

MR CHAIRMAN No, please ; the answer has come Next question

FOODGRAIN LOSSES DUE TO INADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES

*183 SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL :†

SHRI SITARAM KESRI :

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD

SHRI M. K. MOHTA .

MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTTAM KHAPARDE

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA :

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL .

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT

SHRI K. C. PANDA .

SHRI ABU ABRAHAM .

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the details of losses during the last three years in foodgrains due to inadequate storage facilities ;

(b) whether Government have instituted any inquiry in this regard ; and

(c) if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) Necessary steps were taken by the public agencies to provide the required storage facilities for foodgrains procured on Central account. Normally, a certain amount of storage losses occur in foodgrains during storage due to various factors, during the last three years the storage losses on various counts reported were less than 1% per year.

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the house by Shri Dahyabhai V. Patel

(b) and (c) Specific instances of abnormal losses in storage reported to Government are always investigated

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL :

Sir, I am amazed at the answer of the hon. Minister. Only this morning a former Member of this House came to me and said that in Kutch the ration per month is less than one kilo. How do you expect people to live on this ? And the Minister says that all arrangements have been made and adequate steps have been taken? Sir, this House has asked questions about the doings of Mr. Iqbal Singh again and again. How much foodgrain has been lost in this bungling ? No clear answer has been given as to how much loss in foodgrains has been incurred because of the bungling of the corrupt officers and because of lack of care by the superiors of the distribution machinery. It is therefore that we are experiencing shortage in foodgrains. Will the Government revise its policy ? Will the Government institute proper enquiries and give us a satisfactory answer on these points ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : Sir, we have a quality control division with the Food Corporation of India and they have also a special sub-section which goes into individual cases of storage losses. I can only say that any complaint received from a Member of Parliament or any public worker is given due attention. I shall be glad if any hon. Member gives me any information. It is not necessary that there should be a *prima facie* case. We will go into any individual case. As I said in my main reply, our losses during the last three years come to less than one per cent per year. But this does not mean that individual losses may not be higher.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Was the actual stock-taking done ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : Yes, it is done.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Was there any difference between...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Tyagi, I have not called you. If you like I will call you later.

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : The stocks can be tallied and any difference between the stocks received and issued can easily be detected. But, Sir, I would like to submit for the information of the hon. Members that in India the post-harvest losses at the farmers' level are very heavy. Here in this question I have naturally replied with regard to the storage in FCI godowns.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : Sir, I am sorry I cannot say that I am satisfied with the answer of the hon. Minister. What is the meaning of saying that there is only one per cent loss ? If there was really one per cent loss, there would not be such acute shortage of foodgrains everywhere. There are famine conditions prevailing and the Government is doing little to relieve the situation. I told you about one case in my own province, Gujarat, where the monthly issue of ration is one kilo. How do you expect people to subsist on one kilo of food-grain for a whole month ? So there is something basically wrong in the thinking or in the policy of the Government. What is the Government doing to correct it ? It is not a question of only losses in the total quantity procured. There is something wrong in the method. The hon. Minister says there is no instance. But the doings of Mr. Iqbal Singh have been agitating this House again and again. What have you done about it. You said there was going to be a CBI enquiry ? Was any enquiry instituted ?

What have you done ? Have you done anything to satisfy the Members on this ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : This question only relates to storage losses. If the honourable Member wants to put questions about the ex-chairman, with due notice it should be possible for me to reply to his queries. I am not minimising the problem of saving losses and in fact we would like to...

MR. CHAIRMAN : His question amounts to this : What steps are you taking to prevent the losses ? Are you changing your policy ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : What we are doing is to construct modern storages which are damp-proof and rodent-proof. We are even thinking of taking up new programmes also. It is construction of modern silos and by employing modern methods the storage losses can possibly be reduced. The honourable Member is referring to extraneous problems of drought and scarcity difficulties in certain areas. We are aware of that. The honourable Member should know that this year we have some difficulties because of the severe drought conditions prevailing in large parts of our country.

श्री सूरज प्रसाद : अभी मंत्री जी ने जो बोल बताया है वह बहुत ही अडरइस्टीमेटेड है। फिक् अडरइस्टीमेटेड कमेटी ने एक रिपोर्ट दी है जिसके मुताबिक 1965-66 से लेकर 1970-71 के बीच में स्टोरेज में 21 करोड़ रुपये का घाटा हुआ है और कृष्णमूर्ति जी, जो इंडियन ग्रेन स्टोरेज इस्टीमेट के कोई पदाधिकारी है उन्होंने कहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान में स्टोरेज में करीब 9.3 मिलियन टन मायस्ट तथा डैम्पनेस की वजह से लाम हो जाता है और इस तरह से उन्होंने कहा है कि टोटल लाम कुल बीम परसेंट के करीब हो जाता है। तो लगता यह है कि

