

छापे डाले और बहुत से लोगों के घरों में इस किस्म की शराब पाई गई जो सिर्फ डिप्लोमेट्स के लिए है बल्कि कुछ मकानों में बियर के दो केंसिज और व्हिस्की की 25 बोतलें पिछले महीने निकाली गई और क्या सरकार इस मुद्दा पर गौर करने के लिए तैयार है कि वह डिप्लोमेट्स से कहे कि जब भी उनके वहां फंक्शन हो तो वह इण्डियन विजिटर्स को और इण्डियन इन्वाइटीज को व्हिस्की न पिलाये क्योंकि उसमें हिन्दुस्तान के वकार पर हर्फ आता है। हमने देखा है कि हमारे बड़े बड़े मीनियर आफिसर्स और बड़े बड़े लोग इन पार्टियों में इस तरह से शराब पीते हैं जैसे उन्होंने कभी देखी न हो और जिसमें हिन्दुस्तान के वकार को तकलीफ होती है। तो क्या सरकार डिप्लोमेट्स को यह हिदायत देगी कि वह खुले आम हिन्दुस्तानियों को शराब मुहय्या न करे ?]

श्री को० सी० पंत : श्रीमन्, अच्छा तो यह है कि शराब पी ही न जाय, अगर पीना है तो खुलेआम पी जाय। छिपकर पीने में क्या फायदा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kota Punnaiah.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: Sir, There seems to be a difference of opinion between the Minister of State and the Minister in this matter of prohibition.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: There is no difference of opinion between my colleague and myself. There may be a difference of opinion between me and the hon. Member.

SHRI A. M. TARIQ: I believe in honesty.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You allow your officers to drink like fish.

Mr CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kota Punnaiah.

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH. May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that immediately after the hon. Minister's presentation of the Budget there was a cartoon wherein

one man was pointing an Embassy to another man and saying: why do I care for these taxes if these Embassies are there. That being the position may I know whether the Minister considers it desirable to impose some restrictions and to have some control over them?

SHRI K. C. PANT. I have already indicated the restrictions. Under the Vienna Convention certain concessions we are bound to give them.

REVISION OF OIL PRICING SYSTEM

4554 **SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam have asked for revision of the present system of oil pricing, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the opinion of the Assam Government, as the State is producing most of the crude and also refining part of the petroleum products, the pricing should not be on the basis of import parity which results in higher prices in Assam than in other part of the country, but should be on the basis of cost plus margin of profit formula.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: May I know whether any specific formula has been suggested by the Government and if so what it is and also may I know whether the pricing system which is being followed in India is different from that followed in other countries?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: So far as the Assam Government is concerned, they have suggested the following alternate methods of pricing for petroleum products: (1) The refinery should be made the pricing point. The Assam Government considers this to be the only rational basis. (2) Ex-Refinery price should be fixed on the basis of cost of production instead of the notional principle of import parity pricing in force now. (3) Another rational system would be

to consider both Gauhati and Digboi as Abadan for all purposes (4) A common ex-refinery price for all the refineries in the country should be evolved and the extra profit accruing to any refinery as a result of this and the loss to others if any should be neutralised by a proper adjustment of the Central levy.

As regards the basis of the present pricing policy I might mention that since 1957 the basis is this that the import price of oil from Persian Gulf at Calcutta is transplanted to Digboi and the actual freight from Digboi to places of consumption is added to the price except in the case of motor spirit and kerosene where the standard freight is added to the ex-Digboi price. That is the policy now being followed. The various suggestions made by the Assam Government are naturally under the very serious consideration of Government but the matter has very many facts and very many implications. In the first instance the cost of production at Digboi is much more than the cost of production at Abadan and the House will be interested also to know that the ocean freight from the Persian Gulf to Calcutta is less than the freight by road or by river as the case may be between Calcutta and Gauhati. Therefore to what extent that will help is a matter to be carefully gone into. There are very many other complications in this. We have asked for some information from the Assam Government about standard freight etc. All this will have to be examined. There is also the question of a pool price for all the refineries. That again is a very wide question having various implications and has to be very carefully examined.

SHRI CHITTA BASU. Sir, may I...

MR CHAIRMAN: You always insist to ask a second supplementary when you are the principal questioner. Here he is the principal Questioner and he is allowed to put the other supplementary.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: May I know the total amount of royalty which the Assam Government

receives and what is the percentage it accounts for in the cost of production?

