

May I also know whether he will see that the slum people are provided with housing, drinking water, schools for elementary education and things like that?

SHRI OM MEHTA : This question deals with Government accommodation, not with slums. There are vast areas where houses can be built. We have acquired vast tracts of land and houses can be built there and we have already drawn up a programme for building on the Mehrauli-Badarpur Road 16,000 residential units and in Ghaziabad 12,000 units. As I have already said, if money is available we shall definitely build houses.

खरीफ की फसल के लिए मूल्यों का निर्धारण

* 210. श्री राम सहाय : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार ने खरीफ की फसल के मूल्यों के निर्धारण के लिए कोई विचार किया है ; और यदि हाँ तो उनका व्यौरा क्या है ?

Fixation of the prices of Kharif Crop

*210. SHRI RAM SAHAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government have given any consideration to the fixation of the prices of Kharif Crops; and if so, the details thereof ?]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

The question regarding fixation of the procurement prices of kharif cereals for 1973-74 season was considered at the Conference of Chief Ministers and State Food Ministers held at New Delhi on 14-6-73 in the light of the

[] English translation.

recommendations made by the Agricultural Prices Commission in this regard. As agreed to at the said Conference, the prices of Rs. 63/- per quintal for paddy, jowar and maize ; Rs. 65/- per quintal for bajra and Rs. 62/- per quintal for ragi of standard varieties recommended by the Commission as procurement prices, have been accepted as support prices for 1973-74. Government have also fixed the support price for small millets (kodon-kutki) at Rs. 55/- per quintal.

The question regarding fixation of procurement prices will be considered at the beginning of the harvesting season.

†[कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहेब शिन्दे) : एक विवरण सभा के पटल पर रखा जाता है जिसमें अपेक्षित सूचना दी गई है ।

विवरण

1973-74 मौसम के लिए खरीफ के अनाजों के अधिप्राप्ति मूल्य निर्धारित करने के प्रश्न पर 14 जून, 1973 को नई दिल्ली में हुए मुख्य मन्त्रियों और राज्य खाद्य मन्त्रियों के सम्मेलन में इस सम्बन्ध में कृषि मूल्य आयोग द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों की दृष्टि में विचार विमर्श किया गया था । उक्त सम्मेलन में यह तय हुआ था कि धान, ज्वार और मक्का की मानक किस्मों का 63 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल, बाजरा का 65 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल और रागी का 62 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल का मूल्य जिनकी आयोग ने अधिप्राप्ति मूल्य के रूप में सिफारिश की थी, 1973-74 के लिए साहाय्य मूल्य के रूप में स्वीकार लिया जाए । सरकार ने छोटी मिलेट (कोदो-कुटकी) का भी साहाय्य मूल्य 55 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया है ।

अधिप्राप्ति मूल्य निर्धारित करने के प्रश्न पर कटाई मौसम के प्रारम्भ में विचार किया जाएगा ।]

†[] Hindi translation.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से जान सकूंगा कि उन्होंने या कमीशन ने या मुख्य मंत्रियों की कान्फ्रेंस ने इस बात पर विचार किया कि खरीफ की फसल की लागत कृषक को क्या आती है और अगर विचार किया गया तो वह प्राइस क्या थी और क्या इस बात पर भी विचार किया गया कि खरीफ के मुकाबले में रबी की फसल को पैदा करने में कितना ज्यादा खर्चा किसान को करना पड़ता है और कृषि की प्राइस दूसरी प्रकार से निर्धारित करने का कोई विचार शासन का है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : The Agricultural Prices Commission has examined some aspects of the problem of cost of production and the Chief Ministers naturally base their recommendation on the basis of the Report of the Agricultural Prices Commission. The prices which have been announced by the Government are not procurement prices but they are support prices; that means minimum support prices. As far as the procurement prices are concerned, looking to the crop prospects, the prevailing level of prices and many other factors in the economy the Government will come to a conclusion about procurement prices.

