

tion GSR No. 795, dated the 5th June, 1972, publishing the Industrial Disputes (Central) (Amendment) Rules, 1972, under sub-section (5) of section 38 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3406/72].

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS (CIVIL) (1970-71) OF THE UNION GOVERNMENT AND THE REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA THEREON

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in Hindi) each of the following papers :—

(i) Appropriation Accounts (Civil) of the Union Government for the year 1970-71.

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Appropriation Accounts (Civil) of the Union Government for the year 1970-71.

[Placed in Library. For (i) and (ii). See No. LT-3339/72.]

THE COAL MINES (SECOND AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1972

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (7) of section 59 of the Mines Act, 1952, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation (Department of Labour and Employment) Notification GSR No. 877, dated the 19th June, 1972, publishing the Coal Mines (Second Amendment) Regulations, 1972. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3336/72.]

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) in the Chair]

CLARIFICATIONS IN RELATION TO STATEMENT RE SUGAR SITUATION

SHRI D. D. PURI (Haryana) : The first clarification that I wish to seek

from the hon. Minister is this. He has stated on the first page of the statement :

“...in the context of the record production of 42.6 lakh tonnes of sugar during 1969-70, which resulted in the prices of sugar....”

the decision to decontrol sugar was taken. I wish him to clarify as to why he has suppressed the fact that in the season 1970-71 the results were known to the Minister before the decision was taken to decontrol sugar. The production was 5.25 lakh tonnes less; the consumption was 4.5 lakh tonnes more. I am only talking of the date on which the decision to decontrol was taken. Will the hon. Minister clarify as to why these figures had been suppressed and why it has been stated that the decision taken in May '71 was taken on the basis of the figures not of the season immediately preceding 1971, but in the context of the season earlier?

Now, Sir, the second thing I wish him to clarify is this : Was the Government aware of the fact that the sowings in some parts of the country, particularly in the north, were less by as much as 15 to 20 per cent? I will only read out four lines from my speech on 25-7-71 :

“The sowing at any rate in the North — estimates have been prepared for U.P., Haryana and the Punjab — is less approximately by 20%. One bad monsoon — here I want to be on record unequivocally and very categorically — and we will land in a shortage and we will again plunge the country into control and will be getting into the vicious circle of control and diversion for some years.”

Will he please clarify?

Thirdly, at that time the hon. Minister stated that decontrol was being resorted to to hold the price line. I would wish the Minister to clarify: How many

crores, how many hundreds of crores, the consumer has paid more as a result of the decision to decontrol sugar at that time?

So far as these clarifications are concerned, I go to the extent of saying that there is a Latin phrase *suppressio veri est suggestio falsi* : When you suppress the truth, then you are suggesting a falsehood, applies to the statement of the Minister. I now come to my second set of clarifications. On page 2 of the Minister's statement it is stated that as a result of a certain agreement, "60% of the monthly releases of sugar at a fixed price of Rs. 150 per quintal...". Now, the sentence to which I seek a clarification reads :

"Similarly, a further 3.5% of the monthly release was also made available by the factories at the same price..."

"At the same price" here would indicate to the House that the price mentioned in the previous sentence, namely Rs. 150. Will the Minister clarify this? In this instance, it may not be a technically false statement, but the impression that it leaves to the House is that this 3.5% was also being taken at the aforesaid price of Rs. 150. Will the Minister clarify?

Will the Minister also clarify whether this overall percentage of 3.5 related to the previous season and not to the season in which the sugar is being procured, as in the case of it?

Finally, I come to the most important aspect of the clarification which I want to seek. Will the Minister clarify whether the net result of the policy that they have announced now is going to be that those factories which paid cane prices over and above the minimum price are going to suffer and those factories which paid much lower cane price are going to pocket the whole profit? Will he also clarify whether this disincentive will

not lead to a situation where everyone in the future will be reluctant to pay a price higher than the minimum cane price and thus inhibit the production of future? Will he assure the House that in the areas, particularly the sensitive areas in the North, the minimum price that is going to be fixed for cane will not be less than the price received by the cane growers last year? These are the clarifications which I seek.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : Sir, the first question raised by the hon. Member is regarding decontrol. In the statement itself I have mentioned that the production of 1969-70 was not the only one factor; there were other factors also. As a result of that also. . .

SHRI DEV DATT PURI : I am asking : What about the production of 1970-71? Why were those figures suppressed?

PROF. SHER SINGH : At that time we did not have the figures.

SHRI DEV DATT PURI : I am saying that the figures that were known to you on the date of the decontrol.

PROF. SHER SINGH : We did not have the exact figures because some mills were still crushing cane in May, June and August. Still the reason which I gave was not this that the production in 1969-70 was very much higher but the other reasons have also been given. One of the reasons was : As a direct consequence of this development, the lifting of levy sugar, particularly from high-cost zones was tardy, and the stocks with the mills in these zones became disproportionately higher than the stocks with the mills in the other zones. The rationing system had also lost its utility. In some cases the price of free sugar was less than the price of levy sugar. There were certain other factors also. As far the area, there was some shortfall in that area. We did not know about the shortfalls due to weather

[Prof. Sher Singh.]

condition. Subsequently after decontrol, we had rains in some parts of eastern U.P., in Bihar there were floods and as a result of these floods some sugarcane crop was damaged. There was drought in some areas in the South; of course this did not very much hit the sugarcane crop, but there was some effect of this and that is why the production came down.

Then, the hon. Member has sought another clarification with regard to the 3.5 per cent which was to be exported and that has to be taken at the same price. I have mentioned in my statement : At the same price of Rs. 150 or whatever may be the levy price then. It is true that previously the Government used to subsidise its export of the sugar but last year the industry agreed to subsidize that. Therefore, the industry actually is charging Rs. 110 because they are meeting that subsidy part also.

SHRI DEV DATT PURI : It should have been stated there.

PROF. SHER SINGH : Now, the third question is about those factories that paid higher prices last year. The hon. Member wants to convey that those who paid higher prices will suffer and those who paid lower prices will gain more. There is some truth in it but we tried to persuade everybody, all the mills in all the States, to pay higher prices for the cane and we succeeded to some extent in convincing everybody. Even Tamil Nadu, I may inform the House, have now agreed to pay Rs. 8/50 per Quintal. Previously they did not agree but now they have agreed and they are paying. So we were able to convince the millowners both in the joint stock sector and also in the co-operative sector to pay higher prices than the minimum price.

SHRI DEV DATT PURI : Even now part of the question has not been answered.

PROF. SHER SINGH : And this had its effect. This year the sowing of sugarcane, that is, the area under sugarcane, has increased.

SHRI DEV DATT PURI : Sir, I had asked whether the Government were not aware of the shortfall in production by 5.2 lakh tonnes till that time and also the increase in consumption to the tune of 4.5 lakh tonnes. I am talking of the increase in consumption as on that date on which the decision was taken and I am basing it on the figures published by the Government. I am not taking into account the subsequent increase in consumption. The point is whether the Government was not aware at that time that the production would be less by 5.2 lakh tonnes and consumption more by 4.5 lakh tonnes.

