

[Mr. Chairman]

tion in the country, the Central Government should consider getting a feasibility study made for the creation of Land Army by the State Governments and Union territories Administrations which could be deployed for land development, land reclamation, irrigation facilities and similar works and its distribution amongst landless persons together with other farm inputs and equipments."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now I have to put the resolution, as amended to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That this House is of opinion that with a view to providing employment reclaiming barren and fallow lands and increasing food production in the country, the Central Government should consider getting a feasibility study made for the creation of Land Army by the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations which could be deployed for land development, land reclamation, irrigation facilities and similar works and its distribution amongst landless persons together with other farm inputs and equipments."

The motion was adopted.

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक : सभापति महोदय, मैं अपने प्रस्ताव को संशोधित रूप में स्वीकार करने के लिये आपका, माननीय मंत्री जी का और इस सदन का धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request the hon. Members that such amendments should be moved in very very exceptional cases; this is not a usual practice. Of course, all hon. Members do not get notice of such amendments and they cannot express their views. After all, departing from the regular procedure is not always advisable. This should be done in very very exceptional cases.

15.22 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. REMUNERATIVE PRICES TO THE GROWERS OF COMMERCIAL CROPS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Dinesh Joarder is not here. Shrimati P. Rangnekar has to move the resolution.

श्रीमती अहिंसा पी० रांगनेकर : (बम्बई उत्तर-मध्य) : सभापति महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित संकल्प पेश करती हूँ :—

"यह सभा वाणिज्यिक फसलों जैसे पटसन, गन्ना, तम्बाकू, कपास आदि के मूल्यों में गिरावट तथा लगातार गिरावट की प्रवृत्ति पर गहरी चिन्ता व्यक्त करती है और संकल्प करती है कि उत्पादकों को उचित मूल्य दिलाने के लिए तत्काल उपाय किये जाय और वाणिज्यिक फसलों के मूल्यों की निम्न दरों के कारणों की जांच करने और उत्पादकों को लाभप्रद मूल्य दिलाने के लिये उपाय मुझाने हेतु संसद-सदस्यों की एक उच्च शक्ति प्राप्त समिति भी तुरन्त गठित की जाये।"

सभापति महोदय, मैं जो यह संकल्प लायी हूँ, वह खासकर इसलिये कि आप देखते हैं कि हमारे देश में वाणिज्यिक फसलों की कीमत कम हो रही है, कन्ज्यूमर्स गुड्स की कीमत थटती है। जो कमशियल क्रॉप्स हैं, वाणिज्यिक उत्पादन है, उसकी कीमत कम हो रही है और इसके कारण को हमें देखना चाहिये क्योंकि यह हमारे समाज का और हमारे डेवलपमेंट का मवाल है।

हमारे देश में 1 करोड़ 75 लाख हेक्टेर जमीन पर क्रॉप्स हैं, उसमें से 10 प्रतिशत कमर शियल क्रॉप्स हैं। 4 कोटि हमारे किमान कमशियल-क्रॉप्स पर मेहनत करते हैं। हमारे देश में जो 5 पंचवर्षीय योजनाएं बनाई गईं, उसमें तय किया गया था कि हम कमशियल क्रॉप्स की उत्पादकता बढ़ायेंगे, लेकिन अगर आप पिछले 25 साल का हिसाब लगायेंगे तो कमशियल प्रोडक्ट्स का उत्पादन बढ़ा नहीं है, बल्कि कम हो रहा है।

आप देख सकते हैं कि उत्पादन का लक्ष्य 1950-51 में तय किया गया था कि यह 5.71 मिलियन टन हो, 1960-61 में यह 11.14 मिलियन टन हुआ लेकिन आप देखें कि कन्ज्यूमर्स गुड्स का, चीनी खाने वालों का परिमाण 20 फीसदी बढ़ा।

लेकिन उतना उत्पादन हमारा नहीं बढ़ा है। काटन और जूट का प्राप देखेंगे तो उन की भी वंसी ही हालत है और प्राप रिजर्व बैंक की रिपोर्ट देखेंगे तो उस में पता चलेगा कि 1964-65 में हमारा जो ग्रास रेट था कन्ज्यूमर्स गुड्स का वह 3 परसेंट था और अब वह घट गया है, 2.6 परसेंट हो गया है। 3 परसेंट से कन्ज्यूमर्स गुड्स की उत्पादकता 2.6 परसेंट हो गई है, यह रिजर्व बैंक की रिपोर्ट कहती है। कामगिराल प्राप्ति की हालत उस से भी बुरी है। 1964-65 से पहले 3.9 परसेंट वह था, आज 1.5 परसेंट हो गया है। इतना कम हो गया है। इस सब की जांच करनी चाहिए। अगर प्राप इस की जांच नहीं करेंगे तो हमारे पूरे देश का विकास खंजिर होने वाला है और हमारे सामने और मवाल आ जाएंगे। हमारी सारी एकोनामी कोलैप्स होने वाली है अगर हम इस के ऊपर ध्यान नहीं देंगे। इतना ही नहीं प्राप देखेंगे कि इस में जो किमानों को इन्डेन्डेंस है वह भी बढ़ती जा रही है। एक बाजु में वह बढ़ती जा रही है और दूसरी तरफ प्राप देखते हैं लैंड ओनरशिप का जो प्रबलन है उस में बहुत बड़े झगड़े चालू हो गए हैं। दूसरी तरफ कास्ट का भी मवाल इस में पैदा हो जाएगा। एक तरफ कास्ट का मवाल और दूसरी तरफ कल्टीवेटर्स का मवाल, ये सारे ममले खड़े होने वाले हैं। अगले दो वर्षों में अगर इस के बारे में हम कुछ नहीं करेंगे तो हर एक स्टेट में ला एंड आर्डर प्रबलन पैदा होने वाली है, यह प्राप को ध्यान में रखना चाहिए। इस प्रबलन के ऊपर अगर प्राप सीरियसली ध्यान नहीं देंगे तो हमारी एकोनामी का भी मवाल ला एंड आर्डर का भी मवाल और सोशल आर्डर का भी मवाल ये सारे मवाल विकृत होने वाले हैं। यह हमें ध्यान में रखना चाहिए।

