

कोई और कारण तो नहीं है। क्या उसके प्रबन्ध की अक्षमता थी या कोई उसमें और दोष था। तो उन दोषों को ठीक किये बिना नये स्थान पर खोलने से कोई लाभ नहीं होगा।

प्रो० शेर सिंह : जी हां, इसका और कारण भी है, यह हाली-डे-होम कनखल में खोला गया और यह हरि की पैड़ी से ढाई मील की दूरी पर है। यह वहां खोला गया इसलिये इतनी दूर लोग ठहरना नहीं चाहते थे, लोग धर्मशालाओं में ठहर जाते थे। इसलिये उसका उपयोग नहीं किया।

PUNJAB C.M.'s STATEMENT ABOUT PANCHAYATI RAJ SYSTEM

*791. SHRI RIZA Q RAM :

SHRI KRISHAN KANT :†

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Punjab has made an announcement recently that he would like to abolish the Panchayati Raj system in the State ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have discussed this issue with him and with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) We have no such information, Madam.

(b) Does not arise . . .

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the Government whether the State Government is decentralising the power . . .

सरदार नरेंद्र सङ्केत रियार : मिडम -

ان اے پروائنٹ آف آرڈر - کیا دوسرے صوبہ کے اندرونی معاملات میں یہاں کی سرکار سے کوئی دوسرے صوبہ پر یہ سوالات پوچھے جا سکتے ہیں ؟

†[सरदार नरेंद्र सिंह बार : मैडम, आन ए प्वायंट आफ आर्डर। क्या दूसरे सूबे के अंदरूनी मामलात में यहां की सरकार से कोई दूसरे सूबे के यह सवालान पूछे जा सकते हैं ?]

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kant.

‡Hindi transliteration.

उपसभापति : हां जी।

سرڈار نریندر سنگھ ریار : اور اس

وقت جب کہ کوئی ایسی بات نہیں کہ وہاں پنچائتوں کو ختم کیا جا رہا ہے -

†[सरदार नरेंद्र सिंह बार : और इस वक्त जब कि कोई ऐसी बात नहीं कि वहां पंचायतों को खत्म किया जा रहा है।

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Panchayati Raj system is being given decentralised power in different States and if so to what extent and secondly may I know whether elections have been held in the Panchayati Raj institutions since the emergency has been lifted and in which of the States elections have been held?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Though it is outside the scope of this question I may say that certain States are taking measures to decentralise the powers and in certain States the Panchayati Raj Acts are also being amended. Regarding elections some States have held elections while some States have not. There is no uniformity in this regard. It is left to the State Governments.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Is it true that the original concept and the hopes with which Panchayati Raj was introduced have been considerably modified and States have introduced changes which are contrary to the spirit of the whole thing ? Will the hon. Minister please take some serious steps by calling the State Ministers or the Chief Ministers and really evolve a system by which there will be no setback to the progress of the Panchayati Raj System and this decentralisation which has been introduced would go a pace as it was originally contemplated by Pandit Nehru ?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM : My approach has been that as it is, basically it is a States' subject and the State Governments have to deal with it. While retaining the basic principles of Panchayati Raj System freedom should be given to the State Governments for its implementation.

†[]Hindi transliteration.

SHRI GULAM NABI UNTOO : When we have been considering panchayat as a basic unit from which other democratic institutions draw inspiration it is not a lack of faith and confidence in democracy itself if the Chief Minister says that he will abolish the system.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : The Chief Minister has not said that he is abolishing the Panchayati Raj System. The basic concept is the village panchayat and the villages do have panchayats. Nobody is thinking of abolishing the village panchayats. It is only in respect of other tiers there is some sort of rethinking on the part of some State Governments. Even there as my senior colleague has said it is left to the State Governments to do whatever they like and we do believe in decentralisation of political power.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MEENON : Madam, may I know from the Government whether the Panchayati Raj System has degenerated into control by the landlords, rural vested interests and money-lenders and these institutions have become, due to the control by these elements, instruments of oppression of the poor Harijans, landless labour and such other sections of the people? These are the findings of the various Committees set up.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You do not have to argue.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MEENON : These are the findings of the various Committees set up by the Government and will the Government think of redeeming the situation by suitably amending the Panchayati Raj scheme so as to exclude landlords and such other elements from the control of these institutions?

SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR : I would like to know from the hon. Member what he means really by landlords.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : I want to remind the hon'ble Member again that this is a subject matter of the State Government. But may I say that the panchayats and the Panchayati Raj System have to work in a social milieu. They cannot be divorced from social realities. But I do agree that we should provide a certain reservation of seats for the

vulnerable sections, and that is being done by the State Governments. Last year the Chief Ministers' Conference also discussed this matter. They have also said that some reservation to the vulnerable sections like the Harijans are necessary in the Panchayati Raj.

COOPERATIVE FARMING

*792. **SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA :**

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : †

SHRI ARJUN ARORA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to strengthen and enlarge the co-operative farming in the country ; and

(b) what are the obstacles in the way of promoting cooperative farming societies especially to benefit the vulnerable section of the rural population ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) Co-operative farming falls within the purview of the State Governments. However, certain special schemes of assistance were being operated by the Government of India to encourage cooperative farming, during the Third Plan and till March, 1969. As a result of the decision of the National Development Council, the entire scheme of cooperative farming has been transferred to the State Sector. No special scheme for cooperative farming has been formulated by the Government of India.

(b) The Committee on Cooperation under the Chairmanship of Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha had indicated certain factors like vested interests, lack of homogeneity, failure to pool lands for joint operations, non-viable units, lack of trained personnel and lack of adequate and timely financial support as impeding the working of the co-operative farming societies.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the Government whether it has come to their notice that there is too much of delay and unwillingness on the

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kant.