

ment of. Industrial Development), under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955: —

(i) S.O. No. 431, dated, the 18th February, 1978, publishing the Textiles (Production by Knitting, Embroidery, Lace Making and Printing Machines) Control (Amendment) Order, 1978.

(ii) S.O. No. 829, dated the 25th March, 1978, publishing the corrigenda to Notification S.O. No. 1382, dated the 22nd April, 1977.

II. Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the Notification mentioned at I(i) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2675/78 to I & II].

#### **Annual Report (1977-78) of the Central Vigilance Commission**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Central Vigilance Commission for the year 1977-78, together with a Memorandum explaining the reasons for non-acceptance by Government of the Commission's advice in six cases referred to in paragraph 6.3 of the Report. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2~676/78]

#### **MESSAGE FROM) THE LOK SABHA**

The Delhi Police Bill, 1978

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha;

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Delhi Police Bill, 1978, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th August, 1978."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

#### **CALLING ATTENTION TO A MAT TEK, OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

##### **Recent increase in prices of essential commodities**

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Co-operation to the recent increase in prices of essential commodities in spite of anti-inflationary measures adopted by the Government, causing untold misery to the people and the steps taken by the Government in this regard.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Shyam Lai Yadav in the Chair)].

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल) : श्रीमान्, मैं आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में हाल ही में जो वृद्धि हुई है उसके बारे में दिये गये ध्यानाकर्षण नोटिस के संदर्भ में बयान देने जा रहा हूँ। माननीय सदस्यों को याद होना कि मैंने 17 जुलाई, 1978 को श्री सीताराम केसरी, संसद सदस्य के इसी प्रकार के ध्यानाकर्षण नोटिस के बारे में एक बयान दिया था। तब से आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों तथा उनकी उपलब्धता की स्थिति में कोई उल्लेखनीय परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है।

माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं कि मई से अक्टूबर कमी का समय होता है तथा इस अवधि के दौरान कुछ आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में बढ़ती का खूब रहता है और ऐसा विशेषकर खरीफ की फसलों के बारे में होता है। पिछले कुछ महीनों में इस्पात, सीमेंट, टायर व ट्यूबों, सोडा-राख, साबुन, रेजर ब्लेडों, कामज और

[श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल]

साइकिलों जैसी विनिर्मित वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में भी कुछ वृद्धि हुई है। तथापि, यह बात ध्यान देने योग्य है कि अप्रैल तथा जुलाई, 1978 के बीच थोक मूल्य सूचकांक में 1.7 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई है, जबकि पिछले वर्ष इसी अवधि में इस सूचकांक में 3.2 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई थी। अंक से अंक की तुलना करने पर जुलाई, 1978 में मुद्रास्फिति की दर 1.4 प्रतिशत थी।

मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि 5 अगस्त, 1978 को समाप्त मत छः सप्ताहों के दौरान थोक मूल्य सूचकांक 185.8 तथा 186.4 के बीच ही घटता-बढ़ता रहा है। वास्तव में पहली जुलाई, 1978 तथा 5 अगस्त, 1978 को समाप्त होने वाले सप्ताहों में यह सूचकांक 186.0 था। इस प्रकार, कमी की अवधि में भी इस वर्ष मूल्य स्थिति पिछले वर्ष से बेहतर है और पिछले छः सप्ताहों में मूल्य कमोवेश स्थिर रहे हैं।

चावल, गेहूं, ज्वार, बाजरा, मक्का, रागी, आलू, धाज, चाय, काफी, चीनी, खांडसारी, गुड़, वनस्पति, मूंगफली के तेल, सरसों के तेल, जिनली के तेल और विनीले के तेल जैसी कई आवश्यक वस्तुओं के थोक मूल्य जुलाई, 1977 की तुलना में जुलाई, 1978 में कम थे। इसी अवधि के दौरान सूती कपड़े के थोक मूल्य काफी हद तक स्थिर रहे हैं।

माननीय सदस्य इस बात पर मुझसे सहमत होंगे कि हम चालू कमी की अवधि के दौरान खाने के तेलों को उचित मूल्यों पर आसानी से उपलब्ध कराने में सफल हुये हैं। बम्बई में मूंगफली का तेल 700/- रु0 प्रति क्विंटल के थोक मूल्य पर बेचा जा रहा है, जबकि पिछले वर्ष इसका

भाव 940/- रु0 प्रति क्विंटल था। दिल्ली में सरसों का तेल 806 रु0 प्रति क्विंटल के भाव से बेचा जा रहा है, जबकि पिछले वर्ष इसके भाव असाधारण रूप से अधिक थे। अनाजों की उपलब्धता तथा उनके मूल्यों की स्थिति काफी हद तक संतोषजनक बनी हुई है। तथापि, सीमेंट की कुछ कमी है।

यह सच है कि दालों के मूल्य अभी तक ऊंचे चल रहे हैं। दालों के चल रहे ऊंचे भावों के प्रति सदन का चिंता में मैं भी शामिल हूँ। माननीय सदस्य यह जानते ही हैं कि दालों की उपज तथा उत्पादकता बढ़ाने के लिए दीर्घकालीन तथा अल्पकालीन दोनों प्रकार के उपाय किये जा रहे हैं।

आम तौर पर थोक मूल्यों के रुख का प्रभाव फुटकर मूल्यों पर भी पड़ रहा है। अप्रैल तथा जून (अंतिम महीना जिसके बारे में इस प्रकार के आंकड़े उपलब्ध हैं) के बीच औद्योगिक मजदूरों के उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक में 1.9 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है, जबकि 1977 की इसी अवधि में इस सूचकांक में 2.6 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई थी। खेतिहर मजदूरों के उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक की स्थिति और भी अच्छी है।

पिछले 17 महीनों के दौरान विभिन्न नीतियों तथा कार्यक्रमों में फेर-बदल की गई है, ताकि आम आदमी को स्थायी आधार पर आवश्यक वस्तुएं उचित मूल्यों पर उपलब्ध की जा सकें। आवश्यक वस्तुओं—कृषि तथा विनिर्मित दोनों का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के कार्य को उच्च प्राथमिकता दी जा रही है। आयात तथा निर्यात नीति को पुनर्व्यवस्थित किया गया है, ताकि आम आदमी की मूल आवश्यकताओं

की पूर्ति की जा सके। भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कृषि सहकारी विपणन संघ (नफेड) तथा राष्ट्रीय उपभोक्ता सहकारी संघ (एन० सी० सी० एफ०) जैसी राष्ट्र-स्तरीय सहकारी समितियाँ उत्पादकों से उचित मूल्यों पर आवश्यक वस्तुएँ खरीदने और उन्हें उपभोक्ताओं को उचित मूल्यों पर उपलब्ध कराने को व्यवस्था करने का अधिकाधिक काम अपने हाथ में ले रही हैं। राज्य सरकारों को, समय-समय पर आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम और अन्य सम्बन्धित कानूनों के उपलब्धों को लागू करने के लिए कहा गया है।

अन्य में मैं इस बात पर जोर देना चाहूँगा कि सरकार आवश्यक वस्तुओं तथा आम खपत की वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में स्थिरता लाने और उन्हें आसानी से उपलब्ध कराने के कार्य को बहुत अधिक महत्व देती है। आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों के उतार-चढ़ाव तथा उनकी उपलब्धता पर निरन्तर नज़र रखी जा रही है और इस बारे में आवश्यक उपाय दिये जा रहे हैं। मैं सदन को विश्वास दिलाना चाहूँगा कि सरकार मूल्य स्थिति को नियंत्रण में लाने के लिए हमेशा पूरी दृढ़ता से कार्य करेगी।

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am very happy that Mr. Dharia is here, but I am very unhappy that he has not replied to my calling attention motion because a man of Mr. Dharia's standing could not have said what Mr. Goel has said. I know him for many years.

