

exchequer. No one knows how much money is likely to flow into exchequer as a result of this tax. Various figures are given, and my friend, Shri Suresh Desai, argued at length to suggest that at least Rs. 25 crores are likely to be drawn into the public exchequer even after these concessions have been incorporated into the measure. Therefore, I am not at the present moment concerned with the quantum. The quantum can be increased, and the corporate sector should realise that they will have to pay larger and larger taxes to the public exchequer because that is the only source through which the equity capital either in the private sector or in the public sector could be built, and we have got a mixed economy in which the public sector has to expand very rapidly, and the public sector can expand only if a part of the earnings of the private sector is diverted into the public exchequer; and therefore, taxation will come more and more whether the emergency lasts or does not last because that is our conception of mixed economy: the corporate sector will have to expand, the corporate sector will have to become more efficient, the corporate sector will have to make larger profits, and the corporate sector will have to show willingness to agree to the diversion of these larger profits into the public exchequer so that the public sector can expand. This is a measure which makes all these things possible. Whether it is Rs. 25 crores this year or Rs. 50 crores next year is immaterial. It is because of this that I would like to urge upon the Government to stick to these basic principles and not to concede them even when the emergency goes away, because the interests and well-being of the country demand that the salutary principles which have been incorporated in this Bill should become a permanent instrument of taxation which would help in the development of both the public sector and the private sector, a healthy development of the corporate sector and a rapid expansion of the public sector, so that the economy as a whole might be able to develop at

a very rapid rate and it may be possible for us to realise the targets and the goals which the country has placed before us. Because of this, Madam, I lend my whole-hearted support to the Bill which has been moved.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chettiar.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: It is now, Madam, nearly three o'clock. I suggest I may be taken as having begun, and I may be allowed to continue tomorrow.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Mr. Jaipuria may move his motion.

#### MOTION RE REPORT OF THE INDIAN CENTRAL SUGAR- CANE COMMITTEE

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I beg to move the following motion:

"That the summary of the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee for the year 1961-62, laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March, 1963, be taken into consideration."

Madam, the economy of the sugarcane producing areas and the sugar industry is very closely related, and particularly in view of the present scarcity of sugar all over the country its importance has all the more been enhanced. In fact the sugar industry is the second largest industry of the country, and so far as U.P. and Bihar are concerned, this is the principal and the most important cash crop in the economy of those two States.

3 P.M. In fact, sugar is one of those industries which have been controlled for the last nearly twenty-five years and it is therefore all the more necessary to see how the eco-

[Shri Sitaram Jaipuria.]

nomy and the growth of this industry and sugar-cane producing have been faring in the context of the present-day situation. I may submit that the economy of the sugar industry depends mainly on the availability of sugar-cane. The Report that has been submitted to Parliament is only a summary and to our disappointment the main Report still has not seen the light of the day. According to my information, the Report is still under print, and it will be possible for us to consider the matter in more detail when the main Report is there because this Report mainly is confined to the personnel of the Committees. It also gives a very vivid picture of the expenditure and income part of it. But what exactly has been done in the matter of research on which will depend the growth and the increase of the sugar-cane areas, to our regret, is not shown here as vividly and nicely as it would have probably deserved. Anyway, there are certain very interesting readings from this Report to which I will come a little later on.

The economy of the sugar industry also depends on the communications system whereby the sugar-cane farmers are enabled to bring their cane to the crushing places. The crushing capacity, consumption at home and the export also play a very important part.

Coming to the availability of sugar-cane, I may say that the economy is different in different areas. U.P., for example, can be divided into East U.P. and West U.P. Similarly, Bihar can be divided into South Bihar and North Bihar. And I will submit the situation of these regions before the House. You will be surprised that in East U.P. the duration of the season is hardly 85 days, in North Bihar it is 73 days, in South Bihar it is only 43 days out of 365 days, and in Maharashtra it is 155 days and in Madras it is 176 days. Why I thought of bringing this figure before this House is that unless and until the Indian Sugar-cane Committee takes positive steps to

ensure that in such areas where sugar-cane is not growing in sufficient quantities there is a sufficient quantity to enable the factories to have a longer duration, the very purpose of having this Committee which was established, if I am right, in the year 1944 and later on re-constituted in the year 1953, will be defeated. Not only is the duration very low but the recovery figures are still more startling. In fact, in East U.P. the recovery percentage is only 9.90, North Bihar 9.65, South Bihar 9.51, as against 11.5 in Maharashtra. If the sucrose content which is an important feature of the sugar-cane is not developed to the fullest extent, what will be the object and the purpose to be achieved is a matter for consideration. I feel happy—and I am grateful—that the Government has decided to have a maturity test of the sugar-cane content and that, of course, is a step in the right direction. But you will have to consider along with this what the other factors are. The crushing capacity also in many areas has been developed and in certain areas where the crushing capacity is already there, they have not been given the full quantity of cane that they require. I am not one of those who are against co-operative but I do submit most humbly that a sum of Rs. 50 crores was recently spent in having additional sugar factories and mostly in co-operative ventures but if half of that amount had been spent in such areas where sugar-cane is not growing enough, I am quite certain that we would have achieved our purpose without in anyway spending the most important component of foreign exchange that we have so short today.

Irrigation facilities play a very important part in the cultivation of sugar-cane. Similarly, fertilisers, distribution of seeds, mechanised farming and pest control, these are some of the items which are very necessary to have a good quality of sugar-cane. I hope that I will not be dubbed as one believing in provincialism or regionalism but regional development has been taken to be an accepted part of

overall development by the Planning Commission, and if the matter is viewed in that context, it is absolutely essential to have the economy of the country developed as a whole and particularly those regions which are lacking in development are given not only the fullest support but the maximum amount of help and assistance that they might need. In the matter of irrigation, the condition in East U.P. and in Bihar is again very deplorable. In other areas, the irrigation facilities are not very much in want and that is the one reason why there is an extremely nice sucrose content in those areas. In fact, the figures for U.P. will show that there has been a cycle of draughts followed by wet seasons. In regard to irrigation, the State Governments—I do not know whether it is with the concurrence of the Central Government—have thought it fit to decline to bore tube-wells on the ground that the tube-well water is not sold and that is why tube-wells cannot be put there. Even small tube-wells are not there. Difficulty is being experienced.

