

श्री श्रीकृष्णवत्स पालीवाल : सभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह बतलाया कि बिहार में 65 प्रतिशत जो गन्ने की खेती होती है वह अनइरिगेटेड एरिया में होती है, तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश का क्या परसेंटेज है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir, I have mentioned that almost 65 per cent, of sugarcane in Bihar is non-irrigated. The percentage in U.P. is 55 per cent.

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्बेदी : माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या उनको ज्ञात है कि उत्तर प्रदेश और दूसरी जगहों पर जहाँ गन्ना काफी बोया जाता है, उसमें किसी एक तरह की बीमारी पैदा होना से वहाँ के किसानों को बहुत नुकसान होता है जिसकी वजह से किसानों ने गन्ना बोना कम कर दिया है। क्या आपका इसकी तरफ ध्यान है कि जो बीमारी वहाँ पर गन्ने में होती है उसको दूर करने के लिये रिसर्च संस्थाओं और दूसरी संस्थाओं में जानकारी लेकर इस तरह की व्यवस्था की जाये ताकि किसानों को गन्ना बोने में प्रोत्साहन मिले और जो उन्हें दिक्कत का सामना करना पड़ता है, वह दूर हो जाये।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir, the Government is aware that new pests which have developed in some parts of Punjab and U.P. have affected the sugarcane crop, and that is why we have advised the State Governments to replace it by new varieties which are released from Lucknow and Coimbatore.

RECOVERY OF THE ARREARS FROM THE LAKSHMI RATTAN COTTON MILLS Co LTD.

*780.. DR. Z.A. AHMAD:

SHRI A.M. TARIQ:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to

fThe qu
floor of the House by Shri A. M. Tariq

Refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 1034 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th December, 1967 and state:

(a) the amount realised in monthly instalments from the management of the Lakshmi Rattan Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur since the withdrawal of recovery proceedings; and

(b) what other steps are proposed to be taken to realise the amount of the Employees Provident Fund Scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI S.O. JAMIR): (a) No payment has since been received; it has transpired that the recovery proceedings were not withdrawn but only kept in abeyance,

(b) The land and machinery of the Company have been attached and the State Government has been requested that the assets should be sold. The prosecution already launched against the Company for the non-investraeut of provident fund accumulations is pending in the Court and the State Government has now sanctioned prosecution also for the default in the payment of current contributions.

شری اے ایم - طارق - آپ نے
کہا کہ پروویڈنٹ فونڈ چل رہا ہے
تو سمجھا - مگر چل رہا ہے تو
کس منزل میں ہے ؟

†[श्री ए० एम० तारिक : आपने कहा कि प्रोवीडेंट फंड चल रहा है। इतना तो समझा। मगर चल रहा है तो किस मंजिल में है ?]

श्री जयसुखलाल हाथी : दो तरह के प्रोवीडेंट फंड हैं। एक तो एरियर्स के लिये और दूसरा

* [Hindi transliteration.

जो करेन्ट है, उसके लिये है। जो एरियर्स का प्रोसीक्यूशन है वह तो चल रहा है और दूसरा प्रोसीक्यूशन हमने शुरू किया है।

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : श्रीमन्, पिछले एक दो वर्षों से इस कंपनी के एरियर्स के बारे में बराबर हर सेशन में कोई न कोई प्रश्न आया करता है। तो इसका क्या कारण है कि इतनी जांच करने के बाद भी अभी तक उसके ऊपर एरियर्स बराबर चले आ रहे हैं जबकि कंपनी बहुत मालदार है। इस एरियर्स को लेने के लिये एक मुश्त वसूली की कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की जाती है ?

श्री जयसुखलाल हाथी : इस कंपनी के ऊपर 30 लाख रुपये का एरियर था जिसमें से 20 लाख रुपया ले लिया गया है और 10 लाख रुपया बाकी है। इसके लिये सारी प्रापर्टी फ़टेच की जायेगी और उसको बेचकर के पैसा मिल जायेगा।

SHRI M.V. BHADRAM: Sir, in view of the fact that many companies are defaulting in the payment of arrears of the provident fund to the Region 1 Provident Fund Commissioners, will the Government consider the advisability of making it a cognizable offence and amending the Act suitably?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: The Government is already considering two or three aspects. One is that the power of prosecution should vest with the officers of the EPF organisation Central Government. To-day we have to go to the State Government. Unless they sanction the prosecution, we cannot prosecute. That is one difficulty. That question we are already considering. The second is there should be deterrent punishment. That also we are considering.

SHRI M.V. BHADRAM: Why not make it a cognizable offence?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: We are considering all the allied questions.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Several charges, not only of non-payment of Provident Fund dues but of tax arrears, electric charges, etc. against this company were there and the owner Mr. Ram Rattan Gupta, C.B. Gupta's man who donated . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN! Why do you bring C.B. Gupta into the picture?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: They have started the Laxmi Narain Engineering Factory with the money of this company. May I know whether the Government has received or did receive any representation from Members of Parliament that the management of this company should be taken over and if they did so, why is the Government not considering the matter and why are they evading the issue? Is it for the benefit of Mr. Ram Rattan Gupta, and may I know whether in assessing the properties, the properties secretly kept by Mr. Gupta had been taken into consideration so that the entire amount can be taken from him?