श्री राम सहाय : चेयरमन साहब, मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि जो कमीशन मुकर्रर हुआ था उसने इस बात का क्या कोई निश्चय किया है कि किसान को क्या खर्चा खरीफ की फसल को पैदा करने में आता है, और अगर किया है तो वह प्राइस क्या है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : As I said, broadly they have examined this. They got the information from the State Governments and the State Governments have broadly reported to them that Rs. 50 to Rs. 55 is the cost of production per quintal of paddy but the actual data relating to cost of production is still being processed. That was not available to the Agricultural Prices Commission.

श्री राम सहाय : मैंने एक प्रश्न यह किया था कि खरीफ की फसल और रबी की फसल पैदा करने में कितना अन्तर आता है कृषक को । तो कृपा करके यह बताइए कि कृषक को रबी की फसल और खरीफ की फसल पैदा करने में कितना खर्चा आता है और उसका अन्तर क्या है ?

दूसरा सवाल है कि सपोर्ट प्राइस और प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस में क्या अन्तर है ? सपोर्ट प्राइस को प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस से कितना ज्यादा रखने का इरादा आप रखते हैं ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : The first part I have already explained. [am sorry the hon. Member was not in a position to follow or perhaps I was not clear enough. There cannot be a general category of one cost of production for kharif crop and rabi' crop because cost of production of individual crops whether rabi or kharif, is different.

About the other aspect as to what can be the difference between procurement* price and support price that will depend as I said on some of the factors which have to be taken into consideration at the time of fixation or determination of these prices. One of the factors can be the crop prospects ; the other can be the general level of prices. Some other factors will also have to be taken into consideration. There is no principle as such as to what should be the difference between the procurement price and the support price.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Apart from the question of procurement price, may I know whether, in the light of experience gained in the procurement of wheat under the takeover scheme, the Government has worked out any scheme for actual procurement of the next crop in co-operation with the people ? If so, what are the main features of the particular scheme and whether any consultations with the

proper people have taken place with a view to evolving such a scheme well in time?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: May I seek your protection, Sir, I have no objection to reply, but the question is a little different. The hon. Member may be right, but this question relates to fixation of prices of kharif crop. The hon. Member is asking me details of the scheme of takeover or procurement.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Under the price mechanism you can fix any price for procurement.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : As far as the price mechanism is concerned, now we have learnt enough. The procurement price has really to take into consideration all factors in the economy, including even the national situation and international situation. The Government will be careful enough to take into consideration all the factors before coming to any final conclusion about the procurement price of kharif crops.

SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government's procurement rate will be less? They get foodgrains from the ryots at a low price and after entrusting the foodgrains to the Food Corporation of India the rate is increased. By the time it reaches the consumer the rate is very high and through the fair price shops the grain is distributed at a very high price. May I know the reason why such a high price is given to the Food Corporation of India?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : There are two aspects. As far as the issue prices are concerned, they are broadly uniform all over the country, irrespective of the cost element involved in it. The Government of India make available to the State Governments foodgrains, whether they are of the

Kharif or Rabi season, at a pre-determined issue price. Therefore, there is no question of variation as far as this price is concerned. As far as the other part of the hon. Member's question is concerned, the cost incidentals may be high. This question at the moment is being examined by a committee of administrators and other financial experts. They are going into the cost and incidentals of the Food Corporation and after getting the recommendations of the Committee, Government will take necessary steps and see to what extent we can economise,

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमन्, जब कीमतें तय होती हैं तो उनको तय करने में किसानों के प्रतिनिधि उसमें रहते हैं या नहीं यह हमने जानने की बार बार कोशिश की है। अगर है तो कौन कौन से हैं ?

दूसरे, आपने जो सहायक प्राइस कहा है जिन चीजों के बारे में आपने बताया कि किसी का 62 है, किसी का 65 है, तो उन चीजों के बाजार भाव क्या हैं। तीसरे, धान की खरीद के विषय में आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : His question is what should be the composition of the Agricultural Prices Commission, whether farmers' representatives should be there, if farmers' representatives are there, then why the consumers' representative should not be there. These are all matters which naturally have received the attention of the Government from time to time. At the moment we have found a practical way out. To advise the Agricultural Prices Commission, there is a Farmers' Panel. Some Members of Parliament are appointed on the Farmers' Panel. Before giving its report the Agricultural Prices Commission consults the Farmers' Panel and then gives its report to the Government of India. As far as the prevailing level of prices is concerned, I do not want to make any

imprecise statement. The hon. Member himself is aware that the prevailing level of prices is very high. Particularly it is very high in regard to coarse grains. If the hon. Member wants...