Madam, I may submit that in U.P. it has been calculated that nearly 40,000 cane-growers have to come in contact with individual factories. Why? It is because they have got very small holdings and with their small holdings they find it absolutely impossible to have irrigational facilities of their own. Similarly, the economy of the industry in that area does not permit them either to have irrigation facilities of their own as is the case in Maharashtra or to any great extent depend on the factories themselves. It will be interesting to see from the figures what had been the target and what had been the achievements in this respect. In U.P. as against a target of 5,000 wells, it will be surprising to see that only 2,079 wells have been sunk. In Bihar, as against a target of 9,184 wells, it is only 6,876. My submission is this. When it is an established and known fact that sugar-cane in those areas is not produced sufficiently and the factories are kept starving, will the hon.

Minister be good enough to let the House know why the targets have not been achieved? It is most important for the economy of that area and of the particular industry and the farmers. Not only is it with regard to irrigation, but the matter regarding fertilisers also gives us a little repentent feeling. In fact, as against a supply of 15,000 tons of fertilisers in U.P., only 6,706 tons were distributed. In Bihar, as against 9,184 tons of ammonium sulphate, only 6,876 tons were distributed. The position of single phosphate is still worse. As against 94,900 tons, only a meagre quantity of 11,621 tons was supplied. Not only this. If proper quality seeds are not distributed, how can the cane-growers be expected that they shall produce good quality cane. In U.P. as against a target of 1,90,000 tons, only 1,32,000 tons of seeds have been distributed, and in Bihar as against 2,20,426 tons, only 1,97,984 tons were supplied. The reason why I have thought it necessary to bring these figures to the attention of the hon. Members here is that unless and until very positive steps are taken, it will be very difficult for the industry in these areas to continue. It is a well-known fact that 80 per cent. of the industrial economy and the development of the conditions of the people in these two particular States depend on the sugar industry. I do hope that schemes for pest control, which have not shown very satisfactory performance so far, will be continued and that we can hope for better results after March, 1963. The condition of the yields is very well known. As against an average yield of nearly 62 tons per acre in Havana, or 56 tons in Indonesia, in India we are having only 15 tons per acre, and here also, Madam, imbalances and regional differences are to a very great extent noticeable. In fact this is one of the particular regions where lack of conditions for good development prevails.

The average profit in east U.P. in the last eight years as calculated and mentioned by the Sugar Wage Board

[Shri Sitaram Jaipuria]

had been only Rs. 94,000 per factory. With this particular background, Madam, we should look at the particular injustice that has been done—I am using the word 'injustice' knowingly, because it has been an accepted fact that when controls are there, the economy will have to be adjusted in a different manner. In fact, as the figures will reveal, as against 27 lakh tons of sugar produced last year, this year it is only 21.6 lakh tons. The carry-over from the previous year is 10 lakhs, and that takes the total to 31.6 lakh tons. As against that, consumption is expected to be in the neighbourhood of 26 lakh tons and exports 5 lakh tons, and that again adds to 31 lakh tons, and we can just calculate as to what is left as carry-over for the next year. With this condition of demand and supply, Madam, I have been hearing many times the speeches that are made on the floor of this House and the other House. When this is the condition of demand and supply, to put the blame on the industry or trade only for soaring prices or rising prices, I do not know how far it can be justified. May be political approach—it pays dividends sometimes—but in the larger interests of the economy of the country as a whole, it does not and sugar being the second largest industry and one of the most important things and necessities of human life, it is most essential that a very objective view is taken of the whole matter.

I was referring a little earlier to the condition of the industry in certain particular regions. And why am I mentioning the industry's condition? It is for this. Unless and until the factories in those areas are able to crush the cane that is particularly there, how will it be possible even for the Sugarcane Committee to take steps to develop more production of sugarcane? In fact, it has been an acknowledged feature and it was announced by the Food Minister in Parliament also that when he was determining the price of sugar, the cost

of production of the factories according to the Tariff Commission Schedule,—reference to the Tariff Commission arose out of the increased costs—would be kept in view, but to our extreme regret, Madam, for the factories in the northern region, particularly in the areas I mentioned above the prices fixed are much below their actual cost of production, the prices fixed are even much below the Tariff Commission's basis of calculation. In fact, it will be of interest to the House that for eastern U.P., for the factories there, where the estimated fair price, as per Tariff Commission's Schedules, should have given them Rs. 111.39 nP per quintal, it has been fixed only at Rs. 108.50 nP—that means a difference of Rs. 2.89 nP. In the case of North Bihar, the deficit is Rs. 5.22 nP and the most important point with regard to the deficit in South Bihar, is this. Whereas according to the Tariff Board formula it should have been Rs. 124.78 nP, it has been fixed at Rs. 109.85 nP, that means a difference of nearly Rs. 14.93 nP per quintal. I submit, Madam, if this be the condition and if the factory is supposed to run at a loss, how far it will be possible for them to consume the sugarcane? Whatever efforts we might make to increase the quality of sugarcane whatever necessary steps we might take for research and development, they shall all be futile efforts, and they will not give any results if the industry in this part is not allowed to continue and to exist, if not very healthy, at least reasonably healthy on the basis of a certain situation prevailing there. Here I am reminded, Madam, of what Napoleon once said to the river Nile, "Thus far shall thou go and no farther." If the demand is more, if the supply is less, whatever might be done, the economy will be adjusted in the natural way. Controls have been introduced. I do not doubt the wisdom of the Government. But they must have done it after all considerations. May be, even an increase in the excise duty, which you have been increasing by leaps and bounds, probably might have re-

duced the consumption of sugar, rather than having such a situation of introducing controls which is bound to bring so many other things which we are not very happy to witness either, but they are bound to happen which will affect not only the economy but the entire situation in the country.

Madam, it has been a very acknowledged fact always, because the Minister of Food and Agriculture mentioned that the prices have been fixed according to the prevailing prices in the last three months. It would be very pertinent for me, I hope, to point out that the conditions in the factories in the eastern U.P. and Bihar had been that they were still selling the old sugar; not only that, they had to make distress sale many a time, because the Governments in those two States had been insisting that they should make payments of the different dues including those of cane cess and purchase tax. In fact, certain factories had been prosecuted by them. I am not saying that it should not have been done, but I do most humbly submit and ask—I hope the hon. Minister while replying will certainly say—what amount of the cane cess which had been recovered had been spent, in what proportion, in what areas and with what results? A certain cess or taxation is imposed for a particular work, but the experience of all concerned is such that the amount of money is not spent for that purpose and is being kept or utilised for some other thing. Seeing the condition, I am afraid that the tax for which it was imposed cannot be justified, and we cannot blame anybody else but Government themselves for the conditions that have been created. Madam, the condition is there; regional developments are most essential. The Indian Sugarcane Committee's existence will be in danger if certain regions are allowed to be extinguished. The regions which are prosperous, we are happy that they are able to keep their cost structure at a certain reasonable level. Where their cost structure is sound, there,

those factories also are allowed to charge the higher prices fixed by the Government, and where the cost of production is very high, there, the factories have yet to sell their sugar at a price lower than their cost price, and how far the economy is improved all round, how far the Government's act can be justified is a matter for the consideration of the Government.

