

Paper Mills Limited, Nepanagar, for the year 1972-73, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon-

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6941/74 for (i) and (ii).]

Ninth Annual Report and Accounts (1972-73) of the Cement Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi and related papers

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: —

(i) Ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Cement Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi, for the year 1972-73, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6939/74 for (i) and (ii).]

Third Annual Report and Account;; 73) of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., and related papers.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: —

(i) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, for the year 1972-73, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Corporation. I Placed in Library. See No. LT-6942/74 for (i) and (ii).]

First Annual Report and Accounts (1972-73) os the Bharat Optbalmic Glass Ltd., Durgapur ana related papers

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: —

(i) First Annual Report and Ac-ants of the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur, for the year 1972-73, together with the Auditors' Report the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(li) Review by Government on the working of the Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6940/ 74 for (i) and (ii).]

Municipal Corporation (Allowances and Aldermen) Amendment Rules, 1974

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of sec-lion 479 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Ac;, 1957, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Naiincation No. U-13021/4/73/Delhi dated the 5th April 1974, publishing the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Allowances of Councillors and Aldermen) Amendment Rules. 1974. [Placed ^in Library. See No. LT-6809/74.]

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Acute shortage of bread and baby-food in Delhi

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR (Rajasthan): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the acute shortage of bread in, and virtual disappearance of baby-food from, Delhi markets.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair.]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE): Sir, some shortage of bread was reported in Deih; in the third week of April, but no shortage is reported at present after the prices were revised with effect from 26th April, 1974.

The present demand of bread in Delhi is estimated to be of the order of about 30,000 tonnes per annum. Against this, the registered capacity of the three units in the organised sector is about 27,928 tonnes and the level of production during 1973 has been of the same order. In addition, there are a large number of small bakeries in the unorganised sector, and the total production is more or less sufficient to meet the requirements of Delhi.

No report about virtual disappearance of baby food from the Delhi markets has been received, but it is in short supply because of general shortage of baby foods in the country.

The present demand of infant milk food in the country is estimated to be in the vicinity of 25,000 tonnes and the level of production is of the order of about 21,000 tonnes per annum. Because of the unprecedented drop in milk collection view of drought conditions and floods and its after effects, baby food manufacturers are faced with a serious problem of utilising their capacity. Because of these factors and the increase in the price of milk, the baby food manufacturers have been facing difficulties in augmenting production. The item 'milk food' is covered under the Essential Commodities Act in respect of which a special watch is being kept on the production, distribution and prices. When shortage of baby food in any State or area is reported, manufacturers are contacted to provide all possible assistance in increasing the supplies/availabilities of baby food in that area.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माधुर: माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि इस समय दिल्ली में ब्रेड की कोई कमी नहीं है। मुझे लगता है कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय स्वयं कभी भी बाजार में ब्रेड खरीदने नहीं जाते होंगे, खुद उन को इस का अवसर

नहीं मिलता होगा। (Interruption)
खाते तो हैं, लेकिन स्वयं खाते नहीं होंगे।
मार्केट में जो स्थिति है उसे देखते हुए जो उत्तर उन्होंने दिया है वह उपयुक्त नहीं है और मार्केट में ब्रेड की और अच्छी ब्रेड की विलकुल कमी है और रोजाना इस प्रकार के अनुभव होते हैं और खास तौर से पिछले दिनों जो ब्रेड की कमी हुई उस का एक कारण यह भी था कि जो आप की गेहूं की नीति थी उस के कारण जो मंदा बनाने वाली मिलें थी उन को स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का जो फिक्स्ड कोटा था उस के आधार पर उन को गेहूं मिलता था और वह समाज के छोटे तबके के लोगों को खिला सकते थे। लेकिन मंदा बनाने का काम विभिन्न राज्यों में बढ़ हो गया। केवल उत्तर प्रदेश ऐसा प्रान्त था कि जहां मंदा बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में बना और अन्य राज्यों को सप्लाई हुआ और उस के कारण थोड़ी बहुत ब्रेड बनती थी। तो इस प्रकार से ऐसी काल सी व्यवस्था आप करने वाले हैं कि जिससे इन सेकरीज को मंदा ठीक प्रकार से मिल सके और मंदा बन सके। इसके लिए आप को कोई व्यवस्था करनी पड़ेगी।

