the inter-state angle involved, consultation with Orissa Government was considered necessary before the project could be accepted for implementation.

- (b) The Scheme envisages the installation of 240 MW of generating capacity comprising three units of 80 MW each.
 - (c) Yes, Sir.
 - (d) Yes. Sir.
- (e) The Scheme can be cleared for implementation after the Government of Orissa gives its concurrence.]

12.00 Noon

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

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC **IMPORTANCE**

RECOMMENDATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES COMMISSION FOR LOWERING THE PROCUREMENT PRICE OF WHEAT AND REPORTED DEMONSTRATIONS BY FARMERS IN PUNJAB AND OTHER FARTS OF THE COUNTRY AGAINST THE RECOMMENDATION

श्री लाल ग्राडवारगी (दिल्ली) : श्रीमन्, मैं ग्रापकी ग्राज्ञा से गेह के वसूली मूल्य कम करने के लिए कृषि मूल्य ग्रायोग की सिफा-रिश और श्रायोग की इस सिफारिश के प्रति विरोध प्रकट करने के लिए पंजाब तथा देश के अन्य भागों में कुषकों द्वारा प्रदर्शन के समाचार की ग्रीर कृषि मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता है।

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): Sir, the Agriculiural Prices Commission in their Report on 'price policy for rabi foodgraings for 19 '2-73 season' have recommended that 'the procurement prices of wheat be fixed uniformally for all the States at Rs. 66 per quintal for the

indigenous Red, and Rs. 72 per quintal for the indigenous Common white and different Mexican varieties.' During the last year the procurement prices of Red (indigenous) were fixed between Rs. 71 and Rs. 74 per quintal and the price of all other varieties at Rs. 76 per quintal.

to a matter of urgent public importance

Government have seen press Reports regarding demonstrations by the farmers in protest against the recommendation of the Commission. Government have also seen reports in press regarding various views expressed in favour and against the views of the Commission. The recommendation of the Commission is under consideration of the Government and a final decision will be taken only after considering the views of the Hon. Members and the Chief Ministers of States who are meeting in a Conference on the 13th and 14th of April.

The Honourable House will appreciate that the policy of price support has been adopted by Government, to ensure that the producer gets a remunerative price, the consumer gets foodgrains at a reasonable prices and the present trend of production is sustained. Government have especially created the Food Corporation of India a public sector agency to undertake massive marketing operation, to achieve these objectives of the price policy. In deciding the procurement price of wheat for the coming marketing season Government will keep in view the objectives of the price policy, and that the interest of the producer and the consumer are fully protected.

श्री लाल ग्राडवाग्गी (दिल्ली): श्रीमन्, हिन्द्स्तान के किसान वास्तव में बघाई के पात्र हैं कि उन्होंने प्रत्मनिमंखा की भ्रोर बढने के लिए एक मजबूत कदम उठाने में सहायता दी है। लेकिन यह बहुत बड़ी बिडम्बना है कि जहां किसान को उसके लिए पुरस्कृत किया जाना चाहिये और प्रोत्साहित किया जाना चाहिये, वहां कृषि

to a matter of urgent

मूल्य आयोग की इस निफारिश को अगर स्वीकार किया गया तो उसको पुरस्कृत करने की बजाए अपने परिश्रम के लिए दंडित किया जायेगा भीर इस कारण, मैं मानता हं, यह सिफारिश सर्वथा अन्यायपूर्ण है और उमे स्वीकार नहीं किया जाना चाहिये। में उम्पीद करता था कि सरकार भी इस अवसर पर प्रपती कुछ प्रतिक्रियाएं हमको बताएगी।

श्रीमन्, पिछले कई वर्षों से कृषि मूल्य आयोग यह सिफारिश करता आया है कि वसूली मूल्य घटाया जाए, लेकिन हर साल जो भी मुख्य मन्त्रियों की कान्फरेन्स होती रही है उसमें प्रति वर्ष इसका विरोध किया गया और कहा गया है कि स्राज भी जो मूल्य हैं वे लाभकारी मूल्य नहीं हैं। तो मैं सरकार से कुछ बातें जानना चाहुँगा। क्या संरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि इस सिफारिश की घोषणा होते ही देश भर के सभी ग्रामवासियों में एक बहुत बड़ी बेचैनी फैली हुई हैं कि यह निएाय या यह सिकारिश केवल कोई गिने-चूने बड़े किसानों को प्रभावित नहीं करती परन्तु सम्पूर्ण किसानों को प्रभावित करती है, खास कर के छोटे किसान इसके कारण बहुत त्रस्त हैं। न केवल छोटे किसान बल्कि मैं समभता है, कृषि पर आधारित जो भी लोग हैं, जैसे खेतिहर मजदूर, उनका भी पारिश्रमिक इसके कारण घट जाएगा और इसके कारण वे भी परेशान हैं, क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है ? मैं इस तथ्य को स्वीकार करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हूँ कि उपभोक्ता पर भार कम करने के लिए यह सिफारिश की गई है। यह सर्वया सम्भव है कि किसानों को लाभकारी मूल्य देने के बाद भी उपभोक्ता की कीमत में कोई भी बढ़ोत्तरी न हो, ग्रीर इस सम्बन्ध में मैं