मैं आपको और बताऊं, गांवों में जो चीजें पैदा कर रहे हैं उन की प्राइम इंडेक्स को देखें और जो कीमत हम उनको दे रहे हैं उस का देखें तो मालूम होगा कि हम उनको किस तरह फंसाते हैं। हमारा जो ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमीशन है उस में जो लोग हैं वे सरमायेदारों के इंटरैस्ट को गाड़ करने वाले और मोनोपलिस्ट्स के इंटरैस्ट्स का गाड़ करने वाले हैं। इसीलिए अभी तक हमारे जो किमान खेती करते हैं उन के बारे में ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है। होलमेल प्राप प्राइम इंडेक्स देखें। 1970-71 को अगर बेस रखें तो 71-72 में राइस का इंडेक्स था 105 जो 1976-77 में हो गया 157 और 1977-78 में वह है 154। लेकिन ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइस कमीशन ने उस की प्राइस कितनी फिक्स की है वह प्राप देखें। इस के माने यह है कि उन किमानों को जो राइस पैदा करते हैं, लूटने का घन्टा ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमीशन कर रहा है। व्हीट का देखें—1971-72 में प्राइम इंडेक्स था 103, 1976-77 में 159 और 1977-78 में है 166। लेकिन हमारे

ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमीशन ने प्राइस फिक्स की है 112 रुपये। तो वह किस के लिए काम कर रहे हैं, यह प्राप बताएं? प्राइस इंडेक्स बतलाता है 166 रुपये और वह प्राइस फिक्स करते हैं 112 रुपये। यह चीज प्राप को ध्यान में रखनी चाहिए।

रा-काटन की हालत देखें, उस में प्राप उन को बहुत देते हैं। डिफरेंस देखें, 1971-72 में रा-काटन का प्राइस इंडेक्स था 83, 1976-77 में 209 और 1977-78 में है 182 लेकिन अभी प्राइस फिक्स किया है 255। यह क्या हो रहा है? इस चीज को भी प्राप ध्यान में रखें। रा जूट का मैं ज्यादा नहीं बताती हूं, 1977-78 में इंडेक्स है 152 और प्राइस फिक्स की है 150। टूबैको, कोल, फटिलाइजर वगैरह बाकी चीजों के बारे में प्राप ने अभी तक प्राइम फिक्स नहीं किया है। लेकिन उन की भी हालत अभी तक यह है कि जो उन की कीमत है उस कीमत से कम प्राप ने उन की प्राइम फिक्स की है। आपको यह ध्यान में रखना चाहिए कि उन की जो लागत है वह तो बढ़ती जा रही है। बाकी जो चीजें उस में लगती हैं जैसे प्राप देखें, फुयल और पावर जो लगता है उस की कीमत 110 से 232 हो गई है। इनकी प्राइसेज बढ़ गई हैं। प्राप देखते हैं कि उनके उत्पादन की जो प्राइम है उसको ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमीशन कम कर रहा है। एक तरफ फुयल, पावर की कीमतें बढ़ती हैं, दूसरी जो कन्ज्यूमर गुड्स हैं उनकी कीमतें बढ़ती हैं लेकिन दूसरी तरफ जो उनका माल है उसकी कीमत कम होनी जाती है। इस बात की तरफ हमें ध्यान देना चाहिए, बरना इस देश में बहुत कुछ होने वाला है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे देश में जो इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स हैं, जो मल्टी-नेशनल्स हैं उनका बड़ा भारी रोल रहा है। हमारी बैकम उनकी हेल्प कर रही हैं लेकिन दूसरी तरफ जो ग्रोअर्स हैं उनको लूटा जा रहा है। मैं आपके सामने पब्लिक अण्डरटेकिंग कमेटी की, जूट मिल्स के सम्बन्ध में, जो रिपोर्ट आई है उसका आपके सामने रखना चाहती हूं। कमेटी ने डिप्टी गवर्नर, रिजर्व बैंक को साक्ष्य के लिए बुलाया था। उनसे पूछा गया कि जो किमान जूट पैदा करते हैं उनको बैंक से कितना पैसा दिया गया तो उन्होंने कहा कि हमारे पास इसका कोई हिसाब या रिकॉर्ड नहीं है। अगर प्राप उनका उत्तर पढ़ेंगे तो देखेंगे कि क्या नाटक है। उन्होंने जो जवाब दिया उसको मैं कोट करना चाहती हूं:

"As of now I am sorry that we have got information on a global basis, but not in terms of cultivators of different kinds of crops and in such details."