With these words, Madam, I move this motion.

*The question was proposed.*

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAHANARA JAIPAL SINGH) in the Chair]

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam Vice-Chairman, sugar is a very important item today.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): Not sugar, but sugarcane.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Well, nobody will be interested in sugarcane unless it produced sugar. I hope even the Deputy Minister of Food is incidentally not the Deputy Minister of Agriculture. He won't be interested in sugarcane unless he was interested in the end-product—sugar—and its consumption.

The country today is facing the soaring price of sugar, and the Deputy Minister himself the other day admitted in this House that sugar prices were soaring. Now why are they soaring? Why are we afraid of sugar scarcity in the country? Why is it that one year back the Food Minister and others, who were talking of sugar surplus, are now afraid of sugar scarcity? Why is it that those who, last year, were anxious to export as much sugar as possible, are today afraid that at the end of this season, perhaps when the next season comes, we will consume more than our sugar production, from day to day. It is because of that sugarcane policy,

[Shri Arjun Arora.]

un-enlightened and short-sighted sugarcane policy—sugarcane production in the country was increasing but it was sought to be curtailed—that almost compulsorily 10 per cent. of the land from sugarcane crops was taken away and the formula for arriving at sugarcane prices has been so fixed that the agriculturist is discouraged from cultivating sugarcane. I know that is so in the State of U.P. and Bihar where, incidentally, the sugar industry is the oldest. As a matter of fact, it was the short-sighted policy of fixing sugarcane prices which has created this condition in eastern U.P., which is the poorest area in the country, and perhaps deserves the greatest attention of the Government and Parliament, of the Agriculture and Food Ministry; sugarcane factories have this year worked for only 110 days.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: One hundred and five days.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: One hundred and five to one hundred and ten days against the 210 days of Maharashtra. What does it mean? It means less employment opportunities for the people. It means that the sugar growers are sent away early. Workers employed in sugar mills get employment and wages only for 105 days. Can you imagine this sort of condition? It is this short-sighted policy with regard to sugarcane cultivation which has brought about this unhappy state of affairs.

The sugar industry and sugarcane growers have been paying a cess, which has gone to the coffers of the Government, which was meant to develop sugarcane. Apart from developing some roads in that area and building some bridges out of that fund, as far as eastern U.P. is concerned, no effort has been made to increase the quality and quantity of sugarcane produce. As a matter of fact, the money which has gone to the Government for the development

of sugarcane, which is the deduction from the price of the sugarcane which the mills pay, has not been utilised for the purpose for which it has been collected. And this folly has been repeated on a long range. And the result is that in that area, which is the birthplace of the sugar industry in U.P., sugarcane cultivation is decreasing, the area is decreasing, the sugarcane produced per acre is decreasing, and the sugar content of the cane produced is decreasing. It is this sorry state of affairs of eastern U.P. to which I want to draw the attention of the Ministry, this House and the country at large.

Madam, the sugar mill owners are also not free from blame. In U.P. it is proverbial that the sugarcane industry owes more money to sugarcane growers than the total capital with which this industry started. In 1931-32 a sugar mill started with a capital investment of about Rs. 8 lakhs, today it has at least Rs. 16 lakhs to pay to the sugarcane growers. The total investment in the sugar industry in U.P. is less than the amount which the industry has to pay to the growers. And when the Government of U.P. wakes up and tightens the screw and wants to realise that money which is due to the cane growers from the industry and the ever-fattening industrialists, the threat comes up, "We will have no capital left. We will have to close down the mills. Where will the cane go and what will the sugar workers do?" The whole industry which is a gem of private enterprise is so mismanaged that it relies upon the dues of the Government, the dues of the growers for its working capital.

Madam, the industry in eastern U.P. is more than 30 years old; yet it has not helped in any possible manner to raise the standard of living of the people in that area. I am afraid the Ministry will very soon have to think of the desirability of taking over the sugar industry in these parts of the country and run it with a view to im-

proving the standard of living of the agriculturists of eastern U.P.

With these words, Madam, I am grateful to the learned mover who has moved this motion and given us the opportunity to point out the grave injustice which is being done to the agriculturist of eastern U.P. both by the Government and by the industrialists.

شری عبدالغنی (پنجاب) : وائس

چھرمین صاحبہ - مجھے خوشی ہے کہ آنریبل ممبر نے اس اہم وشے پر ہاوس کی توجہ مبذول کرائی ہے - اس میں کوئی شک نہیں کہ آج یہ انڈسٹری سرکار کی جس توجہ کی محتاج ہے وہ توجہ اسے میسر نہیں - میں کچھ آنریبل ممبران کے ساتھ صورت گزہ فارم پر گیا تھا یہ فارم ایشیا میں جہاں تک اویگتھڈ فارم کا تعلق ہے سب سے بڑا فارم ہے - وہاں مجھے پتہ چلا کہ سرکار کی پالیسی یہ ہے کہ باوجود اس کے کہ وہاں بہترین گنا پیدا ہو سکتا ہے اور اس علاقہ میں کہ جو راجستھان کا علاقہ پہلے بالکل ایک طرح کا ریگستان تھا اس میں پیداوار اس تیزی سے بڑھ رہی ہے کہ شاید یہ گنگانگو ڈسٹرکٹ اور حصار ڈسٹرکٹ اور اس کے ساتھ دوسرے ادھر کے علاقے سامے دیہے کی مانگ پوری نہ سہی لیکن بہت حد تک کھانے کی خوراک کی مانگ کو پورا کر سکتے ہیں - وہاں فارم کے اخراج کو مہت کرنے کے لئے اور اس کی ترقی کے لئے اگر وہاں زیادہ گنا