Sir, what has been stated has no relation to the reality of the situation and the prevailing circumstances. There is no reality whatsoever. I also regret to say that the House was full when we were discussing something else. But when we are discussing

such an important matter which affects 65 crores people, look at attendance in the House. All those members of the opposition who were shedding tears for people are not here now. I cannot have any objection I but I may draw your attention to this that how really we are concerned with the people's miseries.

Sir, I strongly repudiate the statements given by the Minister of State for Civil Supplies, because the whole of it is incorrect. I myself went to the market yesterday, and I found that 'baingan'—that is to say, 'Toay-j gun', 'tow sprf 'tor \*gi jfrerr |

—brinjals—which were available at one rupee a kilo are now selling at four rupees a kilo. Well, there is no vegetable selling at less than three rupees or four rupees a kilo. The prices of all the vegetables have risen. The worst type of rice which was previously selling at one rupee, or 90 paise a kilo, is now selling at three rupees per kilo. Similarly, the price of a reasonable quality of wheat is one rupee and eighty paise per kilb; and sometimes two rupees a kilo. Then, kindly come to sugar. The Minister of State for Agriculture said that after decontrol the price will come down to less than three rupees a kilo. He has said that sugar would be decontrolled if the price went beyond Rs. 3 per kg. I challenge the Minister to go and find it out. Sugar is selling at Rs. 3.20 per kg. I myself went to the market yesterday. It was said that edible oils are available at Rs. 8/-. It is not available for less than Rs. 11/- or Rs. 12/-. The prices of other things have also gone up such as meat—Rs. 12/-; fish—Rs. 14/-; eggs—Rs. 4.80; new potatoes—Rs. 2.80; milk—Rs. 3/- and coking coal—Rs. 13/-. The price of standard cloth has gone up. When the Janata Government came into power in 1977, they tried to bring down the prices and the prices did come down. But I want to draw the attention of the Government that since April, 1978, the prices are going up and up and are not coming down. What is the

[Shri G. C. Bhattacharya! use of saying that the Government did something as a result of which the prices came down last year. The people will remember what they are paying today. They will not remember what the Government did last year. They will remember at what price they are getting the essential commodities today. So, don't give such figures which will not be believed and the people will laugh at the Government and the Government will lose its credibility. Mr. Dharia u Minister should not bring our Government to such ridicule.

Mr. Dharia, I am posing certain questions to you. This is a magazine, known as "Margin" published by the National Council of Applied Economic Research. They have come out with economic review for the months of April to June, 1978. Sir, I quote:

"The results of the anti-inflationary measures are being appropriated by the wholesale and retail traders and not by the consumer and there is not a whisper."

Sir, they say that they are taking steps. They are very cautious. But have Government gone into the real causes? The Council in its review has said that the anti-inflationary measures are being appropriated by the whole sale and retail dealers. The Government is saying that they have taken anti-inflationary measures. But the middlemen are eating up everything. Sir, that is the real state of affairs? I am bringing this to the notice of the Government through you because there are large scale manipulations of prices by the trading community. They make and unmake prices. They have turned even a situation of glut to their advantage. This is the opinion of reputed economists also. If this is the position, then why are you groping in the dark? Why don't you come to the real problem? The Government is trying its best, but my friend, Mr. Dharia, will not try to find out what the other Ministers are doing, what good work they have done and what

they have done about anti-inflationary measures. They have done two things. They have gone in for liberal imports, of consumer goods and critical raw materials and they have relaxed the restrictions on internal movements of certain commodities. I am quoting from the Finance Minister's speech. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we have good foreign exchange position. We are importing certain consumer goods and raw materials to cope with the shortages so that the prices may come down and the misery of the people is lessened. We have also relaxed restrictions on internal movements of certain commodities. It showed some results in the beginning. But, as it is, it is now proving a great handicap in controlling the prices and wholesalers and retailers are usurping all these benefits to the detriment of consumers. Sir, Mr. Dharia was a great champion of the public distribution system. Fortunately, he is here. I want to know what has happened to his zeal. Now, in his latest statement what he wants to do are only that for public distribution system he is writing to the Chief Ministers. He says that he is writing to the Chief Ministers to keep a check on prices. All these things, Mr. Dharia, do not befit a man of your eminence or zeal. Do you think that by writing to the Chief Ministers you will be able to control the prices? Then what have you said? You said, "Cold storage and godown facilities should be increased.\*<sup>9</sup> Are you not aware that hundreds of industries have been closed down because of shortage of power? And you want cold storage and godown facilities now when there is shortage of power. Will it be possible? Then you said, "Cheaper transport". The transport rates are going up every day. Is it practicable to have cheaper transport? Then you said, "Supply of credits and essential inputs at reasonable rates." I do not want to say anything about the supply of credits. You know that the credits are not going to the persons who deserve them. And the prices of essential inputs have gone up. If the prices of essential inputs have gone up, how

can you have that remedy to pull down the prices? Then, what have you said? You said, "Direct link for marketing". For how many years have you been saying all these? Have you found such things at all to be effective? Sir, I am quoting from the speech of Mr. Dharia. Sir, I am sorry to say that even the plans for adding certain more items to the public distribution system are being shelved. Sir, when I came to know about it, I was very much shocked that a Ministry which is run by Mr. Dharia, instead of adding more items to the public distribution system, is now shelving the plans to add certain items. (Time bell rings) I am just completing, Sir. Then, Sir, what has Mr. Goyal said? He said that the NCCF would undertake the distribution of all essential items like pulses, tea and spices in Delhi from August, 1978. Have you done it? (Interruptions) No, no. He said it. He has said those commodities prices should be priced at least 20 per cent to 30 per cent lower than the rates prevailing in Delhi market. That is what you have said. After saying that, when I have brought this Call Attention Motion, you don't even mention it. You say something but do something else. Please don't bring this Government to disrepute. This Government has been voted to power by the people. Don't play with them.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): That will do.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, this is an important subject. Sir, you are also 'being affected by price rise and you know this, when you go to the market. I know that you don't have a retinue of servants to do marketing for you. So, have some sympathy for consumers.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): You have covered sufficiently.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Now, I put certain suggestions for immediate consideration of Mr. Dharia. My main suggestion is that you have to do something effective with this

menace of middlemen and retailers. I am saying that whatever you are doing is being eaten away by the wholesalers and retailers and its benefits are not reaching the consumers. I am sorry to say that the Government has not been able to grasp that central and main point.

In this connection, Sir, my first suggestion is that you should do something to eliminate the middleman and if the Government fails to do that even under the stewardship and leadership of Mr. Dharia, then, I think, it will be a bad day for us. I do not think that there will be a more competent man than Mr. Dharia who can do this work. I do not know what has happened to him. He has become a captive of the trading community and certain officials who are in league with them. You cannot go ahead unless you fight these elements.

(Time bell rings)

Sir, the second suggestion is immediate arrangements for the distribution of essential commodities through the public distribution system throughout the country. I have already enumerated the names of some of these commodities and I do not want to repeat them. The only thing that I will say is that they should include cereals, pulses, edible oils and many other such essential commodities. I know he had good plans which are now being shelved. The list should also include kerosene oil, matches, soaps, exercise books and some other things like cloth and particularly standard cloth. The price of cotton is falling but the price of standard cloth is going up.

Thirdly, Sir, steps should be taken immediately to stop the indiscriminate supply of money. Every month the Government are injecting Rs. 100 crores in money supplies but we are not taking any effective measures to mop up the additional money supplies. So, the Government will have to take suitable and effective measures to mop up these money supplies by way of time deposits, sale of gold etc.

Fourthly, Sir, the main reason for many ills in our economy in this regard is the fact that we have put certain Acts in cold storage, such as the Essential Commodities Act, the Storage Control Order, the Price Display Order in cold storage. You have not repealed these Orders and, at the same time, you are not effectively implementing them. They remain only on the statute book and on paper. You have got some powers with you under these Acts. For God's sake use them effectively. (Time oell rings)

Then, Sir, you should take some effective measures against hoarding. This is also a very important matter. Raids against hoarding have become almost nil. Then, Sir,—although it does not really concern Mr. Dharia—I would appeal to the Finance Minister through Mr. Dharia that he should take effective measures for stopping circulation of black money. These are the main things which give a handle to traders and middlement to increase and manipulate the prices.