PROF. SHER SINGH : We were aware of the fact that there will be a shortfall in production but what will be the exact shortfall we had no idea.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : Sir, the statement given by the Minister shows to what extent the crisis has taken over the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. They are not coming to grip with the problem as yet. The statement is apologetic and they are asking for time to evolve some procedure. Already the crisis has taken over so much and the consumers have been — put to so much difficulty that in this policy statement you ought to have come up with a straight announcement that all the stocks will be taken over and distributed at the levy price. Instead of doing that you are apologetic giving some explanations which are not at all valid. I want to know from the Minister what type of thinking is done in the Food and Agriculture Ministry. I do not understand this. Your senior colleague, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, stated last time that the Government had approved the scheme for a buffer stock being built up. Had you taken action at the time when the bumper crop was available,

you would have had a buffer stock. You have failed and you have not done anything in the matter. There was a suggestion for taking over the sugar stocks and marketing it through a public distribution system and you have failed there also. This is the history of failures of the Ministry. And now you say that the Tariff Commission has been again consulted. This is just like changing doctors. The Food Ministry is the patient. Sir, they did not know what they were suffering from and they are changing doctors every now and then. First they consulted Dr. Sen and he submitted a Report in which he had made quite logical suggestions. But when they found politically it was not possible to implement them, they went to the Tariff Commission and the Tariff Commission is talking of escalation of prices on some ground or other. What I want to say to the Minister is this. Take courage in your hands and have a logical and rational policy on sugar. Otherwise you will not only bring your own Ministry but the whole Government into disrepute because the consumers are very much agitated by the rising prices. So I want to know as clarification. . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : You are making suggestions more.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : When there is failure on the part of the Government I have to highlight it. I am very sorry to say this. This is the fifth time during the last four years I am criticising the Ministry of Food for an irrational and unrealistic sugar policy.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Now seek your clarification.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : The Clarification I want is this. In this statement you have not mentioned what policy you are advocating. I want to know whether you will consider Rs.

10/- per Quintal plus a percentage as suggested by Dr. Sen so that within a period of three years we shall have reached the target of 45 lakh tonnes. You should not be afraid if the Agricultural Prices Commission ask you to pay a lower price. Don't be chicken-hearted while dealing with the Agricultural Prices Commission. The second thing I want to know is this. It has been announced by the Maharashtra Co-operative Sugar factories and also by the private sugar factories that they are prepared to hand over their stocks at levy prices. Take over at levy prices. *(Interruptions)* You see the 'Times of India', today's edition. They say, "Take it at levy prices." My Suggestion is that you just take it at levy prices. Take over all the stock from the country and distribute it *prorata*, whatever is possible. The third point; you are reducing day by day the monthly releases. From 3.25 lakh tons you have come down to 3 lakh tons. In the Poona region, I am told, instead of 2 kilos. You are giving 800 grams, thereby increasing panic. At least you haul up your Ministry which is dealing with the releases and see that the people are given at least the minimum confidence that they will get at least minimum sugar. Sir, I do not want to ask for many more clarifications because even after asking for many clarifications it is not going to improve the matter.

PROF. SHER SINGH : The hon. Member has asked for three clarifications; one about the sugarcane price. He has suggested that it should be ten rupees and above, proportionately, on the basis of the recovery a higher price than ten rupees also. The whole policy about the minimum price to be fixed for the next season is under consideration, and this fact is certainly being considered that we should fix such prices as would act as an incentive to the cane-growers.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : When the sowings are to be made between July and October they are going to consider it in September. You are an agriculturist. Please tell him that it cannot be done. It is on paper you will do it.

PROF. SHER SINGH : In my Statement I have said that this policy, we are hoping, will be announced during this Session itself.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : During this Session.

PROF. SHER SINGH : This is what I have said in my Statement also. We are keeping this fact in view and we want that the production of sugar should increase and we should adopt a policy which would provide an incentive to the cane-growers so that production of sugar would increase. This is very much in our view. As for the second point about Maharashtra industry suggesting to give sugar at levy prices the information of the hon. Member is wrong. It is wrong. They have not offered to supply the whole sugar at levy prices.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Take over.

PROF. SHER SINGH : They have suggested to the Maharashtra Government. It is between them. The Maharashtra Government, as the purchaser they can purchase the free sugar also at a certain price—which I have also read—at Rs. 2.30 ex-factory something of that sort. Now, as for taking over the whole thing, that involves a very big question of policy, and that policy, as I said, is under consideration. Now about the third point, about reduction in releases. The availability of sugar is not so much that we can continue releasing more. We can release now 3 lakh tons only and every month we are releasing 3 lakhs.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Then why the quota is reduced ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : As for quota, we have taken a decision. We wrote to the State Governments, gave them guidelines about the distribution of sugar, and the main principle was that no one person should get more than 1 kilo. per month and no family should get less than 1 kilo. per month. This is the maximum and minimum. In Poona and in Bombay and some other big cities in Maharashtra, they were distributing 2 kilos. per head and they never bothered about the people living in the villages. Therefore, we told them that they should decrease that quota in the cities also and bring it down to 1 kilo. It should in no case be more than 1 kilo, it may be less, even 800 grams if more could be given to the villagers, because they also must have some share. So it is because of that that we are reducing this.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI (Maharashtra) : The first thing I would like to say is that the sugar policy of the Government of India is in such an utter mess to handle that even if you had wanted to fleece the consumers and you had wanted to fill the pockets of the mill-owners, you could not have evolved a worse policy than what you have done. The moment we ask these questions, you say; "Are you questioning our intentions?" My frank opinion is that even with the worst of intentions, you could not have done worse than what you have done. First and foremost, I am not bothered about your intentions. Secondly, is it not a patent fact that the sugar which is today being sold at Rs. 4 or Rs. 4.50 or Rs. 5 a kilo was produced last year or it is part of the earlier stocks which were held over? This sugar was produced at a time when there was a cost of production. After producing the sugar surely the cost of production cannot go up with regard to the stocks which have already been produced. So, though the earlier cost of production was less, that sugar is

now being sold at Rs. 4 per kilo. Can there be a greater crime than this? It is a fact that it was produced earlier. My question is simply this. Till a year ago you had full control over the price and distribution of sugar. You abolished it. What prevents you from reverting to the same method all over again? You are talking of a policy. Where is the question of any policy? Sugar stocks were taken over and distributed last year, but then you decontrolled sugar. Why cannot you do the same thing? What prevents you from doing that? So, do not raise fundamental questions of policy. Immediately we are not asking you to take over the sugar factories, but downright, here and now we want you to take over all the stocks and distribute them at the controlled price as you were doing in the past. You have no justification. I would like to know why this is not being done. This is my question No. 2. Sixty per cent : forty per cent you came to a gentleman's agreement with people who are not gentlemen. They could sell 60 per cent and you would distribute 40 per cent. At that time you yourself said that in the initial stages they sold it even at Rs. 2. Your statement says that the price had been even less than the levy price. I want to know in between what has happened. I want to know between the period when they were selling at Rs. 2 per kilo and today, what has happened.

SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN GUPTA (West Bengal) : Elections.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : The same sugar they are now selling at Rs. 4. I say this is downright dacoity. I want to use this word. They must be prosecuted as dacoits nothing less than dacoits. There are one or two things more. About the Maharashtra Government, I am glad that you have clarified it. Now, if they offer it to the Maharashtra Government and if the Maharashtra Government purchases it in the

open market from the factory-owners, that is the limit. That means the Maharashtra Government will become an active participant in blackmarketing. They will purchase it at Rs. 3 or Rs. 3.50, I do not know. You said Rs. 2.20 or whatever it is. They will go on raising the price. They will purchase it at Rs. 3/- and then sell it at Rs. 3.50. This is the demand of the sugar factory-owners. If you say there is blackmarketing in sugar, the millowners will say :

You do not raid us. This is the price at which sugar is being sold by the Government through Government shops. This is what will happen. I hope my words are clear. We are sitting in Parliament. You are up against a very powerful struggle. The people will burst out. They will make it a law and order question. I want to tell you that if things are not corrected, it is going to be a law and order question. I want to say that.

PROF. SHER SINGH : In the very beginning I have admitted that the whole situation is very painful and causing serious concern. The information which the hon. Member gives that the sugar now being sold is the sugar which was produced last year is a wrong information. That is not correct. In fact, the stocks of last year were exhausted some time in February. From February onwards, it is the new sugar which was produced this year, in this season.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : Take into account this year's cost of production.

PROF. SHER SINGH : From February onwards all the sugar that is being supplied is the sugar produced during the current season.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : But the cane was purchased at that time. It was not purchased today.

PROF. SHER SINGH : Cane continues to be purchased. Cane continues to be purchased from November, 1971

[Prof. Sher Singh]

onwards. The price that was paid for the sugarcane was nowhere less than Rs. 8.50 or something near that. It has gone up to Rs. 13. I am not justifying this price of Rs. 4. I may not be misunderstood that Rs. 4 or nearly Rs. 4 which they are charging today is correct, but I wanted to remove one misunderstanding that sugar is now being sold...

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : Not all of it, some of it.

PROF. SHER SINGH : As I said, from February onwards, all stocks were exhausted. After that these are new stocks which are being distributed. This year, during this season, higher prices for the sugarcane were paid. We also persuaded the sugar mills to pay higher prices. . .

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : Do you justify it ? You cannot have it both ways.

PROF. SHER SINGH : I do not justify it. I would like to make one appeal through you, Sir. Of course other measures are being taken. Hoarders have been rounded up. We have tried to do it. We have asked all State Governments to catch the hoarders and blackmarketeers. In Delhi they have been caught. From Gujarat also I received information. We have asked the other States to round up the hoarders and give them exemplary punishment. Something is being done. We hope more will be done in that direction. I will be the last person to justify this price of Rs. 4 or near about Rs. 4, but may I appeal that we have to build up some consumer resistance also ?

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : What is the consumer resistance ? I am prepared to go and collect fifty people. They will enter the shop. Will you agree ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : One thing in my mind is there is some wastage. We should accept there is wastage of sugar to some extent, at least 10 per cent.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : By the rich, not by the poor.

PROF. SHER SINGH : Sometimes we ourselves have wasted this. Sometimes we take tea ten times a day. There is no tea time. Once at 12 o'clock, then again at 12.30...

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : 'We' means 5 per cent of the population, not 80 per cent.

PROF. SHER SINGH : That 5 per cent consume a lot of sugar.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : I am bothered about the 80 per cent.

PROF. SHER SINGH : Those 80 per cent will get cheaper sugar. If these people can exercise some self-control and self-discipline, this wastage could be avoided.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra): Just a minute. Therefore, the suggestion was made, do not leave it to the rich consumer. You ration the sugar. Why do you leave it to us ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : Sixty per cent of the sugar is already rationed for domestic consumers.

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI : Why not 100 per cent ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : For bulk consumers, for hotels, for halwais and for other purposes that is not rationed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : You will come with a new policy statement, is it not ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : That will be done during this session itself. The policy is under consideration.

डा० भाई महावीर (दिल्ली) : श्रीमन् मंत्री जी के वक्तव्य से स्पष्ट होता है कि सरकार की चीनी सम्बन्धी नीति कितनी दयनीय स्थिति में है, बल्कि कहना चाहिए कि कोई नीति है ही नहीं और उस में जो निष्कर्ष मंत्री जी ने निकाले हैं उस में रेमिडीज में, उपायों में यह कहा है कि:

Evolving a proper sugar and sugar-cane policy for 1972-73. यानी इतने बड़े देश के अन्दर चीनी के संकट की स्थिति पैदा होने के और महीनों तक उस के चलने के बाद सरकार यह उपाय खोज पायी है कि 1972-73 के लिए कोई चीनी सम्बन्धी नीति बनानी चाहिए इस से बढ़ कर नीति के दिवालियेपन का और क्या सबूत हो सकता है, मैं नहीं जानता, परन्तु मंत्री जो से मैं दो-तीन नुक्तों पर जरा स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूँ। सब से पहली बात तो यह है कि कीमतों के बढ़ने के कारण यह बताए हैं कि कुछ मिलों ने कोई कोर्ट के अन्दर रिट पिटीशन्स कर दिये हैं और इस वास्ते कोमते ओपन मार्केट के अन्दर बढ़ गई है। आप के वक्तव्य से ही स्पष्ट है कि यद्यपि रिट पिटीशन्स किये गये हैं तो भी हाई कोर्ट ने उन से जो कीमतों का फर्क है उस की बैंक गारंटी लेकर उस चीनी को रिलीज कर दिया है और वह चीनी मार्केट में आ रही है। तो फिर चीनी को कमी बाजार में हो गयी यह कहने का अर्थ क्या है यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ। इसी के साथ क्या यह सच है कि जो कोआपरेटिव सुगर फैक्टरीज है वह भी रिट पिटीशन्स करने के लिए हाई कोर्ट में गई है और ऐसे भी उदाहरण हैं कि सरकार के प्रबन्ध में चलने वाली फैक्टरीज भी रिट-पेटीशन्स करने के लिए गई हैं। यदि गई हैं तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसके लिए कौन सा आधार था कि जहाँ पर सरकार का प्रबन्ध है, जहाँ पर आफिशियल रिसीवर्स बैठे हुए हैं वह भी हाई कोर्ट में जाय। क्या यह सरकार के दो मुहकमों का एक दूसरे के साथ लड़ते हुए दिखाई नहीं देता है।

इसके अतिरिक्त मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ—जो कि मुझसे पहले भी मित्रों ने पूछा—कि जिस समय शुगर का उत्पादन पर्याप्त था और जिस समय पिछले साल के बचे हुए स्टॉक्स भी काफी थे उस समय आपने बफर स्टॉक बनाने का फैसला क्यों नहीं किया। क्या इस सदन में और उसके पहले भी इस तरह