दूसरा बच्ची फूड का सवाल है।
उन में मुख्य बात यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान में उस के लिए जिस संस्था ने मोनोपोली कर रखी है वह है हिन्दुस्तान लीवर्स। उस की एक आर्टिफिशियल स्केयरसिटी है जो हिन्दुस्तान लीवर्स ने बनायी है। वे सारे का सारा जो भी इंडीजिनस मैटीरियल है उसको तमाम मुल्क में काफी बड़ी मात्रा में खरीदने हैं और मार्केट में स्केयरसिटी पैदा करके कई बार दाम गिरा भी देने हैं। दाम गिराने का मतलब यह है कि जो छोटे उत्पादनकर्ता हैं, वे मार्केट में उनके सामान टिक नहीं सकते और जब वे नहीं टिकते

[श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर]

तो ये स्वयं मैदान में रहते हैं। आप देखेंगे, बेबी फूड निर्माण करने में हिन्दुस्तान लिवर 35 परसेंट मुनाफा कमाता है। तो क्या आप इस प्रकार का बेबी फूड जिसको आपने कहा इसेशियल कमोडिटी है, उसकी मूल्य वृद्धि पर कोई रोक लगा रहे हैं; क्योंकि उसका जो निर्माण करता है वह किसी प्रकार से मैनूवर करके मार्केट के अंदर स्केयर्सिटी पैदा करता है। आपने बताया, अनाज और अनाज से बने खाद्य पदार्थों में कितना मुनाफा हो, आपने एक अनाज गेहूँ का सीलिंग प्राइस रखा, लेकिन गेहूँ से निर्मित जो वस्तु है और जो बच्चों का आहार माना जाता है, उसमें विदेशी कंपनी कितना ज्यादा मुनाफा करती है, एक मोनोपोली कर रही है। इसलिए उस मोनोपोली को चेक करके और जिससे लोगों को ठीक दाम पर बेबी फूड मिल सके और विदेशी कंपनी जो भारी मुनाफा कमाती है उसको रोकने की दृष्टि से आप क्या व्यवस्था करन जा रहे हैं?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: I appreciate the concern of the honourable Member and I am prepared to accompany him to any place in Delhi to find out whether there is any shortage. If there is any shortage, perhaps it will give us an opportunity to look into this problem. My information is there was some shortage in the third week of April as I have mentioned in the statement. But now according to my information and according to the report of the Delhi Administration also, no shortage is reported. As regards reasons as to why there was shortage, one reason was the bread price was controlled in Delhi while in outside areas it was not controlled and was not available cheap, and bakery purchases were going out from Delhi to other areas. Now, as a result of new policy, the prices would now be more or less the same in all parts of the country and the bakeries would have the same freedom to purchase maida etc., from flour mills etc. "Some Quora was being al-