پیدا کیا جائے تو وہاں بڑی آسانی سے شوگر مل لگ سکتی ہے - راجستھان کافی حد تک ابھی باقی ملک کے مقابلہ میں جہاں تک کہ پیداوار کا تعلق ہے پیچھے ہے - لیکن اب جب کہ وہاں نہر جا رہی ہے بڑے زور سے اور دنیا کی بہت بڑی نہروں میں شمار ہوگی راجستھان کمال تو وہاں بڑے اچھے تھلگ سے شوگر مل لگا کر اس علاقہ کی انتی اور فارم کی کامیابی بڑی آسانی سے ہو سکتی ہے - لیکن میں نے سنا کہ سرکار کی پالیسی یہ ہے کہ وہ زیادہ رقبہ اس کے لئے نہیں دے سکتی کیوں کہ کھانے کی چیزیں زیادہ پیدا ہونی چاہئیں - میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ جب یہ ہمارے دیہے کی ایک بہت بڑی انڈسٹری ہے تو اس کی طرف سرکار کی توجہ کہوں نہ جائے - میں نے یہ جانا کہ سیمس جو گنا پر لگایا جاتا ہے وہ گنا کی پیداوار کو بہتر کرنے کے لئے اس کی کوالٹی کو بہتر کرنے کے لئے خرچ ہونا چاہیئے لیکن اس سیمس کی طرف بھی ہماری مختلف سرکاروں کی توجہ پورے طور پر نہیں گئی -

غالباً سرکار کی جو پالیسی ہے وہ جیسا کہ 'رجن' اور 'صاحب' نے فرمایا یہ ہے کہ گورنمنٹ اپنے تھلگ سے سوچتی ہے اور اس وجہ سے وہ اس انڈسٹری کو اس سطح پر لے آتی ہے کہ اسکی پیداوار میں بہت ہی کمی آ

[شری عبدالغنی]

جاتی ہے اور اس کی ترقی میں بھی کسی آجانی ہے۔ یہ کہوں ہے۔ اس کا جواب تو سرکار ہی دے گی لیکن مہری دلی آرزو یہ ہے کہ ہم انڈسٹری آگے بڑھے اور سرکار اس انڈسٹری کے اوپر ذرا دھیان دے تو یہ فارن ایکسچینج میں بھی بہت حد تک مدد کر سکتی ہے اور اس کے ذریعہ سے ہم مزدوروں کی حالت بھی زیادہ سے زیادہ بہتر بنا سکتے ہیں۔ آج ایمرجنسو میں ہمیں فارن ایکسچینج کی ضرورت ہے تو اس کے اوپر سرکار کو کوئی زیادہ پابندیاں اس تھنگ سے نہیں لگانی چاہئیں جس سے کہ انڈسٹری کی ترقی میں رکاوٹ آئے۔

میں یہ سن کر حیران ہوا کہ اس دفعہ ملوں بہت تھوڑے وقت کے لئے چلیں کہونکہ اس تھنگ کی پابندیاں لگائی گئیں کہ زیادہ گدا پیدا نہیں ہوا اور اگر ہوا تو اس کا ریت اس تھنگ کا تھا کہ کسٹن کی زیادہ حوصلہ افزائی نہیں ہوئی کہ وہ زیادہ سے زیادہ پیدا کرتا۔ یو۔ پی۔ اور بہار میں تو شوگر انڈسٹری کا بہت ہی زیادہ اونچا درجہ ہے اور یو۔ پی۔ اور بہار نے اس بارے میں ملک کی بڑی سیوا کی ہے لیکن مہاراشٹر اب اس سے بڑھ گیا ہے اور وہ اس لئے بڑھ گیا ہے کہ وہاں گنا کی پیداوار بہتر ہے بمقابلہ دوسرے حصوں کے۔ تو وہاں زیادہ دیر تک کارخانے چلے

جب کہ یو۔ پی۔ اور بہار میں نہیں چلے اور اس طرح سے یو۔ پی۔ اور بہار کا نقصان ہوا۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ یہ ایک ایسی سمسٹیا ہے جس کے بارے میں کسی کو کوئی اختلاف نہیں ہو سکتا ہے کہ یہ ہماری سرکار کی توجہ کا مستحق ہے اور سرکار کو اس طرف توجہ کرنی چاہیئے۔

آج اگر اس بات پر ہم وچار کریں کہ جب چھلنی زیادہ پیدا ہو سکتی ہے تو پھر کہوں دقت آنی ہے وہ کہوں نہیں ملتی ہے کہوں زیادہ داموں سی لیوگن کہ ملتی ہے اور اس کے بارے میں لوگوں کو دقت ہے تو میرا سرکار کو ایک سمجھاؤ ہے۔ جس طرح باقی چیزیں وقت پر نہیں ملتی ہیں اور ملتی ہیں تو سچی نہیں ملتی ہیں اسی طرح سے اس میں بھی ہوا ہے۔ ہاؤس میں بناسپتی کا بھی قصہ بہت چلا۔ تو میری رائے ہے کہ سرکار کو کچھ ایسا راستہ نکالنا چاہیئے جس سے کہ کسی پر کچھ ذمہ داری آتی ہو۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ سرکار کہوں نہ اس طرح سے کرے کہ جو شوگر فیکٹریز ہیں ان کو جتنی شوگر ریلیز کرنے کی اجازت دیتے ہیں اس کو بھیجئے کی بھی ان کو اجازت ہو اور اس کو بھیجئے کے لئے خود ان کی اپنی ایجنسیز ہونی چاہئیں وہ دوکان داروں کو مقرر کریں یا اور



کسی طرح سے کہیں - وہ اس کو اسی دیت پر لوگوں کو دیں جو کہ مقرر ہو - ایسا کرنے سے یہ نہیں ہوگا جیسا کہ ہوا ہے کہ سینکڑوں بوڑیاں چھلی کی پکڑی گئیں جو کہ لوگوں نے دیالی تھیں اور دبا کر رکھ دیئے تھے - مل کے اوپر اس کی ذمہ داری ہو اور جو علاقہ جس مل کے ذمہ ڈالا جائے اس میں وہ سرکار کی ہدایت کے مطابق لوگوں کو چھلی مہیا کرے - میں اس لئے کہتا ہوں کہ ان پر تو کڑی نگرانی ہو سکتی ہے اور سرکار ان کو ذمہ دار تھہرا سکتی ہے - جب بداسپتی کا قصہ آیا تھا اور جب اس کے دنگے کا جھگڑا کھڑا ہوا کہ کونسا ایسا دنگ ہے جو کہ انجور میں نہیں ہے تو میں نے یہ دہا تھا کہ سرکار یہ کرے کہ جتنے فیکٹریوں میں یہ بدلتا ہے وہاں اس کو سفل کر کے دکھوائے اور وہ اپنی ایجنسیاں قائم کر کے سیٹ ڈپوز میں ہی اس کو بچھے تاکہ پھور گھی میں اور اس میں فرق ہو - اس طرح سے چھلی کے بارے میں بھی سرکار مہرے اس سچہاؤ پر غور کرے تاکہ لوگوں کو نہ دقت پیش آئے نہ بلہک ہو سکے اور نہ زیادہ سے زیادہ لوگ منافع کمائے کی طرف جائیں بلکہ مقررہ منافع کمائیں اور کارخانوں کو یہ ہدایت ہو کہ وہ اپنے بھان کی ضرورتوں کو مقررہ دیت پر پورا کریں - تھنک یو -