[श्रीमती ग्रहिल्या पी० रांगनेकर]

उन्होंने । क हमारे पास ग्लोबल बेसिस की रिपोर्ट है, कल्टिवेटर्स के बारे में उनके पास कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं है । इसके बाद जब उनसे पूछा गया कि जो मिल मालिक हैं उनको कितना पैसा दिया गया तो वे तुरन्त सच्चाई पर आ गए । उन्होंने कहा कि रा-मैटीरियल की पर्चेज और उसके प्रापरेशन के लिए 157.22 करोड़ रुपये दिए गए । आप देखें कि जूट मिलों के मालिकों को इतनी बड़ी रकम मिलती है लेकिन जो जूट प्रोसेसर्स हैं उनके लिए रिजर्व बैंक के पास कोई पैसा नहीं है । बैंक के पास इसलिए कोई हिसाब भी नहीं है क्योंकि उनको कोई पैसा दिया ही नहीं गया है । इसीलिए उन्होंने जवाब देने से इनकार कर दिया ।

इतना ही नहीं, जहां जहां कारपोरेशंस हैं वहां पर माइनाईजेशन के नाम पर या दूसरे नाम पर मिलों को पैसा दिया गया है । आई डी बी आई से टोटल लोन 19.2 करोड़ दिया गया । दूसरी स्कीम्स में जुलाई 1964 से 1975 तक 15.50 करोड़ दिए गए । इण्डस्ट्रियल फाइनेंस कारपोरेशन से भी कई करोड़ मिले । इस तरह से टोटल 66.17 करोड़ मिले । इस तरह से आप देखेंगे कि मोनोपोलिस्ट्स की हर तरह से मदद की जाती है लेकिन प्रोग्राम्स को हमारी बैंक्स कोई मदद नहीं देती हैं । जूट मिलों के पास जो काला पैसा बढ़ जाता है उसका चुनाव में इस्तेमाल होना है । पब्लिक ग्रैंडर-टेक्निज कमिटी में रिजर्व बैंक के डिप्टी गवर्नर कहते हैं कि मिलों को इतना पैसा दिया गया लेकिन प्रोग्राम्स को कुछ भी नहीं मिलता है ।

इसी प्रकार मैं आप देखेंगे कि शूगरकेन के एरियर्स, मध्य प्रदेश को केवल दो मिलों में, लाखों रुपये बाकी हैं । किसानों का 50 लाख रुपया बाकी था । बैंक में उन मिलों को पैसा मिला लेकिन उसमें पहले बैंक ने मिलों में यह क्यों नहीं पूछा कि आपने किसानों का पैसा दिया है या नहीं ? यह ड्यूटी बैंक की थी । जिन किसानों में शूगरकेन लिया गया था उनको उसका पैसा मिलना चाहिए था । उस के बाद भी सरकार ने उन की प्रापर्टी को अटैच नहीं किया । किसानों का पैसा डूबो दिया, मजदूरों का पैसा डूबा दिया, उन की प्रापर्टी को मेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने अटैच नहीं किया, उन की प्रापर्टी को नीलाम करने की आज्ञा नहीं दी और वे सब पैसा खा गये । इस लिये मैं कहना चाहती हूं कि जब तक आप इन मजदूरों और किसानों को लूटने वाले इण्डस्ट्रीय-लिस्ट्स और मोनोपोलिस्ट्स के बारे में बैंकों के नहीं कहेंगे कि पहले एरियर्स का पैसा देना चाहिये तब तक दूसरा कोई इलाज नहीं है ।

आप को मालूम नहीं है—हम ने महाराष्ट्र में देखा है—महाराष्ट्र में जो शूगर मिलें हैं, उन के नाम के साथ कोआपरेटिव लगा हुआ, लेकिन उन के कर्ताधर्ता कौन हैं, हम जानते हैं—ये

कोआपरेटिव किसानों को थोड़ा सा कर्जा देती हैं, उस के बदले में उन को अपनी पूरी फसल को इन के पास डिपॉजिट रखना पड़ता है और जब वे उन की फसल को लेते हैं तो उस फसल के भाव कम कर के उन को देते हैं और इस तरह से वह किसान उन का पूरे-का-पूरा कर्जा वापस नहीं दे सकता है, उस का पूरी तरह से सत्यानाश हो रहा है ।

इस लिये हमारा कहना है कि जिस तरह से महाराष्ट्र में मोनोपोलीकाटन-पर्चेज की स्कीम है—अगर वैसे स्कीम नहीं चलायेंगे तो किसानों का कुछ भी भला होने वाला नहीं है । जब उन की प्राप भाती है तब वे रेट्स कम कर देते हैं और बाजार में दलाल उस को खरीद लेते हैं और बाद में ऊंचे दामों पर बेचते हैं । मैं आप को महाराष्ट्र के “प्याज” की कहानी सुनाना चाहती हूँ । किसानों से प्याज 26 पैसे किलो में खरीदी गई, लेकिन बाजार में उसको 2 रुपये किलो में बेचा गया, इस तरह से किसान भी लूटा और हम भी लूटे, कन्स्यूमर भी लूटे गया, बीच में सब दलाल खा गये । इस के बाद स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन और “नाफेड” से कहा गया कि प्याज खरीदो । उन के अधिकारी वहां गये, जिन में पैसा मिला, उन में खरीद लिया और जो सब किसान थे, जिन्होंने पैसा नहीं दिया, उन से नहीं खरीदा, क्वालिटी के नाम पर उन के माल को नहीं खरीदा । आप जानते हैं कामणियल ग्राम में क्वालिटी के नाम पर ग्रेडिंग चल रहा है—फर्स्ट ग्रेड, सेकण्ड ग्रेड, थर्ड ग्रेड । इसी तरह से प्याज के मामले में जिन का माल नहीं खरीदना था, उन का माल ग्रेड 3 का बनला दिया । जिन ने पैसा दे दिया उस का माल ग्रेड 1 बनला कर खरीद लिया । उस के बाद जब मामला श्री मोहन धारिया के पास आया, तब समझौता हुआ । मेरा यह कहना है कि इन सब चीजों में जा दलाल लोग हैं, वे बहुत गड़बड़ करते हैं, लेकिन आप के नाफेड में भी बहुत कर्णन है । जब तक आप उन कर्णन को दूर नहीं करेंगे—काम नहीं चलेगा ।