lowed to the States because of the present constraints. But the States were not in a position to utilise the full capacity. Certain units in certain States were not in a position to utilise the full capacity. That would no longer be the position after the 15th May throughout the country as far as bakery units were concerned. Then about baby food, as I have already said, there has been some shortage. The demand is more, production is less. And as the honourable Member is aware, in baby food milk is the raw material. It is one of the very important raw materials required for baby food. In this country because of last year's drought milk production was affected. Even the dairies which were operating in India, were not in a position to get adequate supplies; most of the dairies were operating at 50 per cent capacity. Increasing milk production, development of animal dairy in our country, etc., these are larger issues. At the moment because of large-scale drought last year, this year's milk yield has been very badly affected. In recent years in fact in States like Gujarat and Rajasthan because of the drought the required quantities of milk not available and there was shortage of baby food. The drought has adversely affected the milk production which in turn affected the availability of baby food. The shortage in baby food is not because of a deliberate effort of manufacturers to manipulate. It is because they were unable to utilise their full capacity for production because the raw material required for manufacture of baby food was not available in the required quantity. But let us hope with this rainy season, after the monsoon, perhaps milk availability may improve and these perhaps these shortages can be overcome. There is informal price control as far as baby food is concerned. This item is controlled under Essential Commodities Act. Even seller or distributor is required to exhibit the quantity he holds, the quantity he has sold and the price at which it is being sold. All these restrictions are there under the Essential Commodities Act to provide some protection to the consumers.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चंडावत
(राजस्थान): उपाध्यक्ष जी, बेबी फूड को लेकर मंत्री महोदय ने इतना लाइटली

जवाब दिया है कि मुझे कुछ आश्चर्य हो रहा है। बड़े लोगों के लिए तो खाने के लिए कुछ और भी चीजों का इन्तजाम किया जा सकता है, लेकिन छोटे बच्चे जो केवल डिब्बे के दूध पर पल रहे हैं आज उनके दूध की इतनी दिक्कत हो गई है कि उसका अन्दाजा नेशनल हेरल्ड की इस खबर से लग सकता है जिसमें कहा गया है कि हर पांच मिनट के बाद माताओं के बराबर टेलीफोन आ रहे हैं दूध मिलेगा या नहीं मिलेगा। 'सावित्रा स्टोरी' शीर्षक से खबर है और दूध की कितनी कमी है उसका अन्दाजा इससे लगाया जा सकता है। आपने बताया कि डेरियों की कमी है, दूध की कमी है, लेकिन मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि प्रोडक्शन गिरा जिस दिन से आपने डी० आई० आर० के अन्तर्गत दूध की कीमत निर्धारित कर दी। मेनूफैक्चरर्स का कहना यह है कि डी० आई० आर० के अन्तर्गत दूध की कीमत कम है, वे ज्यादा बसूल करना चाहते हैं और इसलिए जानबूझ कर इसका प्रोडक्शन गिराया गया। मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहती हूँ कि जो डिब्बे का दूध बनाने वाले कहते हैं कि दूध की कमी है तो साथ ही साथ दूसरे एलाइड प्रोडक्ट्स कैसे बनाते हैं, जैसे कन्डेन्सड मिल्क है, होल मिल्क है या एनर्जी ड्रिंक है। जब दूध की कमी है, जब छोटे-छोटे बच्चे दूध के बिना विलख रहे हैं तो इन दूसरी चीजों को बनाने की इजाजत सरकार क्यों दे रही है? दूसरी बात यह है कि जो बाहर से आस्ट्रेलिया और हंगरी से आपका स्किल्ड मिल्क पाउडर आता है उसको लेकर एक रेकेट चल रहा है। आप सक्सीडी के तौर पर 7 रुपए किलो मंगाते हैं और बाजार में वह 18 रुपए किलो के भाव से बिक रहा है। क्या

आप बताएंगे इसके बारे में कि ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है और इस पर रोक लगाने के लिए आप क्या कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं? आज स्थिति यह हो रही है कि मेनूफैक्चरर्स ज्यादा भाव लेने के लिए दूध का प्रोडक्शन गिरा रहे हैं। सामाजिक दृष्टि से देखा जाय तो बाजार में उसका दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। जो दूध के डिब्बे आते हैं उनसे रसगुल्ले बनाए जा रहे हैं, आइस क्रीम बनाई जा रही है और छोटे छोटे बच्चे दूध के बिना विलख रहे हैं। दूध के डिब्बे की इतनी दिक्कत है कि साउथ की तरफ कंटेनर स्टैड्स में यह सर्टिफिकेट ले जाने के बाद कि उसके दो साल का बच्चा है तब दूध का टिन दिया जाता है। यह हालत है। मुझे समझ में नहीं आता कि बड़े लोगों को हो क्या गया है कि अपने बच्चों के दूध की चिन्ता न करके रसगुल्ले बना रहे हैं, आइस क्रीम बनाई जा रही है।

