

श्री नवार्बसिंह चौहान : जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि उनकी मांगें पूरी कर दी गई हैं लेकिन जैसा कि स्टेटमेंट में लिखा गया है :

"However, as stated above, arrangements will be made to meet the requirements".

तो वे क्या अरेंजमेंट्स किये गये हैं, फोटोग्राफिक मैटीरियल के डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन के लिये ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : मुझे मालूम नहीं आनरेबल मेम्बर कहां से पढ़ रहे हैं ?

श्री नवार्बसिंह चौहान : स्टेटमेंट का दूसरा पैरा देखियेगा और तीसरा पैरा देखियेगा। तीसरा जो हिस्सा है उसमें लिखा गया है :

Established importers or their agents will not sell goods at prices exceeding those prevailing prior to September 1957".

तो क्या इंजाय किया गया है कि लोग ज्यादा दामों पर न बेवें क्योंकि इस वक्त पीने दो रुपये की चीज चार रुपये से ज्यादा दाम पर बिक रही है ?

श्री एन० कानूनगो : जो कोई इंपोर्टर होलसेलर ज्यादा दामों पर बेवेंगे उनके ऊपर पेनलटी लगाई जायगी। पेनलटी कई एक किस्म की है जिनमें से आखिरी पेनलटी यह है कि उनको लाइसेन्स नहीं मिलेगा।

श्री नवार्बसिंह चौहान : ये तो कानून और कायदे कागज़ पर लिख रखे हैं। मैं प्रश्न यह कर रहा हूँ कि आपकी तरफ से क्या कोशिश की जा रही है ? दिल्ली में ही तिगुने और चौगुने दामों पर ये चीजें बिक रही हैं ?

श्री एन० कानूनगो : ऐसी जब कोई कंप्लेंट आ जायगी तो उस पर विचार किया जायगा। होलसेलर और इंपोर्टर के पास स जो कोई माल लेकर हायर रेट्स में बेचेगा तो उसकी इक्वायरी की जाती है और पनिशमेंट दी जाती है। अब तक कोई शिकायत नहीं आई है।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : मैंने जब पिछले सेशन में इसी सम्बन्ध में प्रश्न किया था तब क्या इसको शिकायत नहीं समझा गया।

श्री एन० कानूनगो : यह पालिसी पहली अगस्त से जारी की गई है।

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS FOR THE REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN WEST BENGAL

*390. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee of Ministers made any recommendation for undertaking irrigation and reclamation schemes within West Bengal for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF REHABILITATION (SHRI P. S. NASKAR): (a) There was such a recommendation in 1954 in the context of the rehabilitation of the total population of 10,000 agriculturist families in the camps in West Bengal at that time.

(b) A survey of waste land in West Bengal was carried out which revealed that only a small area of land of marginal and sub-marginal character was available for the purpose of rehabilitation of displaced persons in the State. The land available was nowhere near our requirements for the purpose. However, pilot schemes of settlement in Midnapur in Sisal-cum-paddy cultivation and in Hara-banga block of Sunderbans have already been undertaken and certain other areas are under examination for purposes of reclamation and development.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, why there has been so much delay in carrying out even the survey of these areas to be reclaimed when the recommendations were

made in 1954, and whether the Government has made any enquiry with regard to the delay that occurred?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: There has been no question of any delay at all. The hon. Member, I hope, would remember that during the years 1955 and 1956 as many as six lakh persons came from East Pakistan, of whom two lakhs went into camps—nearly 40 to 50 thousand families. The number then swelled from about 10 to 15 thousand families to some 60 to 70 thousand in camps. We had been tackling this problem very energetically, and during the last two years or so we have sent about 50,000 persons from West Bengal to States like Assam, Orissa and other places, and we are settling quite a number of families even in West Bengal and the number of families today in camps is about 40,000.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My question relates to reclamation of land arising out of the recommendations of a particular committee—not all that he has said. May I know, Sir, whether it has been pointed out to the Government that the Committee recommended that most of the refugees could be resettled within the State of West Bengal and that for this purpose there should be survey and reclamation of land according to certain definite specified plans?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The reply to the question has not been appreciated. If I was only dealing with 10,000 families, perhaps they could have been rehabilitated within West Bengal itself, but when my number goes up from 10,000 to 70,000 and they cannot be rehabilitated within West Bengal, then we take up schemes both within West Bengal and outside. As far as West Bengal is concerned, Sir, all the good lands have already been taken over; only marginal and sub-marginal lands remain, maybe in Midnapore—I had been there myself—Harabanga, I had been there myself. Sunderbans, I have seen things for myself. In

