

RAJYA SABHA

*Monday, the 12th June, 1967/22ncZ
Jyaistha, 1889 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FANANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR KITCHEN GARDEN ACTIVITIES

*405. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 108 in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th March, 1967 and state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance given to the States for Kitchen Gardens during 1966-67;

(b) whether any financial assistance was given by the Centre direct to some cities and, if so, the total amount thereof; and

(c) whether any financial help for Kitchen Garden activities is proposed to be given in 1967-68 also?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI D. ERING): (a) A sum of Rs. 10,700 was sanctioned for Kitchen Garden activities during 1966-67 under the Scheme for financial assistance to Agri.-Horticultural Societies in operation under the I.C.A.R.

(b) No.

(c) A provision of Rs. 25,000 has been made during 1967-68 for the scheme for Financial Assistance to Agri.-Horticultural Societies including Kitchen Garden activities.

Kitchen Garden activities will feature in many State Plans which are being finalised.

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SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know what is the exact scheme and how the money is disbursed for this purpose?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir, the scheme is to promote kitchen garden activities and it works in most of the leading cities of the country. The assistance that is extended is extended by way of providing good seeds, packets of fertiliser, technical assistance, etc. That is one way of extending assistance. Then some shows and prize competitions are also organised so that good vegetable growers, etc. are encouraged by giving them prizes, etc.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether there is any machinery in the Ministry to find out at which places good kitchen garden work is being done and which of these kitchen gardens need encouragement?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Though we have some information in our possession, generally the State Governments are dealing with these matters.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that there is a lot of red-tape going on in the matter of giving sums for kitchen gardens and there are demands from various cities including my city of Agra but there has been no assistance, in spite of repeated requests, for the last one year?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir, most of the State Governments have in their State Plans schemes for encouraging kitchen gardens and, I think, the U.P. Government will take care of the Agra city also.

SHRIMATI USHA BARTHAKUR: May I know from the Minister of Agriculture the names of the States which were in receipt of financial aid for kitchen gardens from the Centre during 1966-67 and may I know whether any check is exercised

by the Centre to see that such aids are properly utilised for the purpose for which they are given?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: I suppose, Sir, ^ have normal checks just as in the case of other schemes, which are operated through the State Governments, normal checks are provided, r.uai II'

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, the word 'kitchen' is becoming more and more familiar; we have these kitchen gardens, kitchen Cabinet and what not. The word is becoming very familiar these days. I would like to know how the plan is actually formulated, whether there is any machinery to find out exactly what type of people should be encouraged and assisted in this matter or whether it is becoming yet another fashionable show.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir, I may submit for the information of the hon. Member that had he been good enough to visit the last show which was organised by the Delhi Agricultural Society and the All-India Women's Council, I think many of his doubts would have been removed. In fact, Sir, many people take interest. Last week Members of Parliament talked to me and said that in their residential premises patches of land were lying fallow and whether some activity for growing vegetables, etc. could not be organised. As I have already submitted, in the cities, within the jurisdiction of the State Governments, the State Governments are also encouraging the various voluntary organisations to undertake these activities and they are taking a lot of interest in these activities.

PROF. SATYAVRATA SIDDHANTALANKAR: Sir, in connection with the kitchen gardens the Minister has stated that this scheme is being organised in big cities. Now, Sir, 'kitchen garden' as it means, is utilisation of waste water of the kitchen. Or is it something else? If it is waste water of the kitchen to be utilised, then no big city can have kitchen gardens

because all that water goes underground. If it is kitchen garden of different sort, then it is not a kitchen garden but it is a chicken garden small garden. For that again you have no water. May I then know how the scheme is being worked?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: I not think, Sir, we should have controversy over terminology. The main purpose is to have small kitchen gardens. There are patches of land lying fallow in the premises of our residential quarters and whatever the sources, whether water is available from the kitchen or from municipal sources, such sources are to be utilised for increasing the vegetable and other short-term crops.

SHRI TRILOKI SINGH: May know what criteria have been Sown for giving this assistance

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: A have already explained these schema now form part of the State plans and various State Governments have worked out details of these schemes and assistance is extended through voluntary organisations by subsidising good seeds, fertiliser and ol manures through local organisations.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: How much money has been spent on these schemes, Sir?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: has been mentioned in the main part of the reply. Of course that reply does not include figures which form part of the State plans.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जान सकूंगा कि अब तक आपने इस बात की कोई सर्वे की है कि जो यह स्कीम है उसके तहत किन किन व्यक्तियों को और किस प्रकार के व्यक्ति को किस प्रकार की सहायता दी गई है और क्या सदुपयोग या दुरुपयोग किस प्रकार से हुआ ? क्या आपने कोई ऐसा सर्वे कराया है ।

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE: Sir, I have not said we have extended assistance directly to any individual. We are operating either through the State Governments or through voluntary organisations.

*406. [Trans/enred to the 16th June, 1967.]

चीनी के कारखानों का बन्द होना

*407. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भण्डारी :
श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालाल जी
बौरड़िया :

नया खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय प्रत्येक राज्य में चीनी के कितने कारखाने बन्द पड़े हैं और इसके कारण कितने मजदूरों को जबरन छुट्टी दी गई है;

(ख) इन कारखानों के बन्द होने के नया कारण हैं;

(ग) स्वचालित यंत्रों की अधिकता तथा मशीनीकरण के कारण चीनी के प्रत्येक कारखाने में कितने कितने मजदूरों की छंटनी की गई ; और

(घ) कारखानों में दिये गये परिवर्तनों पर कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा खर्च की गई और इन परिवर्तनों के कारण उत्पादन व्यय में कितना अन्तर हो गया ?

CLOSURE OF SUGAR MILLS

*407. SHRI SUNDAR SINGH
BHANDARI: SHRI V. M.
CHORDIA:

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

[The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Sundar Singh Bhandari.

\$[] English translations.

(a) the number of sugar mills closed at present in each State and the number of workers laid off on this account;

(b) the reasons for the closure of these mills;

(c) the number of workers retrenched in each of the sugar mills on account of over automation and mechanisation; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange spent on the changes carried out in the mills and what was the difference in the cost of production on account of these changes?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI D. ERING): (a) The Statewise position of closure of sugar mills up to 7th June, 1967 is given in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha, Information regarding number of workers laid off or retrenched is not available.

(b) The mills have closed after crushing the cane available to them.

(c) Information regarding this is not available.

(d) Most of the machinery installed by the sugar mills for modernisation is procured from indigenous manufacturers who get an allotment of foreign exchange. It is therefore difficult to work out the amount of foreign exchange spent by the sugar mills.

The extent of reduction in the cost of production would vary from factory to factory depending upon the degree of automation and mechanisation.