मैं एक सवाल और पूछूंगी। हमारा दूध स्मगल होकर बाहर जा रहा है। मेरा ख्याल है कि आप भी इस बात को जानते होंगे कि हमारे यहां दूध बाहर स्मगल होकर जा रहा है क्योंकि हमारे यहां उसकी कीमत कम है और दूसरी जगह ज्यादा है। आप इस बात का जवाब दीजिए कि जब माताएं एक-एक टिन के लिए इधर से उधर फिर रही हैं और दूध नहीं मिल रहा है, किस प्रकार दूध स्मगल हो रहा है या उससे रसगुल्ले और दूसरी चीजें बनाई जा रही हैं?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I do not know, "i here is shortage of milk in the country as I said earlier. I have no immediate answers to many of these difficulties. Everything will depend upon production and to what extent we are in a position to meet the gap between demand and supply."

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

have no information, if the hon. lady Member has any specific information and if she gives it to me, I will find out whether it is taking place. The probability seems to be less as far as milk smuggling is concerned.

As far as skimmed milk powder is concerned, for baby food manufacture it is required. The hon. lady Member made a statement that considerable quantity of skimmed milk powder is sold in the black market. I have no information on this point. Skimmed milk powder is imported in this country and it is mainly used by and handed over to, our organised dairy sector and the same is given to the public after the manufacture. Instead of contradicting the hon. lady Member, I would request her—I know her sincerity—to give me some specific case and then we will probably look into the matter.

We are quite aware that baby food is a very important item particularly for our infants in the country where the mothers are not able to feed them properly. Again as I said earlier we in the Government are aware of it. The Ministry of Industrial Development is in charge of it and they are interested in developing this industry. A number of Letters of Intent have been issued to new parties. It is not a question of installed capacity. It is really a question of raw materials available in adequate quantities.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: The Government would like to take proper steps and encourage more production of baby food in firms to come.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चंडावत :
मैंने दो सवाल पूछे थे। अलाइड प्रोडक्ट दूध का होता है, कंडेंस्ड मिल्क और क्वालिटी ब्रिक्स को, अगर दूध की कमी है तो उनको रोकते क्यों नहीं। इसी तरह से एसगुल्ला और आइसक्रीम पर रोक क्यों नहीं लगाते ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir in Delhi, there is a ban at the moment on a number of milk products and it is for preserving milk and making it avail-

gestion is concerned. I will pass it on to industrial Development Ministry and will examine it and see to what extent it would be feasible and whether it will benefit the consumers I will pass it on to the Ministry of Industrial Development

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चंडावत :
पास जान नहीं, बच्चे भूखे मर रहे हैं।

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): Sir, I dispute the statement of the honour—that drought has brought about this shortage of milk and baby food because droughts were there before also and no such thing happened at that time. So, why are you bringing forth this argument? This is what I cannot follow. The babyfood has disappeared from the market and it is so for more than a year or at least in Calcutta this is my experience and there is intense price hike in this and there is blackmarketing also. Therefore, the question is whether you will commandeer the entire stocks because this is a vital product for the growth and nourishment of the children, what you call, the future generation. Whether you care for them or not I do not know and it seems that you do not care at all. So, this is the first question. Why are you allowing them abnormal profits? Even if your statement is correct that drought have brought about this which I dispute, this has never been the case before. But "this time you are bringing in this question."