public importance सरकार से जानना चाहुँगा कि जब इस साल इस बात की सम्भावना है कि हमारी गेहं की पैदायश करीब 25 लाख टन धीर बढ़ जाए, और जिसके कारण हमको आयात न करना पड़े, तो क्या यह सही नहीं है कि म्रायात बन्द करने के कारण लगभग 99 करोड़ रु जो हमको दुलाई के देने पड़ते थे. ट्रान्सपोर्टेशन चार्जेज, शिविंग चार्जेज, उसकी हमको बचत हो जाएगी ? और जब ग्रम्भिकलचर प्राइस कमिशन ने कहा है कि 120 करोड़ रुपये के मूल्य का बोक्त सरकार का बढ़ जायेगा और इस कारण हम की प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस कम करनी चाहिए। इस तरह से 120 करोड़ रुपये में से 99 करोड़ रुपया बच जायेगा जो दलाई के चार्जेज हैं। मैं कृषि मन्त्री जी से यह भी कहना चाहता हैं कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि पंजाब कृषि विद्यालय के मांकलन के मनुसार उत्पादन क्षर्च जो किसान को ग्राता है वह 82 रू. प्रति क्विन्टल गेहुँ का ग्राता है भीर ग्राग्रिकलचर प्राइस कमिशन में खर्च कितना होता है, लागत कितनी होती है किसान की, इसका धन्दाजा उसने नहीं लगाया है। लेकिन यह कहा गया है कि आज जो प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस है उसको कम करने से किसान को लाभ हो सकता है। इस संबंध में मैं सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया जानना चाहंगा ग्रीर विशेषकर इस कारए। भी कि जब पंजाब केन्द्रीय शासन के अन्तर्गत था, क्या यह सही नहीं है कि उस समय जब कि वहां पर कोई शासन नहीं था, उस समय वहां पर जो डेबलपमेंट कमिशनर थे, उन्होंने स्वयं रिकमेंड किया था अग्रिकलचर प्राइस कमिशन को कि वसूली मूल्य, प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस को 76 रु० से बढ़ाकर 80 रु• 76 पैसे पर क्विन्टल कर दिया जाय। मैं मानता है कि उन्होंने जो यह रिकमेंडेशन किया वह बगैर सोचे समके नहीं किया होगा। अगर

[श्री लाल ग्राडवागाी] उन्होंने इस प्रकार का रिकमेंडेशन किया तो उन्होंने केन्द्रीय सरकार से सलाह करके किया होगा। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता है कि क्या यह बात सही है या नहीं ?

में समभता है कि सवाल साफ है। श्रीमती ग्रेवाल जो उस समय डेवलपमेंट कमिश्तर थी ग्रीर पंजाब का शासन उस समय केन्द्र के ग्रधीन था, वहां पर प्रेमीडेन्ट रूल था, तो उन्होंने जो यह रिकमेंडेशन कि 76 रु जो प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस है बह इनएडीक्वेट है और उसके स्थान पर 80 रू 76 पैसा प्रति विवन्टल होना चाहिये।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. Prices Commission. RAJU): I think it will be sufficient. You have put many questions.

making a speech. I am just finishing.

में जानना चाहेगा कि अगर मानो सरकार इस सिफारिश को स्वीकार करती है और देश भर में जिस प्रकार का विरोध है, जो किसानों की भावनाएं हैं, उस भावना को ध्यान में रख कर इस सिफारिश को मंजुर करेंगी? अगर यह सिफारिश स्वीकार की जाती है, तो सरकार के सामने ऐसी कौनसी योजना है जिसके परिशाम स्वरूप जो साधारण किसान है उस पर इसका भारन पडे ग्रीर ग्रगर किसी को इसके काररण कुछ भार वहन करना पहता है तो जो के नाम पर इस सिफारिश को उचित माना जा रहा है। यदि सरकार इस सिफारिश को स्वीकार नहीं करती है, जैसी कि मांग Commission and they हो रही है. तो उस सम्बन्ध में उपभोक्ताओं के ऊपर भार न पड़े क्यों कि गेहें की की मत बाजार में बढ जायेगी, इस हिन्ट से सरकार

ने उस हालत का सामना करने के लिए कोई योजना बनाई है ?

to a matter of urgent

public importance

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:

Every year the decisions are taken by the Government after taking into consideration the recommendations made by the Agricultural Prices Commission and after they are discussed by the Chief Ministers at a conference and after the views of the honourable Members from this House and the Lok Sabha have also been ascertained. Then the Government takes a decision and the same procedure will be followed so far as this year is concerned. And we shall take a decision after the views have been ascertained at various levels. Now, it is true that there has been a demonstration not only at one place, but in a number of places in Punjab, against the reduction in prices recommended by the Agricultural There has been some demonstration in Haryana also, at Sonepat. There are press reports of such demonstrations in other places also. It is a fact. So far as the price is SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I am «ot concerned, that has to take into account the various factors and all those factors are kept in mind. The other day we had the benefit of the advice and opinions given by the members of the Consultative Committee. I hope advice and opinions will also be given by the Chief Ministers at their Conference which is going to be held on the 13th of this month. After that a decision will be taken.

> श्री लाल ग्राडवारगी : पंजाब कृषि विद्वविद्यालय के हिसाब से 82 रुपए उत्पादन मुल्य झाता है।

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: It is true that certain attempt has been made by the agricultural universities and also by the सम्पन्न किसान है और जिन सम्पन्न किसानों Economic and Statistical Department of the Punjab Government to assess the cost of production at a little over Rs. 80 per quintal. These facts were before the Agricultural Prices

have taken that into consideration for fixing the price.

