

time in both countries mention was made of the appreciation by these countries concerned of the policy of non-alignment?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Well, no communique as such was issued after my discussion there because the conditions under which I left America were quite different and are quite well known. As I said, there was recognition and appreciation of the conditions of the Indian policy even in the U.S.A. There was understanding of it.

شری عبدالغنی - (پنجاب) : میں  
ایکس منسٹر صاحب سے یہ پوچھنا  
چاہتا ہوں کہ جو ایڈ ہمیں دیا گیا ہے  
مل رہی ہے اس کو ہم چالدا کے  
خلاف استعمال کر سکیں گے - وہ یہ  
بتائیں -

†[श्री अब्दुल रानी (पंजाब) : मैं  
डिफेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब से यह पूछना चाहता  
हूँ कि जो एड हमें रशिया से मिल रही है  
उसको हम चाइना के खिलाफ इस्तेमाल कर  
सकेंगे—वह यह बतायें ।]

श्री बाई० बी० चव्हाण : फिर उसको  
लेते क्यों ? इसी लिये लेते हैं कि उस को  
इस्तेमाल करना है । क्या मजाक के लिए  
लेते हैं अगर उस को चाइना के खिलाफ  
नहीं करना है ?

شری عبدالغنی : پہلے ایسا تھا کہ  
چون کے خلاف نہیں ہوئی اس لئے  
میں نے پوچھا -

†[श्री अब्दुल रानी : पहले ऐसा था कि  
चीन के खिलाफ नहीं होगी इसलिये मैंने  
पूछा ।]

†[ ] Hindi transliteration.

SHRI B. T. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): I would like to know this. Apart from the traditionally helpful countries like the U.S.S.R., the U.K., the U.S.A., etc, it was reported in the papers that Britain had also offered our country to build frigates for us and we had not given a complete, responsive answer. Is that true?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I have made a very clear reference to it that they have made an offer. I have been able to make an announcement of it and make a reference to it for the first time that they have made an offer and we have been able to accept it in principle. Further detailed negotiations will have to be carried on on this.

#### PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

#### SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF KERALA TO THE PRESIDENT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the summary of the Report of the Governor of Kerala dated the 8th September, 1954, to the President. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3198/64.]

#### MOTION RE FOOD SITUATION—continued.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA (Mysore): Madam Deputy Chairman, coming as I do at this stage of the discussions on the food problem after several speakers who have with great thoroughness dealt with the various aspects of the food position as well as the agricultural production programmes, I am afraid, I cannot help a certain amount of repetition. The Food Minister's assessment of the situation as regards the present food position in the country and his various solutions, both short term and long term, should merit all the support from every corner of this House

[Shri C. M. Poonacha]

During the debate, Madam, I am afraid more emphasis was laid by some Members of this hon. House over the immediate shortage that we have experienced or the difficulties that we are passing through in this country at present with regard to the food position. While it is admittedly true that we cannot take such periodical shortfalls in a light-hearted manner, the fact remains that the problem could not be solved or resolved unless and until we take up a fully perfected programme on the long-term basis. That brings me to the question which the hon. Food Minister himself made about stepping up agricultural production. Stepping up agricultural production is the only answer to the food position or the food problem this country will face or has to face. Therefore, these temporary periodical shortcomings at various stages need not frighten us. I would say that even with a very good harvest we may have at times certain scarcity conditions in some isolated pockets in a vast country like ours. *(Interruption)* So, with a very good bumper harvest it should not surprise us that sometimes we may find some difficulties here and there, maybe due to the transport difficulties, maybe due to certain other difficulties. Therefore, we should not try to lay full emphasis only on these periodical shortcomings. They have been the feature of our food position in this country due to its vastness, due to a variety of reasons over which we have to continuously keep a watch and find solutions. Therefore, I was coming to the point which the Food Minister himself has very ably enunciated in his opening speech about tackling the system of stepping up food production from the very grass roots. It is no use that we discuss matters at the Government level, and here in Delhi we produce papers, set up committees, expert bodies and have a full academic appreciation of the situation. But the fact remains that all this will have to be carried to the doors of the farmer, the Indian farmer, and he will have to

be enthused, educated and persuaded to put in his efforts in the direction of food production, which is not going to be an easy job. It is a stupendous job, it is a very difficult job, the Indian farmer being conservative and not very enthusiastic in accepting the suggestions relating to improved methods of cultivation, being tied up to his own traditions as regards the agricultural production. He is not an easy person to be tackled unless and until we vigorously pursue the policy of getting to the farmer's door-steps and persuading him and even cajoling him to produce more and more. This requires a sustained effort, a vigorous effort, may I say stupendous effort on the part of everyone who is directly concerned with the production of additional food in this country. In this regard I might mention, as has been mentioned already by several speakers, about the various difficulties we have been experiencing.

3 P.M.

In the matter of food production, in the matter of stepping up the production of agricultural crops, the most important factor is manure. Unless and until we make our farmers manure-minded, it would not be possible for us to see that agricultural production increases as per our expectations. The other day an hon. lady Member was referring to the way in which Japan has been going about this job and how the Japanese farmer is utilising every item of manure that is available for the production of food crops while in this country we are not doing that, and in support of that I would like to give some figures. In Japan, the per acre consumption of chemical fertilisers alone is about 235 pounds; it is about 213 pounds per acre in Germany, while in our country it is four pounds per acre. Are we going to step up production if we continue to allow our agriculture to move in this fashion, by not supplementing the land with the necessary amount of fertilisers for the crops? We are continuously ex-

trading from the soil, the mother earth, all this gold but we cannot deplete her to the extent that she becomes barren. The soil is not being built up by a systematic programme of fertiliser-manure application in this country. I am glad that my friend on the other side said that in Madras the farmer's budget in this respect occupied a very big percentage; his land is properly worked with fertiliser. I am very happy to hear that. It is true that in the State of Madras and in the State of Kerala the per acre consumption or application of fertiliser is about 11 pounds. The all-India figure is four pounds. It is under these circumstances that we discuss the most difficult problem of increasing the food production. It cannot be done unless and until we make our farmers manure-minded. We must ourselves produce in this country sufficient quantities of fertilisers, step up the production of fertilisers and make them available to the farmer in abundant quantities and also go to his very door and persuade him to use fertilisers in greater and larger quantities; then and then alone can our agricultural production programme will meet with certain amount of success. No doubt, irrigation water supply and then the other timely cultural operations with regard to agriculture, have to be continuously put through the process of agricultural production. But all said and done, the main fact would remain that manures and fertilisers in abundant quantities will be required to step up agricultural production in this country.

Now, let us see how we have been going about this problem. The Third Five Year Plan envisaged a total fertiliser production by the end of the Third Plan of a quantity of one million tons. At the beginning of the Third Plan, the production was about two lakh tons. From two lakh tons, our proposal was to step it up to 10 lakh tons. But the projects envisaged under the Third Five Year Plan have not materialised yet. The Namrup Project is much behind sche-

dule, the Gorakhpur Project is much behind schedule. The Korba Project for which a licence was issued to a private sector firm is not going to come up in that sector. Probably, the Government will have to take it over; perhaps they have decided to take it over. Because of the shortfalls in our fertiliser production programmes in this country, it is not going to come even to four lakh tons by the end of the Third Five Year Plan period. Is this the way in which we are thinking in terms of agricultural production in this country'.

I come to the other aspect as far other manures are concerned. For example, the scheme of rural compost, the scheme of urban compost and the scheme of green manures, all have been worked out with thoroughness and in great detail in the Third Five Year Plan. But what are the achievements, I would like to know. The achievements have been far from satisfactory, and in this field, there is no technical know-how required nor any foreign exchange or other thing. It is a pure and simple method of educating our farmers, our agriculturists, our villagers, to conserve the refuse, the farm-yard manures and a variety of other things in a particular way. It does not take all the time of theirs but it is by guiding them and putting them in the way as to how to conserve these valuable materials which can be very useful manures, and with the application of such manures how agricultural production can go up.

In this direction, when we talk of compost schemes, the green manure schemes and such other things, the most important factor would remain the strengthening of our extension work. This morning the hon. Minister for Community Development was himself admitting the fact that the number of extension workers in this regard was far too short and that unless and until we build up an army of such extension workers in this country, the agricultural production

[Shri C. M. Poonacha]

programme would not meet with any great degree of success. Now comes a very great problem, of how to find the real type of educated young men—an army of young men—overnight K> assist the existing machinery on extension work that has been already established all over the country in all the Community Development and Natioaal Extension Block areas. Here I would like to make an unorthodox suggestion, it might appear to be a bit fantastic. The hon. Food Minister himself was Minister of Education and he knows the problems of education more thoroughly than most of us here. There has been a suggestion made by very eminent educationists in this country that the type of education that is being imparted is not conducive to our national development as a whole and that in particular it is not related to the overall economic development of the country. Suggestions have been therefore made at times that the graduates who pass out from the colleges should be compelled to serve one year in a village before they receive their degrees. I should think that this idea is worth pursuing further. We should by law prescribe that the graduates who complete their college education should serve in the villages as extension workers, as *gram sewaks*, for a period of 12 months before they are entitled to get their degrees. And such a decision would immediately bring under our command an army of young men who could be put as assistants to the extension workers in the villages. They would not have many commitments. They should be paid a reasonable allowance during that period and j by this method only we can streng- | then the extension work. I am sure that the country will tie greatly benefited. Agricultural programmes could be accelerated and more than that, I am sure that these very young men, the future generation, would t>e greatly benefited. And that would be a right thing in the right direction, i But that requires the attention of great persons and Ministers of the

Central Government here. I suggest that this idea with regard to the strengthening of the extension machinery in this country may be taken up for consideration. Whatever we may discuss here, whatever our own researches and assessments of the situation, the most important thing would be that we have to carry the message to the farmer. We have to contact him at that level to make the programme of agricultural production a success in this country.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have taken 15 minutes. There are so many speakers. The Minister is going to reply at 4. P.M.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I would take another five minutes.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But there are still about 15 speakers. You will be keeping out someone from your side.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: In order to increase agricultural production there should be concentrated and concerted action for stepping up fertiliser production in the country. Also-the output of various compost manures should be increased.

Then, Madam, I suggest that we should not deny to ourselves the great amount of most valuable material, both in the form of food, and manure, that lies in the high seas surrounding our coasts. There was a suggestion at one time that a fish trading corporation would be established. I must suggest to the hon. Minister that thi, is worth pursuing. It should not be only one corporation but we may have to have several such corporations established in every coastal State, namely Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Mysore, Madras, Orissa and Bengal. And the techniques of fishing along the coast, both deep-sea fishing as well as coastal fishing, will have to be modernised. That will supplement our diet too.

A.t least in my own humble calculations I find possibilities of adding one million tons of most valuable food to our existing food supply position and the unwanted material of the fish that is not immediately required could be converted into very valuable manure. This manure would augment the manure supply that we so badly require to increase our agricultural produces during the Third Plan programme. (*Time bell rings.*) One minute and I have finished.

As far as agricultural production programmes are concerned, I would request the Government both at the Centre and the States to take it up in all seriousness. In this I feel that much will have to be done by the respective State Governments. The State Governments will have to assume certain responsibilities; certain responsibilities will have to be fixed on the State Governments. No doubt whenever there is scarcity or difficulty, everybody looks to the Food Minister here. They approach him as if he will produce food by the magic wand, which is not possible. Every Chief Minister after his return from Delhi says that he has approached the Food Minister who has promised to release so many tons of foodgrains. How long can we go on on that basis, I ask? On the other hand what I would suggest is that having assumed the responsibility to feed the industrial centres and the big cities from the buffer stocks, the shortages of every State will have to be assessed and the States must be asked to meet a certain percentage of this shortage. Every year 10 per cent, of such assessed shortages should be met by the States themselves, and in the course of three or four years the State should put their entire effort at minimising their shortages to the extent possible, at least by about 40 to 50 per cent. That way we should tackle this question both at the State as well as at the Central level from the grass roots, that is, from the farmer's level, as the Minister rightly put it. Thank you.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Madras) : The challenge taken up by the new Food Minister, when he accepted the invitation of the Prime Minister, reminds me of a challenge taken by another Food Minister about 3,500 years ago, probably the first Food Minister known to history. When Joseph, the Jew, was called upon by Pharaoh of Egypt to meet the threat of a famine, what Joseph did was before the famine came on he bought up all the foodgrains available and during the period of the famine he began selling the foodgrains thus stored to the people. After a time the people exhausted their savings or earnings and they offered their jewellery in return for food. He took the jewellery and gave them food in return. Finally, when all the movable goods were exhausted, the people offered their land to him. Joseph took away their land and made the State the sole owner of the land and the people its tenants. I hope that end will not be the end of the Food Minister's policies.

Our Food Minister is an energetic Minister. And if this Food Minister does not succeed in solving the problem, I do not think any Minister available to the Congress Government will be able to do it, for he belongs to a great agricultural community in the South which has made the dry lands and high lands, of Coimbatore into an agricultural garden. While wishing him all success, I regret the measures that he has formulated will not enable him to achieve this object. The statistics on this question are well known. The very first page of the Minister's statement on the food situation tells us that the index of rice production from 1956 to 1963 has shown a rise from 120.4 to 127.4 and wheat from 140.7 to 160.4. But at the same time the index of prices has also shown a rise from 106 in 1956 to 122 in 1963 in rice and 90 to 91 in wheat. Now this rise in price of foodgrains is not to be wondered at. It is in keeping with the general rise in prices not only due to the rise in population, to the explosion

[Shri M. Ruthnaswamy J of population, as the familiar phrase goes, but to the explosion in governmental expenditure. Administrative expenditure has grown by leaps and bounds. Deficit financing, a-s has already been pointed out, has gone up to the extent of Rs. 600 crores in the Third Plan period. Now, you go on pumping money into the economy of the country and production does not keep pace with this large amount of money pumped into the economy. How can you help the rise in the prices?