Lastly, Sir, I want to suggest that the public ' sector units should be allowed to manufacture essential commodities in order to meet the shortages in their supply. (Time bell) rings).

Sir, I will end by a quotation from Prof. Raj Krishna, who has said:

"Even if the Government spends Rs. 2,000 crores to keep the price stability of essential commodities that would be in the overall interest of the national economy. Until this distribution problem can be solved, the growth problem cannot be solved."

So, he has said the real thing. The whole thrust of the Janata Government for a higher growth will be defeated if you cannot control the prices and make the essential commodities available to the people at a reasonable price.

श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोदल : श्रीमान् ० ०

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHAKYA: Sir, Mr. Mohan Dharia is here and I would like him to clarify the points. Mr. Goyal can speak outside before the public.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Sir, the hon. Member has raised a matter of great vital importance and I do share the concern of the hon. Member. So far as the statement read out by my colleagues is concerned, I must say that it is a statement on behalf of the Government and I am also equally responsible for the statement made by my own colleague.

Regarding this matter, as this House may be aware, it was just on the first day when the Rajya Sabha resumed this time that a Calling Attention Notice on the same subject was accepted and there was a long deliberation on this issue. When reference is made to the prices, it is, of course, in continuation of the earlier years and I know that there are certain items where the prices are not yet within the control or within the reach of the common man. But then, so far as this whole issue is concerned, it shall have to be taken into consideration in all its aspects and perspective. If we compare ourselves with earlier years even when there was emergency Sir, in the year 1976-77, the prices had gone up by more than 12 per cent during the emergency. The hon. Member referred to the price of sugar which is Rs. 3.20. How can we forget that even though there was emergency and there were those draconian laws, in the month of August 1976 the price of sugar was more than Rs. 5 per Kg?

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: During emergency, those traders ruled. Don't take the name of emergency. That was for these traders..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Let him conduce.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: So, don't quote the emergency.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have \*o state the facts.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: During emergency, these people profited.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Please allow me to sceak. Unless you allow me to speak, how can I reply to your points?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) ; Please allow him to conclude.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I can see the anxiety of the hon. Member..

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: I want to bring the menace of mid-dlement to your notice; and you will have to do something to deal with them effectively.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA; I agree. Sir, I was just bringing to the notice of the House thai with regard to ttse wheat, rice, sugar and edible oils, if we compare ourselves just prior to our taking over charge or even after taking over, because of past legacy, we will find that because of certain positive measures taken by the Government, the prices of wheat, rice, edible oils and yanaspati have been brought down and these things are now easily available all over the countiy. A point was raised regarding the rice. So fai as the issue prfee of rice is concerned, we have not raised it. The rice is made available to the people at the issue price on ration cards. During the last year, even though we have dezoned, the wheat issued through the fair-price •hops is much more than the earlier years, and that too, at a prescribed price. Just now I was having a discussion with the hon. Minister for Co-operation from Madhya Pradesh and I was surprised when he brought to my notice that rice worth Rs. 20 crores is lying with the co-operatives and he was suggested that some arrangement should be made for its

purchase; otherwise, there will be a glut and the society will be doomed. So, here the question is to take into consideration the production and the remunerative price to the producer and as the hon. Member rightly suggested, we have to see how we can make it available to the consumers. It is in this context that I am very much emphasising for public distribution system. As I said the other day in the House, it is not only a distribution system, it is production-cum-distribution system. We have to see what are the essential articles and commodities required by the common man and how we can, as far as possible, produce them in the country and how we can give remunerative price to the producer or to the farmer or even to the industry wherever it is being produced, and how we can make it available at a reasonable price to the consumer. Here again, the hon. Member is right that if the price of inputs is higher, it is not possible to make these articles available at cheaper rates or reasonable price. This whole scheme takes that care and as I had assured the House, not only that it has gone to the Cabinet, but the Cabinet has appointed a committee of six members under the Chairmanship of our Defence Minister.

And I am also, of course, a member on that Committee and it is very much before a Certain Committee, I have no doubt that as we have assured to the country, this scheme is not only the scheme of Mr. Dharia, it is the scheme of the Government. The Janta Party and the Government have pledged to the people that public distribution system will be made applicable to the country. In this new Draft Plan Document it has again been emphasized and I am happy to state that this production as ig re quired for the consumption of the common man will be maintained in the country on priority basis, even under our Plan development. Simultaneously, in the meeting of the Chief Ministers of the National Development Council held on 2Qth March, 1978, again the whole National

Development Council has accepted that yes, we shall see that this scheme becomes operative in the country. So, now it is a national Scheme and here we have taken care of the several suggestion made by the hon. Member. Of course, it will require some time, I know that, because to take care of the production for 65 per cent of our population is not a joke I can understand that the prices of pulses are yet high. I know it. We are trying to have them imported but pulses are not available outside, so, the only course available is that we should produce more pulses ourselves. No efforts were made for a proper research and development of the high-yielding varieties of pulses. We have taken up that programme in hand.

My friend from U. P. is there. We have taken up a massive programme for the production of moong. Sir, you are also from that area. You also know that thousands of hectares are under production of moong today and the U. P. Government has given us a good news that it will be producing about one million tonnes of moong more this year itself, in the summer crop. This is how we have to take up massive programmes of production and also to take care of various prices.'

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Middleman.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: A suggestion has been made regarding the cloth.

The scheme has been announced by my colleague, Mr. George Fernandes. It is suggested as if we are doing away with the controlled cloth. It is not correct. We shall be producing 400 million metres by way of controlled cloth and we shall also take care of the quality of the controlled cloth. The controlled cloth could not be popular because no care was taken of the quality that was being given to the people.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: We are concerned with prices, not with quality.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : We are concerned with both. The poor people suffered because of the bad quality. So, Sir, here the NTC mills will be producing cloth, taking care of the quality and also of the price.

Then the charge is made against the Government that they have taken unnecessary burden from this big sector. It is not correct. The subsidy that was paid by the Government for the controlled cloth even to the private mills will not be given on the quantity of the cloth. That will be met by NTC in producing controlled cloth. That will be taken care by other cloths, except, of course, handlooms. Handlooms are, of course, not involved. As the House knows, we are here to give protection to handlooms. Then the additional janata cloth will be produced through handlooms. It will serve two purposes. One, janata saris, janata dhotis will be made available through our distribution centres and again it will be done through handloom, so that we can provide work to the handlooms. So, we have taken care of the problem of unemployment and also of production and it is how we shall make it available through the distribution centres.

Now my friend is very much agitated and rightly so, I am equally agitated that it is the middlemen who are having profits and they are not allowing the poor people to have it at the minimum price.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Both the producers and the consumers.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Yes, both the producers and also the consumers. Very much right. Sir, here comes the question of the whole agency, the whole system itself. It is most unfortunate that we have not so far developed or organised-



ed our producers and their co-operatives. Merely 20 miles from Delhi the very brinjals are available for less than a rupee per kg. and we have to purchase them for Rs. 4 per kg. here. Therefore, I have convened a meeting of the Delhi authority and the Chief Executive Councillor and this House will again be happy that by the end of September at least 100 centres will be opened in Delhi. Then we have a meeting of all these producers' co-operatives. We are giving them all possible facilities including the credits required for the transport, for the purchase of vehicles, etc. and we are trying to do everything so that the vegetables are produced round about Delhi and that everything is, it (ought to these various centres).

