

[Shri Mahavir Tyagi] The sugar interests and the cane-growers were also consulted. I commend the Bill to the House for approval.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :  
Motion moved :

That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection for a temporary period of an additional duty of excise on sugar, as passed by the House of the People, be taken into consideration.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY :  
(Mysore) : I want some explanation on two or three points. I would like to know from when does the 1951-52 season commence ? Is it common to all the factories in India or is the season reckoned in different ways for different factories ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI :  
The season has already begun. It is not always common. It spreads over quite a large part of the year. The 1951-52 season is over.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : I have sought this information, Sir, because according to the sources of my information, I learn that the year of production of sugar or crushing of cane in the case of Mandya Sugar Factory is different from the year that is reckoned in relation to other factories. There has been some trouble about it because of the reduction of prices which the Government have brought into effect. I would like to know, therefore, if it is true that in the case of Mandya Sugar Factory the year is reckoned in a different way, i.e., from July instead of from November ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : I will give that information during the course of the debate but I might add that in the factory which my hon. friend has mentioned they had started crushing sugarcane earlier. When the season began and when the idea came that next time the sugarcane price is going to be reduced and the Government intimated to them, they started crushing on the undertaking that they will agree to whatever the price Government will fix afterwards.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH (Madras) :  
Now in view of the fact that very serious statements are made with regard to the position.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN !  
What is the point ? There are still five minutes. Each minute costs about Rs. 40 or so.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : The only point is that this is a Bill for which we must have some time to study. Therefore I would request that the House be adjourned and by tomorrow morning there will be enough time for the Opposition Members to go through the details.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Will the hon. Minister please resume his speech ?

SHRI L. H. DOSHI (Bombay) : On a point of information, Sir. What is the price fixed for sugar of the 1952-53 season ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : There will be no price fixed for sugar for the next season. The calculations are that the cost price of sugar would be somewhere between Rs. 27 and Rs. 29 per maund on the basis of the cost being paid to the sugarcane growers now for sugarcane. That is the only calculation but since there will be no control or ceiling price fixed for sugar, sugar will sell on its own price in the market.

SHRI L. H. DOSHI : Will the 1952-53 sugar be issued after the 1951-52 sugar is exhausted ? Will the 1951-52 sugar be sold earlier ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : The idea is as soon as this Bill is passed and the House gives power to levy this duty, there will be little discrimination between old and new sugar and all will be dealt with as if it was one sugar produced in the same year for the purposes of issue. It is immaterial whether the old sugar is issued or the new sugar is issued. We will not distinguish between old bag and new bag.