का सुझाव आपके सामने नहीं आया कि सरकार चीनी का पर्याप्त स्टॉक बना कर रखे लेकिन बजाय बफर स्टॉक बनाने के 1970-71 और 1971-72 में बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में हैवी रिलीजेज के द्वारा चीनी का निपटान होता रहा और बफर स्टॉक बना कर के और कठिनाई के दिनों के लिये सरकार ने उसको बचा कर रखने की कोशिश नहीं की और आज इस स्थिति में हम पहुँच गये हैं जब कि न्यूनतम आवश्यकता की भी पूर्ति नहीं कर सकते। मैं जानता हूँ, एक मामूली चपरासी की लड़की की शादी थी, उसके वास्ते वह मेरे पास आया उसने कोशिश की, उसने कहा कि मुझे अपनी लड़की की शादी के लिए कोई चीनी नहीं मिल रही है क्योंकि सरकार ने कह दिया है कि शादी के लिए अब चीनी नहीं दी जाएगी। मैं नहीं जानता, महोदय, कि उस सम्बन्ध में क्या आप कुछ इन्कम की मर्यादा नहीं रख सकते थे कि जिसके यहाँ शादी है वह एक मामूली आय का छोटा व्यक्ति है तो उसके लिए कम से कम कुछ गुंजाइश रखते लेकिन आप तो एक ही छड़ी से सब को समेटते हैं, ऐसी खुली छूट रखी है कि कोई नियम नहीं है, कोई नियंत्रण नहीं है, कोई रोकथाम नहीं है, तो सरकार बफर स्टॉक के सम्बन्ध में जो समय पर फैसला नहीं कर सकी इसका कारण बतायगी।

महोदय, आखिरी बात जो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि आपने स्टेटमेंट के अन्दर जो आस्टैरिटी की बात की है तो क्या सचमुच में सरकार अपने देश के लोगों के जीवन-स्तर को बढ़ाने का यह तरीका समझती है कि जो कुछ थोड़ा बहुत चीनी के द्वारा उनके जीवन में मिठास का अंश आता है उसको निकाल दिया जाय और आस्टैरिटी का आदर्श हम आजादी के पच्चीसवें साल में जब कि हम स्वतन्त्रता की जयन्ती मनाने जा रहे हैं उछालें। क्या इस तरह की बात करना सरकार को शोभा देता है।

महोदय, एक बात मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, यदि सरकार के पास कोई नीति नहीं तो आप

[डा० भाई महावीर]

सारे स्टॉक्स को ले कर के उनका ठीक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन करने का फैसला क्यों नहीं करते और अब तक यह जो नीति निर्धारण के बारे में खाली ये चार उपायों का जो कहा गया है तो केवल अभी 1972-73 के लिए आप नीति बनायेंगे और फिर अगले साल की स्थिति इतनी ही बिगड़ने के बाद अगले साल के अगस्त में कहा जाएगा कि अब सरकार का खयाल है कि 1973-74 की नीति बनाई जाय। क्या दूरगामी नीति बना कर के इस समस्या का स्थायी हल सोचेंगे या नहीं और उसका इशारा आपने इसमें से क्यों नहीं दिया ?

प्रो० शेर सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पहला प्रश्न माननीय सदस्य ने उठाया है कि हाई कोर्ट में जो गये तो उसके कारण भी क्या कीमतों पर असर पड़ा। तो उसमें चीनी बाढ़ में मिल गई यह बात तो ठीक है लेकिन एक तो यह हुआ कि चीनी की कीमतों भी ऊपर हो गई, और उसकी वजह से जुलाई के महीने में 15 हजार टन चीनी कम लिफ्ट की गई है इन्हीं कारणों से क्यों की देर लग गई, कुछ स्टोर्डर ले आये और कुछ ऐसा सिलसिला चला कि उसका प्रभाव पड़ा है। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि वही कारण है, और भी कारण हैं लेकिन वह भी एक कारण है।

डा० भाई महावीर : अब आती जा रही है।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : अब वह आने लगी है।

दूसरा आपने फर्माया कि कुछ कोआपरेटिव मिल्स भी है जो कि कोर्ट में गई तो यह ठीक है और जो सरकारी प्रबन्ध की मिलों का कहा तो उसको भी देखने की बात है, मैं मालूम करूंगा कि गई है या नहीं।

दूसरा बफर स्टॉक के बारे में आपने कहा। यह ठीक बात है और अब जो नई नीति बनाने की बात चल रही है वह केवल 1972-73 के लिये नहीं है वह लम्बी, दूरगामी, नीति है।

डा० भाई महावीर : आपके वक्तव्य में है।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : वह तो इसके लिए कि इमोडिएट सिन्क्रुएशन के लिए था। लेकिन दूर-गामी नीति बनाने पर विचार हो रहा है और दूरगामी नीति बनाई जाएगी। उसमें बफर स्टॉक वगैरह की बात है, वह भी विचाराधीन है।

डा० भाई महावीर : विचार में हो रह गया है।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : दूसरी बात आपने कही चीनी से लोगों को थोड़ी सी मिठास मिलती है और उस चीनी को बन्द करना चाहते हैं। गरीब आदमी जिसको थोड़ी चीनी मिलती है उसके लिए हम नहीं कहते हैं चीनी कम करें। हम उन लोगों की चीनी कम करवाना चाहते हैं जो वेस्ट करते हैं, दस-दस बार चाय के प्याले में चीनी लेते हैं और थोड़ा पीकर बाकी फेक देते हैं। ऐसे लोगों से हम चाहते हैं थोड़ा सा अपने ऊपर नियंत्रण कर लें...

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI: How?

प्रो० शेर सिंह : या ऐसे लोग बर्बाद करते हैं जिनको चीनी नुकसान भी करती है, वे अगर चीनी खाएं तो उनकी तन्दुरुस्ती को भी नुकसान हो सकता है। इसलिए हम कहते हैं सेहत अच्छी करो और वेस्ट मत करो...

डा० भाई महावीर : कम से कम गरीब लोगों की जो न्यूनतम आवश्यकताएं हैं, जैसे शादी विवाह में चाहिए—उसकी बात भी तो सोचिए।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : गरीब लोगों की हम सोच रहे हैं। मैंने कहा, हम देहात में भी चीनी पहुंचाना चाहते हैं। तो गरीब लोगों की तरफ हमारा ध्यान है हो, लेकिन जिनके पास ज्यादा पैसा है, जो जादा चीनी बर्बाद करते हैं उन लोगों से मैं कह रहा हूं कि मेहरबानी करके थोड़ी सी कमी करें, अपने शरीर का भी ध्यान करो, 10 परसेन्ट भी बचा सकते हैं तो कमी कर जिससे गरीब आदमी को मिल सके और देश चीनी के संकट से गुजर सके।