With regard to measures adumbrated by the Food Minister, he has divided them in his lucid speech into three parts, production, procurement and distribution. In regard to production, there are long and short-term policies to be followed. The long-term policies I shall briefly run over because they do not concern us immediately but they are responsible—the policies followed or not followed by the Government—for the low rate of agricultural production. Protection and promotional programmes like anti-erosion measures, protection against floods are conspicuous by their relative absence. No money is spent on land reclamation. Large volumes of water are flowing in our streams, not to speak of the large rivers, without being made use of. We seem to be living in a sort of anxious interval between flood on the one hand and drought on the other. Drought we cannot help. It is due to lack of rain but flood control is within our reach but very little has been done to control our rivers. Every year the Brahmaputra, the Kosi, the Ganga and the Jumna are in floods. Every year people suffer from the floods but very little has been done by the Government to control these floods.

Then there is the long-term programme of promotion of literacy. The Food Minister looks forward to scientific ideas reaching the agriculturists but how can the scientific ideas reach them

[ when they are not able to read and write? The rate of progress of literacy is deplorable. It is one per cent per year. At this rate how soon can we reach the 75 or 100 per cent. That is necessary in order that the agriculturists may become literate or educated and be able to absorb and utilise all the scientific knowledge that is made available by the Government.

Then there is so much foodgrains lost through the depredation of monkeys, not to speak of the amount of foodgrains that will have to be spent on useless cattle. All these are losses that can be prevented by sane and rational policies.

In the short-term measures, adult education—social education—has been completely neglected. All this information that is available about scientific methods, about the change of nutritional habits from cereals and grains to a cereal diet modified by vegetables, all this information does not reach the common man, the peasant and the agriculturist. The Minister could organise weekly radio talks on the necessity of increasing agricultural production, on the need for changing the nutritional habits from a purely foodgrain diet to a diet diversified by vegetables. In a large vegetarian country, with a large vegetarian population like ours, it is deplorable that so little vegetable is added to the diet of our people.

There is a woeful lack of roads in our country. I refer to village roads that will connect the village and the land, and also the farmer with the market or railway station—and the nearest trunk roads. We are about the poorest in roads among the civilised nations of the world. We have about 27 miles of roads per 100 square miles of territory. Unless we come up to 75 or 100 miles of road per 100 square miles of territory we shall not have a road mileage adequate to the requirements of this country. So we want a road building programme of at least 100,000

miles of roads per year instead of the meagre 5,000 miles of roads provided in the Third Plan.

Then there is so much unutilised irrigational capacity. Major irrigation potential is reported to be unutilised to the extent of 17 per cent. Minor irrigation potential is reported to be unutilised to the extent of 40 to 60 per cent. Fifty per cent, of the improved seeds go into consumption and not to the soil. Cattle dung is also wasted. Out of 1200 million tons of cattle dung, only 72 million tons go into manure.

What about the incentive? Perhaps, the Minister hopes that his Agricultural Price Commission will be able to offer a price that will be an incentive' to the farmer to produce but more than tire incentive of the price rise, the incentive to produce more is lowered by the recent agricultural legislation of the Government like placing ceilings on land, cooperative farming etc. The Member Kerala taunted us, the Swatantra Party, for quoting the agricultural system of Formosa. Shri Dah> Patel quoted the agricultural system of Formosa against the agricultural system of the Congress, not against the agricultural system advocated by the Swatantra Party. We are not in (favour of any ceiling on land because it takes away from the farmer all - ,he incentive to add to his land and it acts as a powerful disincentive to his af ricultural production. In a country like ours, under the Hindu or Muslim laws of succession and inheritance where at the death of every land-owner, the land is divided equally between the sons, where was the need for a ceiling on land? If the money spent on cooperative farming had been given to <sup>A</sup>.hs individual farmers, it would have resulted in greater agricultural production.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): There is ceiling in Formosa.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: There is a ceiling but then the conditions of Formosa are different from the conditions in India. It is a small country with a small population. Then the methods of cultivation are different.

With regard to procurement and distribution we cannot depend upon one system of procurement and distribution. There must be the State system, the co-operative system and then the private system. With regard to State Trading Corporation for procurement, have we the machinery, have we the personnel, have we the human resources, to organise an effective State Trading Corporation? That was the difficulty felt during the last World War. It was only in the ryotwari areas that the Government found the personnel that could tackle this problem of procurement. Even in the zamindari areas now, there is not that administrative personnel which would be able to act on behalf of the Government to organise the procurement. Co-operative storage and other 10-operative services—it is these that will come to the aid of the agricultural farmer and not co-operative farming. Private trading must be allowed to compete with State trading; otherwise State trading will be getting into a rut, will be getting into the bureaucratic routine, and forms and returns will be the preoccupation of the personnel of the State Trading Corporation, and neither the consumer nor the producer will get the fair deal that he can get from a competitive system, of private trading competing with co-operative trading and with State trading. And then you must distinguish among private traders, between the honest traditional trader, and the speculator, the man who comes from outside the locality, may be from another State, with bags of money, and is able to outbid others and thus be able to outbeat the Government in procurement. I am glad to find that the Food Minister does not contemplate monopoly being given to the State Trading Corporation, but I think he wants to monopolism trans-

[Shri M. Ruthnaswamy] port by railway. If there is to be real competition, there must be room for transport, to the private trader, on the railways as well as on the road. People speak of hoarders and black-marketeers? What is hoarding? Hoarding is due to a continuous rise in prices and therefore the hoarder, the man who can hoard, hopes to take advantage of the next rise in prices. That is why hoarding is encouraged, hoarding is possible. Similarly the blackmarketeer. Why is he encouraged? He is encouraged like the village moneylender, like the village *bania*, because he is able to supply foodgrain at the beck and call of the man who wants the foodgrain in the blackmarket. It is on account of the facilities and conveniences offered by the blackmarketeer and the hoarder that hoarding and blackmarketing are possible. And now, this can be prevented only by an efficient competition between the private trader, the co-operative society and the State trader.

Finally, Madam Deputy Chairman, the food situation does not stand alone. It is linked up with the whole economic policy of the Government. The Food Department does not stand alone. If it is to be efficient, if it is to be effective, it must work hand in glove with the other departments. It was very depressing when the other day the Prime Minister confessed that there was very little co-ordination between the departments of the Central Government, that each department was a law unto itself, that it worked by itself, for itself. Now, the Food Ministry cannot solve the food problem by itself. It has to depend on the Agricultural Department and the Transport Department or the Railway Department and also to a large extent on the Education Department. As I said, this food problem is linked up with the whole general economic problem of the country, with the economic policy of the Government. We find the present Minister, a good man, struggling against the difficulties which he has

assumed in the present food situation with the ideology which he has taken upon himself, struggling between equality on the one side, progress and productivity on the other side, socialism on the one side and plentiful food on the other, equal distribution on the one side and plentiful production on the other. These are incompatible things, and it is with these incompatible things that the Food Minister has to engage himself, and in these difficulties one who is an outsider can do nothing but wish him the success that he deserves.

### श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया :

उपसभापति महोदया, जो प्रस्ताव विचारार्थ है वह खाद्य समस्या के बारे में है। हमारा बड़ा दुर्भाग्य है कि हमारा देश कृषि-प्रधान देश होते हुए भी, चार में से तीन आदमी खेती के धंधे में लगे होने के बावजूद भी, जब तक विदेश से हमारे यहां पर अनाज नहीं आ जाता तब तक हमारे मकान में चूल्हा नहीं जल सकता और हमें खाने को नहीं मिल सकता। आजादी के समय कई घोषणायें की गई थीं कि हम घी, दूध की नदियां बहा देंगे, थोड़े ही दिनों में देश को खाद्यान्न के मामले में स्वावलम्बी कर देंगे और सब योजनाओं का लक्ष्य भी यही रहा कि हम अपने देश को खाद्य के मामले में स्वावलम्बी कर रहे हैं लेकिन इन सब घोषणाओं के बावजूद भी हमें जो अन्न का संकट देखना पड़ रहा है वह सबके सामने स्पष्ट है।

आज स्थिति यह हो रही है जैसा कि हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के मित्रों ने कुछ कहा— वह उत्तर प्रदेश जहां गंगा यमुना बहती है, जिसके किनारे खूब उत्पादन होता है— जब वहां स्थिति ऐसी दयनीय है तो फिर मध्य प्रदेश का क्या कहना है जो कि सूखे का इलाका है, जहां कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश एवं छत्तीसगढ़ के ऐसे क्षेत्र हैं जहां कि पैदावार नाम मात्र की है और जहां आबुधरा का भी ऐसा इलाका है जहां कि पैदावार बहुत ही



कम है। तो ऐसे क्षेत्र की दशा दयनीय है। उपसभापति महोदय, ऐसी हालत है कि लोग घास के बीज खा रहे हैं—जैसे राणा प्रताप ने उस समय घास के बीजों की रोटी खाई थी उसी तरह आज भी लोगों को खाना पड़ रहा है, लोग घास के बीज की, घास की रोटियां बना रहे हैं, जड़ों को पीस-पीस कर उसकी रोटियां बना कर उसको उपयोग में लाते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में हमको कुछ करना है और इसी के बारे में विचार करने के लिए हम यहां हैं।

हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपना भाषण दिया और भाषण में उन्होंने बातों को दुहराया जो कि हम कालेज में पढ़ते थे, एकानामिक्स के जो लिखने वाले थे वे भी वही बात बताते थे कि हम क्रूड मेथड से काम करते हैं इसलिये हमारे यहां पैदावार नहीं होती आदि आदि। प्रारम्भ से लेकर अभी तक वही बात कही जाती है, जब कभी भी अन्न संकट होता है तब हमारे जो भी मंत्री होते हैं वह यही घोषणा करते हैं कि हमारी पुरानी परिपाटी थी इसलिये कम प्रोडक्शन हुआ, हमें नये ढंग से, नये तरीके से, नई क्रांति लाकर सारा काम करना है, बिल्कुल माडर्नाइज करना है। अगर माडर्नाइज का मतलब मैकेनाइज्ड फार्मिंग से है तो मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करूंगा कि हमारे देश मैकेनाइज्ड फार्मिंग के योग्य नहीं हैं क्योंकि हमारे यहां भूमि का जो औसत क्षेत्र है वह साढ़े पांच एकड़ प्रति व्यक्ति पड़ता है, इसमें किसी के पास और भी कम है और किसी के पास इससे ज्यादा भी है और हमारे यहां सीलिंग का कानून—जो कि अच्छा है—लागू हो चुका है और उसकी वजह से किसी के पास भी एक निश्चित सीमा से अधिक भूमि नहीं है। ऐसी स्थिति में अगर हम मैकेनाइज्ड फार्मिंग के बारे में विचार करें तो वह कभी सम्भव होगा नहीं। अगर दूसरा इरादा हो कि हम और भी कुछ ऐसा काम करें जो कि लार्ज स्केल फार्मिंग

के आधार पर हो या नये नये खोज करके नये नये तरीके लोगों को पहुंचा कर करें तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि हमारे कृषि विभाग में जो जो नये नये अफसर आते हैं और वे नये नये एक्सपेरिमेंट करके, नये नये तरीके बता करके लोगों को आकर्षित करने का प्रयत्न करते हैं लेकिन उसका प्रभाव मंत्रि-मंडल तक ही रहता है, नेताओं तक ही रहता है, आगे चल कर जो खेत में काम करने वाले आदमी हैं वे उससे प्रभावित नहीं होते, वे उसका कोई लाभ पा नहीं पाते और उसके परिणामस्वरूप उनका कोई उपयोग नहीं रहता। नई नई चीजों की तो खोज करते हैं लेकिन जो वास्तविक खोज करने की वस्तुएं हैं उनको करते नहीं। इसलिये इस सबके बारे में भी विचार करना होगा और हमें दोनों तरह के उपाय निर्धारित करने होंगे कि आगे क्या करें और आज जो हमारे सामने समस्या है कि लोगों को खाना नहीं मिल रहा है उसका क्या हल है? वह केवल भाषणों से और बातों से हल नहीं होने को है।

हमारे मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि विदेशों से अनाज आ रहा है, उसे हम भेज रहे हैं, मगर हमारे छोटे से गांव में—जहां जनसंख्या १० हजार है—एक दिन सस्ते अनाज की दुकान खोली गई और वहां चार थैले लाये गये और उन चार थैलों को लेने के लिये ४०० लोगों की भीड़ सबेरे ५ बजे से लग गई, पुलिस भी वहां आई और जब उसने देखा कि अपने आदमियों को मिल नहीं पा रहा है तो उसने भीड़ का जो सारा क्यू था उसको डिस्टर्ब कर दिया और अपना नया क्यू प्रारम्भ किया, इससे वहां मारपीट की भी नौबत आई, दुकान पर जगड़ा भी हुआ और सारी बातें हुईं। इसलिये सबसे अधिक हमारी सरकार का ध्यान इस बात पर होना है कि देश में यह जो वर्तमान संकट है इसका कैसे सामना करें और उसका सामना करने

[श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालाल जी चौरडिया]  
के लिये अभी तक जो उपाय किये गये हैं वे कुछ इफेक्टिव मालूम नहीं पड़ते । अभी भी लोगों के गोदामों में गल्ला है, ऐसा नहीं कहा जा सकता कि नहीं है, लेकिन उसको हम निकाल नहीं पा रहे हैं । तो हमारी सरकार कुछ ऐसी योजना बनाए कि गोदामों से पूरा माल भी बाहर आ सके और जो हमारे लोगों को भोजन के मारे तड़पना पड़ रहा है वह भी तड़पना न पड़े ।