श्री क्याम लाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, जो कृषि मुल्य ग्रायोग बनता है उसकी हर बार ऐसी सिफारिशें आती हैं जिन पर सारे देश के किसानों को ध्रापत्ति होती है और अन्त में सरकार उसे स्वीकार नहीं करती । तो क्या हम यह समभें कि जो एग्रीकल्चरल प्राइस कमीशन बैठाया जाता है वह ऐसे निकम्मे लोगों का बैठाया जाता है जो इस देश के किसानों से कतई हमदर्दी नहीं रखते और न उनको इस बात की जानकारी होती है कि जो कृषि उत्पादन होता है उसमें क्या व्यय होता है और क्या मुल्य होना चाहिए। कृषि मुल्य ग्रायोग ने तीन ग्राधार बताए हैं जिनके ऊपर उन्होंने मूल्य निर्घारित किया है (1) भारत सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित गेहं के वर्तमान खरीदारी श्रीर बिकी मूल्य पर गेहँ की मांग उसकी सम्पूर्ति की अपेक्षा कम है, (2) वतंमान खरीदारी भाव रखने में केन्द्रीय सरकार को करीब 132 करोड रुपए की सहायता देनी पडेगी तथा (3) गेहें का बाजार मूल्य गत वर्ष की अपेक्षा कम रहा है। माननीय मंत्री जी क्या बतलायेंगे कि क्या इसी प्रकार से किसी भी उद्योग घन्धे से उत्पन्न वस्तु का मुल्य आज तक इस देश में निर्धारित किया गया है जिस प्रकार से कृषि मूल्य ग्रायोग किसानों का गला काट कर निर्धारित कर रहा है ? मैं समभता है कि यह किसानों की हमदर्दी कतई नहीं है। क्या कोई भी प्रदेश की सरकार इस देश में ऐसी है जिसने कभी भी कृषि मृत्य ग्रायोग के इस मृत्य का समर्थन किया हो। हमें प्रदेश सरकार की तरफ से जो प्रतिवेदन मिला है ऊसमें साफ तौर से कहा गया है कि गेहुँ का जो खरीदारी मुल्य रखा गया है उसमें मानसून के बाद 2 रुपए प्रति क्विन्टल की वृद्धि कर दी जाय ताकि एक बार में बाजार में इतना प्रधिक गेहैं न आ सके कि उसकी खरीदारी पर श्रासर पड़े श्रीर किसानों को लूटा जा सके। मैं एक स्पष्टीकरण भीर चाहुँगा कि क्या सरकार की यह नीति हो रही है कि घीरे घीरे गेहं की खरीदारी का मूल्य कम किया जाय और धीरे धीरे जो बिकी का gradual lowering

to a matter of urgent public importance

of procurement prices and phased programme of raising the issue prices 7 इस तरह का धगर विचार है तो हम सममते हैं कि यह भी किसानों के ऊपर घोर अत्याचार है। क्या सरकार इस बात का याश्वासन देगी कि मुख्य निर्धारित करते समय श्रायोग उत्पादन व्यय का व्यान रखेगा और दमरे आयोग का पुनर्गठन किया जाय, उसमें किसानों के प्रतिनिधि हों. ग्रायोग की प्रक्रिया ऐसी निर्धारित हो कि किसानों के प्रतिनिधियों की बातें सुन कर तब वह सरकार को सलाह दे? ग्रगर ऐसा करना सम्भव न हो तो क्या सरकार इस म्रायोग को भविष्य में खत्म कर देगी भीर स्वयं संसद की, राज्य सरकारों की, ग्रपनी सलाहकार समितियों की राय के ऊपर मुल्य निर्धारित करने की क्रुपा करेगी?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: So far as the motive attributed to the Agricultural Prices Commission is concerned, I do not agree with the hon. Member. They have taken into consideration the various factors and various materials placed before them and they have come to a certain decision after that. They have given reasons for their decision. But it is not a fact to say that the Government will accept all the reasons which they have given. Government will take into consideration all these facts. What they have decided is their own independent decision.

Now, Sir, so far as the prices are concerned, we shall consider what has been the effect on prices, you see, during the

last two or three years. But, one thing I would like to state before this House. So far as the enunciation of our policy is concerned, we will take into consideration the fact that the price flixed is such that it is remunerative to the producer, that it is reasonable so far as the consumer is con-

cerned and that it will not stop the increase

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

in the production of wheat.

श्री इयाम लाल यादव: एक बात रह गयी। श्रनाज का जो उत्पादन मूल्य है, जो शुल्क है उसको भी क्यो श्राप ध्यान में रखेंगे मूल्य तय करते वक्त ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: That will be taken into consideration.

श्री ए० पी० जैन (उत्तर प्रदेश): पहला सवाल तो मैं आपसे यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि आप के मूल्य आयोग के जो मेंबर हैं उनकी क्या योग्यता है? और क्या उनको कोई ज्ञान है कि जिसके आधार पर वह इसके उपयुक्त समक्षे जायं कि वे इन प्राइसेज का निश्चय कर सकें। (Interruption)

दूसरे यह कि उनमें कोई किमान हैं या नहीं। (Interruption) और वे कभी किसानों से कोई मणविरा करते हैं या नहीं?

अब जितने खेती के इनपुट्स हैं उन पर पहले तो हमारे महामान्य मोरार जी देसाई ने 10 परसेंट का फटंलाइजर पर टैक्स लगा दिया था। पार साल टैक्स लगा दिया गया ट्रैक्टर के ऊपर, इस बार लगा दिया गया पंप्स के ऊपर ग्रीर जो यह फट्टैलाइजसे हैं उनके ऊपर एक्साइज ड्यूटी 10 परसेंट से 15 परसेंट कर दी गयी। श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार): चुनाव के बाद लगा है पहले नहीं।