श्री नवल किशोर : (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, मैं सरकार और माननीय मंत्री जी के साथ, जो वेबंसी है, उसके लिए हमदर्दी दिखाऊं, सहानुभूति दिखाऊं, या दया दिखाऊं मैं नहीं जानता। श्रीमन्, जैसा और भाइयों ने कहा, यह साबित हो गया कि चीनी के सम्बन्ध में कोई फर्म पालिसी सरकार के पास नहीं है और जितना बयान मंत्री जी ने दिया और जो सवाल कुलकर्णी जी ने और पुरो साहब ने किए, उनसे यह साबित हो गया कि जो डी-कंट्रोल किया गया है वह मिल-मालिकों के हित में किया गया है, वह न गन्ना उत्पादकों के हित में है न कन्ज्यूमर्स के हित में है न मजदूरों के हित में है। मुझे ताज्जुब है, कई सवाल स्पेशिफिकली पूछे गए और प्रो० शेर सिंह ने, हालांकि वे बहुत योग्य व्यक्ति हैं, कोई जवाब नहीं दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारा एक अग्रीमेंट मिल मालिकों से हुआ था बगला देश से संबंधित इमरजेंसी के अन्तर्गत उसके बाद उन्होंने कहा कि जो इंडियन शुगर मिल्स असोसियेशन है उसने कह दिया है कि फैक्टरी ओनर्स उस अग्रीमेंट को मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं है। श्रीमन्, क्या यह गवर्नमेंट इतना कमजोर है कि वह नहीं माने तो अब आपको बेबंसी हो गई। श्रीमन्, एक जमाने से इस बात की मांग है कि शुगर इंडस्ट्री को नेशनलाइज किया जाये और यह केन्द्रीय सरकार अभी तक उस पर बिलकुल आंख मीचकर बैठ गई है। कभी उस कमेट्री का चैयरमैन मर जाता है, कभी दूसरा कोई आ जाता है, भगवान जाने क्या होता है। उसका रिपोर्ट भगवान जाने 10 साल में भी आयेगी या नहीं और उत्पादन भी अपने स्तर पर आयेगा या नहीं। कोई स्पष्ट नीति नहीं है। उत्तर प्रदेश में सुनते थे शुगर इंडस्ट्री का नेशनलाइजेशन होगा लेकिन कुछ नहीं हुआ। नारे बाजी कर दी जाते हैं।

मैं इस बात से इन्तिफाक करता हूँ कि जो आपके ट्रेडर्स हैं उनके यहां रेड कीजिये, जहरत पड़े तो उनको गिरफ्तार कीजिये मगर मैं कहता हूँ कि आज आप मिल मालिकों का स्टाक

टेक ओवर क्यों नहीं करते हैं ? उसमें क्या परेशानी हो रही है ? आपको उनके साथ क्या हमदर्दी है। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ, चुनाव से पहले कीमते क्या थी और चुनाव के बाद क्या हो गई। एक शक पैदा होता है कि क्या कोई अन्डरस्टेडिंग चुनाव के दौरान तो नहीं हुई, जिससे ये कीमते बढ़ती जाती हैं ?

एक माननीय सदस्य : चुप है।

श्री नवल किशोर : चुप नहीं है बेबंसी है। श्रीमन् ऐसा कभी नहीं देखा गया—हम कांस्टिट्यूशन को बदल देते हैं, हम फंडामेंटल राइट्स को बदल देते हैं मगर सुप्रीम कोर्ट में चूक चले गए मिल मालिक, तो बड़ी बेबंसी के साथ बैठे हुए हैं। उनकी कुछ पकड़ नहीं हो सकती है। कोई रास्ता सा नहीं दिखाई दे रहा है।

श्रीमन्, कन्ज्यूमर्स के रेजिस्ट्रार की बात कही गई। यह बात सही है, और मैं इससे इन्तिफाक करता हूँ। लेकिन आप ने खुद कहा कि आप के आदेश यह है कि एक फेमिली को एक किलो शक्कर दी जाए। श्रीमन्, इससे ज्यादा और क्या होगा ? चाहे तो उसको आधा कर दीजिए। यह भी बताते हैं कि देहात वाले को एक किलो शक्कर भी नसीब नहीं होती है। जो शक्कर देहात के नाम से, गावों के नाम से, जाती है वह शक्कर गांव तक पहुंचती नहीं है—यह आपके डिपार्टमेंट का थ्रष्ट सिस्टम है। डी० एस० ओ० का आफिस सेन्टर आफ करप्शन बन गया है। स्टेट्स के अदर इन्सपेक्टर्स आर इन्वाडीमेंट आफ करप्शन। सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट बेबंसी बैठी हुई है, हाथ पर हाथ धरे।

श्रीमन्, मिस्टर पुरी ने कहा कि अगर यही नीति रही तो जिन फैक्टरियों ने गन्ने का दाम ज्यादा दिया था उनको नुकसान होगा और जिन्होंने कम दिया था उनको फायदा होगा। क्यों साहब, जब आपका डाइरेक्टिव्ह यह था कि गन्ने के ज्यादा दाम दे तो जिन फैक्ट्रियों ने ज्यादा दाम नहीं दिये, उनके खिलाफ आपने क्या स्टेप लिया ? जो बेचारे भले आदमी थे उन्होंने ज्यादा दाम दे दिये तो वे आ गए

[श्री नवल किशोर]

घाटे में और जिन्होंने नहीं दिये वे रह गये फायदे में। गवर्नमेंट हँव टु फोर्स, अगर गवर्नमेंट एक बात कहती है मगर वह उसको इन फोर्स नहीं करती है तो फिर इस इम्पौटैन्सी का इलाज क्या होगा ?

श्रीमन्, उन्होंने खुद कहा है कि जो आपके यहां मिनिस्ट्री में कैलकुलेशन हुआ है वास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन का, उसका यह नतीजा निकला है कि ये गोग सस्ती शुगर बेच सकते हैं। बेच तो सकते हैं मगर बेचते नहीं हैं। आप जो कैलकुलेशन करते हैं वह किसी तफरीबाजी के लिए नहीं करते हैं, वह आपने इसलिए की कि ये शुगर बेच सकते हैं मगर ये बेचते नहीं हैं इस लिए मेरी आप से डायरेक्ट डिमान्ड है कि जो फैक्टरीज मिसबिहेव करती है, आपका कहना नहीं मानती है, उनका बिना किसी हिचकिचाहट के स्टॉक टैंकओवर कर लीजिये, परीज कर लीजिए।

इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो आपकी डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की मशीनरी है, उसको मेहेरबानी करके स्ट्रीमलाइन कीजिये क्योंकि वह इतनी करप्ट है कि इससे आगे के लिये कोई उम्मीद नहीं है।

श्रीमन्, जहाँ तक वफर स्टॉक का सवाल है, इसको मंत्री जी ने भी एडमिट किया है कि वह होना चाहिए था मगर नहीं हुआ। इस लिये मैं इस प्वाइन्ट को और जादा प्रेस करना नहीं चाहता हूँ। मैं सिर्फ दो बात कहना चाहता हूँ। पहली बात यह है कि आप शुगर का स्टॉक टैंकओवर कर लीजिये और जैसा अभी आपने कहा कि नई शुगर पालिसी के बारे में इस सेशन के पहले बतला दिया जायेगा तो वह बात ठीक है लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इतने साल हो गये हैं आप किसी चीज को भी अच्छी तरह से टैंकल नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। आप समाजवाद की बड़ी बात करते हैं। आप इस सम्बन्ध में जो भी कदम उठायेगे उसमें हम आपके साथ होंगे। मगर श्रीमन्, समाजवाद के नाम पर जो भी कदम सरकार उठाती है वह