फूड कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया हिन्दुस्तान का फूड कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया हा गया है और धीरे धीरे हमारा स्टोरेज का मामला बढ़ता जा रहा है इसलिए कि सरकार अब मारे अनाज का थाक व्यापार ही अपने हाथ में ले जा रही है। इस लिए मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि फूड डिपार्टमेंट के अंदर चोरी से, सूखन में, चूहा व खान से मचन से बीजा के खान से कुल कितना लाल होता है और दूसरी बात यह है कि जा प्राइवेट स्टोरेज सरकार हायर करती है वह बहुत सबस्टैंड के होते हैं, उन के कारण सरकार का कितना लाल होता है और इस से बचने के लिए जा पब्लिक अडमिनिस्ट्रेशन कमेटी ने कुछ अपने सुझाव दिये हैं गेड्जेट प्रॉफ और गेनरल टाटप आफ सी लाज या मटिल के बने हुए मगान के बारे में कृष्णमणि जी ने जा सुझाव दिया है उस के बारे में सरकार का क्या विचार है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE I have given the precise estimates of storage losses as far as the Food Corporation of India is concerned. As far as private storages are concerned our experience is that most of the private storages in the country are not up to the mark, they are not very modern especially the storages which were constructed by traders in the past.

श्री सुरज प्रसाद सरकार उन को ही हायर करती है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Whatever information I have got in private storages losses come to almost up to 6 per cent while in the modern storages of the Food Corporation of India they are less than 1 per cent. Therefore, as I said earlier, the whole effort of the Government of India is to construct modern storages. We have also established a Grain Storage Institute at Hapur and that Institute is doing research and developmental activity in the field of modernising our storage

facilities in the country. As far as the particular figure given by the honourable Member is concerned, I have not actually seen the text of that we have some time back gone into this when the Food Corporation of India is dealing in foodgrains trade worth over Rs 700 or Rs 800 or Rs 900 crores annually, 1 per cent of losses per year perhaps over a number of years may come to that figure.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA In view of the reply given to us by the honourable Minister that the loss in storage is about 1 per cent per year, may I know what the amount of maximum loss in any of the depots during the last year has been ?

May I know whether it is not a fact that in Balasore district alone in Orissa there was a reported loss of about Rs 50 lakhs worth of rice and paddy stock last year ? In view of the general taking over of foodgrains by the Government of India, what are the proposals to construct storage facilities all over the country on a massive scale in order to cope with the situation ? Unless there are plenty of warehouses of the type referred to by the hon Minister—rodent proof, this proof and that proof—all over the country, how does the Minister propose to take over the foodgrains trade and store the foodgrains thus taken over ?

SHRI DAHYABHAI V PATEL What about bribe-proof warehouses ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE As far as individual loss in individual storage depot is concerned, I will try to find out because there are hundreds of thousands of storage depots all over the country. In Balasore there was some loss and this case was specifically investigated and the Orissa Government was advised to take necessary legal action in that particular case. Enquiries are on. But as far as the general storage position is concerned,

during the Fourth Five Year Plan Rs 117 crores were provided for construction of additional storage. Sometime back the Planning Commission had appointed a Committee to go into this matter and they have made some recommendations. They suggested that the storage capacity required in the country by the end of the Fourth Plan would be for 9.9 million tonnes. At the moment we have storage facilities for 10 millions tonnes owned by FCI, Central Warehousing Corporation, State Warehousing Corporations, State Governments and co-operatives and the Government is adding seven to eight lakh tonnes capacity every year. I do not think the taking over of foodgrains will present any major problem as far as storage is concerned. This problem has already been looked into by the Government and if necessary we shall not hesitate to requisition the storage capacity which is available with the private sector in order to ensure the success of the take-over.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there are any definite proposals under consideration of the Government to avoid such losses and what will be the financial liability to implement those proposals?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE I have already explained this point that about Rs 117 crores have been provided in the Fourth Plan itself to construct modern storages and our storages are damp-proof and rat-proof. In modern silos, the losses will be minimum and therefore we are going to construct them. We are trying to construct most modern storages following the construction techniques of the international standard. Necessary expert advice will be taken before constructing them.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत क्या यह सही है कि अनाज रखने की पूरी व्यवस्था न हान

क कारण पड़ाव और हरियाणा की खेता में और रेलवे स्टेशन पर पिछले माल बरसात में लाखा मन अनाज सड़ा और नष्ट हुआ तो क्या आपन जा परसेन्टेज लामज के बारे में बताया उसमें आपन उसका भी हिस्सा जड़ दिया है ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE The hon. lady Member is right. Particularly in those States where massive production is coming up we find that the storage facilities are not adequate. The whole emphasis of the Plan is to construct storages particularly in areas where massive production is coming up like Haryana, Punjab and Western UP and also in heavily deficit areas so that proper storage capacity is available wherever it is needed.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत मेरा प्रश्न था कि आपने उसका हिस्सा भी उसमें जाड़ा या नहीं जो केवल एक परसेंट आपन बताया...