Sunderbans, Sir, even if I take up reclamation work today, if I am reclaiming the land at this moment, it will take 2 to 3 years before the salinity is washed away. It is not a question of settling the families in a certain piece of land, even if you take, Sir, Midnapore. Now with the machinery that I have got at my disposal in Calcutta today I cannot undertake reclamation of more than 6 to 7 thousand acres. That will take only one thousand families. All that is being done. So on the one hand, whatever is available within the State, whether in the shape of marginal or sub-marginal land, we are making full use of it. But the problem has become so stupendous that it cannot be contained within the State.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is difficult to remember his speech. I asked questions; I did not make speeches when asking questions. May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that their recommendations contained certain concrete proposals itemised 1, 2, 3, like that, and how many of these proposals or suggestions of the Committee had been actually implemented or sought to be implemented by the Government? If not, why not?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, I have told about the Midnapore land. Now let me say something about Harabanga—it is another scheme which is under consideration. Now in Harabanga before even an acre can be . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Khanna, give the answer straight.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Now a 30-mile bund has to be constructed in Harabanga. So also we have to build miles of cross-bunda. All these schemes are schemes which are of long-term duration and cannot be put through quickly.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Sir, what is the area of land which has been found available in West Bengal for reclamation and settlement of the refugees

thereon, and what is the number of refugee families which is proposed to be settled in that area?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The latest report is based on a survey taken by the Government of West Bengal very recently. The total area, which is again of a marginal and sub-marginal nature will not be more than about one lakh acres. Taking the roads and other factors into consideration, even if about 60 to 70 thousand acres can be reclaimed, on the basis of 7 acres to a family, not more than ten thousand families can be rehabilitated within the State.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that only recently, pressed by the opposition, the Chief Minister of West Bengal has been obliged to state that he can find at least that much land in order to rehabilitate 10,000 families?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: We are always taking the wishes of the opposition into consideration. As far as the pressure on the West Bengal Chief Minister is concerned, I have no personal knowledge about it.

TEA CENTRES IN EUROPE

*391. **SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to open tea centres on the continent of Europe to popularise Indian tea;

(b) if so, in which countries such centres are to be opened;

(c) whether Government have information about the quantity of Indian tea consumed annually in (i) West Germany and (ii) other countries of the continent; and

(d) how much of the quantities referred to in (i) and (ii) of part (c) above is re-exported by Britain?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (**SHRI SATISH CHANDRA**): (a) No such proposal is being considered at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A statement showing exports of tea from India and the quantity of Indian tea re-exported by U.K. to West Germany and other countries on the continent, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXIII, Annexure No. 26.]

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether Germany is not a big consumer of Indian tea and that considerable amount of tea is sold in that country by way of re-exports from Britain?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, I have laid the Statement on the Table of the House. If the hon. Member sees the figures he will find that a small percentage is re-exported from U.K., and that the rest is supplied directly from India.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that Indian tea is sold at very high prices in West Germany compared to the prices at which it is bought here and that the benefit out of the margin is almost wholly taken by the British exporters and the British tea planters?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: That is not correct; there are big taxes on tea, both on bulk tea and package tea, and then there is the sales tax which make up a total of about Rs. 3-8-0 per pound, and that increases the price of tea in West Germany.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Why should this re-export from U.K. to West Germany be allowed? Why should not we ourselves directly do it because—here are the figures that have been supplied to us in the statement—in 1955 60 per cent was directly shipped from here and 40 per cent of the Indian tea supplied to Germany was—re-exported from Britain? Why should it be allowed?