At the one end we shall give them remunerative prices, at the other end -we will take away the huge profits of the middlemen. This is how several schemes are being worked.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA : Why are you confining yourself to Delhi? What about other places?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : I am confining myself to Delhi because Delhi comes under the direct charge of the Central Government. Otherwise, let this House not forget—particularly this House cannot forget because this is the House that represents the various States in the country— that whatever schemes are to be implemented shall have to be implemented through the State Governments. I have written to the Chief Ministers, from whom I have to get it done. I have given them all authority, I have given them all powers under the Essential Commodities Act and if they are not co-operative, how am I to get it done. Of course, I can discuss with them, persuade them, write to them. How am I to make them cooperate? I have also written letters to the Chief Ministers. You will be happy to know that from our end we have left no stone unturned. It is for the Chief Ministers to get things implemented. And the Chief Ministers

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are coming forward. May I quote the Chief Minister, of West Bengal with whom I have discussed this matter only yesterday?

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Dharia you are a member of the Government. The Chief Minister would have to do what you say. But you are only making appeals. There lies the difference. I want Mr. Dharia to use his power as Central Minister.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: My friend should not forget that we are operating in a democratic manner and in a democracy. Ultimately, it is the dialogue which is important it is the persuasion which is important. I cannot sack the Chief Minister. I do not wish to do it. But there are some Chief Ministers who are responding well. We wrote to all the Chief Ministers about the black-marketing in cement. But it was only the West Bengal Government which came forward and said: "We shall take over the distribution of cement". And we have told them that whatever cooperation is needed, we shall give it to the West Bengal Government. And yesterday itself we discussed how that scheme would be successful. I warned the Chief Ministers to come forward. But my friend is under the impression as if we are a unitary Government,

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: You are.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: No, we are federal-cum-unitary Government.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, in this way Mr. Dharia is evading the issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Please let him complete. Please take your seat. You cannot go on like that.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Please don't forget that this House is the Council of States and that you are representing the States. Please don't forget the aspirations of the States and if the Central Government tries

[Shri Mohan Dharia] in any way to interfere in that, it will not be tolerated. The question is how to create that sort of democracy. How can we forget that if these black-marketeers and hoarders are to be brought to book, it is not only policing through the State Governments that is important; it is also the involvement of the people? That effort is also being made. I would like to appeal to my friends—I am not appealing to the traders—that if in your area somebody is not properly operating, if a dealer of the fair price shop is not playing the fair game, why shouldn't you mobilise the people in your area? If he is not selling the goods at the prices prescribed by the Government why should not the people, in a peaceful manner—don't touch his property, don't touch his person—organise demonstration and tell him that he will have to operate in a fair manner, otherwise he cannot open his shop. In this democratic regime, if we want to exercise our rights, we can do so by taking the people into confidence in a peaceful manner. I think it is with the involvement of the people and right decisions that we can find out the solutions. I am sure my friend, Mr. Bhattacharya, will appreciate this approach.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Mr. Nanda.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA (Assam): Sir,...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): No, please. That is not the procedure, Mr. Sharma, you should know the procedure. You resume your seat. I have called Mr. Nanda.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO (Orissa): Sir, I will speak in place of Mr. Indradeep Sinha.

SHRI NARSINGHA PRASAD NANDA (Orissa): Sir, the main burden of Mr. Dharia's speech has been to make a comparison of the lists of prices that prevailed in the year 1976-77 with the present market prices and console himself by saying that the rate of price rise has been about 12 per cent and so he has very

much controlled the prices. That is how we should derive satisfaction from it. He forgets, Sir, that statistics is like the bathing suit of a woman which conceals the vitals and reveals what is obvious. Statistics never prove any point. My submission is that we should be more concerned with what people feel about the prices and what really is their experience in their day to day life. Mr. Dharia being very responsive to the people's feelings should respond to the feelings of the people, what they actually feel and experience in their day-to-day life. When we go to the market we find that the prices are rising and soaring. We do not get essential articles in the market. And if at all we get we get them at very high prices. I know the difficulty of Mr. Dharia. I know his mind and I do share this concern about the rise in prices. I also know that with the system of economy as it exists in our country the rise in prices is bound to be there. Knowing this full well, since we cannot change the system of economy immediately and cannot have a different kind of system of economy under which we can effectively control the prices, may I make an humble submission to Mr. Dharia not to carry on the exercise on the production-cum-distribution system, as he calls it, for any longer time but see that it is immediately implemented? I personally feel that with this system of economy, as it exists in our country, it is no good crying hoarsely to control prices. Whatever steps you take, the mind of the business people works so intelligently that if you go one step he goes three steps and tries to undo whatever you have done. Therefore, I personally feel that at least so far as essential articles are concerned, so far as those articles which we need every day to maintain our life are concerned, we must introduce the public distribution system. I will not go to the prices of each individual item, I do not want to take the valuable time of the House, but I would expect Mr. Dharia to take steps before the tide ebbs. There are signs.

of ebb starting. So I would humbly submit. Sir, that the hon'ble Minister should assure us that instead of carrying on this exercise indefinitely he should implement his scheme. The other day he told us that he had prepared his paper. Then another day he told us that it was going to the Cabinet. I know the Cabinet system is there and delay is there. But how long are you going to take? Why not expedite it? Why not give priority to this thing? Please remember that our higher ideas do not concern the people in general. They are more concerned with their day-to-day life, their essential needs. If they go to the market and find that they do not get their articles at reasonable prices they then form their own opinion about the government. Therefore, may I suggest it to Mr. Dharia to see that he hurries through this process and gets his production-cum-distribution system through though I partly agree that the system is an improvised system on the existing system. I would have very much liked a completely public distribution system from top to bottom if that were possible. So whatever is possible for you to do, please do it as quickly as possible. And on that if you give us some assurance that will make us happier. Please remember that when I talk to my children and ask them, to go to the market for some purchases and tell them the prevailing prices as given out by the honourable Minister in the House and I quote the official figures, my children tell me jocularly, "Daddy, if you want to make purchases, either you purchase from the All India Radio or from the Minister who made the statement on the floor of the House." That is the position. Therefore, I would 7 P.M. expect the hon. Minister to give an assurance that he is going to hurry through this system and this production-cum-distribution system is going to be implemented at a very very early date. These are only a few words I wanted to add.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, very constructive suggestions are made by

the hon. Member. It is very difficult to convince the House until and unless the whole system is accepted by the Cabinet and whatever system exists today, it will be expanded all over the country. I can assure this august House today that my effort is to hurry up this whole process with all possible speed. The meeting of the Sub-Committee was fixed today itself at 6.05 p.m. but, unfortunately, as you know...

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD  
NANDA: You are stuck up here.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: ... I am, myself held up here. But I can assure the hon. Members that I am very much wedded to this and, as assured, I shall see that the assurance given to the House is fulfilled.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the unending misery of the greatest majority of the common people of our country has been narrated many a time in this House and on many an occasion I had the opportunity of participating in debates on the matter of spiralling prices. Sir, again Mr. Bhattacharya gave us an opportunity of speaking a few words on that. But it is no good saying how it has come about, how it has remained and why it has come about. The reasons for this rise that we are suffering from is well known to Mr. Dharia. He has been preparing papers not today but even earlier, in the other Ministry also. But there is something which we are not able to understand and we want to have a clarification on it.

There are two persons who speak on prices. One is the Minister of Commerce who is also in charge of Civil Supplies. And he has to because he has to supply the things. The other person is the Finance Minister. Any day you tune in to the All-India Radio, the Finance Minister tells that things will be very very good in one or two months. (*Interruption*) Next time you tune in, you get Mr. Patel. He again says that in one or two months things will be getting right. So, these one or two months are the

[Shri Lakshmana Mahapatro] word, which Mr. Patel has. But Mr. Dharia has some other things. He says that it is a very grave matter. "I am very much concerned; I have given the best of attention; we are trying to do all that is possible in our capacity." These are the things he tells us. Both these important Ministers prepare the Economic Survey which they have presented to us after they came into office. There also they say how things are developing and they compare the figures of 1976 with the figures of 1977.