†[**श्री अब्दुल गनी (पंजाब) :** वाइन चैयरमैन साहब, मुझे खुशी है कि आनरेबल मेम्बर ने इस अहम विषय पर हाउस की तबज्जो मबजूल कराई है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि आज यह इंडस्ट्री सरकार की जिस तबज्जो की मोहताज है वह तबज्जो इसे मुयस्सर नहीं। मैं कुछ आनरेबल मेम्बरान के साथ सूरतगढ फार्म पर गया था। यह फार्म एशिया में जहां तक इरी-गेटिड फार्म का ताल्लुक है, सब से बड़ा फार्म है। वहां मुझे पता चला है कि सरकार की पालिसी यह है कि बावजूद इसके कि वहां बेहतरीन गन्ना पैदा हो सकता है और इस इलाके में कि जो राजस्थान का इलाका पहले बिल्कुल एक तरह का रेगिस्तान था इसमें पैदावार इस तेजी से बढ़ रही है और शायद यह गंगा नगर डिस्ट्रिक्ट और हिसार डिस्ट्रिक्ट और उसके साथ दूसरे उधर के इलाके सारे देश की मांग पूरी न सही लेकिन बहुत हद तक खाने की खुराक की मांग को पूरा कर सकते हैं। वहां फार्म के अइराजत को मीट करने के लिए और इसकी तरक्की के लिए अगर वहां ज्यादा गन्ना पैदा किया जाये तो वहां बड़ी आसानी से शुगर मिल लग सकती है। राजस्थान काफी हद तक अभी बाकी मुल्क के मुकाबले में जहां तक कि पैदावार का ताल्लुक है पीछे है। लेकिन अब जब कि वहां नहर जा रही है बड़े जोर से और जो दुनिया की बहुत बड़ी नहरों में शुमार होगी, राजस्थान कनाल, तो वहां बड़े अच्छे ढंग से शुगर मिल लगा कर इस इलाके की उन्नति और फार्म की काम-याबी बड़ी आसानी से हो सकती है। लेकिन मैंने मुना कि सरकार की पालिसी यह है कि वह ज्यादा रकबा इसके लिए नहीं रख सकती क्योंकि खाने की चीजें ज्यादा पैदा होती चाहियें। मैं सनज्ञता हूं कि जब यह हमारे देश की एक बहुत बड़ी इंडस्ट्री है तो इसकी तरफ सरकार की तबज्जो क्यों न जाये। मैंने यह जाना कि

[श्री अब्दुल गनी]

सैस जो गन्ने पर लगाया जाता है वह गन्ना की पैदावार को बहतर करने के लिए इसकी क्वालिटी को बहतर करने के लिए खर्च होना चाहिये। लेकिन इस सैस की तरफ भी हमारी मुस्तलिफ सरकारों की तवज्जो पूरे तौर पर नहीं गई।

गालबन सरकार की जो पोलिसी है वह जैसा कि अर्जेंट अरोड़ा साहब ने फरमाया यह है कि गवर्नमेंट अपने ढंग से सोचती है और इस वजह से वह इस इंडस्ट्री को इस सतह पर ले आती है कि इसकी पैदावार में बहुत ही कमी आ जाती है और इसकी तरक्की में भी कमी आ जाती है। यह क्यों है? इसका जवाब तो सरकार ही देगी लेकिन मेरी दिली आरजू यह है कि यह इंडस्ट्री आगे बढ़े। अगर सरकार इस इंडस्ट्री के ऊपर जरा ध्यान दे तो यह फॉरन एक्सचेंज में भी बहुत हद तक मदद कर सकती है और इसके जरिये से हम मजदूरों की हालत भी ज्यादा से ज्यादा बहतर बना सकते हैं। आज एमर-जेंसी में हमें फॉरन एक्सचेंज की जरूरत है तो इसके ऊपर सरकार को कोई ज्यादा पाबन्दियां इस ढंग से नहीं लगानी चाहियें जिस से कि इंडस्ट्री की तरक्की में रुकावट आये।

मैं यह मुन कर हैरान हुआ कि इस दफा मिलें बहुत थोड़े वक्त के लिए चलीं, क्योंकि इस ढंग की पाबन्दियां लगाई गईं कि ज्यादा गन्ना पैदा नहीं हुआ और अगर हुआ तो इसका रेट इस ढंग का था कि किसान की ज्यादा होसला-अफजाई नहीं हुई कि वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा गन्ना पैदा करता। यू० पी० और बिहार में तो शूगर इंडस्ट्री का बहुत ज्यादा ऊंचा दर्जा है और यू० पी० और बिहार ने इस बारे में मुल्क की बड़ी सेवा की है लेकिन महाराष्ट्र अब इससे बढ गया है और वह इस लिए बढ गया है कि वहां गन्ने की पैदावार बहतर

बमुकाबला दूसरे हिस्सों के। तो वहां ज्यादा देर तक कारखाने चले। जब कि यू० पी० और बिहार में नहीं चले और इस तरह से यू० पी० और बिहार का नुकसान हुआ। मैं समझता हूं कि यह एक ऐसी समस्या है जिसके बारे में किसी को कोई इख्तलाफ नहीं हो सकता है कि यह हमारी सरकार की तवज्जह का मोहताज है और सरकार को इस तरफ तवज्जह करनी चाहिये।