पूँजीवाद के हित में और उसकी मजबूती के लिए होता है, यही मेरा कहना है।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पहली बात माननीय सदस्य ने जो कही वह यह थी कि जो इन्फारमल अरेन्जमेंट्स हुए थे वे क्यों टूट गये ? क्या इंडियन शुगर मिल एसोसियेशन ने इसके बारे में सूचना दे दी और वह टूट गई ? केवल इतनी बात नहीं थी कि उन्होंने सूचना दे दी और यह चीज टूट गई। उनको इस बारे में अधिकार था और इस बारे में फैसला हुआ था कि या तो छः महीने तक या फिर इमरजेंसी तक, विचइवर इज अरलियर, तो जब छः महीने समाप्त हो गये तो उन्होंने जो अग्रीमेंट हुआ था छः महीने के लिये, जब वह समाप्त हुआ, तब उन्होंने हमको सूचना दे दी कि अब छः महीने के आगे जो हमारी साथी है वे इस चीज को नहीं मानते हैं, वे चल नहीं सकते और इस लिये उन्होंने हमें सूचना दे दी। क्योंकि यह फैसला छः महीने के लिये था और इसलिये हम उनसे कुछ नहीं कह सकते थे।

दूसरी बात जो आपने नेशनलाइजेशन के बारे में कही, उसके बारे में आपने भी माना है कि एक कमेटी बैठी है और उस कमेटी के बारे में मैं इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ—क्यों कि आपने यह प्रश्न उठा दिया है—कि इस कमेटी की इसी अगस्त के महीने में अंतरिम रिपोर्ट आ रही है, फाइनल रिपोर्ट अभी नहीं, अंतरिम रिपोर्ट आ रही है।

दूसरी बात जो आपने मिल्स के बारे में कही कि चुनाव के पहले कीमत कुछ और थी और चुनाव के बाद बढ़ गई, तो आपको इस बारे में जो शक हुआ है, उसके बारे में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप इस तरह का कोई सन्देह न करें तो अच्छी बात है। आपको बहुत धन्यवाद।

(Interruption)

तीसरी बात जो आपने कही कि कुछ मिल वालों ने गन्ने की कीमत ज्यादा दी और कुछ ने

कम दी। वैसे तो यह बात ठीक है कि कुछ ने ज्यादा कीमत दी और कुछ ने कम दी। लेकिन इसमें कुछ भलाई और बुराई की धारणा की बात में नहीं मानता हूँ। अगर किसी ने ज्यादा दे दी तो वह ज्यादा भला था और किसी ने कम दी तो वह ज्यादा बुरा था, यह बात नहीं थी। बल्कि वहाँ पर परिस्थितियाँ ही ऐसी थीं कि उन लोगों को गन्ना नहीं मिलता था और अगर उन्होंने ज्यादा कीमत दे दी तो उन्होंने ने किसी के साथ कोई रियायत नहीं की, किसी के साथ भलमनसाहत दिखलाई या फिर किसी के साथ उदारता दिखलाई हो मैं यह बात नहीं मानता हूँ। वहाँ पर अवस्था ही ऐसी थी कि उन लोगों को गन्ना नहीं मिलता था और इस वजह से उन्होंने ज्यादा दाम दिये।

आप कहते हैं कि मिलों के पास इस समय जितनी चीनी है वह कब्जे में कर ली जाय। तो मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि किस मिल मालिक ने 13½ २० मन गन्ना खरीदा है तो किसी ने 8½ २० मन गन्ना खरीदा है। हमारे पास इस सम्बन्ध में डेटवाइज फिगर्स नहीं हैं कि किसने कितनी कीमत दी है। वह सब हिसाब लगाकर फिर कास्ट काफ प्रोडक्शन की कीमत निकाले फिर उसके बाद लें, तो इससे हमने यह बेहतर समझा कि पार्श्वल कंट्रोल कर दें और लैवी शुगर की मिनिमम प्राइस हमने फिक्स कर दी और बाकी शुगर को फ्री मार्केट में छोड़ दिया ताकि जिसको घाटा हुआ हो वह पूरा कर ले।

श्री नवल किशोर : आपने इस बारे में कोई शिड्यूल प्राइस बनाना चाहिये या जो मौजूदा शिड्यूल प्राइस है उसके आसपास की कोई प्राइस तय करनी चाहिए और उसके बाद तमाम स्टॉक को टेकओवर कर लेना चाहिए।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : जब हम शुगर लैवी के बारे में एक बात की तो वे लोग कोर्ट में चले गये। आप की यह बात मंजूर करनी होगी कि आसपास की बात नहीं हो सकती है क्योंकि

ऐसा करने में भी कुछ दिक्कतें हैं। अगर इसमें दिक्कतें नहीं होती तो हमें इस तरह की बात करने में कोई हिचकिचाहट नहीं होती। यह बात नहीं है कि उनके साथ हमारी कोई बहुत सहानुभूति है, उनकी भलाई के लिए ही हम इस तरह की बात करते हैं, लेकिन गवर्नमेन्ट के सामने भी कुछ कठिनाइयाँ हैं जिसको सोच कर हम यह बात कर रहे हैं।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: It is not only in regard to cane price; in regard to the entire issue, about khandsari and gur also, you have to take a coordinated action.

प्रो० शेर सिंह : यह भी ठीक है। अब प्रश्न उठा दिया है तो मैं बता दूँ कि गुड़ के बारे में हम सोच रहे हैं अनुसंधान चल रहा है इस बात के लिए कि आज जब हम गुड़ बनाते हैं तो 8-10 परसेन्ट बनता है शुगरकेन का। उसमें मैसूर में कुछ काम किसी सज्जन ने किया है। हम कानपुर इन्स्टीट्यूट को भी कह रहे हैं, इस बात के ऊपर विचार चल रहा है कि हम कोई ऐसा मशीन के अन्दर चेंज करें, ऐसे पुर्जे बनाए जिससे हम ज्यादा क्राशिंग करके उसकी परसेन्टेज ज्यादा ले सकें 10-11 की जगह 13-14 ले सकें तो उससे जो शुगर केन गुड़ में चला जाता है वह इधर आ सकता है और जो गुड़ और खंडसारी का प्रेशर है शुगर पर वह कम हो सकता है।

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN (Tamil Nadu): Sugar is always sweet. . .

PROF. SHER SINGH: Do not make it bitter.

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: . . . but it becomes bitter often due to the rise in prices and also due to pursuing in a wrong way the good policies which have already been initiated regarding sugar. From the statement I find. . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): You ask for new clarifications.

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: . . . clarification and also explanation of the present situation. The present situation becomes grave and this causes grave concern in the minds of the people in the country. I am not going into the question of decontrol or the policy pursued by this Government or the consequences of it. I do not want to be academic. I want to be practical. In the last part of this statement the Minister mentioned four types of remedies. Three remedies must be done by the Government, and the fourth remedy is just like a selling advice to the people. I am more concerned about the part to be played by the Government. The first part is: improving and streamlining the existing system of distribution of levy sugar by the various State Governments; because this must be done by not only the Central Government, it must be done through the agency of the State Governments. Then the second part is: taking effective anti-hoarding measures and awarding exemplary punishment to persons found guilty of offences under the Essential Commodities Act or otherwise; Then the third part is: evolving a proper sugar and sugarcane policy for 1972-73 with a view to augmenting the sugar production. I shall confine myself to the second part. Here it has been mentioned that hoarders and others...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): You ask for clarifications. You need not read out from the statement.