Now, I come to the question of bread. Even in the ration shops there has been a substantial increase in the Price of wheat and this has been done by the Government itself. You have surrendered to the wheat lobby all along the line. The FICCI that it should be Rs. 85 per quintal and you have fixed it at Rs. 105 per quintal. The entire Opposition and even some members from your own party demanded that the entire marketable surplus be taken over at a reasonable price and be distributed to the people. But, "instead of doing that, you have completely surrendered to the traders also and are defending on them. It is, therefore, natural that the foodgrains will deteriorate and they will make abnormal profits. You have pumped out thousands of -----, ***** they are making abnormal

profits and perhaps you will be pumping out more and the entire planning can go awry even on this single item. I would like to know whether it is not a fact that after the presentation of the Budget the Planning Commission appointed an All-India Consumer Society and whether it is not a fact that they have found that within two months, not even two months, but only in one-and-a-half months the prices of the essential commodities including wheat and bread and other things have gone up by 50 per cent to 70 per cent. That being the case, I ask you whether you will or not reverse that policy even now, even at this late stage, and commandeer the entire stocks and make them available to the people through the public distribution channels. You yourself are contributing to the price hike and the inflationary situation by every single step that you are taking and you have seen to it that the prices rise. This is what you are doing. I would like to have specific answers to the questions I have raised. Then Sir, I will come to the railway issue and we shall take it up - later.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir. For my friend, Shri Niren Ghosh, all issues are very simple and he has very easy solution for everything and I have nothing to say against him because he has the right to hold his own views. Then Sir, I would not like to discuss the general policy with regard to wheat because that is not really relevant to the present issue. The one point that he has raised is about the prices, the increase in prices. It is true that Government itself has raised the issue price of wheat. Formerly, wheat was being issued at 90 paise per kilo; now the issue price is Rs. 1.25 to State Government and wholesalers. For retailers, it is still higher. So to that extent, increase has taken place. We knew that this price increase is likely to have a very adverse effect and would cause hardship: we were aware of that. But I don't think there was any way out for the Government . . .

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: No way out?...

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Ultimately, cheap foodgrain is no solution: it would have adversely affected the production. This price increase had to be

there because of two reasons. First of all, in order to give remunerative price to the producers . . .

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: But has the peasant ever got this price?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Then, a heavy subsidy leads to a number of distortions in the economy. Therefore, with the best of intentions, this decision has been taken. These are larger issues and you can take advantage of some other opportunity to discuss this.

Then, Sir, he made a statement, how the milk production is affected? Sir, he is a knowledgeable person. He knows that because of drought, milk production is adversely affected. There was drought in certain parts of the country . . .

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Droughts were there before also. . .

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Actually, if you look into the details, you will find that in this country per head milk availability is not quite satisfactory; decrease is taking place. When there is drought, milk shortages are there. And unless we modernize our animal husbandry, we cannot have any increased level. Our productivity is so low. Most of the cattle are useless cattle. It is a subject matter for discussion. It is so because of the rate of pregnancy. If the health of the cattle is not good, there can be low rate of pregnancy. Sir, some very rich areas of cattle, like Rajasthan, Gujarat and a number of other areas were very badly affected by drought and, therefore, milk production was adversely affected. Therefore, there was milk shortage. So my statement stands . . .

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I also asked about the baby food.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: As far as baby food manufacture is concerned, some aspects of it are dealt with by the Ministry of Industrial Development. According to whatever information I have, they were given a price rise in March, 1973, to the tune of 9 per cent, and thereafter actually the prices of some of the raw materials increased from 21 to 30 per cent. The

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde price increase was not given. There was a diversification of their production. Recently, the Cost Accounting Branch of the Ministry of Industrial Development have started examining this question, and they are likely to take some decision. But I do not think in the case of such a commodity, complete takeover is a proper solution of the problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nawal Kishore.