श्री ए० पी० जैन: ग्रीर इस लिए जहां तक इसके इनपुट्स की कीमत है वह तो बढ़ गयी लेकिन जनाब के दरबार में गेहूँ के दाम गिरने चाहिए। तो इसके लिए क्या क्या फैक्टसं उन्होंने लिये ग्रीर जब इनपुट्स की कीमत बड़ी तो गेहूँ के दाम क्यों गिरने नहीं चाहिए, इसकी वजह क्या है ? श्रीर ग्रापकी प्राइस सपोटं के मायने हैं कि किसानों को ग्रीर फायदा हो। या श्राप को प्राइस सपोटं के मायने हैं कि किसानों को कीर फायदा हो। या श्राप को प्राइस सपोटं के मायने केवल यह है कि प्राइसें केवल हिमांड श्रीर सप्लाई के उपर फिक्स की जाय, जैसा कि इयामलाल यादव जी ने तीन बार्ते पढ़ कर सुनायीं इस विषय में, वह बात सही मालूम होतो हैं।

ग्राखिरी सवाल मेरा यह है कि पार साल कीमत जो थी वह 76 रुपए फी क्विन्टल थी ग्रौर यह 1969 में गालिबन मुकर्रर हुई थी। धाज जो रुपये का मूल्य है ध्रगर उस से कीमत लगायी जाय, सन् 1969 की प्राइसेज के ऊपर धगर द्याज के रूपए का मुल्यांकन किया जाय तो वह प्राइस 67 रुपए बैठती है। यह आपकी मिनिस्ट्री की एक्सरसाइज है, मेरी नहीं। यानी 76 रु० विवन्टल पर गेहें बेचें तो 1969 की जो कीमते हैं उसके हिसाब से उसको 67 रुपए मिलेंगे, यानी 9 रुपए तो वह कम हो गये. फिर जो इनपूटस पर आपने दाम बढ़ा दिया वह अलग। तो क्या आप इस तरह से किसान को विलक्ज जान से मारना चाहते हैं यह मैं ग्राप से पूछना चाहता हूं ।

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, it is true that there is no agriculturist so far as the membership of the Commission is concerned. But, Sir, the Agricultural Prices Commission takes into consideration the views of the agriculturists.

{Interruptions}

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव: उन्होंने पूछा है कि मेम्बर्स कौन-कौन हैं ग्रीर उनकी क्वालीफिकेशन्स क्या हैं?

श्री इयाम लाल यादव : मेम्बसं पालिया-मेंट को कभी कमीशन ने इन्बाइट किया ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:

They are being consulted before they come to final decisions and make their recommendations and it is also not a fact that they do not take into consideration all the other facts. In fact, the fact was placed before them that as compared to the last year's prices the cost of production has increased by about Rs. 4 per quintal on account of increase in the prices of lubicants, machinery and also increase in wages, etc. I mean this fact was taken into consideration. But, we are of the opinion that there was sfficient scope even then to give remunerative prices lower than what was fixed for the last year.

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

श्री ए० पी० जैन: ग्राखिरी हिस्से का जवाब बिलकुल नहीं मिला। इस वक्त रुपए के दाम की देखते हुए 69 के हिसाब से 67 रुपए दाम बैठता है।

This ii your exercise, not mine.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED. I have already said that the opinion of the Prices Commission is that even after taking into consideration all these facts the prices given or recommended by them will be remunerative to the cultivator.

SHRI A. P. JAIN: I am asking whether on the basis of 1969 prices, these are remunerative. He can either accept it or deny if

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: No assessment has been made. . .

(Interruption)

SHRI A. P. JAIN: It is a blunder. . . (Inter/uptions)

श्री एस० डी० मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन, ग्रभी माननीय जैन साहब ने जो सवाल किया उसी की दूसरे ढंग से माननीय मन्त्री जी सोचें कि 1969 ई॰ में जो प्राइस थी और भ्राज जो प्राइस है तो क्या यह बात सही है कि जब 67 रुपऐ की कीमत ध्रापने देने को कहाथातो स्राजकी प्राइसेज में उसे दें तो कम से कम 86 रूपए देना होगा। क्या यह सही है या नहीं है। 1969 को देखें, तब द्यगर 67 होता है तो ध्राजकी प्राइसेज से 86 होना चाहिए या नहीं और माननीय मन्त्री जी सा एग्रोकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमीशन जो बना हका है वह इसे नहीं सोचता। एक तो मैं बिलकुल ताईद इस बात की करता हं, जो ग्रावाज उठाई जाती है ग्रीर बराबर उठाई गई है; इस सदन में और उस सदन में कि एग्रीकल्बरल प्राइसेज कमीशन बिलकुल ऐसा है जो न एग्रीकल्चर के बारे में जाने न एग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज के बारे में जाने, उसे कोई जानकारी नहीं है, कुछ टेकनीशियंस बैठ कर उपभोक्ता के नाम पर कह दिया, जो सबसे बड़ा सेक्शन है, जो 75 परसेंट लोगों का सेक्शन है, उसको मारता है। क्या रिलेशनशिप है, क्या वकिंग की गई है, मुन्ते बताया जाय कि हर चीज की खास तौर से दो तीन साल से कीमतें बढ़ती जा रही हैं। सभी माननीय जैन साहब ने उसे प्वाइंट ग्राउट किया। मैं उसके श्रलावा बताना चाहता हूं, क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि इरिगेशन रेट्स सवाए हो गए कम से कम इन तीन वर्षों में ग्रौर फरिलाइजर्स की इस कंट्री में जितनी हाई