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: I am seeking clarifications regarding the second remedial measure mentioned in this. Here, in this statement itself the Minister stated: "The Honourable Members would have seen reports in the Press about the results of the raids conducted in Delhi during the last two days, and it is expected that other State Governments will also take similar action to deal with hoarders as already

requested by us." I want to know from the honourable Minister this information specifically. Mere sending instructions will not do. What actions have been taken by the State Government? Is the honourable Minister in a position to-day to tell us, when instructions have been given, what action the State Governments have taken up to this time, what improvements have been made to meet the grave situation which has arisen? Simply placing a statement here and saying we have given instructions to the State Governments and all the concerned agencies to take all these remedial measures will not do. I want to know what action has been taken by this Government through the agencies in various State Governments up till now. I would like to know about that detailed report if he is in possession of those details.

PROF. SHER SINGH: On 29th July we wrote to the State Governments to round up hoarders and organise raids so that those who have hoarded sugar could be caught and some action taken against them. Today the Chief Secretaries of the various State Governments are meeting here in Delhi. They will also be discussing all these matters such as price rise, action to be taken against hoarders, and so on. The Conference is going on today. I think no other question has been asked. About streamlining the existing distributing system, we have written to the State Governments.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala): The hon. Minister's statement is yet another example of complete bankruptcy of the Government whether it is the question of food policy or sugar policy. The hon. Minister has promised a long-term policy to be announced in this House. I would request him to ensure a full debate in this House on the new long-term national policy that the Government is thinking of. There should be adequate

time allotted for discussion of this policy before the end of the session itself.

Government has stated certain reasons why even before one year is over after decontrol of sugar the production has fallen and prices have started rising. Government now talks about long-term policy. How can Government have a long-term policy unless they correctly diagnose the existing maladies? Their only explanation is that it is due to floods, excessive rains and drought in the southern regions. The statements refers only to the so-called better distribution system. It does not say about the fall in production. Why has production fallen? Why there is no continuous increase in production on a sustained basis? Now, I would like to seek clarification. Is it not a fact that the main cause of this crisis in sugar is due to the following reasons? One is inability of the Government of India and the State Governments to ensure and adequately relative price. I am not referring to absolute price, but only relative price. Sometimes depending on the price of other commercial crops, there will be no incentive for the sugarcane growers to cultivate sugar. Secondly, is it not a fact that sugar magnates and mill owners have been holding the people at ransom mainly with the help of the money which they get from the nationalised banking system? They have got nearly Rs. 100 crores of loan which they use for speculative purposes. In addition I understand that crores of rupees of purchase tax are in arrears and all this money has been used for purposes of speculative trade. Is it not a fact that substantial black money is the root cause for this crisis? In this connection the hon. Minister's statement gives certain remedies such as evolving a proper sugar policy for 1972; taking effective anti-hoarding measures and giving exemplary punishments to the guilty etc. I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the interim re-

port of the Wanchoo Committee which has been kept in the cold storage . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): You are going beyond the point.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: No, Sir. This is a significant point. Sir, with reference to the question of controlling hoarding by giving exemplary punishment to the hoarders, the Wanchoo Committee says like this:

"We are also aware that the Government has been trying to tackle the problem of blackmoney by adopting various measures such as voluntary disclosure, stringent punishments, etc., etc. . . ."

So, Sir, we are firmly of the view that this can only be effectively checked by such a drastic measure as demonetisation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): It has nothing to do with the sugar issue now.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: Sir, I will put the question now. This interim Report of the Wanchoo Committee makes an important point. The measures they are talking about in item (b) are absolutely ineffective measures.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Please put the question. There are other Members who have to put questions.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: Sir, for the consideration of the Government, I would like to suggest taking over the entire stock of sugar and going back to the policy which they themselves pursued earlier.

Secondly, unless the entire sugar industry, not only in U. P. which the Congress treasury benches were very enthusiastic about earlier, but also the

[Dr. K. Mathew Kurian]

so-called sugar co-operatives in Maharashtra, the Kulaks' societies in Maharashtra, the sugar mills there, are nationalised, this problem cannot be solved.

PROF. SHER SINGH: Sir, we have got the diagnosis of the malady. The causes of the shortfall in sugar production are watched from year to year and everybody must have noticed that there is a cycle of about four years when we pay good prices to the cane growers and then we produce more sugarcane and when we produce more sugarcane, of course, the price of sugarcane goes down and then again they sow less sugarcane and so on and so forth. Like this the cycle goes on. We are trying to remedy the situation. We are thinking of a long-term policy. We are also thinking of how to augment the production of sugar and sugarcane, how to increase the yield per acre and so on.

Now, as for the incentive prices for sugarcane, we are of the view that we should give incentive prices for sugarcane.

As regards the loans used by the mill owners for speculative purposes, as suggested by some hon. Members, now we are taking strong action on this also. Previously they used to utilise these loans for other purposes also. In fact, we have now bound them to pay a part of those loans to the sugarcane growers and there will be no sugarcane arrears now. There are people who have been having stocks with the help of black money and therefore, we are taking measures to catch the hoarders.

About the Wanchoo Committee, I do not want to say anything, because the Finance Minister has made statements in this House more than once.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Yes, Mr. Sisodia.

श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया (मध्य प्रदेश):

मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय जो शहरी और ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में प्रति व्यक्ति शुगर के कोटे में अंतर है क्या सरकार का भविष्य में उस को कायम रखने का विचार है? और यह जो अलग अलग प्रान्तों में अलग अलग व्यक्ति को अलग अलग कोटा मिलता है शुगर का, उस के लिए क्या प्रान्तों को इस प्रकार का अधिकार दिया गया है कि वह उन के लिए कोटा मुकर्रर करे और वितरण की जो दोषपूर्ण व्यवस्था है उस को ठीक करने के क्या कोई उपाय शासन के विचाराधीन है?

श्री शेर सिंह: प्रान्तों को जो कोटा हम मंजूर करते हैं उस के लिए तीन आधार हम ने बनाये हैं। पहले तो जो 1967-68 और 1968-69 के सालों में आफ टेक था उस को हम ने ध्यान में रखा है और दूसरे प्रदेश को जनसंख्या कितनी है और उस के हिसाब से कितनी शुगर . . .

श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया: जनसंख्या 1971 की ली है या पिछली?