He compares with the figures of 1976-77. I have also with me these figures. This is how it is. In the case of the agricultural produce, the prices are declining; and in the case of the industrial products, the prices are rising. They are steadily rising in the case of the industrial products and in the case of the agricultural produce they are steadily declining, except for one item, i.e. pulses. Pulses are the only item where the prices are rising, so far as the agricultural items are concerned. He has also spoken on it. Therefore, there is no quarrel about it. As far as rice is concerned or wheat is concerned or cotton is concerned, or tobacco is concerned, or sugar-cane is concerned, in every one of these items of agricultural produce the misery is that the producers think that during the Janata rule the slogan is 'Produce and perish' That is what they have been telling themselves. Produce and perish'. It is no longer 'Produce or perish'. If you produce, you must also perish. If it is sugar-cane, you have to burn it because, otherwise, you cannot pay for the cutting of it or its transportation. If it is tobacco, it is the same thing. Sir, this being the state of affairs, I want to know what he has to say about it.

Here is another paper, the *Economic Times* which says that the prices are up by 5 per cent. And this is based on the calculations of the wholesale price and the consumer price indices. Sir, we have been

saying very often that the consumer price index is a fraud. It is not correctly depicted. That is not our opinion alone. It is the opinion of the other side also. Many Members from the other side have also said about it. A Committee is going into the matter. On this basis of such fraudulent consumer price index and the wholesale price index, it says the prices have gone up by 5 per cent. Sir, that was up to March, 1978. Now, during the answer to the Calling Attention, Mr. Goel has said that the general price index now stands at 186.4, while it was 185.3 earlier. Therefore, by August, i.e. three or four months after, it has risen by 1 per cent. It will rise further. This is the trend of the general price index. And here again, you will see—I do not want to take much of your time by giving the figures—the same thing. All these items of industrial manufacture have been having a steady rise in prices and every item of agricultural produce is having a decline in prices. Sir, 80 per cent of the people use industrial goods and also items of agricultural produce like wheat and cereals. Eighty per cent are consumers; twenty per cent may be industrial producers or agricultural producers, who can afford to sell their articles. But, as far as the 80 per cent people are concerned, they are suffering a lot and nothing is being done about them. Experiments after experiments are being conducted, the latest being this production-cum-distribution system. If you produce, you can also distribute. But are you having a control over production? Or, do you have a control over distribution? And many times we have suggested to you to have as much of the products brought in your custody as possible and then distribute. But you have never done it. Sir, today, the 24th of August, is the day on which all the people who are concerned about the well-being of the jute growers, about the well-being of the people engaged in the jute mills, and about the jute goods, are assembling and squatting

in front of the Calcutta JCI office, the Jute Corporation of India office, because JCI has come in a big way into the trade of purchasing jute.

And again, the relative of the jute mill-owner is the trader in jute. That is how they are able to corner.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): That will do, please.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: That is how the sugarcane got decontrolled from the 16th of this month. Immediately thereafter we are hearing from Mr. Mohan Dharia and other Ministers that if the price does not come down and if they do not behave well, they will not hesitate to impose control again. Then, what is the meaning of decontrolling and holding out such a threat? You know them for all those years. Are they amenable to reason? Would they behave? And why should they behave? And why should you expect the Chief Ministers also to be very much harsh towards them? Why should they be? If they are harsh, they will not do good to themselves or to their party. That is the whole reason why they are not harsh. That you must be able to know. Otherwise, is it difficult to procure the maximum and to distribute in the best possible way? It is not a difficult thing. But partial control or partial distribution, anything partial is always doing this harm. Therefore, we have been demanding for nationalisation of the sugar industry, the jute industry, the textile industry.

Mr. Bhattacharya wanted only cheap cloth but Mr. Mohan Dharia is interested to give him through the NTC not only cheap but a better variety of cloth. Sir, have we the money to purchase it? He is interested in giving, no doubt, But who will piurichtas it?

Today I have received telegrams that the teachers and the students who could not get books or have class-rooms, joined together, went in the State of Orissa to different Col-

lectorates and held demonstrations. They were lathi-charged and tear-gassed. He asks, "Why do you not organise your people: why do you not use your strength?" I have done it myself. I have taken the people with me. What has happened? Only the day-before-yesterday, three days' ago on the platform of the Berhampur Railway Station in the district of Ganjam I met an erstwhile black-marketeer whose things we had dehoarded and I and other boys had taken charge. He said that the things that we had dehoarded, had been returned. Do you know what has happened? The things we had seized at that time in the operation of dehoarding, were worth only Rs. 25,000. He said that he was getting Rs. 85,000. That is what he told me jocularly. That is what is happening. Who will face trial? Who will face all the assault? The police is for them; the machinery is for them; sometimes the Ministers are also for them and many a times the local ruling party leaders are also for them. This is what we have been experiencing all these years. That is the reason why we are not able to go in for a streamlined public distribution system. That we are not prepared for.

In spite of a unanimous resolution of the U.P. Assembly and the Congress Party...

MR. VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Please conclude now.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: ... for nationalisation of the sugar industry, you will go in either for import or try to have bumper production by hybrid varieties, which is no solution to this problem. The real solution is, if you are interested to be good to the workers, the consumers, the growers in going in for nationalisation of at least the textile, the jute, the sugar and the oil industries. Then only you can have the produce in your hands and you can easily send it through the distribution system for the people, the poor people and the common people, who are in agony because of the price-

[Shri Lakshmana Mahapatro] rise, so that they get it at the proper rate. Are you prepared for that?, is the only question. If that is not their in your mind, any number of experiments you make or hold parleys with the traders or have talks with the Ministers, will not help. From the day you take charge, you get the Poddars and others who tell you beautiful words and give you threats also, and ultimately you switch on to different experiments, and, therefore, you will never be able to solve the problem.

It was so long our concern. We were saying it or somebody in the Opposition was saying it. Now it is the turn of the ruling party. Mr. Bhattacharya has come forward now and it may be that the day after, Mr. Shiva Chandra Jha will come forward. It will happen that way. This is one problem which has not been attended to either by the previous Government or by the present Government.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: It is not an individual..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Please observe some norms. Don't get up every time and start speaking.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, the hon. Member has raised several important points. It is very difficult to enter into a dialogue. So far as this production-cum-distribution system is concerned, it is only related with certain articles or commodities. However, it is true that ultimately it is a question of system, and the hon. Member has raised several issues as to whether it should be through nationalisation or some other system. But I have not doubt that so far as the essential articles and commodities are concerned, the commanding heights of the economy shall have to be controlled by the Government or the public sector. There cannot be two opinions about it. I am very clear about it in my mind. And unless and until those commanding heights are under the control of the

Government, it will never be possible to discipline the traders or the profiteers. However, I think it will require a lot of time to give all thought to the issue. One thing I can say is that the agricultural producers are not getting that justice which the industries are securing for themselves. And it is true that while the prices of various agricultural commodities show a downward trend, the prices of some of the industrial commodities have gone up. What are you going to do? That is the question posed by the hon. Member. Of course, it is very difficult to say unless and until the decision is taken, but I am very clear that so far as the essential industrial articles are concerned, we shall have to utilise the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. And for this public distribution system, certain articles shall have to be procured from the industries directly without bringing in the middlemen, at ex-factory prices. Again the question will be, what will be the ex-factory prices? There also some pricing will have to be done. But they shall have to be taken from the source and distributed. If we allow them to go through the middlemen, again the society will be put to a loss. Here also, there is again the question of system, of certain new fiscal and monetary arrangements to be made. But I feel that the hon. Member would not like me to go into that debate today.