श्री नवल किशोर (उत्तर प्रदेश):

श्रीमन्, मुझ को बड़ा ताज्जुब है और मैं यह मानता हूँ कि श्री शिन्दे बड़े इन्वोस्ट हैं, लेकिन उन के इन्वोस्ट होने की बात समझ में नहीं आयी। उन्होंने माथुर साहब से कहा कि वे चलने के लिए तैयार हैं, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह सिर्फ नार्थ एवेन्यू में चले आये, और कहीं न जायें और वहां देखें कि स्थिति क्या है। हालत यह है कि 75 पैसे से उस का दाम 90 पैसे हो गया, 95 पैसे हो गया, ओवर नाइट 20 पैसे ज्यादा हो गया और उस के बाद भी डबल रोटी नसीब नहीं होती यह फैक्ट है और यह कहना कि तीसरे हफ्ते के पहले नहीं हुआ, सही नहीं है।

दूसरी बात, हमारी सविता बहिन जी चली गयीं। उन का एक सुपर बाजार है। श्रीमन्, सुपर बाजार में न तो विस्कुट नसीब होता है और न कोई और चीज नसीब होती है।

इस समय मुझे उनकी एक बात सुनकर बड़ा ताज्जुब हुआ कि दूध की कमी इसलिए हो गई कि गुजरात राज्य में सूखा पड़ गया पर मंत्री जी सवाल सिर्फ दिल्ली का है, दिल्ली को दूध की सप्लाई का है, यहां तो सूखा नहीं पड़ा है फिर यहां दूध की कमी क्यों हो गई। दूसरी तरफ श्री वी० पी० मौर्य, जो कि आपके कुलीग हैं और स्टेट मिनिस्टर हैं, उन्होंने कहा कि दूध

के दाम दुगुने होने वाले हैं, सैन्ट परमैन्ट कीमत बढ़ जाएगी दूध की, मैं यह सोचता हूँ कि यह जो माखोल है यह क्यों है। उन्होंने कहा कि जबतक एनिमल हसबैंडरी मोडर्नाइज नहीं होगी तबतक दूध नहीं बढ़ेगा। यह मोडर्नाइज क्या 100 सालों में होगी। आजादी मिले 22 साल हो गए, क्या आप 22 साल में भी मोडर्नाइज नहीं कर सके।

इधर और देखें कि साबुन गायब, पता नहीं आप इस्तेमाल करते हैं या नहीं, लाइफ बाय और सन-लाइट बंगरा सब गायब। यही नहीं यहां तो हर चीज गायब। मिस्टर बहल जो आपके सिविल सप्लाई डिपार्टमेंट की इंचार्ज हैं वह किसी चीज का इंतजाम नहीं कर सकते। दिल्ली के अन्दर देसी घी तो बहुत दूर की चीज है। यह तो केवल एक देखने की चीज ही रह गई है।

दूसरी चीज यह है कि आज आप देख रहे हैं कि यहां से डबल रोटी भी गायब हो गई है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि स्थिति काफी गम्भीर है। यह कोई समय आदान-प्रदान का नहीं है कि हमने सवाल पूछा और आपने उसका जवाब दे दिया और जिम्मेदारी खत्म हो गई। मैं यह कहता हूँ कि जबतक आपके हाथ में गवर्नमेंट है तबतक आपकी जिम्मेदारी है। इन चीजों को आपको देखना चाहिए। यह जो कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं यह किस की जिम्मेदारी है। एक तरफ तो कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं और दूसरी तरफ इसी के लिए गुजरात, बिहार और हिन्दुस्तान के दूसरे हिस्सों में एजिटेशन हो रहे हैं।

मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ शिंदे साहब, आपको मेरी रायत है। मैं पारा तो और कुछ नहीं तो एक कप चाय तो दे ही सकता हूँ।

मननीय सदस्य: पाऊंडर मिल्क की।

श्री नवल किशोर: शिन्दे साहब आपको मेरी दावत है। आप नार्थ एवेन्यू पर मेरे मकान पर आइए, 7-8 बजे सुबह के समय। फिर देखें कोई डबल रोटी नसीब होती है या नहीं। यह बड़े ताज्जुब की बात है कि आपकी कंपैसटी प्रोडक्शन की उतनी ही है फिर भी शार्टेज इस डबलरोटी की हो रही है। मैं चाहता हूँ बड़ी संजीदगी से इन बातों पर आप विचार करें।

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir, even some of our senior colleagues misunderstand. When I referred to drought and milk production getting affected, I was not talking about the Delhi milk supply position. What is under discussion is the supply of baby food which is manufactured all over the country and I was speaking in the national context. I was not discussing about the dairy supplies from the Delhi Milk Scheme. Sir, I do not know why the hon. Member should have misunderstood this.