श्री शेर सिंह: अब 1971 के आधार पर हम कर सकते हैं और दूसरे अवेलिबिलिटी शुगर का कितना है उस के हिसाब से हम को कितनी वितरण करना है जो दोषपूर्ण वितरण की बात है, जो वितरण का काम है, जैसा 1 P.M. कि कई जगह के लिये कहा गया, माननीय

श्री नवल किशोर जी ने कहा कि गांव में कई जगह ठीक से नहीं बंटती है, गड़बड़ होती है, तो वह हमारे ध्यान में है और राज्य सरकारों का ध्यान इस और दिलाते रहते हैं और हम चाहते हैं कि डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन का सिस्टम स्ट्रीमलाइन्ड किया जाय।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश):

श्रीमन्, प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि "गो विधाआउट शुगर" तो उनके लिये तो यह कहना उचित है क्योंकि महिला हैं और

हमारे यहाँ गांव में यह कहा जाता है कि 'गई नार जो खाये मिठाई, और गया पुरुष जो खाये खटाई', महिलाओं के लिये मिठाई वर्जित है, दे कैन गो विथआउट शुगर, लेकिन प्रोफेसर शेर सिंह जो कहते हैं कि चानी मत खावो तो यह बात समझ में नहीं आती कि इनके अन्दर पुरुषत्व है या नारारत्व है।

तो, श्रीमन्, मैं जानना चाहूँगा कि 1969-70 में जिस समय गन्ना 14 रुपये क्विंटल बिका उससे जो चीनी पैदा हुई वह बिका 1 रुपये 40 पैसे और 1970-71 में जो गन्ना 7 रुपये 37 पैसे क्विंटल बिका उससे जो चीनी पैदा हुई वह बिकी 1 रुपये 50 पैसे और 1971-72 में जब गन्ना 8 रुपये क्विंटल बिका तब उससे चीनी जो बनी उसका दाम मंत्री जी चाहते हैं कि 4 रुपया 5 रुपया मिलमालिक ले ले कोई बात नहीं है। तो क्या इसके पीछे यह राज नहीं है कि पिछले चुनाव में इलेक्शन फंड इकट्ठा करने में आपने चीनी मिल मालिकों से जो कौड़ों रुपया लिया उस पर आपने वायदा किया था उन्हें लूट-खसोट करने की छूट देने का और इस वायदे के मुताबिक मिल-मालिकों को करोड़ रुपया लूटने की छूट दे रखी है। आपने उनसे रुपया लिया और यह वायदा किया कि उससे दून रुपया कमाने की छूट देगे और उस वायदे के तहत में उनको लूटने की छूट दे रखी है।

दूसरा, श्रीमन्, यह है कि क्या 1970 में जब यह नई कांग्रेस, कांग्रेस से अलग हुई तो बम्बई के सम्मेलन में वायदा किया, जो इन्होंने चार सूत्र बताया उन चार सूत्रों में एक यह भी है कि चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर देगे, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज 1972 के अगस्त में कौन सी कठिनाई इनके सामने है कि चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं कर रहे हैं और क्या

उसके पीछे भी यहाँ राज नहीं है कि यह अपने चुनाव फंड में करोड़ों रुपया चीनी मिलमालिकों से लिये हैं और इसलिए चानी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण वायदा करने के बवजूद उस वायदे के आधार पर वोट लेने के बवजूद आज नहीं कर रहे हैं।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय माननीय सदस्य के मजबूत पुरुषत्व का प्रमाण थोड़ा बहुत अगर वह हो सकता है तो यह है कि वह निराधार आरोप लगाने में बहुत मजबूत। मैं बोलें हैं उसके अलावा कोई पुरुषत्व की बात इतनी मजबूत। मैं नज़र नहीं आता है। यह जो उन्होंने कहा कि मिलमालिकों से पैसा लिया तो यह बिल्कुल गलत है।

डा० भाई महावीर : पुरुषत्व की ज़रूरत कहा आ गई।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : जो आपने फर्माया पुरुषत्व की बात।

जहाँ तक यह बात है कि प्रधान मंत्री ने अपील की है तो उसको समझने की ज़रूरत है। मेरे ख्याल में उन्होंने समझने का यत्न नहीं किया। प्रधान मंत्री का इसमें एक ही आशय था इस बात के कहने का कि रोटी खाये बगैर तो आप ज्यादा देर तक नहीं चल सकते लेकिन चीनी ऐसी चीज नहीं है कि आदमी को दो चार दिन तक नहीं मिले तो उसका काम न चले, जीवन नहीं चल सकता, उसके बिना जीवन चल सकता है। अगर चानी जैसी चीज में बड़े बड़े लोगों से मात खा जाय, जो ज्यादा पैसे लेते हैं उन लोगों के चंगुल में फस जाय तो ठीक नहीं, उन्होंने उस चंगुल से निकलने के लिये कहा है, कहा है कि उसमें नहीं फसना है, अपने ऊपर कंट्रोल एक्सरसाइज करना चाहिये, चीनी के बगैर आदमी मरता नहीं है, तो उसको उसी रूप में लेना चाहिये और मैं समझता हूँ कि वह बात ठीक उन्होंने कही।

[प्रो० शेर सिंह]

और तो कोई बात नई उन्होंने कही नहीं?
जो राष्ट्रीकरण की बात भी आपने कही तो
उसका जवाब मैं दे चुका हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU) : Mr. Dwijendralal Sen Gupta.

SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN GUPTA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I have three questions to put for clarifications.

Firstly, is it correct that the price of sugarcane is fixed some years after the sugarcane growers are paid interim price and their final prices are settled long after that, and so the price of sugarcane could not have any impact on the rise in prices of sugar?

Secondly, is it not a fact that the Government of India exports sugar at a price lower than its purchase price? If this is possible, why can't sugar be sold to the consumers in India at a subsidised rate?

Thirdly, is it not a fact that either before an election or immediately after an election, every year, sugar is either controlled or decontrolled and prices go up higher?

PROF. SHER SINGH: To the last question I have already replied. About the interim price for sugarcane paid sometime and the final price paid afterwards, that is being done by many sugar factories in Maharashtra and other places also. They pay the interim price or minimum price and afterwards, after the sugarcane is sold they come to know what the total profit they had gained is and out of the profit they want that the share should go to the shareholders. Therefore, they pay the final price.

As far as the export of sugar is concerned, we are subsidising it no doubt, but we cannot sell it at prices higher than the international prices; we have to sell at international prices. We want to be in the export market; we do not

want to be out of the export market. Therefore, we are doing it.

SHRI H. S. NARASIAH (Mysore) : Out of the 31 lakh tonnes of sugar produced in this country, as is made available for the year 1971-72, we find that an amount of nearly 20 lakh tonnes of sugar is produced in the sugar factories of the South and Maharashtra. The present policy of the Government has adversely affected the sugarcane growers of these areas, particularly with reference to Mysore, Maharashtra and Kerala where the cost of production of sugar is greater than in other areas. May I request the hon. Minister to clarify how he would remedy the situation which confronts these growers and brings about an adverse effect in the total industry itself?

PROF. SHER SINGH: It is a fact that this year about 20 lakh tonnes of sugar production was there in the South and Maharashtra; true. But, it is wrong to say that the cane growers have been adversely affected and that the cost of production is higher in those areas when compared to others; it is absolutely wrong to say that. In fact, the cost of production is higher in Madhya Pradesh, some parts of Rajasthan, some parts of Bihar and some other places. Not so much in Maharashtra. In Andhra Pradesh it is lowest in some sugar factories. Next to that is Maharashtra. In Mysore also the cost of production is not so high.

REFERENCE RE. COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCE OF POLITICAL AND OTHER PRISONERS ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF IN- DEPENDENCE

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, during the last session, you will remember, I requested the Government that on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of our Independence certain steps should be taken to mark