हमारे देश में हमारे लोगों पर दुहरी मार पड़ रही है, एक ओर तो खाद्य संकट है, खाद्य की कमी है और दूसरी ओर महंगाई है और इन दोनों पाटों के बीच हमारी गरीब जनता बड़ी बुरी तरह से पिस्तो जा रही है । इसका कुछ न कुछ इफेक्टिव हल हमें सोच कर निकालना होगा और उस पर काम करना होगा । इसके लिए हमारे मंत्री जी ने लॉग टर्म की योजनाएं बताईं । जितने भी खाद्य मंत्री हुए, जब भी अन्न संकट आया तब उन्होंने जो कहा, जो योजनाएँ बताईं, पुराने जो खाद्य मंत्री हुए उन्होंने जो जो भाषण दिया उसी में कुछ मामूली परिवर्तन के साथ अपना भाषण दे दिया, उनको आप उठा कर देख लें कुछ शब्दों के हेरफेर के अलावा वही बातें हैं, नये मंत्री पुरानी बातों को अपने शब्दों में कुछ हेरफेर के साथ ही रख देते हैं । उपसभापति महोदय, इससे समस्या कुछ हल हो जायेगी ऐसा मैं नहीं मानता । योजना भवन में बिजली के पंखे के नीचे बैठ कर योजनाएँ बनती हैं, लक्ष्य निर्धारित होते हैं कि इन आंकड़ों के आधार पर ऐसा होना चाहिये और हमें यह कर देना चाहिये । मगर "हिसाब ज्यों का त्यों, कुता डूबा क्यों", यह प्रश्न जनता के सामने बना हुआ है । इस दृष्टि से मैं चाहूंगा कि योजना बनाने के साथ साथ उसकी प्रैक्टिकैबिलिटी का देखिये, उसका अमल योजना भवन के लोग कमरे में बैठ कर नहीं कर सकते । हमारी योजनाएँ बनती हैं कि अमुक तरह का ऐसा

काम होने से अमुक काम इतना बढ़ जायेगा । हमारा काफ़तकार उन योजनाओं को दिमाग में नहीं ले पाता । दूसरे, हमारे यहाँ नये नये खोज के काम किये जाते हैं, जैसे खेती के लिये, फसल के लिये अच्छा बीज पैदा करना और बीज समय पर मिलता नहीं है । विकास विभाग जो बीज बांटता है वह समय पर नहीं दिया जाता और जो बीज मिलता है उसमें शासकीय सहायता होने पर भी भ्रष्टाचार के कारण वह बाजार भाव से पड़ जाता है क्योंकि सबसिडी का हिसाब जोड़ कर उतना ही पड़ जाता है और अगर कहीं भाव कम पड़ जाता है तो बीज का मार्जिन कृषि विभाग के कर्मचारी प्रेम से हड़म कर जाते हैं । मंत्री महोदय अच्छे बीज के बारे में एक सीड बिल ला रहे हैं और उसके द्वारा हमें यह देखना होगा कि हमारे यहाँ हजारों किस्म का अनाज पैदा होता है तो ऐसी स्थिति में कैसे सही नियंत्रण और प्रैक्टिकैबिलिटी के आधार पर ठीक से कार्य संचालन हो ।

हमारा पूसा इन्स्टीट्यूट अनुसंधान करता है मगर यह एक प्रदर्शनी जैसा स्थान हो चुका है, इसके अलावा कोई विशेष काम कर पाया है इसमें शंका है । पिछले दिनों यहाँ गेरुआ की बीमारी के बारे में प्रश्न हुए थे । माननीय शाहनवाज साहब ने जो जवाब दिया उससे मुझे विश्वास है कि गेरुआ की बीमारी के बारे में हमारे पूसा इन्स्टीट्यूट ने जो काम किया उसको देखकर स्वयं उन्हें भी संतोष नहीं होगा । स्थिति यह है कि हमारे यहाँ जो मूलभूत कमियाँ हैं उनको हम पहले दूर नहीं कर पाते हैं, हमारे आफिसरों द्वारा नयी नयी योजनाएँ चलती हैं लेकिन काम कुछ हो नहीं पाता है । हमें चाहिये कि इस बारे में हम इफेक्टिव और लॉग टर्म प्लान बनाएं ।

हमारे यहाँ विदेशों से ४ लाख ४० हजार टन उर्वरक, फर्टिलाइजर आ चुका है लेकिन गांव गांव में जो हमारा असल

फर्टिलाइजर गोबर है, उसको संभालने का प्रयत्न हम नहीं करते। आपने गोबर गैस प्लान्ट निकाला, उसका प्रचार भी बहुत किया कि उससे खेती की उपज के लिये खाद भी निकलेगी और जलाने के लिये गैस पैदा होगी, जिससे रोटों भी बनाई जा सकेगी। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि उस योजना को कागज पर ही सीमित रखा गया और उसमें बंधन लगा दिया कि कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटी के अथवा अन्य ऐसी ही संस्थाओं के माध्यम से ही दिया जा सकता है। मुझे आश्चर्य होता है कि जब हमारा लक्ष्य यह है कि हमारे यहां अधिक से अधिक गोबर गैस प्लांट हो तब फिर यह कोआपरेटिव का बंधन लगाना या ग्राम पंचायत का बंधन लगा देना या किसी और प्रकार का बंधन लगाना इसकी आवश्यकता कहां है? जो भी आदमी गोबर गैस प्लांट लगाना चाहे गवर्नमेंट उसको इमदाद करे और ऐसा करके हजारों टन गोबर की खाद जो हमारे यहां हो सकती है, उसको बर्बाद होने से रोकने का प्रयत्न करे। इसके साथ साथ गोबर को बचाने के लिये सस्ती बिजली भी देनी होगी।

मैं आशा करता हूं कि जो एमेन्डमेंट मैंने दिये हैं, उनके बारे में मंत्री महोदय गंभीरता पूर्वक विचार करेंगे। जो वास्तव में कृषि करने वाले हैं, जो एकचुअली फील्ड में काम करने वाले हैं, उनको सामने रखकर आप योजनाएं बनाइये, उनकी भी राय लीजिये। इसके अलावा योजना की प्रेक्टिकेबिलिटी का ध्यान रखिये। यह कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि हम दस वर्ष में स्वावलम्बी हो जायेंगे या दो वर्ष में स्वावलम्बी हो जायेंगे। हमारा कृषि प्रधान देश होते हुए भी हमें बाहर से अनाज मंगाकर खाना पड़े यह बड़ी ही लज्जा की बात है, इस कलंक को हमें दूर करना चाहिये।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Devaki Gopidas, You have to be very very brief.

689 RS—7.

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS (Kerala): Madam Deputy Chairman, regarding the food problem we have heard so much talk here and I do not want to prolong the debate very much because the problem has been dealt with threadbare here.

Our declared objective in our Plans is to raise the standard of living of the common man. But now we find that because of the food problem, the standard of life of the common people has gone down very low and the people are suffering very much. It is admitted that the whole structure of our life is based on the prices of food materials. Now the prices of food materials have shot up sharply and consequently the daily wages of all classes of workers have also increased. As a result of all this the cost of living has risen ten times and naturally the cost of production has also risen to the maximum level. That is a vicious circle. Government servants and industrial labourers are demanding more and more dearness allowance and such other facilities to meet the rise in price of food and all other essential commodities. Thus we find that the whole of our life and its standard and tenor are based on the position of the food materials and the level of their prices. Once the price has gone up it is impossible to bring it down. Then who are the real sufferers? The small peasants, the lower middle-class people whose income is stagnant. Such a person cannot dream of making both ends meet. As a housewife and as a mother, I may say that it is the women folk who are the worst sufferers when food materials are not available and are costly. They have to feed their children, their parents and their husbands and then, if anything is left over, only then they may get something to eat. Otherwise silent starvation is the result. We find that the present generation is not as healthy as the previous ones. My grand-parents were healthier than my parents and I am not as healthy

[Shri Devaki Gopidas.] as my own parents. Why is that? In those days there was enough to eat and less number of people to be fed. That is not the case now. The population is increasing at the rate of 2-5 per cent annually and the production of food materials is not keeping pace with the growing demand. Coupled with that there is the influx of thousands of refugees to our country and this has not yet stopped. That is the grave situation we are faced with.

It is not fair to shut our eyes to glaring facts. It will be uncharitable to say that during the last seventeen years we did nothing for improving agriculture. Considerable improvement has taken place, but unfortunately it did not keep pace with the growing demand. It will be more correct to say that our planners have failed in perspective. While planning for agricultural growth and fixing targets, they have failed to take due note of the growing population and the influx of refugees into our country. That is the main cause of the present grave situation. Now that we are faced with this problem, it being a common cause, we have to think together and find ways and means to tide over the difficult situation.

From the report of the P.A.O. for the year 1964, we find that the production of rice has risen by 3 per cent in the world while that of wheat is 6 per cent. less. The production of milk is less than that of last year. There is no appreciable increase in the production of butter, fat and oils. In our country we find there is a sharp increase in the price of not only foodgrains but also of indigenous food materials, edible oils, etc. If last year the cost of living is taken as 150, this year it is 500. Formerly we were often grieved and shocked to see street boys fighting with dogs for remnants of food from the dust bins. What will be the position now? The position is very grave. We have to see that all fallow

lands are cultivated and all idle lands and waste lands should be made available to the peasants and they are encouraged to produce more from their fields. We have to see that fertilizers are supplied to the farmers at subsidised price. If the price of fertilizers is so high, the farmer not be able to purchase it and utilise it in time. Further a proportionate production of foodgrains should be insisted upon and not the encouraging of cash crops like tobacco. Increased production is possible only on the basis of a remunerative price to the farmers. If the farmer is to produce more and if he produces more, he must be rewarded with incentive prizes also. Government should take all steps necessary to increase the per acre yield in our country which is still perhaps the lowest in the world.

*(Tj-me bell rings)*

Now, I will say something about Kerala. Kerala is the most deficit area in the country. There we have

our indigenous production but that is sufficient only for five to six months in the year and for the balance we have to depend upon other areas, other surplus areas like Andhra for instance. But now we are faced with such a grave situation that we are not getting any rice in our fair price shops and the co-operative provision stores. It is reported very recently from Kerala that the co-operative authorities who had gone to Andhra for procuring rice, they could not get rice because they had to pay a higher rate than the billed price and the difference in cash. They had to come away without getting any stock because of that. It has been reported very recently that about twenty-five lorries containing rice were stopped from coming over to Kerala-Madras Government. It is within the zone and if the surplus areas are to feed the deficit areas, this should not have been done. This is the cooperation we are getting within the zone. If the zonal system is to be like this, I think it will create a much

graver situation. It is the duty of all concerned to see that the people in the deficit areas are not starved. Kerala is producing more of cash crops which earn foreign exchange for the country as a whole and because of this Kerala has to be given due regard in regard to foodgrains. Land there is limited and the population is so high that there are more than 1,250 persons per square mile. There is no further area to be reclaimed for purposes of cultivation. The only remedy open to the State is to improve production and in that regard also the Central Government has to help the State in accelerating production in the area that is already under cultivation. For putting the area in the backwaters under cultivation huge resources are required and the State Government is too poor to meet it. I think the Central Government has to help the State; in that case, we can produce a little more and that will ease the situation. The Central Government has to take greater interest regarding Kerala which has become a problem State in the country.

Thank you.

**श्री जगत नारायण (पंजाब) :** मैडम डिप्टी चेयरमैन, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि आपने मुझे चन्द मिनट खुराक के समये पर कहने के लिये दिये। मैं सबसे पहले फूड मिनिस्टर साहब की खिदमत में यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि उनके कन्धों पर बहुत भारी बोझ है, बड़ी भारी रिस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी है, अगर उन्होंने इस रिस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी को अच्छी तरह से निभाया तो देश बच जायेगा, देश में इन्कलाव नहीं होगा, क्योंकि अबसर दुनिया की तारीख में यह देखा गया है कि भूखे बर्तने लोग ही इन्कलाव करते हैं। अगर उन्हें इस कांग्रेस हुक्मत को बचाना है कि वह एक बार फिर हुक्मत करे तो उन्हें अपनी जिम्मेदारी को बड़ी मजबूती से निभाना होगा। मैं आपकी वसातत से एक बात अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे मुल्क में इस समय जो हालात

बने हुए हैं, फूड का मसला जिस तरह से बना हुआ है, उसकी कोई मिसाल नहीं है।

पिछले १९४७ में डा० राजेन्द्र प्रसाद हमारे फूड मिनिस्टर थे। १९४८-४९ में श्री जैरामदास दौलतराम थे, १९५०-५१ में श्री के० एम० मुन्शी थे, १९५१-५५ में श्री किशवाई साहब थे जिनके जमाने में कुछ स्टैबिलिटी रही। १९५५-५६ कुछ हिस्से में कोई फूड मिनिस्टर नहीं था, क्योंकि इस डिपार्टमेंट को एग्जीक्यूटिव डिपार्टमेंट के साथ बायस्ता कर दिया गया था। १९५६-५९ में श्री अजित प्रसाद जैन फूड मिनिस्टर रहे और १९६०-६१ में श्री एस० के पाटिल साहब रहे। उसके बाद कामराज प्लान आया और सरदार स्वर्णसिंह साहब को फूड मिनिस्टर बनाया गया और उनके बाद हमारे मीजूदा मिनिस्टर श्री मुब्रह्मअब्दुल साहब आये। अब आप देखें कि इन १७ सालों में फूड डिपार्टमेंट में करीब १० मिनिस्टर बदले। फूड डिपार्टमेंट का महकमा ऐसा है कि इसमें जो भी मिनिस्टर हो उसको पूरी अवधि के लिये यानी ५ साल तक काम करने देना चाहिये ताकि वह अपनी स्कीमों को अच्छी तरह से चला सके और मुल्क को फूड मुहय्या कर सके। इसलिये मैं आपसे अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे फूड मिनिस्टर साहब का जितना टर्म है उस पर उन्हें कायम रखा जाना चाहिये, ऐसा न हो कि कुछ समय बाद उनको तबदील कर दिया जाय। अगर उन्हें एक साल बाद तबदील कर दिया गया तो हमारे मुल्क के हालात और भी खराब हो जायेंगे।