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : हमने अनेक बार कहा है कि कृषकों के प्रतिनिधि ऐसे प्राइस फिक्सेशन में नहीं रहते हैं। अगर रहते हैं तो आप उनके नाम बता दीजिए। उसमें कंजुमर्स और सैलर्स का तो सवाल ही नहीं है। जिसकी चीज की बिक्री होगी उसका प्रतिनिधित्व उसमें नहीं होता है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I think I have replied to the query of the hon. Member. It is a different thing that he may not be satisfied with my reply.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : की रिप्लाय नहीं करी है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : What I said I would repeat. This demand is being made on the floor of both Houses from time to time and taking into consideration the demand of hon. Members. The Government responded to it.

And now there is a Farmers' Panel appointed to advise the Agricultural Prices Commission ; before submitting any report to the Government of India in regard either to the kharif cereals or the rabi cereals the commission consults the Farmers' Panel. I have also made the statement earlier that there are some MPs who are nominated on the Farmers' Panel.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : प्राइसेज के बारे में आपने कुछ बताया नहीं। यह भी आपने नहीं बताया कि धान के बारे में आप की क्या नीति है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Sir, while I was speaking, he interrupted me. I said that the prevailing level

of prices is very high. It is well known. The price structure differs from State to State, area to area. If the hon. Member wants any precise statement, with proper notice, I can give him all the details about the prevailing level of prices.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : आप की नीति क्या है। धान की आने वाली फसल के बारे में आप की नीति क्या है।

SHRI PRITHWI NATH : The Minister tells us that he has fixed up the price in consultation with certain reports from the State Governments and on the basis of certain recommendations from the Farmers' Panel. I would like him to place the whole thing before the House so that we can know what is the recommendation that he has received from the State Governments and also from the Farmers' Panel. The other point is...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only one point. There are other Members.

SHRI PRITHWI NATH : Sir, I want to know what is the constitution of the Farmers' Panel on the recommendations of which he is relying.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Taking into consideration the last part of his question, I would say that it is an advisory body, the Farmers' Panel.

SHRI PRITHWI NATH : Who are the personnel ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : [can give the list to him. I can lay it on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : About the other question as to what are the reports of the State Governments about the price structure, etc., these reports are confidential by their nature. But we always make the report of the

Agricultural Prices Commission available to the hon. Members; it is available in the Parliament Library,

SHRI PRITHWI NATH : Farmers' Panel report.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: There is no report as such. But we always make the report of the Agricultural Prices Commission available to the hon. Members and it is available in the Parliament Library.

SHRI PRITHWI NATH : I want to know only about the recommendations of the Farmers' Panel. He can claim any recommendation of the State Government as confidential. But the recommendations of the Farmers' Panel cannot be considered to be confidential when Members of Parliament are there in it.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: I will see if there is any* such report of the Farmers' Panel and if any formal report is there, I do not think there is any difficulty and we can make it available to him. We would not like to discourage any discussion on that.

SHRI K. C. PANDA: We are procuring wheat and rice and other products from outside the country and are paying a high rate to the farmers of Canada and America. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the prices of indigenous foodstuffs would be just on a par with the imported products so that the farmers of India also should get the benefit like the farmers of America and Canada.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: I am sorry, I am not in a position to accept the contention of the hon. Member. Ultimately, the purchasing power of our own people, the consumers, is different. Moreover, it happens many times that the level of international prices is much lower than our price. Is it the contention of the hon. Member that we should lower our prices also when the international prices go down?

