

RESOLUTION *RE* PLANNED CROPPING

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore):
Sir, I beg to move :

That this Council is of opinion that the Government of India should take legislative and other measures to promote planned cropping all over India.

Sir, we have been discussing a Resolution which had a remote bearing on us and we now come to a Resolution which is very near to us which relates to a subject that is staring us in the face. My Resolution presupposes that agriculture is the mainstay of this country.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE (West Bengal) :
Could not we take up the Resolution on the next non-official day ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There are 5 minutes.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : The problem which is very near to us, very basic and vital to us does not need much elaboration. To a population of 382·28 millions we are not growing enough to feed.

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (Dr. P. S. DESHMUKH) : This would be the population in 1955 or so.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : This is based on the figure given in the 1951 census and the production that we have is hardly 42·82 million tons. At the rate of 14 ozs. per individual we will not be able to feed this population. Added to this, every five minutes day and night we are adding 8 more mouths. So much so just as a daily newspaper has said this morning, a ghost of Malthus has been haunting us. Food is a vital need to us. No community can afford to ignore such a need as that. Next comes clothing. In all the basic needs of the community this country unfortunately is falling short of. The Planning Commission has made a very interesting survey to show that we are not only deficit in food, we are deficit

in pulses, cereals, cotton, jute, sugar-cane, oilseeds, etc. Here I have figures to show that by the time we reach 1956 the problem becomes so monstrous that it needs the active and energetic consideration of everyone to co-operate in solving these problems.

Well, the only remedy which I humbly suggest by way of this Resolution is for the Government, if they have to solve this deficit in such essential particulars, to take to planned cropping. The broad features of it are these. Planned cropping implies controlled and directed agricultural economy. It also implies that crop planning must be able to meet the vital needs of the country. It must be able to meet the needs of all essential commodities that are required in the country and it must be able to produce other items of wealth of the country so much so that it should be able to balance the import trade of the country. There is another broad feature of planned cropping and that is that the cropping must be planned in such a way as to exploit the natural resources that God has blessed us with to the best possible extent. The Agricultural Research Council have made a very interesting research and countries like USA, USSR and Japan have contributed a lot in this direction to show that if a country, however limited in its natural resources, only takes to scientific methods and scientific plan, it should be able to meet its national demands.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Will you take more time ?

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Of course.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please resume your speech on the next non-official day.

The Council then adjourned till a quarter to eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 26th November 1952.