आज अगर इस बात पर विचार करें कि जब चीनी ज्यादा पैदा हो सकती है तो फिर क्यों दिक्कत आती है वह क्यों नहीं मिलती है क्यों ज्यादा दामों में लोगों को मिलती है और इसके बारे में लोगों को दिक्कत है तो मेरा सरकार को एक सुझाव है। जिस तरह बाकी चीजें वक्त पर नहीं मिलती हैं और मिलती हैं तो सच्ची नहीं मिलती हैं इसी तरह से इसमें भी होता है। हाउस में बनस्पत्ति का भी किस्सा बहुत चला। तो मेरी राय है कि सरकार को कुछ ऐसा रास्ता निकालना चाहिए जिससे कि किसी पर कुछ जिम्मेदारी आती हो। मैं समझता हूं कि सरकार क्यों न इस तरह से करे कि जो शूगर फैक्टरीज है उनको जितनी शूगर रिलीज करने की इजाजत देते हैं इसको बेचने का भी उनको इजाजत हो और इसको बेचने के लिये खुद उनकी अपनी एजेंसीज होनी चाहियें। वह दुकानदारों को मुकूर करें या और किसी तरह से करें। वह इसको इसी रेट पर लोगों को दें जो कि मुकूर हो। ऐसा करने से यह नहीं होगा जैसा कि हुआ है कि सैकड़ों बोरेयां चीनी पकड़ी गईं जो कि लोगों ने दबा ली थीं। और दबा कर रखे हुए थे। मिल के ऊपर इसकी जिम्मेदारी हो और जो इलाका जिस मिल के जिम्मे डाला जाये इसमें वह सरकार की हिदायत के मुताबिक लोगों को चीनी मुहैया करे। मैं यह इसलिए कहता हूं कि इस पर तो

कड़ी निगरानी हो सकती है और सरकार उनको जिम्मेदार ठहरा सकती है। जब बनास्पति का किस्सा आया था और जब उसके रंगने का झगड़ा खड़ा हुआ कि कौन सा ऐसा रंग है जो कि इज्यूरियस नहीं है तो मैंने यह कहा था कि सरकार यह करे कि जिन फैक्टरियों में यह बनता है वहां इसको सील करके रखाये और वह अपनी एजेंसियां कायम करके सीड डिब्बों में ही इसको बेचे ताकि प्योर घी में और उसमें फर्क हो। इसी तरह से चीनी के बारे में भी सरकार मेरे इस सुझाव पर गौर करे ताकि लोगों को न दिक्कत पेश आये न ब्लैक हो सके और न ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग मुनाफा कमाने की तरफ जायें बल्कि मुकर्रर मुनाफा कमायें और कारखानों को यह हिदायत हो कि वह अपने यहां के लोगों की जरूरतों को मुकर्ररा रेट पर पूरा करें। थैंक यू। ]

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY (Mysore): Madam, I am very happy that the report of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee for 1961-62 is under discussion in this House. As I was going through the list of persons who had participated in shaping the work of the Indian Sugarcane Committee, I came across a very revered name and that was of the late Dr. T. S. Venkataraman. He was really the father of the Indian Sugarcane research work in India. I had the opportunity of knowing him at very close quarters in the Agricultural College at Coimbatore, when I was a student during the years 1930-33. He was then the Sugarcane expert with the Government of India. I know that he was one of the most ardent scientists India had ever produced. He was mainly responsible for this sugarcane research in India. He was a scholar of international fame and his research work was recognised all over the world. I know that in 1930 or so in recognition of his services to the science of plant breeding, parti-

cularly sugarcane breeding, he was awarded Knighthood by the then Government. Therefore as I was looking through the list of persons, it is also very sad indeed that an eminent scientist who contributed the greatest, in a very great way, to the progress of this sugarcane industry and the sugar industry should have passed away during the present year. A scientist of his calibre is very hard to come across within our country and his loss is a very great loss. I mourn it and I only pray that his soul might rest in peace and his example might be followed by the scientists of to-day in the various laboratories and numerous research farms that are now set up in the country. It may not be very appropriate here to talk of the great research he has contributed but all the same I should be pardoned if I refer to some of the work he has done. He was the one person who was able to cross-breed sugarcane with that of ordinary jowar and produced a via-media crop. I have also lost track of the research ever since 1933 and I do not know what has happened. Those days it was talked of as one of the biggest achievements and sugarcane-sorghum cross-breeding was then described as having great potentialities of growing sugarcane even in dry conditions. Wherever Sorghum (Jowar) was grown, it was said in those days, that sugarcane growing was also possible. I do not see what has happened to that aspect of the question subsequently but any way his research work stands out as a very important one. I also remember that his researches were mainly responsible for bringing about a revolution in the growth of sugarcane in this country and probably if the effect is worked out in terms of money, I mean the increase in the output of sugarcane and thereby the national wealth, the sum may run to several billion crores, ever since his researches were applied to the fields and factories in the country. I will come back to this aspect of the matter a little later.

Now I shall deal with the points

[Shri N. Sri Rama Reddy.] covered by this Report. I find that during the year 1961-62 the area under sugarcane crop was 59.42 lakh acres. This is more by 1.53 lakh acres than what it was in 1960-61. But the production of sugarcane has not kept pace with this increase. The increase in the production of cane during the past 11 years ending 1960-61 was 69.5 per cent over the base year 1949-50. But I find that though the increase in the area under cultivation has been as much as 57.17 per cent, the actual increase in the sugarcane production for all these years works out only to about 11 per cent. Madam, the point that I want to bring out is that the production per acre has not been very encouraging, consistent with the money spent on research and on various other aspects. Not only that, Madam, though the sugar industry is said to have acquired such a big place in our country and it is considered a major national industry of the country, all the same, the development has been a little lopsided, according to me. This we see on page 4 para 9 where the results of the All-India Sugarcane Crop Competitions are given. We find that the sugarcane outturn in the northern region is 50 per cent less than that in the southern region. For example, during 1960-61 in the northern region for Eksali they got 86.81 tons per acre whereas in the southern region it was as much as 128.27 tons per acre. Similarly for the earlier crops in the northern region they had 61.17 tons per acre whereas in the southern region they had as much as 99.68 tons per acre. For the Ratoon crop, for the year 1960-61, the northern region has the figure 48.60 tons whereas the southern region produced 120.40 tons per acre. Similarly in the case of the other years also. Therefore, it is clear that in the northern region the outturn of sugarcane crop has been 50 per cent of that in the southern region. So here is this anomaly of a greater area under sugarcane cultivation producing less per acre. In the north the area under

the crop is more. There are many sugar factories in the northern region and yet the yield per acre is less. In other words, we are yet to evolve a proper system of utilisation of our land for different crops. It looks as if there has been some haphazard development without much planning or any scientific method. More sugar factories have come up in the northern region and more land has been put under this crop. But, Madam, some of this land could have been put to more effective use for other crops, crops other than sugarcane. I do not know why that was not done. This is imbalance so far as the national utilisation of land is concerned. This is the fact that I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister who is just now in the House. Merely because there are a greater number of factories in the region, should we put all that land under sugarcane? Perhaps an area which is only half the area in U.P. and Bihar could produce as much cane, if it were in the southern region. Though this may look a fantastic suggestion, I would like this fact to be considered in the House and considered by the Government, on a long-range basis at least.

