for various reasons. Even the Finance Ministry found that there were many lacunae, etc., and that the scheme which was worked out was not feasible. Now, since more State Governments are proposing again for the formation of such financial institutions or corporations, we thought it would be better if we get an assessment made afresh from a specialized organisation.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: Sir, at the central level, there is a Village Industries Commission to boost up and to help the village industries, and at the State level, there are Village Industries Boards. So, why is it necessary to have another organisation for the same work? We have the Village Industries Commission and the Village Industries Boards. Are they not doing the work properly that was allotted to them? What is the reason to have another organisation? Why is this duplication of such organisations?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: I am sorry the hon'ble Member has not properly followed the subject-matter. In fact, this Corporation is contemplated because village panchayati

raj bodies have many other functions and activities—development of agriculture, development of village sanitation and the village markets, etc. So such a body was found to be necessary in order to help panchayati raj bodies where they are short of finances. But the Village Industries Boards help only the industrial sector; they are not in a position to finance panchayati raj bodies as far as other developmental activities of panchayati raj institutions are concerned.

श्री नत्थी सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे, चूँकि पंचायती राज संस्था देश में आज इसलिए निष्क्रिय हो गई है कि उनमें ग्राम-जाम का कोई साधन नहीं है, इसलिए पंचायती राज संस्थाओं को मजबूत बनाने और ग्रामीण नव-निर्माण करने के लिए और राज्य के अन्न की वसूली के काम में इन्वाल्फ करने की दृष्टि से वे दोबारा राज्य सरकारों पर इसका प्रभाव डालेंगे जिससे कि पंचायती राज संस्था मजबूत बन सके और सक्रिय योगदान दे सके ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :

Sir, it is true that it is a mixed picture. In some States, where elections are frequently held, regularly held, and sometimes the elections are based on adult franchise, there panchayati raj institutions are effective. In many other States, they are not effective—elections are not regularly held there. I am prepared to accept that the position is not at all satisfactory in the country, but on the fundamental, in a vast country like India, unless we rely to some extent on panchayati raj, which is a democratically elected body and has been given some powers with decentralization etc., we will have many problems. Therefore, there is need for emphasis on this particular development of panchayati raj institutions. I share the views of the hon'ble Member.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Sir, I am happy that the hon'ble Minister agreed that most of the developmental works in the rural areas will have to be given to the panchayati raj. Sir, may I know from the hon'ble Minister while we leave almost all the development in

the rural areas to the panchayati raj, does he appreciate that it is because of lack of finances and adequate resources that they cannot undertake all these developmental works? As my hon'ble colleague has said that he is contemplating to do something about it. Does he have any actual substantive proposal so as to finance the panchayati raj bodies so that they can undertake development work?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :

A number of specific proposals were forwarded for the consideration of the State Governments. For instance, some of the panchayats in the country do levy taxes some of the panchayats have done it very successfully—while some of the pachayats are very shy of levying taxation. So they are not in a position to raise additional resources. Some of the projects which possibly finance the panchayati raj institutions, can be bankable projects. If there is a need to have institutional financial support—this is what the matter pertains to—then of course it is a larger issue, and we have still not arrived at a final conclusion about it.

श्री कमलनाथ झा : सभापति जी, गांवों के नवनिर्माण की यहाँ बहुत सी चर्चा हुई लेकिन जब हमने विकेंद्रित राजनैतिक व्यवस्था और सामाजिक व्यवस्था को अपनाया तो क्या यह आवश्यक नहीं है कि गांवों के विकास के लिए जब तक हम अर्थ मोहयूया नहीं करेंगे तब तक गांवों का विकास नहीं होगा और इसलिए क्या सरकार सारे भारतवर्ष में यूनिफार्म पालिसी चलाएगी कि गांवों में जमीन का जो लगान बसूल होता है उस लगान की वसूली को ग्राम पंचायत के जिम्मे कर दिया जाए और उसे उनके एक खास खाते में जमा किया जाए जिसका उपयोग गांवों के विकास के लिए हो ? क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार सारे राज्य सरकारों को यह सलाह देगी ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :

Sir, we have no objection to this proposal being accepted. In fact, in some of the States land revenue is being allotted to village panchayats and panchayati raj institutions. If some State

Governments want to do it, Government of India will not come in the way.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY : Sir, in this statement the Minister says that the response from the State Governments was not encouraging. It may not be encouraging in all cases, it may be discouraging in some cases. Sir, in Assam, at village panchayat level, multipurpose co-operative societies have been formed with 10,000 shares from the villagers, 10,000 from the State Governments.

Now, Sir, these co-operatives cannot function because of shortage of funds because financial institutions are not coming forward to finance these co-operatives. Sir, it is stated in the statement that it was recommended by the Committee but with the same purpose, these co-operatives have been formed. I want to know whether the Government is aware of these co-operatives in Assam and also the problems of these co-operatives. If so, what steps are they going to take so that these co-operatives can get finances from the financial institutions?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : This question is about the finances of the Panchayati Raj institutions and not about co-operatives. We are aware of the other problems but that is not relevant to this question.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY : The Minister should know, he being in-charge of the Community Development, that in Assam these co-operatives are tagged with Panchayats. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, let the hon. Member resume his seat. The hon. Minister knows that problem.

Next question.

खाद्यान्नों का आयात

*731 सरदार कुमार सं० चं० आंध्रे :

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर :

श्री सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी :

श्री ओइम् प्रकाश त्यागी :

क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1965—73 को अवधि के दौरान लगभग 2,635 करोड़ रुपये के खाद्यान्नों का आयात किया गया;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि हरित क्रांति (1968—74) के दौरान 236 करोड़ रुपये का वार्षिक औसत आयात किया गया; और

(ग) 1974 में अब तक आयातित खाद्यान्न का मूल्य क्या है और 1975 में कितने खाद्यान्नों का आयात किए जाने की संभावना है ?

†[Import of foodgrains

*731. **SHRI S. C. ANGRE :**

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR+ :

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :

SHRI O.P. TYAGI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains worth Rs. 2,635 crores were imported during the period 1965—73;

(b) whether it is also a fact that average annual imports worth Rs. 236 crores were made during the period of the Green Revolution (1968—74); and

(c) what is the value of foodgrains imported during 1974 so far and the quantum of foodgrains likely to be imported during 1975?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहेब पी० शिंदे) : (क) और (ख) जी हाँ ।

(ग) जनवरी से नवम्बर, 1974 की अवधि के दौरान आयात किए गए खाद्यान्नों को अनुमानित लागत लगभग 332.72 करोड़ रुपये बैठती है और इसमें सोवियत रूस से उधार पर आयात किया गया गेहूँ शामिल नहीं है । भारत सरकार खाद्यान्न आयात करने की

†[] English translation.

+The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagdish Prasad Mathur.