

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 12th June, 1967/22nd
Jyaishta, 1889 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FINANCIAL 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 Ques-
tion No. 108 in the Rajya Sabha on
the 27th March, 1967 and state:

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

(b) whether any financial assis-
tance 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, AGRICUL-
TURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOP-
MENT 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 ope-
ration 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 includ-
ing Kitchen Garden activities.

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

893 RS—1.

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 giv-
ing 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 BARTHAUR:
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, we have normal checks just as in the case of other schemes, which are operated through the State Governments, normal checks are provided.

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

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: I do 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 I know what criteria have been laid down for giving this assistance?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: As I have already explained these schemes 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 other manures through local organisations.

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

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: It 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 सकूँगा 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 ... का 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. [Transferred to the 16th June, 1967.]

चीनी के कारखानों का बन्द होना

*407. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भण्डारी :†
श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालाल जी
बोर्डिया :

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 है;

(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.