Having touched on this fundamental point I would like to pass on to other points. The object of the Indian Sugarcane Committee is to increase the per acre yield and also to control diseases and to carry out such researches as are necessary. Probably the production is mainly sugar, khandsari and gur, and I find from page 4 of the Report that certain investigations had been carried out, certain surveys conducted, with regard to the prevalence of diseases in this crop. In Uttar Pradesh a survey was conducted in 1959-60 covering an area of 11,855 acres and it was found that out of that area the area affected by disease was 532 acres. I am happy to find that this area of 532 acres has been treated. Similarly in 1960-61, 11,291 acres were surveyed and 52 acres were found affected. So the

trend seems to be that as a result of the surveys the incidence of disease has been very much reduced. This is indeed a happy feature so far as U.P. is concerned. With regard to Bihar also, more or less the position is the same. But with regard to Punjab the position is different. Here I would invite the attention of the hon. Members to page 5 of the Report where there is mention of the survey conducted in Punjab. In 1959-60, 2,538 acres were surveyed and as much as 1,087 acres were found affected, but the area treated is only 432 acres. In that year though as many as 1,087 acres were found affected as a result of the survey conducted, only 432 acres were treated. So far as 1960-61 is concerned, the position has not improved. The only thing was that the survey was conducted over a much larger area, 15,000 acres and the area affected was 4164 acres, that is, nearly 35 per cent of the area was affected by various crop diseases. The area treated came only to 2134 acres. The area under sugarcane in Punjab must have been much more than what was surveyed but the percentage of crop treated to the percentage of crop invested with various diseases is 35 per cent only. Generalising the whole thing, would this House be right in concluding that only 35 per cent of the area affected was treated in Punjab as a whole? Is that the way we carry on researches?

Another important thing, Madam, is that in the southern region no such survey was conducted. It should have been spread over all the States. I do not want to bring in the question of North or South or any rivalry in this connection but I only want to know why a survey of this kind is not spread over. I myself did a survey from 1933 to 1936 in Bellary. We have got a big list of activities to be conducted under the auspices of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. Is there a method of coordinating whatever results are achieved? As a matter of fact, production of sugarcane is a State subject and that being so, is there any agency for coordinat-

ing the research work with the actual field work? The Report does not say anything about it, whether the results obtained by the research activities are made available to the various State Governments for purposes of production. It is rather difficult to evaluate research in terms of the results it produces but I would like to know, spread over a number of years—we have been spending nineteen to twenty lakhs of rupees—what has been the actual concrete benefit to the country by way of increased production because of these researches. At least a summary ought to have been given. I only hope that the Agriculture Ministry would be good enough to take this small suggestion of mine into consideration and see that a broad evaluation takes place in terms of the results obtained at least for a ten-yearly period and such an evaluation is given to us.

**SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA** (Bihar): Madam Vice-Chairman, although the destinies of the sugar industry in this country are being presided over by my very able friend, Mr. Thomas, I am constrained to remark that the vicissitudes through which the sugar industry has gone through in this country are a sad commentary not only on the efficient functioning of the Food and Agriculture Ministry but also of planning on the whole. Now, if you would kindly refer to the very sketchy report that has been circulated to us, you would find that although this Committee was established in the year 1944, not very appreciable results have been achieved by the working of this Committee. Madam, sugar is not produced in the factories. It is a misnomer. Sugar actually is produced by the agriculturists in the field. The factories merely harness sugar that is available in the sugarcane. Now, you would find, as has been mentioned by my friends, the yield per acre in this country is poor and is going down. It is 16.16 tons and has come down from 17.70 tons in the previous year. It is going down instead of increasing as a result of all these planning and

[Shri Rajendra Pratap Sinha.] research work whereas in the case of other countries, it is very high. It is 62 tons in Havana and 56 tons in Indonesia. We are having a very great shortage in food and we have to import food. If we can develop the yield per acre, the acreage can come down by half. If we can have a yield of 48 tons the acreage can come down by one-third. Now, what has been the achievement for all these years? What the yield per acre is, is the important point which the Ministry should examine and find out why no increase is being achieved. We ought to have been given comparative figures about the yield per acre in 1944 and in 1963. Why are not results forthcoming? Is twenty years not a long period to achieve this? My hon. friend who moved this motion enumerated various factors which have contributed to this deterioration. Take another factor which has been referred to by my hon. friend, the difference in the yield in the northern and southern regions. In the northern region the yield is given on page 4, which is very poor compared to the yield or the possible yield in the southern region. It is mentioned on page 6 that the average acre yield in the South is between 25 and 30 tons as against 12 and 15 in the North. The average per acre yield in the country as a whole is adversely affected by the low production in the northern region. That there are potentialities for improving greatly this acre yield has been clearly shown by the results of the All India Sugarcane Crop Competition. Now this is a pointer to the other inefficiency of the Department of Sugarcane and also of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture at the centre. Why can't we achieve what we consider could be achieved in spite of 20 or 30 years of efforts in this direction?

4 P.M.

There is another important aspect which comes out of this. Nearly 50 per cent of our cane is diverted for the production of gur and khandsari.

The production of gur and khandsari in 1960-61 was 56.4 lakh tons whereas the production of sugar in that year was 29.82. The recovery—as has been stated here—varies. In the southern region it is 10.75 as against 9.53 and 9.22 in U.P. and Bihar and 8.93 in Punjab. I am told that recovery in the case of gur and khandsari is only 6 per cent. Now, this is also a great loss. A good deal of sugar is burnt away; it is not being recovered at all by the process of khandsari and gur manufacture. The average recovery in the mills is anything between 9.5 and 10 whereas the average recovery through the process of khandsari and gur manufacture is only 6 per cent. This is a serious matter because this wastage is a national wastage. What is to be done? Either we must have the maximum production of sugar in sugar factories or we must improve the efficiency of cottage industry's instruments producing gur and khandsari. Now, are we sure that the full capacity of the sugar mills is being utilised? Obviously, they are not. There is no control over the price of sugarcane taken by the gur and khandsari manufacturers but there is a control on the price of cane going to the sugar factories. Now, this is a very anomalous position. The price policy of the Government is such that the millowners cannot pay what the gur manufacturers and the khandsari manufacturers could give to the canegrowers and the cultivators find it more remunerative to divert their cane to the gur and khandsari manufacturers instead of giving it to the mills. It is a plain fact.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: It was only this year.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: I am talking of the average. On an average I understand 50 per cent of cane every year is diverted for the production of gur and khandsari.