SHRI K. C. PANDA: Are you prepared to sell the hoarded wheat at subsidised rates ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : This is about the kharif crop, it is not about wheat. I can come to it when the hon. Member specifically asks about it .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. "Shinde, have you finished ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Sir, I do not accept what the hon. Member in general says about the prices structure in India' which has to be related to our economy.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: The hon. Minister has mentioned about consultations which are had from the Farmers' Panel or Forum. Is it actually farmers who are on that Panel or the representatives of farmers, elected representatives, MPs, because they also receive votes from the farmers in that way ? Or are there actually farmers on the Panel and, if so, will the Minister be pleased to read out the list?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I have already said that I am going to lay on the Table of the House the list of the members of the Panel. Most of them are farmers while some of them are Members of Parliament who are farmers.

श्री सिताराम केसरी : अध्यक्ष जी, आज चावल का रेट बिहार में दो सौ रुपये क्विंटल है . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kesri. Last question. We have already taken fifteen minutes.

श्री सिताराम केसरी : आज चावल का रेट बिहार में 200 रुपये क्विंटल है (ब्रह्म-घान) और पैंडी 125 रुपये क्विंटल पड़ती है । इसको मद्दे नजर रखते हुए भाव में जो तेजी है और आफिशियल दंग पर जो आप ने कीमत तय की वह अपनी जगह पर है लेकिन

आज की अवस्था में जिस तरह से बाजार में कीमतें तेजी से बढ़ रही हैं और अनाज का भाव जितना तेज हो गया है उस को मद्दे नजर रखते हुए और आज की अवस्था को दृष्टि में रखते हुए क्या आप कोई ऐसी योजना किसानों के सामने पेश कर रहे हैं या नहीं कि जिस से आप को जो पैड़ी लेनी है या जो राइस लेना है उस की प्राइस उन को सूट करे। जैसे गेहूं के लिए उन्होंने कंडीशन रखी थी कि उन की जरूरत की जो दूसरी चीजें हैं जैसे डीजल है, उर्वरक है या और दूसरी चीजें हैं वह उन को उचित कीमत पर मिलनी चाहिए जिससे कि आप की गेहूं की कीमत उनको सूट करे, तो क्या ऐसी कोई योजना आप की है और इस बारे में आप कुछ सोच रहे हैं? आज जो कीमत है चावल की दो सौ रुपये और पैड़ी पड़ती है सवा सौ रुपये क्विंटल उस को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या आप ने ऐसा कुछ तय किया है?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : Sir, I am sorry the hon'ble Member was perhaps not here or not listening to when I earlier explained the position. The prices which have been decided now are support prices. They are not procurement prices. The procurement prices should be decided before the harvesting season, and some of the factors mentioned by the hon'ble Member, including consumer's interest, will have to be borne in mind while coming to conclusions.

'Youth Against Famine' Scheme in West Bengal

*211. MISS SAROJ PURUSHOT-
TAM KHAPARDE : SHRI
SARDAR AMJAD

ALI: SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: SHRI
HARSH DEO MALAVIYA :t SHRI K. P.
SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of
EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND
CULTURE be pleased to state :

tThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.

(a) whether the scheme 'Youth against Famine' Scheme in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the number of persons involved in such programmes; and

(c) the criteria for selecting the area of operation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV) : (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

'Youth Against Famine' is a development-oriented educational programme. Under this scheme 55 camps have been held in West Bengal so far, in which 5225 youth participated, including about 1300 non-students.

The West Bengal Government constituted a State Coordinating Committee consisting of officials and non-officials which indicated the projects for operation after discussion with the District Planning and Development Officers.

The participating Universities were Calcutta University, Burdwan University, Kalyani University, North Bengal University and Jadavpur University, besides the I.I.T., Kharagpur. Camps were held in the Districts of Hooghly, Burdwan, Birbhum, 24 Parganas, Darjeeling, Nadia, Murshidabad, Midnapore and Howrah. The projects undertaken were re-excavation of canals, digging and deepening of irrigation tanks, ponds, road construction, afforestation, bunding and raising of embankments. The educational aspects included socio-economic survey of the locality where the camp was held, night schools and literacy classes, talks, discussions, debates, and cultural programmes.