मैं एम० टी० सी० के बारे में बतानाती हूँ—सीमेन्ट कार्गिया से बम्बई पहुंचा, तो एम० टी० सी० वाले वहां गये और समुद्र में ही उस को कागज पर खरीद लिया । उस के बाद उस को उठाने और रखने का काम किस को दिया—डालमिया कम्पनी को दिया । क्योंकि इन के पास स्टोरेज का इन्तजाम नहीं था, जो बड़ी बड़ी मोनोपोलिस्ट कम्पनियां हैं—उन के पास ही स्टोरेज का इन्तजाम होता है । आप जरा इकानामीक-टाइम्स को देखिये—उस में छपा है—तेल के बारे में । जो “स्वीट आयल” है—उस के बारे में लिखा है कि स्टोरेज में कितना कम हो गया, लाखों रुपये का तेल स्टोरेज में कम हो गया, क्योंकि स्टोरेज की व्यवस्था मोनोपोलिस्ट्स लोगों के पास होती है । सीमेन्ट भी इसी तरह से गायब हो गया, कहते हैं

समुद्र से किनारे तक घाने में ट्रांजिट में गायब हो गया, क्योंकि ये मोनोपोलिस्ट कम्पनियाँ जो व्यापार करती हैं, इन के साथ हमारे एस0टी0सी0 और नाफेड के अधिकारी शामिल हैं और कोई भी इन मामलों में दखल नहीं देता है। यह मेरा चार्ज है—इसके बारे में जांच होनी चाहिये। अगर आप इकानामिक टाइम्स को पढ़ेंगे तो आप को भी बहुत दुख होगा। लोग कहते हैं कि चीजों की स्केमरसिटी होने वाली है। हमें मालूम नहीं क्या स्केमरसिटी होने वाली है, लेकिन यह सही है कि लाखों टन माल इस तरह से बीच में ही गायब हो जाती है। तो इस के बारे में आप को सांचना चाहिए। जब तक जूट परचेजिंग एजेंसी जाँ कि गवर्नमेंट की परचेजिंग एजेंसी है, मैं कम्पन खत्म नहीं होता है तब तक यह समस्या हल नहीं होगी। ऐसी मोनोपली एजेंसी का निर्माण करने के बाद भी यह समस्या हल नहीं हो रही है। मेरा आप से कहना है कि आप एग्रीकल्चरल प्राइस कमीशन को दोबारा भारगेनाइज्ड कीजिए और उस में किसानों के प्रतिनिधि भी लीजिए। इस कमीशन के बारे में आप यह भी जांच कीजिए कि आजकल जो इस के मेम्बर हैं उनके इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स से क्या सम्बन्ध है।

हमारे देश में फ्राम्स के जो प्रोपर्स हैं, उन की हम मदद करनी चाहिए। उन को जो आप मर्यादा देते हैं वह उन के पास नहीं जाती है। वर दूसरों के पास चली जाती है। कई जगह पर उन के नाम मे कोअपरेटिव्स तैयार हो गये हैं लेकिन उनका फायदा वेस्टेड इन्स्ट्रुट्स के लाग उठा रहे हैं। यह भी आप को देखना चाहिए।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक बात यह कहना चाहती है कि आपको एक नया एग्गेरिवन रिफार्म्स बिल लाना चाहिए क्योंकि इस से लेण्ड का भारी सम्बन्ध है। यह खाली फार्मर्स का सवाल नहीं है। हमारे बीच में एग्रीकल्चरल वर्कर्स भी बहुत हैं। उनकी उन्नति की जो प्राइस कंज्यूमर्स से आती है उसका फायदा उनको नहीं मिलता है। हरेक प्रदेश में लेण्ड सीलिंग एक्ट है लेकिन मध्य जगह लोग हाथ पर हाथ धर कर बैठे हुए हैं। वहाँ जमींदार लोग कहते हैं कि आप कोई भी कानून बनाइये लेकिन हम उस पर अमल नहीं होने देंगे। जब तक हमारा लेण्ड का मसला हल नहीं होता है तब तक ऐसे सवाल आते रहेंगे। इस सवाल का हल करने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि लेण्ड की सीलिंग हो। इस के बारे में आपको सांचना चाहिए। जब तक आप यह नहीं करते तब तक आप एग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसिज कमीशन की रचना करें। पार्लियामेंट में हम ने सुझाव दिया था कि पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों की भी इस बारे में एक कमेटी बननी चाहिए क्योंकि यहाँ पर किसानों के बहुत से प्रतिनिधि हैं। 23 तारीख को यहाँ दिल्ली में किसानों का बहुत भारी प्रदर्शन हो रहा है और किसानों के सवालों पर आप ध्यान देने वाले हैं। अगर उस से पहले यहाँ यह कर दिया

जाए तो उसमें भी आपको मदद मिलेगी। इसलिए मेरा आपको सुझाव है कि पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों की एक कमेटी आप बना दें जो प्राइसिज के बारे में विचार करे। अगर किसान की पैदावार की प्राइसिज उसे ठीक से नहीं मिली तो इस से हमारे देश में कोई विकास नहीं होने वाला है। अगर आपको विकास करना है तो आपको यह करना पड़ेगा।

मेरा आपसे कहना है कि आप जनता के सवालों पर ध्यान दें। जनता में आजकल यह भावना है कि आप उन के सवालों पर ध्यान देने के बदले आपस में झगड़ते हैं। जनता चाहती है कि आप उनके सवालों पर ध्यान दें। आप आपस में झगड़ें लेकिन बंद कमरे में झगड़ें। वहाँ चाहे कुछ भी करें, एक दूसरे का सिर तोड़ें लेकिन जहाँ तक जनता के सवाल हैं उन पर आप पूरा ध्यान दें। आपने चुनावों में बहुत कुछ ऐलान किया था, बहुत कुछ अश्वोरेसिज दिये थे। अगर उनको पूरा करने के लिए आप कुछ नहीं करेंगे तो कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। इसलिए आप गंभीर रूप से इस तरफ ध्यान दें। इतना ही मुझे कहना है।

MR. CHAIRMAN; Resolution moved.