Actually, the baby food manufacturing units are located all over the country. There was a general fall in the availability of milk which was to the extent of 50%. and it has 'cd to less quantity or less output of baby food. If the hon. Member holds the view that drought does not affect animal husbandry and it has nothing to do with fodder, he has a right to hold his own view and I have nothing to say.

About the shortage of bread in Delhi, what I said was that I was prepared to go out with Shri Mathur Ji and if there was any shortage, it would help me to understand the position. Sir, as I said, I am making the statement on the basis of information given to me by the Delhi Administration. I also made the point that there is price control in Delhi on bread under D.I R. and outside Delhi/ there is no price control. A bread of 400 grams which is sold in Delhi for 90 paise is much costlier outside Delhi. So, large quantities of bread which are manufactured here are going out of Delhi. Naturally, it is not feasible to put a res-

triction on this because after all it is our own people who are consuming it. What I was trying to explain is that as far as Delhi is concerned, the production is adequate to meet Delhi's requirements. In the third week of April, some shortage was noticed because of some policy change, price structure, etc. If the hon. Member brings to my notice any area in which the shortage persists, we shall take steps to improve the position.

श्री रबी राय (उड़ीसा): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इंट के पहले भी बेबी फूड का अभाव था। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकारी क्षेत्र में डबल रोटी की कोई बेकरी है। यदि हाँ, तो इसका उत्पादन कितना हुआ और गैर सरकारी क्षेत्र में कितना? दूसरे इसका लागत खर्च कितना पड़ता है और धिक्की खर्च कितना? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ बेबी फूड के सिलसिले में कि इनके सामने क्या कोई इस तरह का कार्यक्रम है कि डेरी फार्म की तादाद बढ़ाई जाए ताकि जो बेबी फूड की तंगी आती है उसको दूर किया जा सके?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: As far as production is concerned, actually there are three organized bakeries. One is the Britannia Biscuit Co. Ltd. Their capacity was 23,328 tonnes in 1973 and the production was 21,107 tonnes. The second one is the Modern Bakery, which is a public sector undertaking. Its capacity was 3,600 tonnes and the production was 5,237 tonnes. And the third one is M/s. S. P. Virmani & Co. Their capacity was 1,000 tonnes and the production was 1400 tonnes. As far as the break-up of the cost is concerned, I have some figures of the public sector unit, the Modern Bakery. The price fixed at the moment is 90 paise. And actually the cost of production comes to 91 paise. That means, they are selling at a loss. Maida costs 46.5 paise; sugar, fat, vitamin and other things cost 18 paise wrapper costs 9 paise. So, the raw materials cost 73.5 paise. Labour and over-head charges come to 17.5 paise. So, it comes to 91 paise while the selling price is 90 paise.

श्री रबों राय: डेरी का भी कोई मास्टर प्लान आपके यहाँ था।

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: This is not a question regarding dairy. But there is some plan. It would depend on the availability of raw materials, that means, increased milk supply.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS (Assam): Sir, who is responsible for this situation regarding the baby food?...

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Your Government.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: If you go to the trader, he says that the distributor is responsible. If you go to a distributor, he blames the manufacturer, and the manufacturer blames the Government and so on and so forth. The trader blames the distributor, the distributor blames the manufacturer, and the manufacturer blames the Government.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): And the Government blames whom?

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: So, I really do not know as to what is actually happening. One interesting fact is that when one particular Press correspondent approached some of the manufacturers and distributors...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: At the moment, the Government is blaming the cow.

