

be in the list of hon. Ministers, but if it includes hon. Ministers of the Cabinet, the Central Cabinet, then the list must be there with the hon. Minister. Does he know what the reasons for disconnection of Ministers' telephones, and may I know, Sir, whether many of the Ministers were in arrears even for the year 1957?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Sir, my attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the press yesterday. The total number of connections disconnected for non-payment for that particular month was 1,300 and not 2,500 as appeared in the press. As far as Ministers or non-Minister are concerned, Sir, I may inform the hon. Member that so far as this Department is concerned, everyone is a subscriber and we are impervious to the fact whether a person holds a high office or not. If a person does not pay, we disconnect the telephone connection, and if he pays, we reconnect.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Mr. Chairman, Sir . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Niren Ghosh, you are a persistent questioner ; you are also the leader of your group and, therefore, you must allow me to sometimes omit you and give opportunities to others. I have to give opportunities to many people and this is where you should try to help me.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : You may put this to the Government, Sir, and ask. Against Government telephones, against those subscribers, a huge sum of money, crores of rupees are outstanding. What they would do about it, you may find out, Sir.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Do you want me to reply, Sir ? Let me reply. There

is some money outstanding. Hon. Members may keep one thing in view that there are certain outstandings which are routing outstandings. For instance, we issue bills, and then we have to give some time before payment comes in. So that is not to be taken into account. Some very old arrears are there and the progress of recovery has been satisfactory.

SUGAR PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

*756. **SHRIMATI SARLA BHADURIA :**†

SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :

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

(a) the latest figures of sugar production in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the total requirement of sugar for consumption in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) A statement showing the figures of sugar production Statewise during 1967-68 season up to 7th March, 1968, is placed on the Table on the Sabha. (See below.)

(b) A precise figure of requirement cannot be given but during 1967-68 about 20.7 lakh tonnes will be released for consumption.

†the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Sarla Bhaduria.

STATEMENT

*Sugar production during 1967-68
Season upto 7th March 1968*

State	Pro- duction ('000 tonnes)
1. Andhra Pradesh	1,49
2. Assam	4
3. Bihar	1,47
4. Gujarat	31
5. Haryana	46
6. Kerala	5
7. Madhya Pradesh	4
8. Maharashtra	5,03
9. Madras	1,02
10. Mysore	89
11. Orissa	5
12. Pondicherry	6
13. Punjab	26
14. Rajasthan	6
15. Uttar Pradesh	7,33
16. West Bengal	7
TOTAL	18,63

श्रीमती सरला भदौरिया : श्रीमन्, मुझे हिन्दी में उत्तर चाहिये ।

श्री अण्णासाहेब शिन्दे : मैंने इतना ही बताया कि मेज पर स्टेटमेंट रखा है और जितनी चीनी स्टेटों में रिलीज करने वाले हैं उसका आंकड़ा दिया है ।

श्रीमती सरला भदौरिया : श्रीमन्, उत्तर प्रदेश में कुछ मिलों में गन्ना कल करना बन्द कर दिया गया है । ऐसा क्यों किया गया है, इसमें क्या नीति है सरकार की ?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE: It is true that some of the factories have closed. Now, out of 199 factories which went into production this year, about 118 or 114 have closed, and some of them are from U.P. also, the main reason for their closing down being the non-availability of cane. As has been explained already, as a result of two years of drought the acreage under sugarcane has gone down steeply; and there was some competition from jaggery also. So, the sugar factories were in difficulty in getting their cane requirements. They offered some higher price, but even then the cane availability being less, some of the sugar factories have been closed.

श्रीमती सरला भदौरिया : प्रश्न का उत्तर भी हिन्दी में नहीं मिलेगा ? जब हिन्दी में मूल प्रश्न देते हैं तो हिन्दी में उत्तर आना चाहिये ।

SHRI N. VENKATESWARA RAO: What is the simultaneous translation for? If she does not know English, she can very well listen to the Hindi translation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But why don't you put on the ear phone?

श्रीमती सरला भदौरिया : मंत्री क्यों नहीं लगाते ? मंत्री महोदय को हिन्दी में उत्तर देना चाहिये ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like the hon. Member to put on this thing as I am putting it on.

श्री महावीर प्रसाद शुक्ल : हिन्दी में पूछे गए प्रश्न का हिन्दी में उत्तर दिए जाने की प्रथा रही है और यही प्रथा कायम रहनी चाहिये ताकि हिन्दी का प्रवेश इस सदन में हो सके ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must sit down when I stand. What is this thing? You do not understand elementary manners. If a Member cannot reply in Hindi and he does it in English, you have got this thing to put on to hear its Hindi translation. I do not know much of Hindi and therefore I try to put this on, very inconvenient though to put it on and to put it off. But this is the only procedure that can be observed at the present moment.