मैडम डिप्टी चेयरमैन, मैं पंजाब का रहने वाला हूँ और पंजाब के मुताल्लिक हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस बार अपनी तकरीर में कहा है कि पंजाब हिन्दुस्तान

[ श्री जगत नारायण ]

की ग्रेनरी है। वाकई यह ग्रेनरी है क्योंकि १९६० में मैंने पंजाब विधान सभा में फैंक्ट्स और फिगर्स दे कर यह बतलाया था कि पंजाब इतना अनाज पैदा करता है कि अगर १० छटांक फी आदमी को हर रोज दिया जाय, तो यह अनाज पंजाब, जिसकी आबादी करीब दो करोड़ है, वह खा सकता है और इसके साथ ही साथ राजस्थान की आधी आबादी को वह दे सकता है। काश्मीर की सारी आबादी को दे सकता है, हिमाचल प्रदेश की सारी आबादी को दे सकता है, और दिल्ली की २५ लाख की आबादी को अपने अनाज से खिला सकता है। पंजाब में इतना अनाज पैदा होता है कि वह इतने सूबों को खिला सकता है। मगर आज हमारी हालत क्या है? पंजाब के जो लोग होते हैं वे शुद्ध आटा खाते हैं, शुद्ध घी खाते हैं, शुद्ध दूध पीते हैं। लेकिन आज हालत यह है कि पंजाब के ७० फी सदी लोगों को अमरीकन गन्धम खाना पड़ रहा है। हम अपने यहां गन्धम पैदा करते हैं, अपने सूबे से दूसरे सूबे को भेजते हैं। लेकिन आज हालत यह है कि हमको बाहर का गन्धम खाना पड़ रहा है। हमारे जो लोग गरीब हैं वे ज्वार, मकई और बाजरा गन्धम में मिला कर खा लिया करते थे लेकिन आज उन्हें यह अनाज भी नहीं मिल रहा है। मेरी उम्र इस समय करीब ६४ साल की हो गई है और जब मैं ७ साल का बच्चा था तो हमारे सूबे में एक रुपया नौ आने मन गन्धम बिकता था, १० या १२ आने मन मकई बिकती थी और आठ और सात आने मन ज्वार बिकती थी। आज ६४ साल की उम्र में मैंने पहली बार देखा कि कांग्रेस के राज में अनाजों के दाम इतने बढ़ गये हैं, जितने कि कभी भी नहीं बढ़े थे। अंग्रेजों के राज में बंगाल में कहत पड़ा था और करीब ३० लाख आदमी मरे थे मगर यह बात कभी नहीं हुई कि मवेशियों को गन्धम खिलाया जाय। इन्सान ही गन्धम खाते थे और मवेशियों को नहीं खिलाया जाता था। मैडम डिप्टी

चेयरमैन, जब मैं पिछले इतवार को जालन्धर गया था तो आप सुनकर हैरान होंगी कि जो मकई पिछले साल १२ रु० मन बिकती थी आज वह २६ रु० मन बिक रही है। जो चना पहले १५ रु० मन बिकता था वह आज ३० रु० मन बिक रहा है। गन्धम १५ रु० ५० पैसे मन थी अब वही गन्धम २२ और २३ रु० मन बिक रही है। बाजरा जिसको कोई नहीं खाना था और जो पिछले साल १४ रु० मन बिक रहा था वह आज २६ रु० मन बिक रहा है। मकई, बाजरा और चना इतने महंगे हो जायें उस सूब में जो सूबा हिन्दुस्तान का ग्रेनरी कहलाता है, जो दूसरे सूबों को अनाज खिलाता है, आज उसकी हालत यह हो गई है कि उसे अमरीकन गन्धम खानी पड़ रही है।

तो मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि हिन्दुस्तान की राजधानी दिल्ली के पास जिस सूबे की इस तरह की हालत हो अगर उस मुल्क में रिबोल्यूशन न आवे तो और क्या आवेगा? इसीलिये मैं फूड मिनिस्टर साहब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि उन्हें सबसे पहले इस बात की ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये कि लोगों को अनाज सस्ता और ठीक तरह से मिले। लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि इस समय जो सबसे बड़ी स्टाकिस्ट है वह सरकार है, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट है, जो अमरीका से गन्धम मंगा रही है। स्वयं भी खरीद कर रही है, क्योंकि सरकार सबसे बड़ी स्टाकिस्ट है इसलिए वही गन्धम पर कन्ट्रोल करती है। अंग्रेजों के जमाने में एक रैली ब्रादर्स फर्म हुआ करती थी। यह फर्म गन्धम खरीदा करती थी और जो रेट वह निकालती थी वही मार्केट रेट होता था। रैली ब्रादर्स सबसे बड़े स्टाकिस्ट थे और वही गेहूं का स्टोक खरीदा करते थे और जो रेट उस समय निकाल देते थे वही मार्केट रेट बन जाता था। आजकल हमारी यूनियन सरकार सबसे बड़ी स्टाकिस्ट है। अगर वह एक रेट मुकर्रर कर दे तो मार्केट में भी वही रेट

हो जायेगा और इस तरह से गन्दम के रेड्स स्टेबिलाइज्ड हो सकते हैं। जिस ढंग से आजकल बढ़ रहे हैं, उस तरह से १०० फी सदी दाम नहीं बढ़ सकते हैं। अगर सरकार गन्दम दूसरे सूबों में भोजना चाहती है तो वह पंजाब से दो रुपया, तीन रुपया या चार रुपया ज्यादा दाम वहां ले सकती है। लेकिन आज जो हाल हमें देखने को मिल रहा है, वह यह है कि पंजाब से दुगने दामों में वहां की गन्दम बिक रही है। पंजाब में अगर ये रेड्स हैं तो मद्रास में कितने होंगे इसका अन्दाजा आप कर सकते हैं। और फिर हालत क्या है? हालत यह है कि स्ट्राइक होते हुए भी हमारी सरकार कभी प्राइसेज को स्टेबिलाइज करने की कोशिश नहीं करती है।

मैं उन लोगों में से हूँ जो यह समझते हैं कि पूरी तरह से स्टेट ट्रेडिंग होनी चाहिए। वैसे मैं कम्युनिस्ट नहीं हूँ। इलेक्शन में कम्युनिस्ट भाइयों ने मेरी मुखालफत की थी। खैर छोड़िये इन बातों को। मगर मैं इतना बता दूँ कि मैं कम्युनिस्ट नहीं हूँ। फिर भी मैं यह समझता हूँ कि यूनियन सरकार के लिये इसके सिवा और कोई रास्ता ही नहीं है। यह जो कहा गया है कि पार्शियल स्टेट ट्रेडिंग करेंगे, उससे आप हिन्दुस्तान को भूख से नहीं बचा सकेंगे। अगर वाकई आपको हिन्दुस्तान की सेवा करनी है और लोगों को सस्ता अनाज देना है, तो आपको प्राइसेज को स्टेबिलाइज करना पड़ेगा। सारी चीजों की कीमतें गन्दम और दूसरी खाने पीने की कीमतों के इर्द गिर्द घूमती हैं। अगर आप इनकी प्राइसेज स्टेबिलाइज कर दें तो फिर अपने आप कपड़े की प्राइसेज स्टेबिलाइज हो जायेंगी और दूसरी तमाम चीजों की कीमतें स्टेबिलाइज हो जायेंगी। इसलिये यह जो फूड का मामला है इसको आपको बड़े हाथर लेबिल पर अपने हाथ में लेना होगा। यह पार्शियल स्टेट ट्रेडिंग से काम नहीं चलेगा और मैं इसके हक में नहीं हूँ। इससे हमारे सामने वैसे ही मुश्किलात आती रहेंगी जैसे

कि इस वक्त हमारे सामने आ रही हैं। आज अगर आप एक रेट मुकर्रर करते हैं, तो दूसरे दिन उससे दो रुपये मन निख ज़्यादा हो जाता है और तीसरे दिन एक रुपया मन निख और बढ़ जाता है। इसलिये इस वक्त अगर आप चाहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान को क़हत से बचायें, लोगों को क़हत से बचायें तो आपको पूरे तौर पर फूड के मसले को अपने हाथ में ले लेना चाहिये। मैंने आपको बताया कि मैं कम्युनिस्ट नहीं हूँ, मगर मैं यह समझता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान को बचाना निहायत ज़रूरी है।

दूसरी बात जो मैं आपसे आखिर में अज़ करना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि आप को मालूम है कि हमारी ७० फी सदी आबादी जो है वह खेती का काम करती है। अमेरिका की २० फी सदी आबादी खेती का काम करती है और आज अमेरिका तमाम दुनिया को अपना गंदम सप्लाई कर रहा है और हमारे मुल्क में ७० फी सदी लोग अपने मुल्क के लिये भी पैदावार नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैं यह यक़ीन नहीं करता कि हम अपने मुल्क के लिये इतनी पैदावार नहीं कर सकते जिससे हम अपने मुल्क का पेट भर सकें और किसी दूसरे मुल्क से हमें मांगना न पड़े। मैं यह यक़ीन रखता हूँ कि अगर अपने यहां पर साइंटिफिक तरीके से ख़ाद दे कर के खेती की जाय और आप किसानों के लिये तमाम सहायितयें मुहैया करें तो हिन्दुस्तान के जो लोग हैं वे इतने मेहनती हैं कि वे अपने मुल्क के लिये पूरी ख़राक पैदा कर सकते हैं। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि यूनियन सरकार को यह कराना चाहिये और सक्ती से कराना चाहिये, मजबूती से कराना चाहिये, प्यार से कराना चाहिये, रुपया खर्च करके कराना चाहिये। आज जो अरबों रुपया प्लानों पर खर्च हो रहा है उससे हिन्दुस्तान को कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंचा है। इसलिये अब आप गुल्ला ज़्यादा से ज़्यादा पैदा करने की कोशिश करें। मँडम, आप का बहुत शुक्रिया।



شری پھارے لال کریل : مطالبہ :  
 (انٹرپرائز) : میڈم - میں نے فوڈ  
 سرجن کو تسکین دینے کے لئے ایک  
 موشن اگست میں دیا تھا اور اگست  
 میں ہی وہ منظور ہو گیا تھا - میں  
 آج صبح سے بھٹکا ہوا ہوں اور اس سے  
 پہلے بھی بیٹھا رہا لیکن سرجن بولنے کا  
 موقعہ انہیں دیا گیا - اس کی کیا وجہ ہے  
 میں یہ جاننا چاہوں گا - جب سب  
 سے پہلے میں نے موشن دیا اور سب سے  
 پہلے میرا موشن اگست ہوا تو سرجن  
 اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کیوں نہیں کرتے  
 دیا گیا - میں یہ بتانا چاہتا ہوں  
 کہ میں اس ہاؤس کے اندر سوشلسٹ  
 پارٹی کو ریفرنٹ کرتا ہوں اور دوسری  
 پارٹیوں سے اختلاف رکھتا ہوں - کسی  
 دوسری پارٹی سے میں نے اپنے کو مزج  
 نہیں کیا ہے - ابھی جو موجد ہوا ہے  
 وہ لیڈروں کا موجد ہے اور ورکرز کا  
 موجد نہیں ہے - اتنا بتا دینے کے بعد  
 اور میرا موشن اگست ہونے پر بھی  
 سرجن موقعہ کیوں نہیں دیا جا رہا  
 ہے - اس کی کیا وجہ ہے یہ میں  
 جاننا چاہتا ہوں - جب اور ممبروں  
 کو بولنے کا موقعہ دیا گیا تو سرجن  
 کیوں نہیں دیا گیا ؟

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no answer to all the arguments that you are forwarding. You have not been called for want of time.

شری پھارے لال کریل : مطالبہ :

جس دن سب سے پہلے فوڈ سرجن پر  
 بحث شروع ہوئی اسی دن سب سے

پہلے میں نے اپنا نام دیا تھا پھر بھی  
 سرجن بولنے کا کیوں نہیں موقعہ دیا  
 کیا یہ میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں ؟

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will you please resume your seat? The Food Minister.

شری پھارے لال کریل : مطالبہ :  
 میں جاننا چاہوں گا کہ جب میرا  
 موشن اگست ہوا ہے تو سرجن بولنے  
 کا کیوں نہیں موقعہ دیا گیا . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. I am on my feet. Please take your seat.

شری پھارے لال کریل : مطالبہ :  
 میں نہایت خاموشی اور ادب کے  
 ساتھ اس ہاؤس میں بیٹھتا ہوں -  
 پھر بھی سرجن کیوں نہیں موقعہ دیا  
 گیا . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. I am on my feet.

شری پھارے لال کریل : مطالبہ :  
 یہ میرے ساتھ تسکین دینے کے لئے  
 اس تسکین دینے کو برداشت نہیں  
 کر سکتا - میرے ساتھ ایسا ویوہار  
 کیوں کیا جاتا ہے . ۱۹۲۰ ع سے  
 میں نے ایک بلنگہ کے لئے اپلائی  
 کر رکھا ہے لیکن باوجود اس کے کہ  
 بہت سے بلنگہ خالی ہوئے مگر  
 ابھی تک کوئی بلنگہ نہیں دیا گیا  
 ہے . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am on my feet. When I am on my feet, please sit down.