श्री कल्प नाथ राय (उत्तर प्रदेश) :  
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आदरणीय धारिया जी के सामने कुछ ऐसे प्रश्नों को रखना चाहता हूँ जिनका, उन जैसे समझदार और समाजवादी मित्र से आशा है, वे सही उत्तर देंगे। एक तरफ सरकार कह रही है धारिया जी कैबिनेट के सामने यह प्रस्ताव ले जा रहे हैं कि पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम को हम लागू करेंगे दूसरी तरफ इसी सरकार ने अभी शृंगर का डीकंट्रोल किया और यहाँ पर भानु प्रताप सिंह जी ने भाषण दिया कि अगर 3 रु० से ऊपर बाजार में चीनी का दाम होगा तो हम फिर कंट्रोल

करेंगे। मैं चाहता हूँ आदरणीय वाग्विहक साहब, शिवचन्द्र झा और लाइली मोहन निगम, इन तीन समाजवादी साधियों की कमेटी सिटी में भेजें और अगर पुरानी दिल्ली में 3 रुपये के भाव चीनी यहां की जनता को मिलती है तो जो हमें सजा देना चाहें मैं मुग़तान के लिए तैयार हूँ . . . . .

(Interruptions)

**श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (बिहार) :** उप-सभाध्यक्ष, मैंने चीनी खरीदी है 3 रु० किलो। कहा गया कि 2-80 पर मिलेगी जो मुझे 3 रु० के भाव मिली।

**श्री जी० सी० भट्टाचार्य (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** मैंने खरीदी है 3 रु० 20 पैसे के रेट पर।  
(Interruptions)

**श्री कल्प नाथ राय :** जनता पार्टी के भट्टाचार्य जी कहते हैं 3 रु० 20 पैसे, शिव चन्द्र झा कहते हैं 3 रु०। मैंने पुरानी दिल्ली की बात कही है। (Interruptions) उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं जनता सरकार के कम से कम एक समाजवादी मंत्री के सामने प्रश्नों को उपस्थित कर रहा हूँ। सरकार की तरफ से ऐलान है कि गन्ना इतना पैदा हुआ जितना न भूतों न भविष्यति। इतने गन्ने का उत्पादन कभी नहीं हुआ। तो फिर चीनी सस्ते दामों पर मिलनी चाहिए। फिर गन्ना सब से ज्यादा पैदा हुआ तो कंज्यूमर को चीनी मंहगे दामों पर क्यों मिल रही है? सब से ज्यादा तम्बाकू पैदा हुई तो फिर सिगरेट मंहगी क्यों मिल रही है? सब से ज्यादा काटन पैदा हुई तो फिर कपड़ा बाजार में क्यों मंहगा हो गया है। सब से ज्यादा पैड़ी का उत्पादन हुआ देश में तो फिर पैड़ी का दाम आंध्र के किसानों को उचित दर पर मिलना चाहिए? वह क्यों नहीं मिल रहे हैं और फिर उसके बाद पड़ी के दाम क्यों मंहगे हो गये? प्याज 25 पैसे किलो किसान से लिया गया था और आज वह डेढ़ रुपये किलो बिक रहा है। धनिया, लाल मिर्च जो 60 पैसे किलो मिलनी चाहिए वह आज डेढ़ रुपये किलो मिल रही है। अगर गांव की बात करते हैं तो 16,

18 सेर का दूध उन को देना पड़ता है और गांव के लोगों की जिन्दगी बेकार हो गयी है। जब एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोड्यूस देश में इतना जबरदस्त है तो उसके बावजूद वह चीजें आज कंज्यूमर्स को इतने मंहगे दामों पर क्यों मिल रही है? देश की जनता इतनी मंहगाई का शिकार क्यों है? यह एक बुनियादी सवाल है। आप सीमेंट को लीजिए। मैं आपके सामने सीमेंट का मामला रखना चाहता हूँ। जब सामान कम हो और मांग ज्यादा हो तो मंहगाई बढ़ने पर बात समझ में आती है और धारिया जी चाहें भी तो उस समय मंहगाई को रोक नहीं सकते। लेकिन जब सामान ज्यादा है और मांग कम है तो फिर मंहगाई क्यों बढ़ रही है? बीजू पटनायक साहब कहते हैं कि लोहे का जबरदस्त प्रोडक्शन हुआ है। लेकिन लोहे की कुदाली उस की खुरपी या जिसने भी लोहे के सामान किसान के काम आते हैं उन सब के दाम ड्योढ़े हो गये हैं। मैं सीमेंट की बात कहना चाहता हूँ। आज 40 रुपये बोरी सीमेंट आजमगढ़ में, गाजीपुर में, बलिया और बनारस में मिल रही है। श्रीमन्, आप वहीं के रहने वाले हैं। आप जानते हैं कि वहां क्या हालत है और सीमेंट वहां नहीं मिल रही है। मेरा कहना है कि जब किसी चीज की कमी हो तो सरकार कहती है कि हम उस को इंपोर्ट करेंगे, सरकार दाल इंपोर्ट करेगी, सरकार सीमेंट इंपोर्ट करेगी। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज सरकार बताये कि सीमेंट का प्रोडक्शन कम क्यों हुआ। उसका कारण यह है कि जिन पूंजीपतियों के हाथ में सीमेंट के कारखाने हैं उन्होंने अपनी इंस्टाल्ड कैपसिटी का पूरा यूटिलाइजेशन नहीं किया। अगर वे 90 परसेंट इंस्टाल्ड कैपसिटी का प्रोडक्शन करते थे तो उसको घटा कर उन्होंने उसे 40, 50 परसेंट कर दिया और इस तरह से बाजार में एक आर्टिफिशियल स्केयरसिटी पैदा करके वे ही सीमेंट को मंहगे दामों पर बेच रहे हैं। मैं उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ कि साहू जैन

[श्री कल्पन शर्मा राय]

फैक्टरी, डालमिया नगर की इस्टाल्ड कैपेसिटी पिछले 6 महीने में क्या थी और आज क्या है इसको आप देख लीजिए। पूरे देश में उनका एक घड़यंत्र है। आज आप कहते हैं कि फियरलस हो जाओ। प्रजातंत्र आ गया है। ब्लक मार्केटिंग्स निडर हो जाओ। स्मगलर्स निडर हो जाओ। होर्ड्स निडर हो जाओ। स्ट्राइकस्ट्स निडर हो जाओ। जनता का खून चूसने वाला निडर हो जाओ। बिरला, टाटा निडर हो जाओ। देश को लूटो, खाओ और लोकतंत्र की बात करो। यह है आज के स्वतंत्र होने का नतीजा। धारिया साहब मौजूद हैं। उन्होंने कहा है कि वर्तमान टेक्सटाइल पालिसी से कपड़े का दाम बढ़ेगा नहीं। मैं पुछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह समाजवादी जनतंत्र है? आप सोडा को ले लीजिए। बहुगुणा जी ने उत्तर दिया। वह पेट्रोलियम के मिनिस्टर हैं। समाजवादी हैं। बिरला, टाटा, साहू जैत, 63 परसेंट, 33 परसेंट, 7 परसेंट और 4 परसेंट इसका उत्पादन करते हैं। और इस सोड़े से हमारे धोबी लोग कपड़े धोते हैं, साफ करते हैं। पहले 1200 रुपये सोड़े का दाम था। जब जनता पार्टी पावर में आई तो सोड़े का दाम 1900 रुपये टन हो गया। सोड़े का उत्पादन कहा जा रहा है कि बढ़ा है। कैसे? मैं धारिया जी से इन प्रश्न का उत्तर चाहता हूँ। आप की नीयत पर मुझे शक नहीं है। आप एक ईमानदार मंत्री हैं। अभी जनता पार्टी के कई लोग मेरे पास आये मेम्बर पार्लियामेंट। उन्होंने हमसे कहा कि बम्बई में एक ढाल मिल से मोहन धारिया ने 1 करोड़ रुपये लिया। हमने कहा कि मैं कभी ऐसा नहीं मान सकता। मोहन धारिया जैसा आदमी वह काम नहीं कर सकता। मैं बीजू पटनायक को कह सकता हूँ कि लोहे में करोड़ों रुपये कमा रहा है। क्योंकि जिन्होंने अपने कुछ आदर्शों के लिए अपनी जिन्दगी की कुरबानीयाँ दी हैं, जो एक विचार के व्यक्ति हैं उनसे मैं यह आशा नहीं करता। लेकिन अध्यक्ष महोदय,