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS: The distributor, the manufacturers and the traders say and claim that there is one section of high officials in our Administration or highly placed people or their wives who bother these people by telephoning to them, and that they corner the stocks of whatever is there. I want the hon. Minister to tell us the truth, if he knows it. If he does not know, he should find out as to how far this allegation is true. This allegation has appeared in the Press that there is one section of highly placed people—may be, it also includes politicians like us and I do not know—but, mainly, highly placed officials and their wives, who bother these distributors by telephoning to them, and corner the stocks.

thereby depriving the poor people of the baby food. Another allegation is that a lot of this baby food goes towards the production of rasgullas because it is said that rasgulkts gels a very good flavour when it is made out of baby food. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether baby-food is being cornered by an influential section of our citizens and that it is being diverted towards the production of rasgullas and sweetmeat. Is that the reason why there is short supply of baby food and the poor people and the middle-class people are suffering for want of this? Or, is there some defect in the whole mechanism of the pricing policy, the distribution policy and so on and so forth?

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir when there is a gap between demand and supply, I am not prepared to make a statement that malpractices may not be taking place because there are various types of people in the country and in the population. Therefore, it would be very bold on my part to make a statement that nothing wrong is happening when shortages are there. But, I may inform my hon. colleague that, first of all, there is some sort of informal distribution control and informal control of prices also.

Sir, what is being done now in Delhi—I cannot say that it is hundred per cent foolproof—is that baby food is being supplied through pharmaceutical shops, that means through those shops which sell medicines. According to the practice now adopted one customer is being given only one tin at a time and this tin is also opened by the shopkeeper in the presence of the customer so that once it is opened it cannot be sold in the black-market. If packed tins are sold, there is every likelihood that a person may manage to send a number of people to a dealer and draw many baby food tins thereby cornering them and reselling them. It is for this reason that the tins are opened in the presence of the customer so that they cannot be again sold in the market. Those are some of the steps which are being taken.

As far as the basic policies are concerned, there is no lack of installed capacity. As I said earlier, even now letters of intent are being issued. The main diffi

culty is about the non-availability of raw materials. About the pricing policy also there was some difficulty when the prices of raw materials went up. As there was price control on baby food items, the manufacturers were required to sell at a particular price and that must have entailed some loss to them. But, now the Government has rectified the position. By examining the position now and then all necessary steps are being taken. But, ultimately the problem can be solved only by increasing production and I do not think there are any short-cuts or other solutions to this problem.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, with regard to the distribution of baby food, I have got a small suggestion to make for the consideration of the Minister.

At the moment, distribution is made through agents who are giving it to smaller distributors. They have got betiam distributors and they are not actual shop-owners or anything like that. These people from the company are straightaway giving it to them. If you call for the list, you will see that many of them are not even shop-owners. Therefore, I would suggest that distribution of baby food should be handed over to the State Governments. These agents and manufacturers of baby food should straightaway hand over their stocks to the State Governments and the State Governments through their own machinery or co-operative societies or Civil Supplies Department should distribute it to the consumers. Then alone there will not be any black-marketing in baby food. This suggestion is for the consideration of the Food Minister. I would like to know his reaction to this suggestion.

SHRI ANNASAH P. SHINDE: Sir, we shall examine the suggestion of the hon. Member. But, I do not think that this will provide any easy solution if the distribution of baby food is entrusted to some civil servants or that the Government is asked to look after it. Whether it can really provide a solution to the problem, I do not know. But we will examine this suggestion of the hon. Member.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE CENTRAL SILK BOARD

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): Sir, I move:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of subsection 3 of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948 (61 of 1948), this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one member from among the members of the House to be a member of the Central Silk Board."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL: (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, I move:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do elect three members of the Committee on the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the vacancies caused by the retirement of Shri N. P. Chaudhari, Shri Sundarmani Patel and Miss Saroj Purshottam Khaparde from the membership of the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd April, 1974, and resolves that this House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, three members from among the members of the House to the said Committee to fill the vacancies."

†The question was put and the motion was adopted.