"The House expresses its deep concern over the fall and continuous downward trend of the prices of commercial crops viz., jute, sugarcane, tobacco, cotton etc., and resolves that immediate steps be taken to guarantee fair prices to the growers and also a high powered Committee consisting of the Members of Parliament be forthwith constituted to go into the causes of lower rates of prices of the commercial crops and suggest measures for ensuring remunerative prices to the growers".

The time allotted for this Resolution is 2 hours and I have a list of 13 members who want to speak on this. I request Members to finish their speeches within six minutes.

Those hon. Members who want to move their amendments may now do so.

DR. RAMJI SINGH (Bhagalpur): I beg to move:

[Dr. Ramji Singh]

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

“and further directs the Government to compel the manufacturers of industrial goods out of commercial crops viz., jute, sugarcane, tobacco, cotton etc. to sell them at proportionately cheaper prices.” (3)

That in the resolution,—

(i) after “tobacco, cotton, etc.”

add “while the prices of manufactured goods out of these crops show an upward trend”.

(ii) add at the end—

“within 3 months hereafter”. (6).

SHRI VINAYAK PRASAD YADAV (Saharsa): I beg to move:

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

“so that the price of every product, whether industrial or agricultural, neither exceeds nor falls short of $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the cost of production thereof.” (2)

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): I beg to move:

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

“with instructions to submit its report by 31st March, 1979, so as to facilitate fixation of remunerative prices.” (4).

SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU (Katwa): Mr. Chairman, speaking on this Resolution I must say that the growers have all along been neglected. There are some middlemen, who are engaged by the Jute Corporation of India, and they are earning huge profits. The Corporation is purchasing through the medium of some people and not directly. These middlemen advance some money to the growers and purchase the jute, not at remunerative prices

but at distressed prices. The jute growers are compelled to sell their produce to the middlemen at the price dictated by them. This has been the experience in all the villages in my constituency. The result is that the middlemen, the dealers and the purchasing agents are getting away with all the profits and the growers of jutes and cotton are not getting adequate prices.

That is why we say that the Government should take very strong measures to see that the actual growers get adequate prices. In the case of growers of jute, sugarcane and cotton it is not enough that they are getting the prices prevailing in the market. Very attractive prices should be offered to them. Now what happens is that the dealers invest money on the growers and purchase jute or cotton at distress prices. So, we should chalk out some programme whereby Government purchase direct. They should open centres at all the areas where jute, cotton, tobacco and sugarcane are grown and the produce should be purchased directly, without the intervention of the middlemen.

It has been shown everywhere that remunerative prices are not given to the growers. Then if we compare the prices of industrial products, they are also sold to consumers at a much higher rate, say 50 or 60 per cent above the cost of production. Here again the management or the dealers get away with the profit and the consumers also have to suffer for it.

So, ways and means should be found out to see that the consumers are able to purchase commodities at reasonable prices. If we do not look to their interests, then what for we are here? So you must chalk out certain ways and means, and I request the hon. Minister, through you, that a well thought out policy should be chalked out to see that the consumers get the goods at reasonable prices and the jute growers, the cotton growers and the tobacco growers get the remunerative

price. But it is seen that there is a channel, that is, the agents, the middlemen, the manufacturers' association the cotton growers association and so many other associations that are set up and certain other agencies which purchase the goods are taking away the benefit, I mean, the middlemen are taking away the benefit. This middlemen system must go, must be wiped out so that the reasonable prices are obtained by the growers and a well thought out policy should be laid down so that the growers cannot be cheated, and they should not be cheated. In all constituencies and everywhere we go, we find that they cannot sell the jute direct to the Jute Corporation. The Government is spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees for the development of Jute Corporation. I have got the records with me. The Jute Corporation of India have advanced to different jute industries, to different agents, to the tune of Rs. 22 crores for purchase of jute and these agents and other jute manufacturers purchase the jute and do not sell sufficient jute to the Jute Corporation as a result of which the Jute Corporation find it difficult in several cases to realise money. We find that out of Rs. 22 crores invested by the Jute Corporation of India, they have already lost Rs. 14 crores out of which nothing will be given to the Government and Government will not get anything out of it. So, the Government must lay down a stringent policy to see that these people are not allowed to take away the resources and are not allowed to take away the money in that way.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already made a complaint to the authorities that the sum of Rs. 22 crores invested through the Jute Corporation is to be realised. So far, only Rs. 6 crores have been realised and the Government will not be in a position to realise the balance of Rs. 16 crores from the middlemen and from the

jute industries to which they had advanced. So, ways and means should be found out to see that the growers get the remunerative prices and not the middlemen who take away the money without doing anything.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN (Burdwan) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, India is an agricultural country but it is a matter of grief and regret that the cultivators are the most neglected among the population. We, who are in politics, while addressing the people outside over the mike very often say that we will try to improve the lot of the cultivators but when we become a Member of Parliament or a Minister we conveniently forget these cultivators and try to promote the interest of the middle men or the industrialist. Sir the Committee on Public Undertakings have suggested that the jute growers should be paid Rs. 400/- per quintal as a remunerative price as otherwise they will suffer a loss but despite this positive recommendation of the Committee the price of jute was fixed at Rs. 149 per quintal. The recommendations of the Agricultural Price Commission was also ignored. How could this figure of Rs. 149 be fixed? On whose recommendation? Are we to conclude that the report of the Committee on Public undertakings is wrong? Sir the agriculturists would have found some solace if the industrial products which are based on agricultural produce were sold to the people at a cheaper price but they are not getting the same. I would like to give an example. Last year government had fixed the price of paddy at Rs. 77 per quintal. We know that 1½ quintals of paddy will yield one quintal of rice calculation on this basis the price of 1 quintal of rice should not be more than Rs. 125 (including Rs. 10 per quintal as manufacturing cost but Government have fixed the selling price of rice at Rs. 178. Thus the profit