SHRI JAI SUKHLAL HATHI: The Labour Ministry is not concerned with who the proprietor is and whether he is the man of Mr. Gupta or anybody else. The Labour Ministry is concerned with the wages and the Provident Fund dues of the workers and they should be paid and anybody who does not pay or subscribe to the Provident Fund or the current dues has to be proceeded against according to law. In this case, as I stated, we have started the pro-secution for the arrears, and even for the current dues, which he has not paid, we have started another prosecution. We have taken Rs. 20 lakhs out of the dues of Rs. 31 lakhs and for the remaining we have attached the property and machinery of the company. There is no question of who the owner is. I am not concerned with it

but I am concerned with the wages and the dues which should be recovered from whoever may be the person concerned.

شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق - سرہ میں

ملٹری جی سے یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے یہ جو فرمایا کہ ۳۰ لاکھ میں سے ۲۰ لاکھ روپیہ لے لیا ہے 'رد' ۱۰ لاکھ باقی رہ گیا ہے پھر اس بارے میں یہ بھی امید ہے کہ اور ایڈیٹس بڑھتے جائیں گے۔ تو ان کو سولڈر کس طرح سے حاصل کرے گی؟ دوسری بات ملٹری جی سے یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا ان لوگوں نے سولڈر کے سامنے کوئی ایسی شکایت کی ہے جس میں یہ بتایا گیا ہے کہ سولڈر کے کچھ لوگ یا پالیٹیشنز کی وجہ سے مختلف جماعتوں کی وجہ سے ان کو تکلیف پہنچ رہی ہے؟ اگر یہ درست ہے تو سولڈر اس بارے میں کھانڈر دہی ہے؟

†[شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : سر، میں مंत्री جی سے یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے یہ جو فرمایا کہ 30 لاکھ میں سے 20 لاکھ خرچ کر لیا ہے اور 10 لاکھ باقی رہ گیا ہے، پھر اس بارے میں یہ بھی اُمید ہے کہ اگر ایڈیٹس بڑھتے جائیں گے، تو انکو سرکار کس طرح حاصل

کے گی؟ دوسری بات مंत्री جی سے یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا ان لوگوں نے سرکار کے سامنے کوئی ایسی شکایت کی ہے جس میں یہ بتایا گیا ہے کہ سرکار کے کچھ لوگ یا پالیٹی- شینوں کی وجہ سے، مختلف جماعتوں کی وجہ سے انکو تکلیف پہنچ رہی ہے؟ اگر یہ درست ہے تو سرکار اس بارے میں کیا کر رہی ہے؟]

شری جیسوخلال ہاٹی : ہم نے کہا کہ انکو تکلیف پہنچ رہی ہے یا نہیں، ہم تو اتنا ہی سمجھتے ہیں کہ جو وکس کا ڈیو ہے اور وہ پےسا نہیں دیتا ہے اس سے لینا چاہیے اور اس میں کسی وجہ سے انکو تکلیف پہنچتی ہے۔

شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : ان کے

پاس میں ہے نہیں۔

†[شری اے۔ ایم۔ طارق : ان کے پاس میں ہے نہیں۔]

شری جیسوخلال ہاٹی : تو جتنی پراپرٹی ہے ہم نے پتہ کر لی ہے اور اس میں سے جتنی ملے گی وہ ہم لے لیں گے۔

SHRI T.V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister admit if I say that the Government of India is very very liberal in its attitude towards the capitalists of this country in not only allowing the capitalists to an extent of Rs. 380 crores in connection with the collection of arrears of income-tax but also in the Provident Fund dues to the extent of Rs. 5 crores from the capitalists?

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI: While I would not admit anything as the Member wants me, on the contrary I would request him to admit that the Government in this case have been very strict in so far as we have launched

prosecution and attached his property. There is no question of being lenient to the capitalists because the Labour Ministry is concerned with the workers' dues and to see to the interests of the workers.

IMPORT OF SUGAR

*751. SHRI BANKA BEHARY BAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

() Whether the Government of India have decided to import Biigar during the current year 1968;

(b) If so, to what extent and at what price; and

(c) the reason for this sudden departure in policy for import of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a)

No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS :

May I know whether the Minister is aware that about two months back all the national dailies of Delhi published the news that the Government is considering the import of sugar th is year? May I also know whether after the publication of that news item the Government decided to drop that idea? May I know whether there was at any stage any proposal with the Government to import sugar?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE :

What can we do with news items which are published in the papers? I have

said authoritatively that we have not decided to import sugar.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I

know the international price of sugar and the internal price here? Why is the internal price so high? That may be the reason why some Government-officers in the Ministry may be thinking of importing sugar. May I know the reasons for the difference in the prices?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I do not know. I will require notice for this question regarding the information we get from the paper. The prevailing international price is £ 22 or 23 per tonne.

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SHRI KRISHAN KANT : What 'are the reasons for this high price in i India?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE :

In all the exporting countries, the prices are much higher than the countries i where sugar is produced at all. This j is the peculiar phenomenon of the in- j ternational sugar industry because j there is an acute competition in the I international market and the countries I which export sugar incur heavy losses. All the countries that export incur heavy losses.

SHRI A.G. KULKARNI : May I know from the Government, apart from importing of sugar, whether it is not a fact that they exported sugar when there was a dire need of sugar required by the masses in this country and, if so, apart from the international contract, was it not possible for the ; Government to purchase sugar where it was cheaper in the international j market and fulfil the deliveries which ' we had already contracted for? What made the Government export sugar from this country in such acute scarcity conditions?