श्री सभापति उनका सवाल यह था कि वन परसेंट में शामिल है या नहीं है। I think he has answered it.

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE Sir, this loss refers to storage loss. If there are losses at some other points it is a different matter. These are all transit losses and they are different.

MR. CHAIRMAN Yes, Mr. K. C. Panda.

SHRI K. C. PANDA Sir, in spite of there being cyclones, floods and drought in Orissa, it was considered to be a surplus State so far as foodgrains were concerned. But Sir, last year during September, October when drought conditions were there and foodgrains were needed the Food Corporation was asked to supply foodgrains which were stored in the western districts of Orissa, that is Bhawanipatna, Balangir, Sambalpur etc. and it was found that grains worth more than a crore of

rupees were not there in the stocks I want to know from the honourable Minister whether any action has been taken against those persons responsible for this and whether any action has been taken for storing the food grains either in the State Warehouses or godowns of the Food Corporation of India

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, I do not remember precisely the figures of losses reported from Orissa

SHRI K C PANDA Sir, letters have been issued by members to the Minister

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, these are individual cases and these individual cases are being investigated into and we have identified certain persons who have committed this mistake and who have been responsible for these losses and they are being prosecuted

SHRI K C PANDA Sir, it is not an individual case. I can tell you that the Orissa Government had to requisition from the Central Government foodgrains in spite of the fact that there were stocks

MR CHAIRMAN All right Mr Abu Abraham

SHRI ABU ABRAHAM Sir, I want to know from the honourable Minister whether it is true that in a certain temple in Rajasthan rats are regularly fed on food grains and, if so, what measures have the Government taken to stop such practices in this and other temples in this country?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, may I seek your protection? Sir, I seek your protection because this is not related strictly to the main question. I seek your protection and seek your order. The honourable Member is referring to foodgrains being used in some temples

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Abraham, kindly put your question, if you like, which

has relevance to losses due to inadequate storage facility. If you have any, please put it. Otherwise, I will call Mr Tyagi. Yes, Mr Tyagi any question?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI No question Sir

MR CHAIRMAN Yes, Mr Yashpal Kapur

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR Sir, will the honourable Minister be pleased to inform the House as to the storage facility being provided by the Central Warehousing Corporation and the various State Warehousing Corporations and, in having that storage facility, how much money is spent for having their own storage facility and how much money is spent on rent for hired storage?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, I have got the figures relating to how much is owned storage and how much is the hired storage. The figures relating to rent are not available with me at the moment

About owned storage, it is 10 million tonnes by the FCI, the Central Warehousing Corporation, the State Warehousing Corporations, State Governments and Co-operatives, all put together, while the hired storage is 9 million tonnes by the various agencies including co-operatives. This is the total figure with me. This is not all rented by the FCI, but this is used for agricultural inputs as well as for storage of foodgrains

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI Sir, I do not agree with the percentage of loss that the Hon. Minister has given in this house. Even with the existing facility for storage the loss is definitely much more than what is stated here. May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware of the fact that even with the existing available storage facilities, unscientific storing methods are very important causes for the losses because

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put your question. There are many other Members.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Sir, I have visited these places. Sir, in the existing available storing points scientific arrangements for segregation of food-grains from the downgraded quality food-grains and for removal of insects and rats are not there and the unscientific arrangements are the important causes for the storage losses. Is the Government aware of these problems and in which direction it is moving to remove these difficulties ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I agree with the hon. Member that there are certain storage points which are not really very good. Already we have asked the FCI to take it up with the State Government either to hand them over to them or to make necessary improvements, so that storage points are modernized and brought up to date so that storage losses are reduced to the minimum.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथूर : सरकार ने एक अभियान भी पिछले दिनों चलाया था, तो क्या सरकार को अदार्ज है कि जो स्टोर में लाम होता है वह चूहों के कारण कितना होता है, कितने चूहे एक आदमी का अनाज खा जाते हैं और हम नाते से इन चूहों के विरुद्ध सरकार का क्या अभियान चलाने का विचार है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : As I submitted, the design of the storage which is based on the recommendations of the Grain Storage Institute is damp-proof and rodent-proof. As far as our own storages are concerned, the rat damage is not there. It is only the moisture because of which there is some loss. But in traditional storages the damage due to rats and rodents is quite high and the Grain Storage Institute is going into the specific problems as to how to reduce these losses. Ultimately, there are only

two ways : To control the multiplication of rat population and to construct modern rodent-proof storages.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : My question is a very small one. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what was the total quantity of foodgrains which was received by the different warehouses ? What was the total outlet ? I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether the left over stocks were physically verified or it was verified only on the basis of records of the different warehouses ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Sir, stocks are checked on the basis of receipts and issues, and the shortages, when detected, are individually gone into. Some are prescribed according to the Quality Control Section of the FCI. As for individual figures, I have no information with me at the moment. With due notice, it should be possible for me to furnish the information as far as possible.