The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

[Shri Raj Krishna Dawn]

16 hrs.

earned is much more than even the profit that is being earned by the black marketeers. As I was saying, the cultivators would have found some satisfaction if the non agriculturist community comprising of the soldiers, teachers, doctors, engineers etc., could get rice at a cheap rate and then the agriculturists would have felt that their sacrifices were rewarded. But this is not being done. Therefore I urge very strongly that Government will have to be very cautious about this matter which gives no satisfaction either to the producer or the consumer. But we have seen that the Agriculture Price Commission far from upholding the interest of the agriculturists have always upheld the interest of the middlemen and the industrialist. It is indeed a matter of deep regret for a country where the majority of the population is cultivators. There is yet another sad aspect to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government. It is known to all that the different parts of the country suffered devastating floods. I ask you Sir, who suffered from this? Obviously the poor cultivators. But why should they suffer? Is it not a fact that whenever some damage is done to the factory or the godowns of an industrialists, he gets full compensation from the insurance companies. If the rich could get his loss compensated fully then

why should not the poor cultivator? But the irony of the matter is that while we have provided for insurance policies which other than cultivators can take advantage of there is nothing that the poor cultivator can fall back upon when his crops are damaged due to natural calamities like drought, flood, storm, fire etc. There is no crop insurance in our country that can take care of the cultivator and his crops. In reply to a question, the Government have stated that while there is an insurance scheme for cotton, no such scheme is there for other crops. The Government does not want to have a comprehensive crop insurance which will cover all the cultivators.

If we really want to save the cultivators then we have to pay them proper price. If a cultivator who produces the food and industrial crops, does not get adequate return, if he is denied social security, if he fails to maintain his family then a massive migration will start from agricultural field and the present industrial growth of the country is not at all adequate to absorb or contain this mass migration from the field of agriculture to the field of industry. Naturally it will only produce a catastrophe whose results would be dangerous. In any agricultural country, the basis for development should have been agriculture but it is a matter of regret that since independence no Government has given importance to this matter and as such the lot of the agriculturists have remained neglected and poor. We have never given the regard or respect that the cultivators of this country deserve.

Mr. Chairman Sir, we are presently discussing a problem which affects the 60 crore population of the country out of which 50 crores are cultivators. But what is the attendance in the House. Only such members are painstakingly staying in the House who will speak on this subject and the rest have gone. If you press the bill perhaps they will rush back to this House and their interest and responsibility ends there. On the other hand if there was a discussion on Indira Gandhi or the rich, the House would have been full. Sir, we politicians always remain conscious how to preserve our power and we do not hesitate to indulge in cheap slogan mongering. A little while ago the House was discussing the problem of the landless and suggestions were being offered how the surplus land should be distributed. Now, from that debate it emerged that we have only 5 crores of barren land and the number of the landless in the country was in the neighbourhood of 7 crores. Thus even if we distributed the entire land the share of each would be less than one acre which is an uneconomic hold-

ing. This kind of a distribution process will not help solve any problem. But we keep on harping upon the need for distribution of land without a practical knowledge of agriculture because, as I said, we often play for cheap slogan mongering. Therefore, we have to think in a more rational and practical way. Surplus lands should be distributed amongst the marginal land-holders, cultivators. If we want to ensure proper industrial development in the country, then the cultivators of industrial crops will have to be paid proper prices for their crops. We have to frame proper crop insurance schemes that will come to the rescue of the poor cultivators when natural calamities destroy their crops and along with these we have to tone up the present law or make new one which will save them from middle men and black marketeers and maintain their interests. But this is never done. We never genuinely feel for the cultivators and they have remained neglected for long. We have to think in terms of improving the lot of the small landholders. The cultivator who has one acre of land, should get two acres instead which will make his holding economic and the quantum of produce will also improve. But instead of doing it if we try to distribute one seri among 1000 ladies then the share of each would be just enough to be used as a bandage and will never be sufficient to hide her shame. In the same manner, if we go on harping upon the theme of equal distribution then it would not be anything more than cheap sloganising. It will only encourage unrest in the country and will not be in the interest of the cultivators or agricultural labourers. Therefore, we have to leave this path and take to more practical solutions. If we really want that the industry of our country should prosper and thrive, then we have to give proper remunerative price to the cultivators producing the industrial crop who will be able to maintain their family and would lead a better life. I will, in fact, go a step further and suggest that

all crops produced should fetch remunerative price and unless this is not done then supply to industry will fall, industrial progress will retard we will have to depend on foreign countries for imports of both foodgrains as also the industrial crops for ages to come. With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS (Kottayam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House is debating a very important resolution. Let me first of all congratulate the mover of the resolution for providing an opportunity to the Members to discuss a very important problem.

Sir, it has been a consistent demand of the farmers in our country that their products should get a reasonable price. But, unfortunately, the Government in power does not pay much attention to it. In our country when there is high production, the prices decline and the growers suffer. Why does it happen like this? It is mainly because the Government does not have a well considered policy in regard to the pricing of the commercial crops produced in our country. There was bumper production of cotton; but the textile prices have gone up. There was record production of sugarcane for which the farmers in UP and elsewhere are suffering, but the prices of sugar has not come down. The sugarcane growers are suffering because they do not get a remunerative price. Same is the case about rubber also.