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI (Uttar Pradesh): 75 per cent. Only 21 per cent goes to the sugar factories.

**SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA:**

You are a greater expert, I am not an expert. For the purpose of argument I can take the average at 50 per cent as is reported by this Committee. And it is a national wastage when about 4 per cent sugar content in the sugarcane is burnt after extraction of only 6 per cent by the khandsari and gur manufacturers. So something has got to be done. The price policy should be such that there is maximum recovery from the cane that is produced by the cultivators.

There is also another point which has got to be examined. Who is responsible to improve the recovering capacity of the instruments used by the khandsari and gur manufacturers? We have the ambar charkha and we try to improve the yield of the charkha by improving the design and working of the charkha. Similarly we improve the designs in the silk industry. All the time research is going on for improving the tooling of the cottage industry. What is being done to improve the tooling so far as the khandsari and gur manufacture is concerned? Who is responsible for that? I was looking into this Report. I do not know whether this Committee is responsible or not to devise better means of production of gur and khandsari so that the average recovery rate could be improved from 6 per cent to 8 per cent. Even this improvement by two per cent will relieve to a very great extent the field from sugar to other food crops. No attention seems to have been paid to this question either by this Committee or anybody else. I have not heard of anything. We must apply our mind and find out some better method, better tooling, better processes by which the recovery rate in gur and khandsari manufacture could be improved. That is a very important cottage industry and probably it may not be feasible and practicable to divert all the cane to sugar mills; so the other alternative is to improve the yield of gur and khandsari but nothing seems to have been done.

There is another important question referred to by my friend, regarding the sugarcane yield and the sugar industry in the northern region and the southern region. From the economic point of view as these figures reveal there is no doubt in what my friend said that the yield per acre in the southern region is far better than the yield per acre in the northern region. There is no doubt that economically it will be far better that the production of sugarcane and sugar is concentrated more and more in the south. There is no doubt about that, unless the cane-growers and millowners in U.P. and Bihar justify the existence of this industry in their region by improving the yield. What is being done by this Ministry or by the State Governments of U.P. and Bihar to improve matters? The laws of economics will otherwise operate and no power can stop the diversion of production of sugar to southern States from the northern States. The fortunes of a very large number of cultivators depend upon the cane in Bihar and U.P. Unless we give them some alternative cash crop it will very much affect their economy if this happens and it is bound to happen one day if things are not improved. I wonder if the State Governments of U.P. and Bihar are alive to the situation. Now the sugar industry has been a hen which has been laying the golden egg and both the State Governments and the Central Government have derived good revenue through taxation out of this. I must say that if all the cess money that has been collected in U.P. and Bihar had been diverted for the development of the industry things would not have come to such a sorry plight as it is today. We have been clamouring—I have often spoken here and many Members in the State legislature of U.P. and Bihar have also spoken—that the cess collected should be pooled together and all that money at least for some years till things improve should be spent on the improvement of the industry and sugarcane production. Unfortunately that has

[Shri Rajendra Pratap Sinha.]  
not been heeded to and I think that unless that is done this industry will go to the south from U.P. and Bihar. There is no way out of it because as the figures show the natural conditions in the south are far better than in the north. So long as this industry exists in the North, you have to see that by governmental policies, price policies and otherwise, they are not hard hit. Now, certain figures were shown to us and they were also quoted on the floor of this House to show that the price fixed by the Government had adversely affected the cane-growers and the mills in South Bihar, Eastern U.P. particularly and in Punjab. I do not exactly remember but I understand from the Indian Sugar Mills Association that the loss will be about Rs. 5.50 nP or Rs. 5.80 nP. or something like that per maund so far as the South Bihar sugar mills are concerned. The loss is about Rs. 1.50 nP. or Rs. 1.75 nP. per maund so far as Eastern U.P. is concerned. In the case of Western U.P. I understand that at the present prices, there will be no loss and no profit, whereas the price fixation gives a particular advantage to the factories in the southern region, in the western region, Maharashtra and other places. It is very difficult for me to go into the details as to how some regions are going to be badly affected, while some other regions are going to profit by such a policy of price fixation. It is my intention to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that some of us are greatly perturbed by the price fixation. The ex-mill price of sugar should be so fixed that the fortunes of the industry in South Bihar, Eastern U.P. and Punjab shall not be adversely affected. The Government should examine and give such relief as may be necessary so that the industry in these areas, which is dying a natural death more or less because of the low production per acre, may not get a further kick from the Government. It is not only the question of the factories in these regions. We have also to look into this question from the angle of the large number of cane-growers of this

region, i.e., South Bihar, Eastern U.P. and Punjab. In a planned economy we have to see that no sector of the economy suffers by our price policy. If what has been stated by the sugar mills is correct, if the Government find them to be correct they need immediate consideration, so that not only the fortunes of the mills but also a large number of cane-growers are not adversely affected. If such a price is not fixed, it will further aggravate the situation in the next crushing season. Nobody would cultivate cane and the production of sugar will go down further. What will happen is this. The process of diversion of production of sugarcane to the South from the North will be accelerated. Well, if that is the intention, I have no quarrel because on economic grounds it has been revealed that in the southern region the yield per acre is far better. If that is the considered policy of the Government, then it must be properly done, announced in a proper manner, done in a planned manner. The shifting of an industry from one region to another should be in a planned manner in the national interest. But if that is not the policy and if you want the industry and the cane-growers in South Bihar, Eastern U.P. and Punjab to continue to grow cane and to make sugar, then, by our price policy we should not make them suffer. And more particularly for the coming crushing season I would urge very strongly upon the Government to examine this issue and I also voice my feeling—if my voice could reach the Governments of U.P., Bihar and Punjab—that they should be more alive to this problem. Otherwise, the fortunes not only of the mills, but also of a large number of cane-growers, will be adversely affected and they will come to a very miserable plight.

STATEMENT RE REPORT OF THE  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND A RETIRED HIGH COURT JUDGE ON  
VIVIAN BOSE INQUIRY COMMISSION'S REPORT

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAHANARA JAIPAL SINGH): Shri