हमें सबसे बड़ा निवेदन यह कहना है कि माचिस का इन्होंने कहा कि दो पैसे दाम बढ़ा दिये। हुआ क्या कि माचिस में 60 बत्तियाँ होती हैं, दाम दो पैसे बढ़ा कर 60 के बजाय उसमें 40 बत्तियाँ कर दीं। कितना बड़ा फ्राड यह जो मुनाफाखोर हैं, विशेषकर हिन्दुस्तान के मुनाफाखोर हैं, हिन्दुस्तान के पूँजीपति हैं, करते हैं। इनमें कोई सेंस नहीं है कि कितना मुनाफा लिया जाए, कितना न लिया जाए। देश की जनता का खून चूस रहे हैं? (The bell rings)

श्रीमन्, रिटेल प्राइस और होलसेल प्राइस के बारे में अभी गौयल साहब ने बताया कि होलसेल प्राइस का दाम साढ़े तीन परसेंट इस पर बढ़ा, एक परसेंट इस पर बढ़ा, 8 परसेंट इस पर बढ़ा, 9 परसेंट इसमें बढ़ा है। आप हमें जरा बतायें कि होलसेल प्राइस का जो व्यापारी है वह रिटेल को देता है और रिटेल के माध्यम से जनता को वह माल मिलता है। रिटेल प्राइस एग्जेशन कमेडिटीज की तीन चार गुना हो गईं। कुछ चीजें तो बाजार में मिलती ही नहीं। माल लीजिए दाल कम है, आप दाल के लिए इंसेंटिव दे रहे हैं। जब सामान कम है तो महंगाई ज्यादा होगी, मंत्री कहां से लाएगा? अध्यक्ष महोदय, चावल का दाम फिर क्यों ज्यादा है। अगर आप किसान से 110 रुपये बिबंटल गेहूँ लेते हैं तो 115 रुपये फर्क जोड़ कर आपको 130, 133 रुपये के भाव से कंज्यूमर्स को दीजिए। 25 रुपये मिडिलमैन मुनाफा ले तो समझ में आता है। फिर चावल इतना दाम पर क्यों बिक रहा है? फिर सिगरेट क्यों इतनी महंगी बिक रही है? फिर कपड़ा क्यों महंगा बिक रहा है। इन चीजों की महंगाई क्यों हो रही है जब आप खुद कहते हैं, सरकार खुद कहती है कि उत्पादन ज्यादा है। स्टील का प्रोडक्शन ज्यादा है तो फिर स्टील क्यों महंगा है? किसान की कुदाली क्यों महंगी। फिर उसका खुरपा क्यों महंगा बिक रहा है? (The bell rings)



## (Interruptions)

तो उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे दो तीन प्रश्न और करने हैं। जीवन की जरूरी चीजों जिनका उत्पादन सरकारी सेक्टर में होता है या प्राइवेट सेक्टर में होता है, तो क्या आप यह देखने की कृपा करेंगे कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर में, जैसे सीमेंट जितना हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा होता है, प्राइवेट सेक्टर में जितनी सीमेंट मिलें हैं क्या वह अपनी इन्स्टाल्ड कैपेसिटी का पूरा यूटिलाइजेशन कर रहे हैं? आखिर आपके सत्ता में आने के पहले सीमेंट मिलता था, 20 रुपया बारी के हिसाब से जितना सीमेंट चाहे मिलता था। आपके आने के बाद सीमेंट का दाम 22 रुपया 50 पैसे हो गया, ढाई रुपया प्रति बारी के हिसाब से दाम बढ़ने के बाद फिर सीमेंट बाजार से भाग्य। फिर क्या बात थी कि उस समय सीमेंट अकस्मात् आपके आने के बाद ही कई गुना महंगा हो गया? रीजन क्या है?

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि आज जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुओं, साबुन का दाम क्यों बढ़ा, कागज का दाम क्यों बढ़ा, क्यों किताबें इतनी महंगे दामों पर बिकी? मान लीजिए आदमी के लिए मोटा कपड़ा चाहिए, मामूली जूता चाहिए, या उसको रहने के लिए घास-फूस का मकान चाहिए तो उसके लिए जो आवश्यक चीजें हैं उन चीजों को सरकार को 24 घंटे के अन्दर जनता पार्टी को ऐलान करना चाहिए कि 24 घंटे के अन्दर जनता सरकार देश को आम जनता को जो मोटी मोटी चीजें जिन्दगी की आवश्यक हैं, उनको हम देने का आश्वासन देते हैं, वचन देते हैं।

मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इतने व्यापक पैमाने पर स्मगलिंग, होर्डिंग, ब्लैक मार्केटिंग हो रही है तो क्या आपने किसी ब्लैक मार्केटियर्स को गिरफ्तार किया है और अग्नर किया है तो कितनों को किया है। मैं आपकी इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि आपने खुद कैबिनेट में कहा था

मोसा पोलिटिकल लोगों के खिलाफ नहीं लग सकता है लेकिन जहाँ तक समाज के बदमाश तत्व हैं, स्मगलर्स हैं, होर्डर्स हैं, ब्लैक मार्केटियर्स हैं, प्रफीटीयर्स हैं, सट्टेबाज हैं उनके खिलाफ इस्तेमाल होना चाहिए। इंडिया जैसे विशाल देश में जहाँ 60 करोड़ की आबादी है उनको, जिन्दगी की जो जरूरी चीजें हैं उन सब को देने के लिए आपको पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को अनिवार्य रूप से लागू करना होगा। चावल, गेहूँ, चीनी, तम्बाकू का जो प्रोडक्शन होता है इन सब को लेबी के आधार पर आपको लेना होगा यानी प्रोडक्शन-कम-डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन। मैं नहीं कहता कि सेंट परसेंट डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम लागू किया जाए लेकिन जिन्दगी की जो जरूरी चीजें हैं उन पर जरूर लागू करना चाहिए। मैं जानता हूँ कि आप दो हजार तन खवाह पाते हैं और मैं भी एक हजार तन खवाह पाता हूँ भत्ता मिलाकर, इसलिये यह महंगाई हमको पिच नहीं होती लेकिन पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर भी और थोड़ी तन खवाह पाने वाले इस महंगाई को महसूस करते हैं। देश के हमारे समाजवादी नेता डा० लोहिया ने कहा था कि चार आने, छः आने पर रुपया प्रोफिट कमाया जाता है। मैं किसी की प्रशंसा नहीं करता लेकिन जो 40 करोड़ लोग जीवन के स्तर के नीचे हैं उनके साथ ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है। आप खुद पावर में रहे हैं और आप इन सब बातों को अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं। कैबिनेट में आपका सम्मान है और मैं भी आपका सम्मान करता हूँ। आपको पता है मैं किसी अफ्ट आदमी को बोलने नहीं देता। मैं आपको एक समाजवादी व्यक्ति मानता हूँ। क्या आपकी यह सरकार कुछ करने नहीं दे रही है। क्या जैसा चरणसिंह जी ने कहा कि आई एम सराउंडेड बाई क्रप्ट पर्सन्स तो कहीं, आपके साथ तो ऐसा नहीं हुआ है। मेरा आपसे कहना है कि जो जिन्दगी की आवश्यक वस्तुएं हैं उनको आप किसानों से लीजिए और रेग्युलेटिव प्राइस दीजिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री श्याम लाल यादव) :  
अब खत्म करिये ।