प्राइसेज हैं उतनी दुनिया में कहीं नहीं, न एशिया में है, न यूरोप में है, न अमेरिकन कंटीज में है। जब इनप्टस की प्राइसेज इस तरह से बढ़ती हो तो कौन सा ग्रांकड़ा है, किस बेसिस पर एग्रीकल्बरल प्राइसेज कमीशन ने इसकी प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस रखा ग्रीर रयुमनेरेटिव प्राइस कह कर मजाक उडाया। जब रयमनेरेटिव प्राइस कहते हैं तो मजाक सा लगता है। मजाक करते हैं। यह मिनिमम प्राइस है, क्लोर प्राइस है, श्रनर्युमनेरेटिव प्राइस है। क्या है? यह कह कर कि उपभोक्ता को राहत दी जायगी तो उपभोक्ता को राहत देने की चाहे जो ग्रौर स्कीम लाइयें, सबसिडि लाइये, क्यों किसानों के प्रति इतने उदासीन हैं। मैं यह वानिंग देना चाहता है, आज यह आन्दोलन केवल पंजाब का नहीं है, इसकी भ्राप समभ लें, इस पर देश में गरीब किसान, ग्रमीर किसान, मध्यम किसान सब का है, सब हाई-इल्डिंग वैराइटी का काम कर रहे हैं तो सब के पास कुछ कपड़े के लिये और सामान के लिए बचता है, कोई छोटा किसान एक एकड का है, वह भी कुछ उसको बचा कर कपड़ा लेना चाहता है धीर श्रीर काम करना चाहता है। तो उसकी कल्प्यूजन में न लाइये कि बड़े किसानों की समस्या है, यह तमाम देश के किसानों की समस्या है, यह केवल पंजाब के किसानों की समस्या नहीं है। पूरे देश की है, महाराष्ट्र की है, सबकी समस्या है, तो ग्रगर इस पर सरकार उदासीन हो भौर सोचे कि इलेक्शन हो गया, चार वर्ष ठीक है कि रहेंगे * * *

उपसभाष्यक्ष (श्री वी० बी० राजु): ग्राप समाप्त की जिये।

श्री एस० डी० मिश्र : मैं समाप्त कर रहा हं। मैं ज्यादा नहीं कह रहा हूं। ग्राप इस तरह से न सोचें कि ग्रगर प्रापका बहुमत भारी हो गया है तो किसानों को पददलित कर दें तो भाष समक लें कि राइटिंग्स ग्रान दि वाल ग्रापके सामने हैं. इस पर ग्राप विचार करें ग्रीर सोचें। हमें यह बताएं कि इसकी क्यों भ्राप र्युमनेरेटिव प्राइस कहते हैं, इसको मिनिमम प्राइस नहीं बल्कि रयुमनेरेटिव प्राइस कैसे कहते हैं। हर चीज का दाम बढ़ा है, सारे इनपुट्स का दाम बढ़ा हुआ है तो कौन से आंकड़े प्राइसेज कमीशन के हैं, जिसने भ्रापको इम्प्रैस किया है। आप बराबर ताईद कर रहे हैं, कहते हैं उन्होंने सब किया है, वह किताब में है। कितनी ऐविडेंस हैं, मेन एविडेंस है, हमको दीजिए, कोई जनरल जवाब न दीजिये, फलां चीज में कमी हुई है, प्राइसेज गिरती जा रही हैं, यह बताइये । ऐसी स्थिति में आप स्पेसिफिक आंसर मेहरवानी करके दीजिये, जिससे कि हमको और देश को संतोध हो ।

to a matter of urgent public importance

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: So far as the question raised by the hon. Member is concerned, I have already given the reply that this is the opinion of the Commission. They have taken into consideration the various factors which have been mentioned by the hon. Member and after taking those factors into consideration they still think that the prices which they have suggested would be remunerative enough to the cultivator. That is the view expressed by the Agricultural Prices Commission. But the Government have not yet come to any decision whether rhe recommendation is acceptable or not acceptable. That decision will be takeu by the Government later on.

Now, it is true that prices have increased...

(Interruptions)

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA (Uttar Pradesh) : Are you satisfied with the recommendation?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The Government have already issued instructions that so far as the present purchase price is concerned, it should be at the existing level. I think in some places the purchases are being made. With regard to the future prices, that will be decided soon after the Chief Ministers' Conference.

SHRI A.G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): May I know whether the Government in the Ministry of Agriculture has got a cell to assess the cost of production of the various agricultural products f I want a very specific reply to this. Also I would like to know whether any attempt has been made to work out the cost of production of wheat and, if so, whether that cost of production is above or below the cost of production worked out by the Agriculture Price Commission. Have they got any cell to determine the cost of production? I want a very specific reply in this matter.

Secondly, I want to know whether the Government is having the buffer stock organisation to help the farmer or the consumer because out of the subsidy of Rs. 120 crores about Rs. 57 crores is goins for interest, and that means it has got nothing to do with the price given to the wheat growers. I want to know whether this is a fact or not.

The next point is, as has been rightly pointed out the value of the rupee in 1967 when these prices were fixed was higher than it today is and you are allowing the rise in the cost of production in the industry. You have got a Cost Accounts Bureau and you have the

Tariff Commission also. Everywhero industrial products have risen by 15 to 50 per cent and the Government has been in favour of rise in price but when the question of farmers comes, the Government is always led by bodies like the Agriculture Price Commission which has no experts at all.

to a matter of urgent public importance

The last point I want to know is whether, as a long-term perspective, the Government will evolve a new policy of popularising heat consumption because the production of wheat has increased by 10 per cent and consumption is lagging by 3.5 per cent. Unless this is done the problem with not be solved,

FAKHRUDDIN SHRI AHMED: It is true that at present there is no organisation which exists so far as the assessment of cost of production is concerned. But we have set up in our Ministry a cell for the purpose of finding out the data and I think in above two years time it will be possible for us to say definitely what the cost of production is.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I want to know whether assessment for the present wheat prices has been made by your cell.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Not by our cell. But we have set up a cell.