SHRI A.P. JAIN : Two factors have come out very clearly, namely that the total public sector storage is 10 million tonnes and silos are the most modern method of storage. May I know what proportion is these of the total storage silos ? Secondly, what is the programme for building silos ? What proportion of the future construction programme of storage will be in the form of silos ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : The silos proportion is very small at the moment. We propose, by the end of 1974, to have them for 2 lakh tonnes. The main constraint is that the requirement of cement and steel is very heavy, which are not easily available in the country.

12 Noon

SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA . Our worthy Prime Minister has several times stated that there is no shortage of food-stuffs in the country. Is it a fact that the present policy of the Government of India

to ration below the subsistence level is designed to brainwash the common people of the country so that the people should think of no other party except the dictates of the ruling party as is being done in the U.S.S.R. according to today's news ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : May I seek your protection ?

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : May I draw your attention to Starred Question No. 203 and Unstarred Question No. 555 ? You will please see that both these questions are the same question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You see me in my chamber.

Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

दिल्ली के हायर सेकेंडरी विद्यालयों में अध्यापकों की नियुक्ति

*184. श्री सुरज प्रसाद : क्या शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1 जनवरी, 1972 से फरवरी, 1973 तक नगर निगम द्वारा संचालित प्राथमिक विद्यालयों के कितने प्रतिशत प्रशिक्षित स्नातक अध्यापका का दिल्ली प्रशासन के हायर मैकेडरी विद्यालयों में नियुक्त किया गया है, और

(ख) इसके लिये निर्धारित 45 प्रतिशत का कोटा पूरा न किये जाने के क्या कारण है ?

†[APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS TO HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN DELHI

*184. **SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of trained graduate teachers of the primary schools run by the Corporation who have been appointed in the Higher Secondary Schools under the Delhi Administration from the 1st January, 1972 to February, 1973; and

(b) the reasons for not achieving the quota of 45 per cent fixed for this purpose ?]

शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय तथा संस्कृति विभाग में उप मंत्री (श्री डी० पी० यादव) :

(क) 15-1-1973 से पहले शिक्षा निदेशालय के सहायक अध्यापकों की प्रोन्नति के लिए 10 प्रतिशत स्थान और सीधे कोटे के लिए 90 प्रतिशत स्थान सुरक्षित थे। इन 90 प्रतिशत स्थानों में से 25 प्रतिशत स्थान वरिष्ठता के आधार पर दिल्ली नगर निगम के प्राथमिक अध्यापकों के लिए आरक्षित रखे गये थे। 15-1-1973 के बाद शिक्षा निदेशालय के सहायक अध्यापकों की प्रोन्नति का प्रतिशत 30 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ा दिया गया था और सीधी भर्ती 70 प्रतिशत थी। सीधी भर्ती के लिए निर्धारित 70 प्रतिशत स्थानों में से 60 प्रतिशत स्थान नगर निगम के अध्यापकों के लिए आरक्षित रखे गये थे। अतः कुल रिक्त स्थानों की सख्या का 42 प्रतिशत अब दिल्ली नगर निगम के प्राथमिक अध्यापकों के लिए आरक्षित हैं।

(ख) नगर निगम के अध्यापकों द्वारा जिस 45 प्रतिशत कोटे की मांग की गई है वह निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है। कुल रिक्त स्थानों की सख्या का निर्धारित 42 प्रतिशत कोटा भी पूरा नहीं किया जा सका है क्योंकि महिला संस्कृत अध्यापिकाएँ और विज्ञान, गणित, कृषि जैसे विषयों में नगर निगम के अर्हता प्राप्त अध्यापक उपलब्ध नहीं थे।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D.P. YADAV) : (a) Prior to 15-1-1973 10% of the seats were reserved for promotion of Assistant Teachers from the Directorate of Education and 90% were reserved for direct quota. Out of this 90%, 25% were reserved for the Primary Teachers of the Delhi Municipal Corporation on seniority basis. After 15-1-1973 the promotion of Assistant Teachers of the