श्री कल्याण राय : आखिरी बात कह रहा हूँ । आप भी किसान के बेटे हैं आप जानते हैं । आप जीवन की जरूरी चीजें किसान से लीजिए और उनको रेम्पुनिरेटिव प्राइस दीजिए । अगर बाजार में चीनी नहीं है तो यह सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है । भानु प्रताप सिंह जी ने कहा था कि मन्ना मत पैदा करो । वह स्वतंत्र पार्टी के अध्यक्ष रहे हैं, वह कह सकते हैं । आपने पल्सेज को बात कही । आपने कहा कि पल्सेज का उत्पादन करो और अगर पल्सेज का उत्पादन होगा तो हम इतने रुपये क्विंटल के हिसाब से पल्सेज को लेंगे । हिन्दुस्तान में जितना भी पल्सेज पैदा होगा, यह सरकार को जिम्मेदारी होगी कि वह चाहे उसको बाहर भेजे या अपने स्टॉक में रखे । सरकार उनसे सारा पल्सेज खरीदे और उनको रेम्पुनिरेटिव प्राइस दे । जब तक आप जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुओं को, पैदा करने वाले किसानों को रेम्पुनिरेटिव प्राइस देने का वचन नहीं देंगे और किसानों के खेत में पैदा होने वाली चीजों को सरकार खुद नहीं लेवी के माध्यम से लेगी और उस सामान को सरकार, कंज्यूमर को पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के माध्यम से नहीं बेचेगी तब तक हिन्दुस्तान के उन गरीबों का, जो जीवन स्तर के नीचे रहते हैं उनका भला नहीं हो सकता ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री श्यामलाल यादव) :  
अब आप खत्म करिये ।

श्री कल्याण राय : मैं हाथ जोड़ कर निवेदन करता हूँ कि छोटे-छोटे कर्मचारी पार्लियामेंट में काम करने वाले और दूसरी जगह काम करने वाले हैं उनके लिए

कुछ कीजिए । मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि जो समाजवादी नेता हैं जिन्होंने सारी जिन्दगी यह काम करके वाल पकवा लिये हैं और आपकी पार्टी में हैं उनके माध्यम से हिन्दुस्तान में पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को लागू करें । मुझे आप पर विश्वास है कि आप हिन्दुस्तान के गरीबी के स्तर से नीचे रहने वाली आम जनता के लिये पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम के माध्यम से जिन्दगी की जरूरी चीजें सप्लाई करेंगे ।

इंडस्ट्रियल गुड्स के बारे में आप जानते हैं । उनके दाम भी बढ़ रहे हैं । आप होटल में चले जाइये । वहां चाय के दाम कम नहीं हैं, रोटी के दाम कम नहीं हैं । जिस सामान के दाम बाजार में एक बार बढ़ गये उसके दाम कभी घटे नहीं हैं । किसानों के खेतों में पैदा होने वाली चीजों को मिट्टी के दाम बेचा जाता है । आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय ने मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर किसान के खेत में पैदा होने वाली चीजों के दाम कम हो जाएं तो बाजार में भी चीजों के दाम कम हो जाएंगे । अगर गेहूं के दाम 20 रुपये क्विंटल हो जाएं तो होटल में बिकने वाली रोटी के दाम भी कम हो जायेंगे । अगर कोयले के दाम अधिक होंगे तो दूसरी चीजों के दाम भी अधिक होंगे । इसी प्रकार से सीमेंट के दाम अधिक होंगे तो दूसरी चीजों के दाम भी अधिक होंगे । इसलिये आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि एक ठोस नीति अपनाई जाय ताकि इस देश की जनता के कष्ट दूर हो सक । इसके साथ-साथ मैं एक निवेदन यह भी करना चाहता हूँ कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर में जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुएं पैदा करने वाले जो लोग हैं और उनकी जो इंस्टाल्ड कैपेसिटी है, वे उसको पूरी तरह से यूटिलाइज करने हैं या नहीं, इसके ऊपर आप कड़ी निगाह रखें । दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना

चाहता हूँ कि आप कम से कम एक हजार समझलरों, ब्लैकमार्केटियरों, मुनाफाखोरों आदि को हिन्दुस्तान की जेलों में तुरन्त बन्द कर दें वरना आप न तो अपने दिल का लाभ कर सकते हैं और नही इस देश में डेमोक्रेसी सफल हो सकती है। इन शब्दों के साथ अन्त में मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम को लागू करें।

**श्री मोहन धारिया :** उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्य ने जो बातें कही हैं उन में बहुत कुछ बातें ऐसी हैं जो मेरे दिल की बातें हैं। उनके बारे में मैं जवाब नहीं देना चाहता हूँ, मगर यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार की यह नीति रहेगी कि जो वायदा उसने लोगों के सामने किया है उसको पूरा पूरा निभाये। जो जीवन की आवश्यक चीजें हैं, चाहे वे औद्योगिक क्षेत्र की हों या खेती के क्षेत्र की हों, उनके उत्पादन और उदके वितरण की जिम्मेदारी सरकार की है, ऐसा मैं मानता हूँ। इस जिम्मेदारी को निभाने के लिए जो-जो कदम सरकार को उठाने पड़ेंगे, वह जरूर उठाएंगी। मैं अपने मित्र से यह जरूर कहना चाहूंगा कि हम कुर्मी के मोह में रहने वाले आदमी नहीं हैं। कुर्मी के मोह में मेरे जैसा कार्यकर्ता नहीं रह सकता है। हम यह नहीं चाहते हैं कि बेकार की चीजों में बहस करें। दुर्भाग्य से कभी कभी ऐसा होता है कि जिन बातों पर बहस नहीं की जानी चाहिए उन पर पूरा का पूरा समय चला जाता है। मैं किसी पक्ष की बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ और न ही इसको किसी पक्ष की बात मानता हूँ। हमारे सामने बुनियादी सवाल यह है कि 63 करोड़ लोगों को जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुएं ठीक दाम पर दिलाई जायें। इसमें हमें सब लोगों के सहयोग की आवश्यकता है। जब हमें पूरे मुल्क का, पूरे देश का और सब दलों का सहयोग मिलेगा तभी इस काम में हमको सफलता मिल सकती है। हम लोगों से सहयोग लेने की कोशिश करेंगे।

मेरे मित्र ने एक दूसरा बुनियादी सवाल यह उठाया है कि हमारे देश में जो इंडस्ट्रीज जीवन की आवश्यक वस्तुएं पैदा करती हैं वे अपनी इन्स्टाल्ड कैपेसिटी के अनुसार ये वस्तुएं पैदा करती हैं या नहीं? मैं उनसे यह स्पष्ट रूप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो लोग स्केयरसिटी पैदा करते हैं या जो लोग मुनाफाखारी करते हैं उनके खिलाफ हम अवश्य कदम उठाएंगे। इस बारे में हम अपने सहकारी मित्रों से भी सहयोग लेना चाहते हैं। उनसे हम इस बारे में बातचीत करेंगे। मैं मानता हूँ कि जो चीजें एसेंशियल कमोडिटीज एक्ट के अन्तर्गत आती हैं, अगर उनके पैदा करने में या उनको पैदा करने की जो इन्स्टाल्ड कैपेसिटी है उसमें कोई कमी आती है तो जरूर सख्त कदम उठाएंगे। यह दूसरी बात है कि बिजली की कमी के कारण या किसी अन्य कारण से कोई कमी होती है तो उस पर विचार किया जा सकता है, लेकिन अगर कोई जान-बूझ कर पैदावार कम करना है तो एसेंशियल कमोडिटीज एक्ट के मुताबिक सरकार कार्यवाही करेगी और प्रोडक्शन का काम सरकार अपने हाथ में ले लेगी। इतना वायदा मैं जरूर करना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ ही लोगों को पूरे समाज को दबाने नहीं दिया जाएगा। इसके लिए हमें पूरे देश में वातावरण बनाना होगा। जिस तरह से हमारे देश का ढांचा है उसमें हमें सब का सहयोग, प्राप्त करना होगा। देश के अन्दर समाजवादी समाज के लिए हमें नये आचारों, नये कोड आफ कंडक्ट और डिमिप्लिन की जरूरत है। हमारे देश की जनता को चीजें ठीक दाम पर मिल सकें, इसके लिए हम कोशिश करते रहेंगे।

**RE: REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 734 ON THE 22ND AUGUST, 1978**

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** (West Bengal): I took permission of the Chair to correct the reply to a particular question and then I wanted to make a Special Mention. Now, it is