In this context, I would like to say that whenever a demand comes up from the industrial sector for concession in taxes, etc., the Government is too willing to satisfy them. The House will remember that a few months ago there was a temporary decline in the production of natural rubber. 99 per cent of the natural rubber produced in India comes from Kerala.

Incidentally, I may mention that rubber is one of the important cash crops which sustain the economy of Kerala. Any fall in the price of rub-

[Shri Skariah Thomas]

ber will adversely affect the rubber growers most of whom are medium and small-scale growers. When there was a temporary shortfall in production of natural rubber, the price in the open market started rising. Immediately the tyre manufacturers started clamouring for import of rubber. Since they have got a strong lobby and can influence the Government very easily, the Government took a sudden decision to import rubber from outside. This was a very harmful step as it would have ruined the economy of Kerala. According to the latest information, the Government proposes to import 15,000 more tonnes of rubber from outside. The hon. Minister has assessed the tyre manufacturers that their interest would be protected. I have nothing against the tyre manufacturers interest being protected. My point is that the growers interest should also be protected.

What is happening today is that whenever the price of commercial crop rises, the Government comes forward to protect the interest of the industry but the same enthusiasm is not to be seen in the case of cotton growers, cane growers, rubber growers, etc.

In this connection, I would also like to point out that the latest decision taken by the Government to import copra from outside is going to affect the coconut growers of Kerala very badly. The coconut growers of Kerala have protested against this decision of the Government. I hope, the hon. Minister will reconsider this decision to import copra and thus save the coconut growers of Kerala from total ruin.

About the pricing of commercial crops also, I have a word to say. When there is surplus production, the Government should take adequate steps to see that the prices may not fall below a certain level. They should step in and make bulk purchase, so that the farmers do not have to suffer. Otherwise, out of sheer frustration, the farmers will burn down their pro-

ducts, which will not be in the best interest of the country. Therefore, what is needed is a realistic policy in regard to the prices of commercial crops on which economy of our country depends to a great extent.

With these words, once again, I support this resolution.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Janata Party committed for rural development. Rural development cannot come unless rural economy is stabilised. Rural economy can be stabilised only when the peasants get remunerative prices. Therefore, it is the duty of the Government which is committed for rural development to stabilise the prices of agricultural commodities.

There is no machinery to stabilise the prices of agricultural commodities. Of course, they have created some machinery to support certain commodities, specially the foodgrains. That is also half-way. What I want is that there must be a comprehensive legislation so as to stabilise the prices of all agricultural commodities. For this, a Commodity Price Stabilisation Corporation must be constituted. Unless it is constituted, it is not possible to stabilise the prices. Now, the Agricultural Prices Commission is doing something. But it must be under the supervision of the Commodity Price Stabilisation Corporation.

A reference given to the Agricultural Prices Commission is not sufficient to help the agriculturists. The Agricultural Prices Commission, as it exists today, is not having any machinery for collecting the cost of cultivation and also the cost of living of the peasants and the rural masses. Therefore, the Agricultural Prices Commission should be provided with machinery for this purpose.

In the matter of fixing the price, they are fixing the minimum price, but the minimum price is not a remunerative

price and the minimum price is not in proportion to the cost of cultivation and the cost of living of the peasants. It is fixed with a view to helping consumers also, taking all the existing circumstances into consideration. We should not do that. If we want to help the consumers, we must subsidize them and see that only poor consumers are helped and not those whose income is as much as Rs. 2,000, Rs. 3,000 and so on. We are not committed to help them; we are committed to help only poor consumers. Therefore, with this in view, the pricing for consumers must be separate and the pricing for commercial crops or agricultural commodities must be separate. If we take that stand, it would be quite easy for us to see that remunerative prices are fixed for agricultural commodities.

Now, after setting up the Agricultural Prices Commission, commodities which are surplus must be identified every year and they must be notified. There must be a revolving fund for purchasing these surpluses. All surpluses must be purchased by the Commodity Corporation. Now, having purchased it—supporting we want to purchase jaggery—they say, especially the officials, that there are no storage facilities. Therefore, when the Corporation is set up, if they are to purchase these commodities, there must be godown facilities and storage facilities. Therefore, there must be a comprehensive plan for having storage facilities wherever necessary throughout the country, depending on the commodity.

Now, after we purchase these surpluses, what are we to do with them is the question. We must see that they are exported as far as possible. Now, we are not having any machinery for exporting agricultural commodities to other countries. In certain foreign countries they have their Trade Representatives or Marketing Officers in their

Embassies. Therefore, I would request the Government to see that in every Embassy office of ours, there is a Trade Representative or Marketing Officer appointed for exploring the possibilities of exporting these agricultural commodities.

Now, there must be money for that and, therefore, we must have a revolving fund so that the commodities can be purchased and sold; and that fund must be constant. If necessary they should take the help of the financial organisations in getting money.

Again, if there are surpluses, we must see that these agricultural commodities are put to industrial use. I have seen that in USA they are converting agricultural commodities for industrial use. They have four research centres—one at New York and three more at other places. Therefore, if we can also have such centres, it would be easy to convert these commodities.

I will give one example. We are having jaggery: 45 per cent of sugarcane is being converted into jaggery. But we are not able to sell it. Therefore, if we can have a research centre, we can see how it can be converted into alcohol. With alcohol we can run automobiles: scientists say we can do it. Therefore, it is quite necessary for us to open research centres.

Now, these purchases must be made by this Corporation. If this is to be done, we must nationalise all the trade. Therefore, we must canalise the purchases. Unless these purchases are canalised and exports are canalised, it is not possible to control these private traders or businessmen and capitalists and to protect the interest of the peasants.