[श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील 'तालिब']  
इसके कि बहुत से बंगले खाली हुए मुझे अभी  
तक कोई बंगला नहीं दिया गया है।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am on my feet. When I am on my feet, please sit down.

श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील 'तालिब' : मैं  
जवाब जानना चाहता हूँ . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.  
Please take your seat.

(Interruptions.)

श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील 'तालिब' : मुझे  
इसका जवाब मिलना चाहिये।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I want to say that this sort of dishonourable behaviour will not be permitted in the House. When the Chair is on its feet, the hon. Member must resume his seat. I have given my explanation as to why you have not been called.

श्री प्यारे लाल कुरील 'तालिब' : मैं  
भी इस तरह का डिस्टिन्मिनेशन बर्दाश्त नहीं  
कर सकता। मैं एंज ए प्रोटेस्ट इस हाउस से  
वाक-आऊट करता हूँ।]

(The hon. Member then left the Chamber.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAI V (Nominated): Madam, if a Member refuses to obey the Chair and continues to stand when the Chair is standing and in protest goes away; that cannot be the end of the matter if rules are to be observed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will be looked into. The Food Minister.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Madam Deputy Chairman, I hope I will not be considered to be presumptuous if I say that this House maintained a high level of debate during these three days' discussions. Of course, there was an exception, a bad exception—the speech of Shri Niren Ghosh. I am sorry he is not here; therefore I would leave it at that.

Many points were made here, constructive points, but apart from that many Members were generous enough to express a few words of encouragement and some Members a few words of sympathy in the difficult task which I have undertaken. I appreciate those words and, Madam, I very badly need those encouraging and sympathetic words. I say it because, as it has been expressed by very many hon. Members, this is on any account a very difficult task, but a task which has got to be achieved and made a success of. And it is from that point of view I have been listening with care to the many points and suggestions made by hon. Members. In the course of my reply it will be physically impossible for me to touch upon every point made here. It is not that I do not attach weight to those points. I can assure hon. Members that every point and every suggestion made here would be fully considered and examined and if hon. Members would wish it I would even circulate the decisions on those points and suggestions.

Before I proceed to deal with the general policy I would like to deal with the immediate situation about which many hon. Members were naturally concerned. The first heartening aspect of the situation, Madam, is that the *kharif* crop is reported to be quite good. I have been receiving reports from Kanyakumari to Kashmir that apart from the devastation caused by floods in a few patches—I am saying a few patches taking into account the area covered—the general report is that it is—and particularly the rice crop is—likely to be a

bumper crop even though the millet crops have been affected either by floods or by excess of rain in some of the States. We are also trying to meet the situation with imports. So far as I can see I see no other alternative to imports. We are trying to import as much as possible to meet the requirements of the people. Fortunately, due to the co-operation of the port authorities, the railways and more than that, may I say, Madam, of the labour union and labourers it has been possible to clear the congestion at the ports.

The story of food ships waiting in the docks, waiting for berth and the country going through the situation of a food crisis no longer holds good. We are trying to make arrangements to see that congestion will be avoided in future also as far as possible. We have intensified our programme of imports, so that the immediate situation within the next two months could be easily met.

I am sure the following figures will hearten not only this House but also the people as a whole. For the next month, i.e. for October 1964, we have programmed to get seven hundred thousand tonnes of wheat. This will be a record figure. We have arranged it mainly because September and October are the most critical months. It is a certainty that we would be receiving in October this quantity of about seven hundred thousand tonnes. Unfortunately there was a slip in September—not due to our fault. Even as we have trouble here in the ports, docks and railways, there were some troubles in the exporting countries, in the U.S.A. A few ships could not leave the ports. That left a void and that has created some difficulty with regard to the supply position during this month. This difficulty is not with reference to any particular State only. As a matter of fact, every State has been affected by it. Unfortunately, I was sorry to find the representatives of U.P.—when I say representatives I mean the representatives in this House—

well as outside, and particularly I was sorry to find the Chief Minister of U.P. rushing to the pie, and making a statement that the Central Government letting down the State has created difficulties. But representatives here—I am sorry I was not here when Mr. Chandra Shekhar spoke—went a step further and made personal allegations against me. Therefore, I am putting up my defence and [ I think I should explain fully and wholly with regard to the supply position, particularly in respect of Uttar Pradesh. I wish to assure this House that I have nothing to do with the group politics in U.P. I do not know who belongs to which group as a matter of fact and, therefore, if anybody should think that my approach is because of some group politics, I would like to disabuse the mind of any one who has got that impression.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU (Uttar Pradesh) :  
We have not suggested that.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Now, there was a suggestion. That is why I am saying it.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: You belong to no group. We know that.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am glad the hon. Member, Mr. Sapru, says it. When he says it, I suppose all the other Members will be convinced about it, not only Members here, but also the Ministers of U.P. should be convinced of it. I want to say this categorically. I know group politics is affecting the administration there, but that is quite a different thing altogether. It has affected food administration also, but I am not concerned with that. What I want to say is this. After all, what is the supply position with regard to U.P.? As far as U.P. is concerned, we used to supply wheat under three heads. One is for supply to what are known as KAVAI towns—Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Lucknow and Agra. From January to August 1953,

[Shri C. Subramaniam.] we supplied them only 9-2 thousand tonnes. During this year, January to August 1964, we have supplied 151\*7 thousand tonnes. The second head of account is supply to the State Government for the purpose of fair price shops in the various rural areas and other towns not covered by the KAVAI towns. Last year we supplied 23-1 thousand tonnes. This year from January up to August we have supplied 390-8 thousand tonnes. Then, the third account is with regard to flour mills. It was 214-1 thousand tonnes during January—August 1963. This year it is 352\*6 thousand tonnes. Therefore, the total during January—August 1963 was 246-4, thousand tonnes and this year it is 895-1 thousand tonnes, roughly nine lakh tonnes. This is not the whole story.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of clarification, Madam, I would like to know the figures of coarse grain sent out of U.P. during 1963-64 and during this year.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: If anything it has been less, but I do know that the production also has gone down. As a matter of fact, I am sorry to find that there has been a progressive decrease in production as far as U.P. is concerned, from year to year, and I do not know whom to blame for that. I suppose they will blame the Centre also for this. Therefore, nearly nine lakh tonnes has been delivered to U.P. during the period January to August.

Hon. Members might remember that we had a Conference of the Chief Ministers in June, soon after I took over this Ministry, within a fortnight. All the Chief Ministers were here and I took that occasion to discuss with each individual State Government, with the Chief Minister, for the purpose of finding out the situation. In regard to U.P.—I am sorry I have to give this out now because allegations have been made against me that I have purposely stood against U.P.—I talked to the Chief Minister of U.P.

and tried to find out what allocation should be made to U.P. I was told categorically that the position was not bad. Whatever was possible might be allotted to U.P. and they would be able to manage. Therefore, I say I took it a little easy as far as U.P. was concerned. In addition to that, April was the end of the harvest season. Therefore, May and June were particularly easy and it is not surprising that the Chief Minister took that attitude. In spite of that we made some allotment to U.P. for July. After that, I found the position progressively deteriorating in U.P. during July. I went to Lucknow to confer with the Ministers there and after conferring with them and taking into account what was available with us for distribution I suggested to them that instead of having these three quotas, *i.e.*, the KAVAI towns quota, the State Government quota and the mills quota, in the present difficult situation it would be better for them to get the whole of it as one quota and then deal with it according to the situation **there**. On that basis I told them that I would give them 1,05,000 tonnes every month for the next two or three months. Movement started on that basis. And as far as August was concerned, instead of 1,05,000 tonnes, I had stepped up the despatch to 1,21,000 tonnes to U.P.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA (Uttar Pradesh): Is that last month, August?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Yes. Instead of 1,05,000 tonnes it was 1,21,000 tonnes, after the arrangement I made at the end of July. Then, as far as September is concerned, as I just now explained and as hon. Members are aware, there was a slip in the sense that some ships did not arrive in time because of some difficulty in the U.S. harbours. The despatch to almost all the States had to be staggered a little. I would like to give figures because it is being said that I have discriminated against U.P. The Maharashtra quota is 85,000 tonne supplies up to 20-9-64 are 33,900 tonnes. Bombay City is a separate

Central responsibility. As against 15,000 tonnes, I have delivered 10,000 tonnes. For Gujarat as against 59,800 tonnes, the figure is 22,900 tonnes. For Bihar as against 80,000 tonnes it is 45,400 tonnes. As a matter of fact Bihar had a backlog also. For Rajasthan as against 52,600 tonnes it is 18,900 tonnes only. For U.P. as against 1,05,000 tonnes up to 20-9-64 it is 54,900 tonnes. But I know that U.P. was in a bad state and therefore we had arranged for the diversion of four ships on the high seas. The U.K. Government agreed to divert three of its ships and the U.A.R. Government also agreed to divert one of its ships. After this diversion I had intensified the movement to the other States also but to a greater extent to U. P.

Now, hon. Members would be glad to know the order of movement as far as U.P. is concerned. From Bombay Port it is 60 wagons per day accounting for 1440 tonnes; from Calcutta it is 70 wagons per day accounting for 1680 tonnes; from Kandla it is 50 wagons per day accounting for 710 tonnes; from Vizag it is 10 wagons per day accounting for 240 tonnes; total 190 wagon? accounting for 4060 tonnes per day—all for U.P. I do not think there has been any bigger movement organised at any other time. But in spite of that, the Chief Minister has gone on record in a Press Conference as saying that the Centre has let down U.P. I do not know what period she refers to. If there was any slip even in June and July, she has to thank herself for that for taking a complacent attitude at that time and telling me that she would be able to manage with whatever I was able to give her.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: May I ask whether it is a fact or not that until the 18th of this month instead of the quota of 1,05,000 tonnes for the current month only 20,000 tonnes of wheat were sent to U.P.?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It was 40,000 tonnes. It was not 20,000 ton- I

nes. Up to 20-9-64 the total despatch, as I just now read out, is 54,900 tonnes.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: On a point of clarification. What the Chief Minister told us, all the M.P.s from U.P., was that up to the 18th September she had received only 20,000 tonnes. What was despatched is a different thing, unless it reaches U.P. So we have to take that figure, and 20,000 tonnes in eighteen days? as against a quota of 1,05,000 tonnes, I hope the hon. Minister will agree, is not sufficient to meet the demand of all the cities.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Then you should take into account the despatches made in August which reached in September. You cannot take one fact alone and argue. Some portion of what was despatched in August would have reached in September. Take that into account and then you will find that it is a much bigger figure. If you want to calculate what was actually received, then the August quota should also be taken into account. It is not a question of saying that I received this alone. After all I have got to distribute only what I have equitably between all the States. Certainly even U.P. is not entitled to any different treatment discarding the interests of all the other States. I have distributed only what I have, I am not a magician who can produce things from my pocket and then distribute to everybody. Therefore, it is a question of distributing whatever I have and anybody may look at it. If they want they may appoint a highly placed auditor to find out whether for U.P. any discrimination has been made and whether the despatches which have been made are less than those made to the other States concerned. This is the real state of affairs. If a situation arises where availability is less, that will have to be shared by everybody and one State alone cannot claim; give everything to me, it does not matter what happens to the other States.

AN HON. MEMBER; Nobody claims that.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Then you take it from me that there has been an equitable distribution. There is no question of any discrimination against UP. On the other hand it has been most favourably treated and it is on that basis that the despatches have been made.

DR. GOPAL SINGH (Nominated): But why is it that UP. is growing less and less wheat every year?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am not here to go into all those things.

DR. GOPAL SINGH; Why is it so?

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) ; When the Minister answers, he has to satisfy himself about the production in UP.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: This is the real situation. I do agree that if there has been less of production and people are suffering, we cannot be telling them that there has been less of production; we have to meet the situation. Therefore, in the given circumstances, we are trying to help UP. as much as possible.

It seems that another hon. Member was saying that Punjab was prepared to give some wheat or rice to UP. and that I stood in the way. I do not know where he got the story from. I am sorry that such an attitude should have been taken, and I can give the assurance to this House that as far as I am concerned, I look particularly at the distribution of whatever I have in an objective way and try to find out what are the needs of each State, and with reference to that need assessed I try to do it as equitably as possible. After all I am not the only Minister in the Cabinet. There is joint responsibility and there are the Prime Minister and other Ministers, and I am sure *no* colleague of mine would

allow a discrimination against any State. Therefore, it is an aspersion not only against me, it is an aspersion against the functioning of the Cabinet itself, and I am sorry such an attitude has been taken by some hon. Members and also the Ministers of UP.

In the note circulated, I have tried to spell out the long-term policy. Admittedly the price and food situation is difficult and I have no doubt it will continue to be difficult for some more years, I want to be quite frank about it because overnight you cannot bring about miraculously an increase in production to meet all our requirements. Therefore, for a few more years we will have to depend upon imported foodgrains, and even with imported foodgrains I am sure there would be some sort of deficiency. But in this difficult situation we should not lose our sense of perspective in analysing this problem. Speakers here and elsewhere have tried to hunt for a reason in the increasing money supply. No doubt there is an element in it. They were not merely pointing to the money supply but implicit in this criticism is a condemnation of the policies of the Government in undertaking planned development of the country. Let us make no mistake about it that modernising an economy cannot be done without the necessary monetary expansion. We are developing, and the demands of development do place a strain on our resources. It would be less than fair to the millions of our people who have suffered and sacrificed in the cause of development already if we are to abandon plans and development at the very first glimpse of higher prices. It is true that we have to have development with stability and that we have to discipline the economy to help this. But it is unwise, as some hon. Members here have suggested, to give up our plans of development or to make significant changes therein. If we adopt the advice of these gentlemen,

we would be letting the prices control the plan rather than the plan control the prices. We have to manfully take charge of the economy and discipline it to suit our demands of development. We want to plan. Planning means bringing about a situation in which this planned development is possible, and therefore we have to control the situation. We should not become creatures of circumstances.