So far as the present prices are concerned, we take into consideration the facts ascertained by the agricultural universities and by the Statisal Departments of the various State Governments. We take those facts into consideration and I think the Agriculture Price Commission has already taken that fact into consideration.

So far as the difference in the price is concerned, I think it is not Rs. 120 crores. The subsidy will about Rs. 132 crores or Rs. 133 crores out of which Rs. 52

[Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed] crores or Rs. 53 crores will be in respect of interest and other charges for buffer stocks. That is a fact.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: What has the farmer to do with it?

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): It is all right. Shri Sanyal.

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL (West Bengal): Of late, large number of educated unemployed people have become agriculture-minded. The doors of traditional employment are now closed to them and they have made a little investment in buying small farms and costly manure and bringing them under cultivation in the expectation that they will get a good return. Now, at the very outset to bring down the prices of wheat is to put a chilling effect upon their ardent enthusiasm, Therefore, may I ask the hon. Minister if it is possible for the Government, as a common ground, free from all controversy, free from all statistical problems, to give some subsidy to the producer so that he can get a remunerative price? The subsidy may vary from State to State, from district to district, from place to place. There should be some sort of subsidy to the producer so that he will get a remunerative price if you keep up the price level and if that hits the consumer, you can also introduce another kind of subsidy, namely, at the consumer's point. If you introduce these point of subsidy, then there will balanced economy between production and consumption and also maintenance of a fair price. One would be remunerative for the grower and the other would be accommodating .Tor consumer. If there is a surplus after that, you can keep it for next year which may be a lean year also or you should try to explore avenues for exporting such wheat to other countries which need it. Is it

possible for the Government to sit down and work out this formula?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:

The same question is being repeated from time to time. I have already said that all these are taken into consideration by the Commission and their recommendation is before us and we shall examine it before we take our decision regarding this matter.

SHRI D. D. PURI (Haryana): Do Government still remember that not very many year ago this country was living from ship to mouth? Are they completely oblivious to the fact that again not very long ago grain trains had to be diverted while on the rails because the grain stocks in some cities had gone down below dangerous levels. Do Government consider the timing of the recent announcement of price as fair? The grower has grown the wheat and the wheat is to come to the market and all of a sudden the price being reduced. Do the Government consider that fair ? Can the Government mention any commodity, agriculiural or non-agricultural, the price of which is below what it was last year ? Arising out of this is a very iniersting exercise that has been posed by Mr. Jain. Will the Government apply their mind:

- (i) To the depleted purchasing power of the rupees.
- (ii) And take into account the increased cost for the inputs and then work out what inreal terms is the amount by which the price is being reduced?

Lastly having regard to the turmoil that these recommendations have caused all over the ountry and having regard also to the unanimity of vews expressed in the consultative committee, will the Government declare that this recommendation of the commission is not worthy of their consideration 7

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:

These are suggestions which will be taken into consideration.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : There are demonstrations in Punjab—it is reported in the press to-day— against the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission. I would like to know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement issued by the CPI in Punjab in which it is pointed out how the pesasant is going to be adversely affected if the recommendations were to be accepted and the prices lowered? Now the Government says they have not accepted this recommendation. It is good. How are they going to settle this matter. The Minister said that when the Chief Ministers come he would discuss with them at the Chief Minister Conference. Surely the CMS are not experts necessarily. Some of them may know a little more than others but surely they could not be taken as experts.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव: ग्रब तो टेलीफोन पर चीफ मिनिस्टर बनते हैं।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They should be consulted, I am not opposed to such consultation but what about consulting the representatives of the toiling peasantry—the working peasantry? They should be consulted. There are certain organisations of the peasantry and their representatives could be called and their opinions sought over this matter because it is very important. First of all, only the other day we discussed in this House the sufferings of the cotton growers and now the wheat growers are in danger of suffering. In view of this I would like to know what mechanism Government is going to set up for consultation before a final decision by the Government is taken on this matter. Do I have an assurance that the representatives of the peasants' organisations, agricultural labourers' organisations and others will be consulted before the

decision is taken and also, if possible, the parties here should also be consulted.

to a matter of urgent

public importance

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:

The matter has already been considered by the Consultative Committee. There is the Farmers' Forum in Parliament and they have also expressed their views. We shall also know the views of the Chief Ministers and their reaction as far as the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission are concerned. After taking all these facts into consideration Government will take a decision

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What is the harm in consulting the representatives of the peasants' organisations in the country? We know the Consultative Com» mittee is there. We ourselves are here and we express our opinions here. But you are not taking the decision here straightway; you must be consulting people who are in close touch with the peasants; I would not bother to which party they belonged or they do not belong.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:

Their views have been expressed both in the press and outside and that will also b« taken into consideration.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI (Uttar Pradesh): I am giad that the Minister is not yet committed to accept the recommendations of the Commission and he was good enough to say that a final decision will be taken after giving due regard to the views expressed here in this House and in the other House as well. The Consultative Committee has already met and they have expressed their views. But one thing I just want to emphasize here. There is no doubt that the Government has a majority and the people's mandate is with them. But it is not as if you can do anything you like. It should not be taken for granted that whatever the Government does they do as representatives of the people. Actually speaking in a parliamentary system whatever is the majority of the Government pany, they represent the governors