श्रीमती सरला भवोरिया : श्रीमान्, अनुवाद कब तक सुनते रहेंगे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You table a separate question about it, about this question that you are putting.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : एक प्रार्थना है हमारी । हमारे मित्र का कहना यह था कि इस सदन में यह मर्यादा रही है कि जब कोई माननीय सदस्य हिन्दी में प्रश्न पूछता है तो मंत्री महोदय यदि वे हिन्दी जानते हैं तो उसका उत्तर हिन्दी में दिया जाता है लेकिन यदि कोई माननीय मंत्री हिन्दी जानते हुए भी किसी सदस्य का जो मूल प्रश्न हिन्दी में है, उसका उत्तर अंग्रेजी में देते हैं तो कठिनाई पैदा होती है । हम श्रीमान से यह प्रार्थना करेंगे कि जैसी इस सदन में मर्यादा रही है उसी प्रकार चलती रहे तो ठीक होगा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I quite agree; it may be followed

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: On a point of order, Sir. Perhaps you may remember that some time back I asked a question in English but Mr. Sher Singh belonging to the Education

Ministry answered me in Hindi. Then I got up and asked him that as he knew English why he should not answer me in English. But he refused to answer and there was so much enthusiasm evinced for Hindi by my friend over the other side who applauded him. So, there is no such convention and that is what I want to tell my friend.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have a submission to make because it is serious. I hope this controversy will not take a turn for the worse. We should not quarrel over it. If the Ministers like to answer in Hindi, let them. If a question is put in English, he can answer in English also.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Why not in Bengali also?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, it should be in all languages; I know it should be, there is that argument. Now, Sir, we have not, unfortunately introduced a system of simultaneous translation and so I think the formula about the Union language in Parliament should not be interpreted as a quarrel between Hindi and English. It should be a proposition between English and all the regional languages of the country. Since we have not done that, naturally we have to compromise. Otherwise what will happen? Suppose the answer is given in Hindi and some Members from the South or from Bengal or others say that they cannot follow. What will happen? So, the convenience of everybody should be considered and it should not be made a matter of ego and it should not be pressed in a manner as if we are trying to keep alive this controversy which needs to be solved. Therefore, my submission is that we have accepted Hindi as our language and English as the associate language.

So, let us have English in association with Hindi.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: We have not accepted that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know you have not, but every time we get up we need not deliver our political thesis. Parliament has accepted it. That is what I mean. We are talking of Parliament. I would like to say that Parliament should accept all the regional languages as the languages to be used here. But it is not done. At the moment we stand committed to Hindi and English. Parliament stands committed to that. That is what I am pleading. Hindi and English are associate languages and I would like the various Members to take a liberal view of this matter rather than press the point. That would only keep the controversy alive and make a solution of the problem more difficult.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member gave notice of the question in English.

श्रीमती सरला भदौरिया : हम इंग्लिश में नहीं पूछेंगे। हिन्दी की मान्यता के लिये ऐसा करते हैं। न हम इंग्लिश में उत्तर चाहते हैं और न हम इंग्लिश में सवाल पूछते हैं।

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: From the question it seems that the original question was asked in English. हिन्दी में दिया था।

श्रीमती सरला भदौरिया : क्वेश्चन हिन्दी में है। मूल हिन्दी में हम देते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. We have had enough discussion. Mr. Khaitan.

श्री आर० पी० खैतान : क्या मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि जब यहां पर चीनी का प्रोडक्शन कम है और ऐसी हालत में हम लोग चीनी एक्सपोर्ट

कर रहे हैं तो जितनी क्वांटिटी में हम एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं उतनी क्वांटिटी में इम्पोर्ट करने में क्या कठिनाई है, क्या बाधा है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: I do not think it is a feasible proposition. I have already explained the position and this is beyond the purview of this particular question.

SHRI R. P. KHAITAN: Sir, this question does arise here.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, may I know whether it is a fact that there is an increase in the sugarcane acreage during this year? In view of this, is there any possibility, if there is an appreciable increase in the acreage under sugarcane, that sugar will be totally decontrolled so that competitiveness in the industry will be there in the matter of supply and price of sugar and sugar may be available to the whole country, to the consumers?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: As you know, Sir, such hypothetical questions are not answered.

*757. [*The questioner (Shri S.K.D. Palival) was absent. For answer vide cols. 5916-18 infra.*]

RECRUITMENT IN P. & T. DEPARTMENT

*758. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(.) whether in the case of all recruitment through departmental examination in the P&T Department, the year of passing of such examination is taken as the basis of seniority save and except in the case of P.O. and R.M.S. Time Scale Accountants and Assistant Accountants; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?