DR. GOPAL SINGH: Planned distribution also.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Madam, the charge has been made—and points have been made here—that the food-grain prices have shot up. No doubt they have shot up, particularly during the last 18 months. I want to analyse this increase in prices in foodgrains not as a politician, not as a Minister belonging to this Cabinet but let me analyse it as a student of economics, objectively. What has happened? Whether the increase, taking into account the general economy, is disproportionate to that which has happened in the other sectors, is an Important point to note. As a matter of fact, I tried to make a study of it and find out whether the foodgrain prices have been increasing disproportionately to the prices of other articles. Looking into the relationships between the wholesale rise in rice prices and the general level of all wholesale prices since 1956, we see that the index of wholesale rise in rice prices was about 95 per cent of the index of all the wholesale prices for the period 1950—58. Since 1958, however, the index of rice prices relative to all wholesale prices declined, so that in the 1960-62 period, the index of rice prices was only 86 per cent, of all wholesale price index. Therefore, you will find that from 95 per cent between 1950 and 1958, this dropped to 86 per cent of all the prices. Only in 1964 was the 1950—58 relationship restored after this increase. This is the story of the rise in the prices of rice. What is the story with regard to wheat? The

index of wholesale wheat prices as a percentage of all wholesale prices was 84 per cent, for the period 1950-58. It dropped to 72 per cent in the 1960-62 period, and the 1950-58 relationship was nearly restored at the prevailing price in 1964. Therefore, we should not go under the impression that the foodgrain prices have disproportionately risen taking into the general level of prices. As was pointed out by many hon. Members, it has not exceeded apart from the other sectors of economy.

And I think that Shri Annadurai tried to make a point. After all, why do you want to make a distinction between the producer and the consumer? I do not want to make a distinction. As a matter of fact, I want to have a parity between the two, that is the agriculturist and the non-agriculturist. If you take that into account objectively, not as persons belonging to this group or that group, urban or rural group, agriculturist or non-agriculturist, I have no doubt in my mind that you will come to the conclusion that during all these periods, the First, Plan, the Second Plan and the Third Plan, the standard of the agricultural section has been significantly lagging behind the other sections. There is absolutely no doubt about it and therefore, their interest should be kept in mind when we talk about the prices to be fixed. Therefore, I would like to stress this point. I do agree that fairness, equity and justice to the consumers should be observed with regard to the prices to be fixed in the agricultural sector. But at the same time you will have to look at the other things also. Today the agriculturist has to purchase many things for his agricultural operations and for his consumption. Therefore, if you look at it from this point of view, on any account, the standard of the agricultural section is far below the standard of the non-agricultural section. Take any stratum. There is no doubt about it. I am not

[Shri C. Subramaniam.] pleading for the fixing of the prices .. *(Interruptions.)* Let me finish this argument. I am not pleading for any fixation of prices only on this basis of equity or justice to the agriculturists. But what do we want now? How are we going to tackle the situation? How can it be solved? I thought that there was unanimity of opinion that this could be solved only by increasing production. That is the only answer. As a matter of fact, we planned that in the Third Plan period there should be an increase of 5 per cent every year, from 80 millions we should reach at least 100 millions of foodgrain production at the end of the Third Plan period. But instead of increasing, we have been going slightly backward and we are just reaching 80 million tons which was achieved in the beginning of the Third Plan period. Therefore, there has been a slight fall. Why has this happened? As Shri Annadurai was saying, I do not want to treat the symptom only, I want to treat the disease and find out why this has happened. If I am going wrong and if I have gone wrong, I am prepared to be corrected. After all, I have just taken over, I am trying to make an assessment of the situation and trying to find out what are the things which have inhibited production in the

country. My own view is that this price factor has been one of the dominant factors in inhibiting the increase in the production of food-grains. There are two aspects to it, apart from the other increases in prices of the other articles in the other sectors. Take the agricultural sector itself. In the agricultural sector, there are foodgrains and other non-foodgrains. Under foodgrains oilseeds, sugarcane, fibre and all those things come. Take that price level and take the price level of food-grains. We find that the price level of all the other non-foodgrains has gone up considerably and therefore production also has gone up there. There is a strong lobby for sugarcane that instead of Rs. 1.85 per ton I should pay at least Rs. 2. And soon

after I took over the Food portfolio I received telegrams, a number of telegrams. And now if you calculate what is the net income from a sugarcane field on this basis of Rs. 1.85, you will find that it is twice or thrice of what a farmer gets by growing grains. But still we want to increase the sugarcane price. But nobody is concerned about the prices of food-grains. As a matter of fact, we want it to be further depressed because the consumers in the urban area cannot afford to pay. Therefore, we want to depress it further. In the sector of agricultural production, I find that from 1952-53 the total food-grain production has been increased at the rate of 2.51 per cent, whereas in the other sector, the non-foodgrains sector, it has been increasing at the rate of 4.01 per cent. A person who is able to divert his field to the other non-foodgrains, gets more. That is the tendency because there is incentive. If you want more foodgrains for the purpose of feeding the people, particularly the increasing population, this imbalance within agricultural sector will have first to be rectified. Therefore, if a price has to be fixed for foodgrains, my sugarcane friends should also realise. If they want Rs. 2 per maund, then you make a calculation as to what is the investment involved, what will be the net income per acre. And at least something comparable to that should be given to the foodgrains grower. That is one aspect of it.

The other aspect with regard to the prices of foodgrains which we want to fix is the change, the revolution, which has got to take place in the agricultural sector. What do I mean by revolution in the agricultural sector? It is not merely a word. It is a question of using the new inputs for the purposes of increasing production. Till now it was merely subsistence agriculture. Trust to nature, just plough it with the



have got the labour, just plough the field. Throw some seeds. If it rains, well, you have got some production. Now, if you want him to use better seeds, if you want him to use fertilisers, if you want him to use pesticides—because of fertilisers, various pests and insects would come—if you want him to use better implements, that means he has got to make more investments, use more inputs into agriculture. That is how the change can be brought about. If you want the agriculturists to take to this investment in agriculture instead of subsistence agriculture, then as an industry, sufficient return should be provided. That is why particularly when you want this subsistence agriculture to turn into modern agriculture, based on investments and modern inputs, then naturally you have to provide this new price incentive; otherwise you cannot expect the farmer to make over this change. This is not a new conception. I am not giving anything new here. This is the experience of all the countries in the world today. Take the countries which have developed in the agricultural sector and are producing surpluses. Take U.S.A. Take any other country.

Of course, I am not going into the Communist economy. That is a different thing altogether. And I am sure nobody would say, let us follow that economy. As far as agriculture is concerned, there are certain features even in the Communist countries which we have got to copy in agriculture like techniques, various scientific discoveries and so on. But that is a different thing altogether. Everywhere the change-over, the break-through, in agriculture has taken place on the basis of a remunerative and incentive price. As long as they were sticking to cheap farm price policy, agriculture continued to be backward, and only when they made the change of giving a remunerative price, the change-over took place. And particularly for a developing economy, this is the real problem. In

a developing economy if there is a conflict, it is as a result of providing a higher price for the purpose of increasing production and that creates a problem for the consumer. How do you solve it? And it has been solved in the other countries. In Japan they purchase rice at a higher price of about Rs. 1,000 per ton, subsidise by Rs. 200 and then sell it at Rs. 800. In many other countries they had to give a price support. It is only on that basis that agriculture has grown. Take England today. It is on the basis of price support that the British agriculture has improved. Therefore, it is inevitable that we have got to give this price increase, remunerative price, if we want increased production. Therefore, this House has got to decide, this country has got to decide, namely, shall we have a cheap price policy, protect the consumer and continue to be deficit and have food crisis year after year, or shall we make a break-through by giving this remunerative and incentive price? This is the decision that we have to take. In my view this is the only choice.

Everybody would vote for greater production. And this had been considered even in 1948 by a committee presided over by our grand old man—Shri V. T. Krishnamachari. At that time he was the Chairman of the Price Policy Sub-Committee. That Committee made certain observations. Let me quote:

"In certain circumstances however it may be necessary to go further and adopt measures such as guaranteed prices so as to secure comparative stability of agricultural prices and incomes, in the face of seasonal and cyclical fluctuations as well as to establish a reasonable parity between agricultural and industrial incomes. The guarantee of an assured market for agricultural produce at a remunerative minimum price constitutes the most direct and effective form of assistance. It is

[Shri C. Subramaniam.] :an essential part of a nation-wide drive to raise agricultural productivity and output. Some of us, in fact,...

It is important—

"... Some of us, in fact, consider that all the other measures combined will not succeed in attaining the objectives in view unless the producer is guaranteed a remunerative minimum price for his produce."

And then they have considered this conflict between the consumer and the producer which Shri Annadurai iposed:

"A price policy may not always be able to reconcile the necessity of assuring a remunerative price to the producer and keeping the price within the means of the consumer. In course of time we have no doubt that this conflict of interests would be resolved, since our proposals are only a part of a more comprehensive programme of economic development which will result in a general rise in the level of incomes and employment. Until the price policy has produced the expected increase in efficiency and output per acre however, the price fixed may in some cases prove beyond the means of certain classes of consumers. The remedy in such cases lies in the grant of consumption subsidies to the classes of consumers affected."

Therefore, if we adopt this policy, it is not my point that all the consumers should be asked to pay the price based on what we have to pay to the producer. If as a policy we come to a decision that certain vulnerable sections have got to be protected, then we have to make a separate provision for those vulnerable sections. And that is why the Prime Minister declared in the Lok Sabha that fair price shops will be continued and supported.

We have to take a decision with regard to that also, namely, to what extent we should subsidise it. Even now in running these fair price shops, they are selling the imported wheat at Rs. 37-50 per quintal. As it is, even now we are subsidising this year to the extent of Rs. 60 crores, because the other incidentals are not provided for in fixing the price. What we fixed in 1956 continues to be the price. While it is true that the consumer will have to be provided with cheap grains, this itself has created many distortions in the economy apart from the ideological objection of Shri Bhupesh Gupta to the import of wheat from the U.S.A.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No ideological objection. Not from me.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Then it must be Mr. Ghosh. I always mistake between right and left there. I have not got accustomed to it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I only said that we should be self-sufficient and the time limit should be fixed.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Evidently I mistook the left argument for the right. That is quite different. The price policy of distribution of this imported wheat is creating a distortion in the economy of the country because this is being sold in the fair price shops at Rs. 37-50. All the other grains are selling much higher. Even the coarsest grain is selling at Rs. 55. This is the difference. Therefore, everybody thinks that he should get the imported wheat. That is the real pressure today. It is not that other grains are not available. But this is the cheapest; not only the cheapest, there is a vast difference. Take U.P. The indigenous wheat is Rs. 80 while the imported wheat is Rs. 37-50. Therefore, there is pressure in the rural areas and urban areas, "Give me imported wheat". Whereas there used to be inhibitions against the imported wheat, now they say, "Give more and more imported wheat". Certainly we cannot sustain

this. Therefore, we will have to take a policy decision with regard to the level at which it should be subsidised taking into account the general level of foodgrain prices. And, therefore, running of fair price shops would also involve another decision about the level at which it should be subsidised. On that another decision will have to be taken soon.

Therefore, Madam, while I plead for a remunerative and incentive price to the farmer, at the same time there should be a policy decision for protecting the vulnerable sections of the community through fair price shops and subsidising them through the fair price shops. Today there are professional buyers. They go on standing at the fair price shops, take the wheat or sugar and immediately sell it to somebody else. That has become almost a profession now. That is mainly because of the large disparity between the fair price shop prices and the general level of prices. That we will have to take care of.

While the remunerative price for the farmer is being provided for, the other general consumer also will have to be protected against speculation in trade. Today prices are being pushed up by trade by speculative elements. That will have to be protected against as far as the general consumer is concerned.

Generally we look at the average and find that it is not much but it is not the average which has got to be looked into. He strikes at the most vulnerable point—the trader. There are scarcity areas, scarcity seasons and then it shoots up and naturally this is the atmosphere or condition in which he is able to make huge profits. Sometimes the scarcity is also contrived. That is the real difficulty, to-day. Our policy decision, which I have already indicated, is that we should have a producer price and taking that into account we should have a maximum consumer price. It is for the purpose of administering this price policy, the triple price policy of producer, whole-

saler and retailer-consumer price that we have come to the conclusion that it is necessary to have an organisation like the Foodgrains Corporation. With regard to the various details of it, I am sure this House will have an opportunity to discuss it. Therefore I am not going into the details of it but Mr. Annadurai raised a few points. He asked: "What do you mean by a commercial organisation?" It is a commercial organisation not in the sense of making profits. It is a commercial organisation as differentiated from a Governmental organisation. This organisation, if it is bound or run on the basis of Government regulations and rules, financial codes, audit codes, etc. then it cannot function. Nothing else is needed. Even without any competition, it will co-exist naturally and therefore the private traders need not make any attempt to sabotage it. That is why if you want to make a success of this, it is necessary to make it a commercial organisation, a modern business organisation and I can assure hon. Members and my friend, Mr. Annadurai, that it is not our intention to make this a flabby organisation involving huge expenditure. I am trying my best to get the experience from the various parts of the world and make it a compact modern organisation, using all the modern techniques of planning, modern techniques of computing and various other things so that with as few men as possible, we will be able to play a strategic role in the grain trade. About this, I shall elaborate further when the legislation comes before the House for consideration.