[Shri Mahavir Tyagi] and the opposition, whether it is big or small, represents the governed. We members of the Opposition are the real representatives of the people as far as the relationship between governed and the governors is concerned. Therefore whenever the interests of the people are involved it is our responsibility to safeguard their rights and it is in this context I might just say with regard to this talk about subsidy that whatever be the subsidy it is not a matter of charity. Subsidy is money collected from the people and it goes to the people themselves. It is not Government's money. It is their own money and it goes for an important matter. So it is not a question of ordinary charity; it is a matter of living for the poor people. For their day to day living they have to have subsidy. How could the poor people live without subsidy? Subsidy is no matter of generosity on the part of the Government; subsidy is the right of the people. As far as the prices of wheat and other agricultural products are concerned 1 must tell the hon. Minister that the members of this House as well as of the other House are practically unanimous that the prices should not be reduced. I could understand if you had said this before the election. After the elections are over you come and say that the prices will be reduced, but the elections will come again. As far as we in the Opposition are concerned, as true representatives of the people I declare here and now that if the prices of foodgrains are reduced in this manner we in the Opposition will all unite and consider the feasibility of starting a mass civil disobedience campaign to refuse to give grain and let us see what happens. This is a challenge.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: So far as the first contention is concerned that only members of the Opposition are representatives of the people, I dispute that. Not only the members of the Opposition but members who support the Treasury Benches are also true representa-

tives of the people and they have in unequivocal terms expressed their views in regard to this matter which is not different from the views of the Opposition. All these will be taken into consideration.

डा० माई महावीर (दिल्ली) : श्रीमन, मैं मंत्री जी से एक बात यह पूछना चाहता हैं कि क्या यह सच है कि आर्थिक सर्वेक्षरा की जो रिपोर्ट है, जो इकोनामिक सर्वे की रिपोटं इस साल सदन के पटल पर रखी गयी थी, उसके अन्दर भी सरकार ने जो भ्रन्त की हैंडलिंग करने भ्रोर स्टाक करने का खर्चा है वह 13 रुपये 60 पैसे विवंटल से बढ़ कर 15 रुपये हो जायगा यह कहा है श्रीर श्रगर सरकारी गेंहें को रखने का खर्चा बढ़ रहा है तो क्या सरकार के ध्यान में जो कास्ट किसान के सामने आती है जिस पर उसके ट्रल्स का, फरिलाइजर का. रैक्टर ब्रादिका सारा खर्च भी पड़ता है भौर पिछले वर्ष में भौर इस वर्ष के बजट के बाद सास तौर पर टैक्टरों की कीमत बढाने के बाद वह और भी ज्यादा बढ़ गया है तो ग्रगर सरकार का हैंडलिंग करने का खर्चा बढ रहा है भीर जैसा कि सर्वेक्षरा में कहा गया था कि उस के बजाय बढ़ने की संभावना है, तो मैं जानना चाहंगा मंत्री जी से कि उस खर्च के बढ़ने को ध्यान में रखते हए क्या किसानों के बढ़े हुए खर्चे को स्थान में रखने की जरूरत सरकार को नहीं प्रतीत होती भीर इसलिए जब 120 करोड से घटा कर सब्सीडी 100 करोड़ की गयी तो सरकार ने एक तरह से मारेली एग्रीकल्चर कमीशन की इस सिफारिश को बिलकुल ही स्वीकार नहीं कर लिया है कि यह प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइसेज को कम करने जारहे हैं। मेरा सवाल स्पेसिफिकली यह है कि जब मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हम सारी चीजों का विचार कर फैसला करेंगे, तो अपनी सब्सीडी की रकम को 120 करोड़ जो होना चाहिए थी.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, it is not correct to say that the cost of procurement is Rs. 13 per quintal. The cost of procurement is about Rs. 11 per quintal, the cost of distribution is about Rs. 7 per quintal and the cost on account of interest and other charges for the buffer siock is about Rs. B per quintal. All this comes to Rs. 26 per quintal. It, is true that we have to examine whether the cost of procurement aud the cost of distribution can be reduced to some extent. I am examining to what extent it is possible, and to the extent possible, we shall do so.

क्या कहना है।

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Because there seems to be some confusion, for the Minister's kind attention 1 will read this from the Economic Survey.

"As for 1972-73, the cost of procurement of wheat is likely lo remain unchanged at Rs. 11 per quintal, but the cost of distribution and that of carrying over of the buffer is expected

to increase marginally from Rs. 13.60 to Rs. 15 per quintal. With the total cost of procurement and distribution at around Rs. 26 per quintal, and the procurement price remaining unchanged," etc.

to a matter of urgent

public importance

I am referring to the cost of distribution and that of carrying over of the buffer, and am saying that the cost of carrying over of the buffer is going to increase from Rs. 13.60 to Rs. 15. So, that is increasing.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The hon. Member has taken the two figures together and I have given them separately. What has appeared in the papers is true and we have seen in the press reports about the discontent of the farmers; so iar as the farmers are concerned, this has been expressed in the newspapers. I have already said that this problem is before us and we shall take into consideration what are the remunerative prices and whether the procurement price of wheat will have to be increased in future. After taking that factor into consideration, Government will reach a decision. It is also true that the producers require incentive, and that incentive we have to give us far as possibly we can.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: The costs are inceasing. The cost of inputs is inceas-ing and Governmenfs cost of handling is increasing.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: The Minister seems to be quite sympathetic.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: What I ask for is that there is to be some parity between the two, between the cost of inputs and the return which he gets. So also Government's cost of handling is increasing. The farmer's cost has aiso increased. Will the Government not take this into account? And how do they explain the reduction of the subsidy from Rs. 120 crores to Rs. 10Ocrores.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Well, you have made your suggestions to the Minister.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :

No suggestion has been accepted. 1 do not know wherefrom the hon. Member gels the idea of reducing the subsidy from Rs. 120 crores to Rs. 100 crores. If the present price is maintained, both the procurement price and the issue price, the subsidy will be in the neighbourhood, of Rs. 132 crores.