SHRI K RAGHURAMAIAH: I do not have offhand this detailed information as to the quantum of royalty paid. If my hon. friend puts a separate question I can give him the information.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: What is its percentage in the cost?

SHRI K RAGHURAMAIAH: Ten.

श्री आर० पी० खंतान : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जान सकता हूँ कि गौहाटी के फरनेम आइल के दाम और बम्बई के फरनेम आइल के दामों में कितना डिफरेंस है ? क्योंकि इसमें डिफरेंस होने की वजह से जो गौहाटी में इन्डस्ट्रीज हैं उनका कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन ज्यादा पड़ता है । तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में आगाम वालों की कोई मांग आई है ?

श्री अशोक मेहता : जी हा, डिफरेंस जरूर है और डिफरेंस की कई वज्हात हैं । पहला सबब यह है कि परशियन गल्फ से बम्बई तक का जो फ्रेट है वह परशियन गल्फ से कलकत्ते के फ्रेट से बहुत कम है । बम्बई के अन्दर जो पोर्ट चार्ज है वे कलकत्ते के पोर्ट चार्ज से बहुत कम हैं । ये दो वज्हात हैं । यही वज्हात है कि फरनेम आइल का जो प्रोडक्शन आगाम में होता है और उसके जो दाम होते हैं वे बम्बई में ज्यादा होते हैं ।

श्री आर० पी० खंतान : दूसरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया, जिसमें मैंने पूछा था कि आगाम की इन्डस्ट्री पर कितना बोझा पड़ जाता है ?

श्री अशोक मेहता : इन्डस्ट्री को डालने के पहले सारी बात सोच ली गई थी ।

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Now the Minister has admitted that the price of oil produced in Assam is higher than in other places outside Assam and there has been a complaint by

the Assam Government with regard to this. May I know from the hon. Minister what effective steps he proposes to take so that the people of Assam can get oil at equal prices with other States?

SHRI ASOKA MEHTA: They are getting at equal prices. After all, if the freight charges are more there then those charges have to be borne by them. They are getting oil products at prices much lower than the prices at which people in Kashmir are getting. Secondly we must realise why the cost is high there. Compared to the Persian Gulf and Arab oil wells our wells in Assam are very small. We have drilled twice the number of wells as they have in Persian Gulf and Arabia put together and still our production is probably a fraction, one per cent, compared to their production. All these factors have to be borne in mind.

SHRI SURESH J. DESAI: May I know whether the new oil pricing system which seems to be under the contemplation of the Government also includes revision of the oil pricing system of the Gujarat oil fields and the Kovalh Refinery?

SHRI ASOKA MEHTA: Sir, the bulk of our supplies comes from outside. Practically everywhere there is an international price on the basis of which oil prices are determined. As practically 60 per cent of our oil supplies is imported it is necessary that our price of oil should be related to the import prices. We have related it to the import prices which are most favourable to us. That is from Persia which is close to our coast and where production is very large. Therefore, we have tried to link it up with the most favourable world market price. It is not possible to alter this suddenly because there are all kinds of contractual obligations and there are all kinds of other implications as my colleague pointed out. It is not possible to say just now whether we will have a regional price or we will have a national price. At present we are having a national price because we have a single price. We have a price related to the international price and to the different

freight charges are added. Whether this system should be altered or not is a matter which, as my colleague pointed out, is under very careful consideration.

FOREIGN AID FOR FAMILY PLANNING

*555 **SHRI ARJUN ARORA:**
SHRI A. M. TARIQ:†

Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign aid received during the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 for specific projects of family planning;

(b) such aid promised for the year 1968-69, and

(c) the names of the countries which gave or promised such aid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DR S. CHANDRA-SEKHAR): (a) to (c) The required information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Aid received during 1966-67

Ford Foundation—An agreement was signed with the Ford Foundation in August, 1966 under which a grant of \$2.28 million is being made available by the Ford Foundation to assist the Indian Family Planning Programme over a period of three years from 1966-67 to 1968-69. This assistance is in the shape of consultants, fellowships, equipments etc. and for experimental projects etc.

Population Council—Polythene thread and chemicals required for the manufacture of loops was gifted by the Population Council.

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri A. M. Tariq.