Then I think Mr. Bhupesh Gupta—I think I am right because it is part of his amendments also—pleaded that this Corporation should come into existence within fifteen days. I wish it were possible for me. But as a true friend of State trading, as a true friend of a socialist economy, I am sure he will not give this advice because suppose I have it pushed through without making suffi-

[Shri C. Subramaniam.] cient preparation and organisation, that will be the surest way to make it a failure even from the very beginning. That is why as a person who is interested in making this a success, I want to take all steps to organise it properly before putting responsibility ton this organisation. That is why I have fixed 1st January, 1965, not because I want to postpone it without any purpose. Therefore, I want to see that nothing is left to chance, that everything is planned properly, so much so when it enters the market, whatever function is allotted to it, it will be in a position to discharge that function. That is my objective. Therefore, I am sure Mr. Gupta will not press that amendment with regard to the fifteen days, as a true friend of State trading unless he wants to sabotage it in a different way. But in between January and now . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I will riot disturb you, I am busy otherwise.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I know that you have made a very constructive approach. I should congratulate you. I would like the hon. Member to continue the same attitude and I am sure he will make a good contribution not only to the discussions but even with regard to implementing the policies, if he adopts the same attitude.

Then I was on the point of this interim period before the Corporation comes into existence and the harvest coming in—when the kharif crop comes in. I am aware of it and we are making arrangements in each State for the purpose of securing as much as possible by purchase operations on an incentive price which will be declared by the Jha Committee. On that basis—not procurement on the old basis of depressed prices but on the basis of remunerative and incentive prices which will be recommended by the Jha Committee—we propose to organise th<sub>e</sub> purchase by the various State organisations.

Arrangements are going on on that basis. Therefore, it would be our endeavour to get hold of as much stocks as possible so that it could be used for the purpose of stabilising the prices for the consumer.

Then the question of zones also had been raised. There seems to be almost unanimity that the zones should go. I do agree that when the zones were brought about, it was explained that this would stabilise the price and it would be possible to tackle the situation. After all we have to learn by experience also. What all I am doing, I am not prepared to say that everything will succeed and everything is 100 per cent, correct. I am sure, as we go along, I will have to make further changes. That is the answer to the other point which Mr. Annadurai tried to make. He asked: "Is the policy the same or are you changing it?" Change is only a sign of progress. We do not want to stagnate. Therefore, the question is that while the basic policies are the same, we have to make changes so that taking into account a particular situation, we have to change the strategy of it to a certain extent. Therefore, I am not prepared to say that in agriculture I can bring about a new policy immediately. After all the techniques, methods are very well known. It is on the question of implementation that emphasis is to be laid. What methods you adopt for the implementation is the most important thing. I hope to sing the song in a different tune and in a better way. That is all I can say. It may be the same song.

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI: The Minister has referred to the recommendation of the V. T. Krishnama-chari Committee. I would like to know whether this Foodgrains Corporation is to be based on identical thought expressed in that report about the Commodities Corporation.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: No, there also we have to make some changes.

They were reporting in 1948. Maay changes have taken place and therefore some changes will have to take place with regard to that but some of the ideas expressed there will be incorporated for this purpose.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: What will be the composition of this Corporation?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Mainly persons who know some business, not merely administration.

Therefore, as far as zones are concerned, it is under review and I have already given an assurance that at the appropriate time this will have to be reviewed and decisions will have to be taken and those decisions will have to be taken in consultation with the Chief Ministers. Therefore the House will not expect me to announce the decision straightway.

Another aspect which I would like to place before the House with regard to zones is, we always think in terms of surplus States and deficit States. There are certain deficit States from any point of view but by and large you will find the position like this. Take Kerala. No doubt it is deficit in food but it produces in the agricultural sector tea, coffee, rubber, pepper and various other things which are earning foreign exchange. Those are also required for our country. In the same way take West Bengal. Even though it is deficit in food and Orissa may claim to be surplus in it, West Bengal has got to produce jute and large areas have been diverted and they have then increased the production, of jute. That is sustaining the national economy of jute and we are earning foreign exchange on that basis. Therefore, it is a question of what is suitable for a particular area to grow taking into account the economy of the country as a whole. That is the advantage of a large country.

I am saying this for the benefit of my friend, Mr. Annadurai. A large country has its economic advantages

particularly in the present context of economic development. That is why to-day common markets are coming about. Why? Smaller nations are coming together for economic purposes and economic purposes poses cannot stop with economic pur-alone. Political integration also becomes necessary. That is the trend to-day. Therefore while they are trying to gain new advantages, should we lose the advantages we already have by Balkanising our country? I am glad he has changed his policy with regard to this and he has given up the policy of partition . . .

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI:  
Madam . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish his speech and after that, you may ask for clarifications.

5 P.M.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: After all, as I already stated, distribution is only secondary; we distribute only what we produce. Therefore, production is all-important, and I think Mr. Chordia, while speaking, mentioned: "After all, this Minister is also saying the same thing." In the field of agriculture, overnight, new discoveries are not made for the purpose of improving production. The same technique is there. It is only better seed, better preparation of soil, fertiliser, pesticide, irrigation, these are common things. How do you bring it about, how do you implement it is the main thing, as I already Stated. That is why, I say, as far as this is concerned, certainly, politics cannot come into this. That is why I am seeking the advice of one panel of scientists, another panel of agricultural economists and yet another panel of agricultural administrators. Certainly, I cannot take advice with regard to the areas in which I should make progress on the basis of politics being involved in it. There is no Congress approach to it, Communist approach co it or D.M.K. approach to it. It is a question of scientific and technical

Latin c buDramaniam.j approach as far as production is concerned. It is not a question of large farms or small farms. Large farms can take to scientific agriculture, small farms also can take to scientific agriculture. It has been demonstrated in the U.S.A. on the basis of large farms, Japan has demonstrated such cess on the basis of small farms. Taking the conditions in our country we have to decide what we will have, and I have no doubt in my mind, taking the population and taking the social structure, that it has got to be on a small farm owner basis alone. This is the rationale of our land reforms policy also, and I do agree that with regard to the implementation of the land reforms policy it has been halting.

SHRI P. N. SAPRTJ: What about co-operatives?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am coming to that. And therefore, if the implementation has halted, there are many reasons, and I am not prepared to say they all can be legitimately put forward, but there is one valid reason which can be put forward. Till recently, all the legislations were under a cloud because of the Supreme Court decision. It is only after the seventeenth Constitution Amendment that the land reform legislations have become valid for the purpose of implementation. Therefore, there can be no excuse hereafter, and as I already stated, a certainty, a stability with regard to land ownership is necessary. And that certainly is not on the basis of the *status quo*. There won't be that certainty merely because there are the laws which we have already enacted; as long as those laws are not implemented, there will be only instability and uncertainty. That is why when Mr. Shri-man Narayan said something about a moratorium, some people seemed to have misunderstood it. What we mean when we say it is that, first of all, we should implement whatever legislation has been passed, to the fullest extent possible. Then, for ten years, we will say we will not look

at this again; "Go on producing; there will be no uncertainty or instability in the thing." Therefore, to bring about this certainty and stability, implementation is the first thing. Therefore, the Dhebar Committee also has recommended that before the end of the Third Plan period these land reforms should be implemented fully, and in the Fourth Plan everybody should know who was the owner, who had the rights and what were his rights in the land, so that he may invest in the land and may proceed further for the purpose of increasing production.

And in addition to that, an agency for the purpose of carrying this new message is necessary. I am glad any colleague, Mr. Dey, is here and we are collaborating today to find out how best to reorganise this Community Development Programme, rather the 'Community Development Organisation for the purpose of concentrating on agricultural production, and I have no doubt in my mind that it would be possible to find a formula which would provide this new edge to this organisation, so that it would move forward providing the necessary technical knowledge and other material facilities for the farmers to go forward. And in addition to that I referred to these three panels set up to give me some three or four or five programmes which will yield immediate results. Where we can, we will take up four or five programmes immediately, so that we can get some improved production within the next two or three years to make an effect on the agri-cultural economy. Take for example, the seed programme. Everybody knows, if only—I am not referring to the varietal change; that is a different thing; that will have to be based on new scientific discoveries—on the basis of existing varieties if only you provide the best seed available, the best seed which we can produce, that gives a seven to eight per cent increased production. We have attempted it. But where have we gone wrong? The scientists point out there are three

stages in the production of seeds. One is the nucleus seed which is produced by the breeder, by the scientist. At that stage there is no difficulty now, because it is produced under controlled conditions. After that, this nucleus seed will have to be further multiplied into foundation seed. For that we have established the seed farms, Government seed farms, four thousand of them, functioning in the country today. It is here the deficiency has arisen. Instead of producing 98 or 99 per cent, pure seeds, there is adulteration to the extent of eight to nine per cent., and this foundation seed has to be delivered to the various seed producers, who multiply it, and that seed will have to be distributed to the grower and there is the third stage. Even at the foundation stage we have not taken adequate measures to see that the purity is kept, the quality is maintained. That is why at that level we have to take measure", and we have evolved some measures. For the last two or three days these panels were in session; I was engaged with them, and they have shown the way, how to proceed about it, not a political path, but a scientific, technical path, to achieve these objectives.

In the same way take the second programme—pesticides. Today plant protection is very important. If only we take sufficient plant protection, they assure me, we will be able to get roughly ten to twelve per cent increase without any other effort whatsoever. Therefore, we have to go about this, not only to find out what are the plant protection programmes which we have got to undertake, but to have also the necessary chemical materials required for it, the material equipment required for it, with a programme which can be easily implemented to give us increased production in the order of ten to twelve per cent.

SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY (Madras): What about soil testing, Sir?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I have already dealt with it in the other House; I shall say that here also. All this would have no meaning unless we know the soil. Therefore, not merely soil testing, but a comprehensive soil survey programme is important; that is also being organised now; that also could be organised. Therefore, we are evolving these four or five programmes which could be taken up immediately, without much difficulty, which would produce results. In addition to that I am glad Prof. Prasad mentioned with regard to the storage facilities for what we produce today. Now, after production, in the process of storing, in the process of transport, even in the process of processing that, we are wasting so much. All that could be avoided; if only we make an effort, it will be possible for us to save. Therefore, apart from the other measures, if only we avoid these wastes, which occur more because of the various pests, the various insects, that play havoc in the storage godown, and also in the other processes, then this five per cent annual increase for the next five years, twenty-five per cent increase in all, half of it could be provided for easily within these things. For the other half we have to make other efforts. And even in that I would suggest to you this. China had a sparrow programme, because sparrows used to pick away their grain, and they said that all the sparrows should be killed. But I am told it had its own repercussions—the insects increased like anything.

PROF. B. N. PRASAD (Nominated): There is also the monkey causing trouble.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Yes, I am coming to that. Apart from that, rodent is the biggest enemy of our foodgrains. Why not we have a national campaign organised, instead of sparrows, an anti-rodent campaign on a national basis in which every-

[Shri C. Subramaniam.] body would be involved, the schools, the entire public being involved? I ! hav<sub>e</sub> no doubt it will produce results. So these are all simple things, but these nimple things will give dramatic results—I have n<sub>o</sub> doubt about it. Therefore, it is not a miracle which we have got to work. It is simple things, ordinary things, which we have got to do in a sustained way. Therefore, we have to move in that direction and these are things which we will have to take note of. And then, for the j purpose of this, credit also is important, because th<sub>e</sub> farme<sub>r</sub> should get all the facilities and credit also. While co-operative credit is there, in many-places co-operative societies do not work, do not function. Shall we say in the name of co-operation "either cooperation or no credit". You have no co-operation, so no credit". Shall we adopt that policy? No. We are now trying to find out whether alternative agencies cannot be brought into being for the purpose of providing the credit in any place where co-operative . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; The State Bank.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM; Other banks also can come in, and therefore that is also under scrutiny now, and that can also be done. Apart from these, let me say that it is not only cereals and foodgrains that constitute food. Food has got to be diversified if we are to have a well-balanced diet. That is why during the last **two** or three months we have organised special crash programmes for cattle-breeding, vegetable, fisheries and poultry programmes. These have to be taken up in a big way and if we make a planned and organised effort, these will yield short-term results. These are the areas in which we are concentrating to get results.

Before I conclude, let me say that this crisis, while it has created difficulties, has had its advantages also. This ha<sub>s</sub> spot-lighted ou<sub>r</sub> problems, and it has made the country conscious of the necessity to move forward in agriculture. This is necessary if our

Plans have got to succeed, i mean our development plans. Why are we thinking of deferring the big plans, the big programmes? It is mainly because we have failed i<sub>n</sub> the agricultural production programme. If only we safeguard agricultural production and have a 5 per cent increase in the next 5 or 6 years, till 1970-71, ther<sub>e</sub> will be no need to stagger our plans. As a matter of fact, we can go forward with greater courage and with greater vigour. And that is why the country has begun to think about it. It is not merely a question of formulating policies and formulating programmes, but one of implementing them. That is the most important thing. That is why today, we should see to their implementation. I know speeches and slogans do not produce results, nor morchas and bandhs. On the other hand these impede production. At least the speeches and slogan: are harmless, but morchas and *bandhis*, they create conditions in which the law and order situation i/s affected and therefore production is affected in the industrial sector which in turn has repercussions on agricultural production. Therefore, there is a vicious chain reaction. It is a question of having programmes and policies and implementing all these things and it has got to be done only on the basis of scientists and technicians, not merely by administrations. That is a new formula we have to bring about, a new situation which we have to bring about. I have no doubt i<sub>n</sub> my mind about that. I have come across scientists, particularly young scientists and young technicians. They are full off enthusiasm, they are full of missionary zeal. They say, "Give us the opportunity, we will be able to produce results" and that opportunity will have to be made available to them. That should b<sub>e</sub> our endeavour. However much I may speak here, however much I may be complimented upon, it is not my effort which is going to produce results. It is the effort of scientists and technicians that will do it and what we have got to-day as politicians to do is to



provide the atmosphere for these scientists and these technicians to function in the proper way. That atmosphere we have got to produce and I have no doubt in my mind that this Parliament as the sovereign body, responsible for the progress of the country, will do it. Apart from any other thing, we have to produce this atmosphere and that is why I made the appeal that there should not be any politics as far as this is concerned. "We shall have politics among ourselves to the maximum extent possible, but do not kindly bring in politics among the scientists and among the technicians. They have to function at a different level. This was my appeal more than anything else and I have no doubt in my mind that we shall have the proud privilege of having organised this modern new agriculture, of having provided a new starting point for the development of our economy, which will provide new facilities, a new world, a new horizon to the coming generation. Let that be the proud privilege of all of us. Thank you very much.

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI: I would like to seek clarification on two points.

SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh): Listen to his suggestion and don't bring in politics.

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI: I would like to have two clarifications from the hon. Minister. He has referred to the V. T. Krishnamachari Report and in that Report it is stated that if incentive or remunerative prices are offered to the producer, the Government should see to it that the agricultural labourers are also equally benefited by them. Would the Government take that also into consideration? That is one point for clarification. The other is this, whether we cannot combine banking activities with the Foodgrains Trading Corporation along with its other activities. These are the two points in which I would like to have clarification.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: When I say producer, after all once this investment aspect comes in, they will also come in. Just as industrial labourer has got to be provided incentive, at that level the agricultural labourer also becomes part of the producing machine. Therefore, he also will be taken care of. We seem to think that it is for industry that we require trained labour and any fool can be an agricultural labourer. That may be so for traditional agriculture, but if you want modern agriculture, the man must be a trained labourer, which means all the necessary incentives will also be given to the agricultural labourer.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I think it is unfair somewhat to call him a fool, the agriculturist.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Agricultural labourer, I said and I said that that is the conception of some people.

With regard to banking operations, it may not take banking operations directly, but as one of the functions they may enter into contracts with the producers for purchasing certain quantities and on the basis of that, themselves advance or on the basis of contract, other commercial banks can advance money to them and the prices can be adjusted. All these things are contemplated in the Corporation. I am sure we will have more detailed discussion when we discuss the Corporation here.

AN HON. MEMBER: Madam, on a point of clarification . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think everything has been clarified in great detail and there is no need for any further clarification. I shall put the amendments. There are amendments, Nos. 1 to 29 in the name of Shri Bhupesh Gupta. Does he withdraw them?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Not at all-

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then I shall put them to vote.

The question is:

1. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House notes with regret the failure of Government to curb hoarding and profiteering in food-grains and thus prevent man-made food scarcities throughout the country resulting in an unprecedented mass misery'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

2. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House notes with particular dismay the failure of Government to take effective steps to hold the price line and to check the sky-rocketing rises in prices of foodgrains and almost all other essential commodities."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

3. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that Government have, by their acts of commission and omission, enabled the hoarders and speculators to corner foodgrains and other essential commodities and create scarcities and dictate speculative prices'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

4. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that failure of Government to introduce State trading in foodgrains has beyond measure helped the speculators and hoarders, first, to deny reasonable price to the peasants for their produce, and then boost its prices for the consumer'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

5. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that reckless and lavish advances by private banks for speculation and profiteering in foodgrains and other agricultural produce are greatly responsible for the present critical situation'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

6. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the regulatory measures of the Reserve Bank in regard to bank advances do not at all meet the urgent needs of the situation nor do they put any real curb on hoarding and speculation'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

7. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the failure of Government to take due note of the slow arrivals of food-grains in the markets in the early months of the year and take effective steps to ensure normal flow especially through fair price shops

has in no small measure emboldened the profiteers to divert stocks of foodgrains into secret channels for earning exorbitant profits during the lean months by creating shortages'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

8. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that hoarding and profiteering in foodgrains is inseparably connected with the still continuing concentration of ownership of lands in the hands of a small number of landlords and their collusion with wholesalers and profiteers, all of whom are backed by the private banks.'"

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

9. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that so long as the concentration of land remains there will always be the danger of black-marketing and hoarding'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

10. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that it is essential to break the concentration of land and make the tillers the owners thereof in addition to distributing surplus lands to agricultural labourers and poor peasants'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

11. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that once the land ceilings are effectively enforced and the circumvention of ceiling laws is negated and rendered impossible, large areas of surplus land would be available to Government for distribution among the land hungry peasants'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

12. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely:-

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the failure of Government to impose and effectively enforce even the existing ceiling laws is largely responsible for the present semi-stagnancy in agriculture and the shortfall even in the modest agricultural targets under the Plan'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

13. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the failure of Government to provide adequate material incentive to the peasants by giving them land and conferring ownerships on the tenants as well as to harness the vast idle man-power in our rural economy constitutes a major obstacle to self-sufficiency in foodgrains\*."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is :

14. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

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'and having considered the same, this House takes serious note of the fact that instead of vigorously pursuing the objective of self-sufficiency, which is doubtless attainable, Government has reconciled itself to almost a kind of permanent reliance on food imports under PL 480'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

15. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that chronic dependence on food imports is proving harmful to the country's economy as a whole and even to our agriculture'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

16. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered

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same, this House disapproves of the emphasis which is put on food imports under PL 480 by Government as a solution to the food problem'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

17. "That at the end of the motion, the following, be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that given the correct orientation in policies and implementation thereof such as effective ceilings, dis-

tribution of surplus and waste land to agricultural labourers, the present overall deficit in food can be overcome easily and the present heavy reliance on food imports done away with'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

18. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

'and having considered the same this House notes with regret the failure of Government to start a number of State farms on the pattern of the Suratgarh farm'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

19. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the failure of Government to provide adequate and, timely credits to the peasants through the State Bank and properly run cooperatives not only condemns the peasantry to crushing indebtedness but stands in the way of stepping up agricultural production'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

20. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that Government have not ensured that peasants are in a position to fully utilise the additional irrigation facilities under the Plans, by giving them financial and other assistance'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

21. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Community Development Programmes, despite heavy investments, have not played any mentionable part at all in increasing agricultural production, their role being mainly confined to extension of certain amenities in the rural areas'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

22. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House notes with regret the failure of Government to remove the growing disparity between the prices of the produce which the peasant brings to the market and the prices of the manufactured commodities which he buys'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

23. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House notes with regret the failure of Government to announce a reasonable price for the peasant for foodgrains well in advance, of harvesting instead of merely fixing the maximum price'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

24. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House notes with regret the

failure of Government to carry out a nation-wide dehoarding drive in the recent months instead of relying on the good sense of the anti-social hoarder by offering so-called grace of two weeks to declare his stocks'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; The question is:

25. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House notes with regret the failure of Government to take effective and timely action against the privately owned rice mills, many of whom have indulged in profiteering and blackmarketing, not to speak of taking them over'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

26. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the zonal system needs to be reviewed'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; The question is:

27. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the impermissible use of the D.I.R. and other repressive measures against people's movements for food and against high prices aggravates the situation and stands in the way of enlisting people's co-operation'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

28. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that Government should immediately reorientate its policies *dud* take effective steps in order to—■

(a) reduce prices of all essential commodities;

(b) fix remunerative prices for the peasants for their produce and reasonable prices for consumers;

(c) confiscate the stocks of the big hoarders of foodgrains and other essential commodities and distribute such stocks through fair price shops, ration shops, cheap foodgrain shops and other distributive agencies under public control;

(d) open cheap grain shops, particularly in the distressed areas in adequate numbers;

(e) carry out a vigorous dehoarding drive to unearth concealed stocks and set up a network of intelligence machinery at all levels for keeping track of movement of foodgrains and other essential commodities and for detecting hoarding and speculation;

(f) take over the wholesale trade in foodgrains under a fool proof and elaborate scheme of State trading;

(g) abolish forward trading and stock exchange operations;

(h) ensure minimum wages to agricultural labourers;

(i) ban all evictions, drastically restrict resumption of land-ownership by landlords, review with a view to annulling all *mala fide* Voluntary transfer of lands by the tillers to landlords, and stop other forms of fraudulent practices to frustrate land legislation;

(j) bring under plough cultivable waste land to the maximum possible extent by making, in particular, such lands available to the agricultural labourers;

(k) effectively enforce and implement land ceilings keeping in view the supreme objective of breaking the prevalent concentration of ownership in land and of finding surplus land for distribution among the agricultural labourers and poor peasants;

(l) confer the right of ownership on the cultivating peasants and prevent fraud on the laws relating to the abolition of intermediaries;

(m) implement the recommendations for adequate provision of both long-term and short-term credits, especially the latter, through States Banks and co-operatives at least to the extent of 75% of the annual supply of rural credits;

(n) provide financial assistance and technical advice so that the poorer sections of the peasants can, in full measure, avail of and utilise irrigation facilities;

(o) reduce rents at least in areas where they are particularly high;

(p) give utmost attention to the question of minimum material incentive for the toiling peasants by providing them with land, security of tenure, ownerships etc., in order to create labour enthusiasm and thus step up both per acre yield and overall production;

(q) provide food subsidies where the situation so demands;

(r) set up as many State farms as possible on the lines of the Suratgarh farm;

(s) set a firm time-limit for attaining self-sufficiency in food and ending the present reliance on food imports under PL. 480 at

the earliest, as well as introduce, and implement all necessary measures to achieve this objective;

(t) work out and introduce measures to attract and enlist people's cooperation in tackling the problem of food and other essential commodities on the basis of reorientated and correct policies." *The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

29. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that Government should take the following immediate steps for ensuring effective State trading in foodgrains, proper distribution, and for fair prices for peasant-producers and consumers:—

(i) close down with immediate effect all the forward markets, forward trading and Speculative price quotations in the ready market in all foodgrains, oilseeds and oils;

(ii) prohibit all papers from quoting these rates in their papers and take strong action against kerb trading;

(iii) establish a Foodgrains Corporation within fifteen days;

(iv)' draft services of those trade agents who do the actual buying for the wholesalers and give them due remuneration as temporary Government employees with prospects to be absorbed in the Government Foodgrains Corporation, which will require the services of thousands of such purchasing cadres;

(v) fix immediately fair prices to the peasant-producer and announce them for this very season; payment of money to the peasant-sellers to be as quick as that of the wholesalers;

(vi) the Government Food-grains Corporation should have its centres near the trading *mandis* but their influence and surroundings;

(vii) the octroi duties which are charged on the peasant-produce coming to the *mandis* to be suspended with immediate effect and the affected towns reimbursed their loss of income from Government subsidy; this should apply only to those who sell to the purchase centres of the Government Foodgrains Corporation;

(viii) requisition the existing godowns of the wholesalers for stocking Government grain;

(ix) from now onwards all bank advances to foodgrains trade to be completely banned; for this season and the next, "clean" advances made by banks should be banned;

(x) establish fair price shops in towns and villages on the basis of one shop for 500 families, for supplying foodgrains and other essential articles to the people; retail traders being utilised for the running of these shops by guaranteeing them reasonable profits;

(xi) the Central and State Governments should undertake the supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities to their employees at subsidised rates through shops run by the respective Government departments; in the same way, Government must compel private employers to run subsidised shops and supply foodgrains and other essential commodities to their employees as was agreed to at the Tripartite Conference;

(xii) People's Food Committees representing progressive parties and mass organisations to be established for the people to come together for the implementation of the above-mentioned measures." *The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next, there is amendment No. 31 of Mr. Chordia.

The question is:

31. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that with a view to finding a permanent solution of the food problem, the following steps should be taken:

(1) the prices of foodgrains should be fixed keeping in view the cost of food production by the farmer on marginal land and the market rates of other produce for attracting farmers towards food production;

(2) the rates of electricity used for irrigation purposes should not exceed 6 paise per unit;

(3) the farmer should be relieved of the burden of unproductive loan;

(4) restrictions should be placed on the imposition by the Agricultural Department on farmers of tasks which are not backed by experience;

(5) (i) cow-dung should be preserved for being used as manure and steps taken to prevent cow-dung, being burnt for fuel;

(ii) the farmers should be given aid for installing cow-dung gas plants;

(iii) they should be supplied electricity for domestic use at cheap rates, where there is electricity;

(6) arrangements should be made for the purchase and sale of foodgrains by Government at prescribed rates;

(7) foodgrains should not be used for manufacturing starch;

(8) special stress should be laid on researches that are conducted on food products;

(9) special efforts should be made for saving the agricultural produce from various diseases;

(10) priority should be given to small irrigation schemes;

(11) fertilisers should be supplied in sufficient quantity;

(12) Government should not waste their time and money on-cooperative farming but instead should give all encouragement to farmers'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then I put the amendment of Shri Vajpayee to vote, that is, amendment No. 32.

The question is:

32. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House records its utter disappointment over Government's failure to foresee the food crisis that has now overtaken the country and then to meet it by adopting effective measures to hold the price line and to make available essential commodities at reasonable rates'."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next I put Shri Gurupade Swamy's amendment.

The question is:

30. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely: —

'and having considered the same, this House approves of the policy of the Government of India and the steps taken by it in dealing with the food situation'."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now I shall put the main motion as amended.



2415

*Motion re*

[ 21 SEP. 1964 ]

*Food Situation*

2416

The question is:

"That the food situation in the country be taken into consideration and having considered the same this House approves of the policy of the Government of India and the steps taken by it in dealing with the food situation."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at twenty minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 22nd September. 1964.