SHRI T. N.SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): In the matter of prices being fixed for industrial goods, the Tariff Commission is given certain terms of reference and instructions about costing return on capital, interest, etc. I want to know, when the question of price fixation is referred to the Agricultural Prices Commission, whether the Government gives instructions to the Agriculiura) Prices Commission on the lines of the Tariff Commission in regard to the return on the capital invested, remuneration to labour, etc., so far as foodgrains are concerned. That is point No. I. Secondly, has the Government noted that the handling charges come to more than thirty per cent of the price when the foodgrain reaches the consumer? Is this handling charge not much more than what it used to be when there was no rationing or control in this country? The regular trade managed it much cheaper. 1 think 1 am right and 1 can say with authority on the subject. Thirdly, ever since the idea of the Agicullural Prices Commission was mooted in 1961 when I was a Member of the Planning Commission, a suggestion was made by us that there should be a principle for return on capital in fixing prices and the Government resisted that. Why is this being resisted even today ? Is that principle acceptable or not, viz., so far as the agriculturist is concerned he should have a return on the capital invested and the labour employed?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : So far as the last question is concerned.

there are no figures before the Government on the basis of which a return on the capital can be ascertained or assessed.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: You give instructions to the Tariff Commission.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: As I have already pointed out, we have set up a cell in our Ministry to collect data. I hope that in a year or two or in three years' time it will be possible for us to get data when we will be able to fix these things.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Last question, a very short one. Three Members have already spoken from your side.

DR. V. B. SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Maybe thirty Members have spoken, but what 1 am going to say is not repetition. What are the criteria based on which prices are to be determined? I can conceive that the political element is an element to the price determination and that is what is happening here. Sir, let us try to see that when the word 'farmer' is used, the farmer is not a monolithic category. There are big farmers, medium farmers and small farmers So far as the gains from higher prices of agricultural commodities are concerned, all the three do not benefit in the same manner. The small farmer, in some monihs of the year, has to purchase foodgrains. Once the price of agricultural commodities are higher, they my enter the cost of production of industrial goods which distort the cost structure in general and the farmers are not to gain ultimately when they purchase industrial commodities. Therefore, to the extent there are demonstrations from the farmers, I can understand that they have a reason because their income is being eroded due to the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission. But there is no counlerdemonstration by the consumers to balance the situation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Please ask for some clarification on the point made by the Minister.

DR. V. B. SINGH: It is not a question of giving clarification. It is one of giving information.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Not necessary.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: He has already employed experts.

DR. V. B. SINGH: The point that I want to stress is that the Agricultural Prices Commission has taken into account the fact that the prices of inputs have gone up but the index of agricultural productivity has gone higher. Therefore, the income to the farmer, after taking into account the higher cost of production, is more than in previous years. Therefore it is a very rational proposition that the prices of procurement should be lower, and in this way the consumers can also benefit and the farmers can benefit because of higher output, and not because of higher prices.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: That is the argument advanced by the Agricultural Prices Commission.

[Shri J. P. Yadav rose]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. B. RAJU): Two members have already spoken for your party.

ध्रच्छा, छोटा सा

सवाल पृछिए ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव: श्रीमन्,
मैं छोटा ही प्रश्न पूछना चाहता है। पी०एल०
480 से जो गेहूं मंगाते थे, उस गेहूं के
नहीं मंगाने से कितने रुपये की बचत हुई
ग्रीर जो किसानों ने इस बचत में सहयोग
दिया, उसके लिए ग्रापने क्या किया। ग्रव की
बार ग्रापके बजट में जो फिगर्स दिए गए
उसके ग्रनुसार ट्रैक्टर्स के दाम, खाद के दाम
ग्रीर खेती के काम ग्राने वाले ग्रीजारों के
दाम, सभी बढ़ गये हैं और छोटा किसान
जब बीज खरीदने जाता है तो उसको उसके
लिए भी बढ़े हुए दाम देने पड़ते हैं। जब

इस तरह से खेती के काम आने वाली चीजों के दाम बढ़ते हैं तो यह प्राइस फिक्स करके कैसे गेहूँ के दाम घटा सकते हैं?

श्रीमन्, जब जैन साहब बोल रहे थे तो मैंने कई बार उठ कर प्रश्न करना चाहा कि यह जो कृषि मूल्य निर्धारण श्रायोग बने हैं उसमें बैठे महानुभावों के नाम क्या हैं. उनका कृषि से क्या सम्बन्ध है, उनकी योग्यता क्या है ताकि उनका नाम यह सदन भीर हमारा देश जाने भीर किसानों को भी जानकारी मिले जो इस मूल्य में कमी करने के लिए सरकार के खिलाफ ग्रान्दोलन करेगी। मुक्ते यह पता है कि स्नाप कृषि आयोग विसके लिए बनाए थे। यह कृषि ग्रायोग किसानों के लिए नहीं बल्कि जो उस समय चुनाव हार गये थे उनको ग्रह्मक बनाने के लिए चाल थी भौर जब उन्होंने ग्रध्यक्ष पद छोड दिया तो एक वर्ष तक वह ग्रध्यक्ष का पद जाली रहा ग्रीर हमने लिखा-पढी की कि ग्रापने श्रम्यक क्यों नहीं बनाया। तो एक वर्ष तक स्रापने स्रायोग का सध्यक्ष नहीं बनाया । ऐसे हारे हुए लोगों को सुविधा देने के लिए कृषि मुल्य निर्धारण श्रायोग का गठन किया गया है।

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : It is not correct, Sir.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादवः श्रीमन्, जवाव तो दिया नहीं।

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT (1970-71) OF THE -CARDAMOM BOARD

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. Gr.ORGF): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi)