

कोषापरेटिव सोसाइटियों के जरिये कराया जाय ?

श्री कामूनगो : एकवाट कुछ नहीं है । कोषापरेटिव सोसाइटिया खरीद सकती है और खरीदा भी है । बिहार और उड़ीसा में कोषापरेटिव सोसाइटियों ग्राम तौर से खरीदती है ।

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether the purchase of jute by the STC checked the falling price of jute last year? If that is so, will Government keep that agency going?

Shri Kanungo: Last year's conditions were different. This year the prices are firming up. From the beginning of the jute season in July prices are steady. Steps have been taken for release of quantities for export and also the demand for jute goods is likely to firm up. Therefore there is no necessity at the present moment for the State Trading Corporation going in for direct purchase in the private market.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister has said that in order to stabilise the prices steps have been taken. May I know what are those steps and whether the peasants will not be deprived of their actual price?

Shri Kanungo: Firstly, the size of the crop is much less than it was in the past year. Secondly, the exports have been provided for. Thirdly, the expectation of the off-take of jute goods has brightened.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know the reason for the fall in production of jute this year? Is the fall in the cultivation of jute due to the fact that the cultivators are not getting adequate price? Is that one of the main reasons that there has been a fall in the price of jute?

Shri Kanungo: No. The reason for the anticipated lower crop this year is the bad seasonal conditions.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: The hon. Minister's reply as to what steps they have really taken to stabilise

the price is unsatisfactory. He says that production has fallen and there is export. But that is not the step that Government has taken.

Shri Kanungo: That means that the licensing for exports and the higher intake for jute goods are the steps which stabilise the price and so far the price has been stabilised.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What criterion does the State Trading Corporation use to select goods for trading? Is it only profit motive that is taken into consideration or are other motives also taken into consideration while deciding as to which commodity should be taken up for State trading?

Shri Kanungo: State Trading Corporation undertakes trade in commodities when it is directed by the Government or when, in the normal course of trade, it finds that profitable.

भूटान

* १२८. { श्री भक्त वर्मान :
श्री बी० चं० शर्मा :
श्री लं० प्र० मेहता :
श्री रामचंद्र प्रसी :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री १४ अगस्त, १९५६ के ताराकित प्रश्न संख्या ४८८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि भूटान को वित्तीय सहायता देने के कार्य में सम्बन्ध में हम बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): The Government of India have been giving ad-hoc grants to Bhutan Government from time to time for their development schemes in addition to normal subsidy of Rs 5 lakhs under the Treaty of 1949.

The Government of India after recent talks with the Prime Minister of Bhutan have agreed to place at the disposal of the Bhutan Government a sum of Rs. 7 lakhs from 1956

onwards instead of ad-hoc grants to assist in their development schemes.

The Government of India have also decided to make available funds upto a ceiling of Rs. 15 crores for the execution of the road projects which the Government of Bhutan have in mind. These funds would be made available to Bhutan Government as and when required.

श्री भक्त बर्ज़न : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि भूटान को जो ७ लाख रुपये की सहायता देने का निश्चय किया गया है तो क्या अबल ७ लाख रुपये की ही मांग भूटान सरकार ने की थी या भारत सरकार ने इसे निश्चित किया ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) डम मिलमिले में उनकी कोई खास मांग नहीं थी। जहाँ तक मुझे दन्त है कोई खास रकम का मांग नहीं थी, खाली एक स्वाहिस का इजहार था। यह ५ लाख रुपये की जो रकम है, आप याद रखें कि वह एक ट्रीटी से भूटान को जाती है। ट्रीटी में यह लिखा गया। यह ७ लाख एक अलग रकम है जो कि मालाना उनको डेवलपमेंट वगैरह के लिये दी जाती है। यह कोई समझौते की बात थोड़े ही है। गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया ने खुशी से उसको पसन्द किया और उनको पेश किया और उनसे कहा।

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if in view of the tension on the border of Bhutan the Government of Bhutan has asked for any additional grant to meet the emergency so far as their militia and army is concerned?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir, except that they are anxious that the roads should be constructed as soon as possible.

Shri Basumatari: What about the proposal to construct the road from Kokra Jhar in Assam to Bhutan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about that. But there are two or three possible roads. Two are in view and one is being taken up urgently which, so far as I remember, is from North Bengal.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: To what extent has Bhutan's need for financial assistance from India increased due to the stoppage of their trade with Tibet, because Bhutan used to send most of its commodities to Tibet for marketing?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No reference has been made to us on that point. We have been helping Bhutan in the past, as stated in the answer to this question, for certain internal development schemes. As to what grants we give them from time to time, we decided to give a lump sum of Rs. 7 lakhs per annum for development. It is for the Bhutan Government to decide as to how to spend it in consultation with us where necessary. In addition to that for some major works, like roads and other things, we have promised to set aside a sum of Rs. 15 crores for a period of years.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether the Bhutanese Government has drawn up a road plan in consultation with the Government of India and whether any deadline has been fixed for the construction of important roads connecting parts of India with Bhutan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There are various plans which have been discussed with our engineers. As I have just now said, one road has been taken up immediately and a second road is kept in view. I do not know of any exact dates being fixed.

श्री भक्त बर्ज़न : माननीय प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि भूटान को भारत से मिलाने वाली सड़कों की ओर विशेष ध्यान दिया जा रहा है तो क्या उनके ध्यान में यह बात भी आई है कि इन सड़कों का निर्माण बड़ी धीमी गति

के हो रहा है और शायद तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना की समाप्ति तक वे पूरी हो सकें और यदि हाँ, तो क्या इस विषय में अधिक कीमती करने की कृपा की जावेगी ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : जी हाँ, वह जमीन काफी मुश्किल और कठिन है लेकिन उस पर जोर दिया गया है कि शीघ्र से शीघ्र सड़क बनें ।

Export of Pepper

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*129. { Shri Basumatari:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kodiyam:
Shri Muhammed Elias:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the exports of Indian pepper have declined during the first five months of the season ended March, 1959;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof,

(c) the steps taken by Government,

(d) whether as a result of these steps, the export of pepper has increased; and

(e) if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mainly lesser offtake by U.S.S.R. and speculative activity making the prices of our pepper uncompetitive in comparison to the cheaper varieties of Sarawak and Indonesian pepper.

(c) The Forward Market Commission imposed special margins at the rate of Rs. 15 and Rs 30 per cwt when the closing prices of any future delivery exceeded Rs. 125 and Rs. 135 per cwt. respectively.

(d) and (e). This action brought some stability in the trading activity and stopped the declining trend in exports. During April-August 1959 exports of pepper were 74,000 cwt.

valued at Rs. 92 lakhs as against 60,000 cwt. valued at Rs. 67 lakhs during the corresponding period in 1958.

Shri Shivaramjappa: May I know whether the decline in exports is partly due to the adulteration of pepper by exporters?

Shri Satish Chandra: There has been no decline in exports recently. What I have stated is in relation to the November-March period. After April the exports, in fact, have increased and during April-August they have been better than April-August of 1958.

Shri Kodiyam: What was the actual shortfall of exports during the season that ended in March, 1959?

Shri Satish Chandra: There has been none I said that, in fact, after April the exports have increased.

Shri Basumatari: What is the amount of loss involved in this period of decline in exports?

Shri Satish Chandra: During November-March when the prices had gone high, there was a shortfall of about 45,000 cwts compared to the corresponding period of 1957-58.

Shri Tangamani: What will be the estimated quantity of export during the year 1959 and its value?

Shri Satish Chandra: In 1959 from January to August we exported 135,000 cwts valued at Rs 155 lakhs

Shri Kodiyam: Apart from maintaining our traditional markets, may I know what steps have been taken by Government to find out new markets?

Shri Satish Chandra: In all the trade agreements recently entered into by the Government of India with foreign countries, pepper is included as one of the items of export.

Shri Punnoose: May I know the quantity of pepper exported to the various countries during this period?

Mr. Speaker: How can it be given?