I want to make one more point. Now we are meeting with natural calamities like floods, cyclones and droughts. We are not able to control them. Mr. H. M. Patel, Prof. Ranga, 60 economists and other political leaders of our nation have asked the UNO to constitute

[Shri P. Rajagopal Naidu]

a fund, Natural Calamities Mitigation Fund, for helping the developing countries. If we can achieve that, if our Government, especially our Minister, can move the FAO and other world organisations to constitute that Fund, we can get money and see that the sufferings on account of these calamities are mitigated.

Then we can have crop insurance. In that we should provide not only for fall in production but also for fall in prices so that the farmers may not get unremunerative prices.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must congratulate the Mover of the Resolution for having brought forward this Resolution. Though Hon. Member, Shri Dinesh Joardar, was not present to move the Resolution. Shrimati Ahilya Rangnekar has, very stoutly, defended the cause of the farmers. The deep concern expressed by the various Members who participated in this debate goes to show that it is high time that certain concrete steps were taken by the Government to protect the interests of the farmers who raise cash crops. Perhaps, in this context, Mr. Charan Singh's 'Kisan Rally' becomes more relevant to highlight the problems of the kisans...

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you attending it?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Perhaps, Mr. Barnala may be one of them. I want to point out certain anomalies. But before I do so, I would like to read from the Reserve Bank's report with regard to the economy in 1977-78. They say that it was sluggish:

"...sluggishness and uncertainty injured the Indian economy, imports shot up and exports slumped, industrial growth was 'disappointing', money supply went up substantially, and while wholesale prices decreased, the retail prices increased."

Coming to food production and production of other agricultural commodities, they say:

"The output of foodgrains reached a new high at 126 million tonnes—an improvement of five million tonnes over the earlier peak touched two years ago. Several cash crops—sugarcane, tea, coffee and cotton—also recorded a substantial improvement in production levels. The larger use of fertilisers and good and well-spread rainfall contributed to the increase."

But the anomaly is this. While the prices of cotton slumped, the prices of textiles have gone up. While the cigarette manufacturers have earned record profits this year, the price of tobacco has come down. Why are we having this anomaly? When there is increase in production, there should be some mechanism by which you have to protect the interests of the farmers. This is the anomaly. Where production goes up, prices slump and the farmers suffer. I would like to bring to the notice of the Agriculture Minister, who is here, that he should have an integrated approach with regard to agricultural production, that is, for food crops as well as for cash crops. The integrated approach should be like this. Number one is supply of inputs in time at reasonable prices. Inputs include irrigation and power too. In certain States the tariff for power has been increased so much that small farmers are not able to use power. The irrigation rates have increased manifold. It is having a disastrous effect on the cost of production in the country.

(2) About the infrastructural arrangements the government propose to take, the infrastructural arrangements include marketing, storage and a good communications system. A farmer in a remote village grows cash crops and by the time he brings it to the market, because of the bad condition of the roads and the high price he has to pay for the transport,

he is not able to market his produce. So top priority should be given to infrastructural facilities.

Another important factor is about the institutional finance. Bank finance must be readily available for farmers especially the small and marginal farmers.

Important commodities like tobacco earn yearly hundreds of crores of foreign exchange and pay to the Central Exchequer to the tune of Rs. 300 crores by way of excise duty, but there is no support price for the tobacco grower whereas paddy and other crops have support prices. There is no support price for the tobacco grower. There is no support price for the cotton-grower. Unless there is a support price and that support price is remunerative, the middlemen are getting the largest benefit. As I said, the cigarette manufacturers have earned a record profit whereas the STC has to go to the rescue of the growers in Andhra Pradesh to purchase tobacco at a throw-away price. STC is not able to purchase tobacco from the growers whereas the cigarette manufacturers are purchasing it at a throw-away price. Same is the case with cotton. These factors have to be borne in mind.

The last point is about crop insurance. Crop insurance must ensure that there should be some sort of a protection to the farmers on what he grows. Crop insurance has only remained as a slogan on paper. We have to take vigorous steps to give protection to the farmer.

The last point I want to make is that small farmers and marginal farmers agencies have been set up in this country. There is a DPAP programme. These programmes must be given some teeth and finance provided to small and marginal farmers. They should be protected because all these years the green revolution has benefited only the big landlords. There has been a terrible disparity

and imbalance between the small farmer and the big farmer because whatever facilities that are provided by the government have been usurped by the big landlords to the detriment of the small farmers. That imbalance also has to be corrected.

Another point is with regard to exports. Why is this government reluctant to export sugar and onions which the hon. Member has pointed out? Onion-growers are in great distress in this country now. Why should they not continue exports which have been done previously? They have stopped export of sugar without making alternative arrangements for proper distribution of sugar and also for providing employment and enhancing the purchasing power of the common man. Without enhancing the purchasing power of the common man, he cannot purchase the sugar. He has no money to purchase.

I would only urge on the Minister that this resolution was instrumental in highlighting some of the important problems of the farmers especially those who grow cash and commercial crops. I would urge upon our hon. Minister to evolve a strategy, to evolve a method by which farmers should not suffer and they get remunerative prices and they are not penalised for the simple act of serving the country by increasing agricultural production.

With these words I thank you for the opportunity you have given me to speak on this Resolution.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): First of all I want to thank the mover of the Resolution because it has given us an opportunity to highlight the problems faced by farmers growing cash and commercial crops.

The Government for several years now are not giving proper prices to the agriculturists.

[Shri K. Suryanarayana]

Sir, in my opinion, several times I had said that also, I think, there can be no dispute that in this country, the worst sufferers are our agriculturists. Our friends also said the same thing. There is no guarantee for the remunerative price of their agricultural products. Yesterday we also had a discussion about it. Since 1954 or 1956 or so from the Food Corporation of India also there is no guarantee for the price. We were of course happy in the initial stage when the FCI came to our rescue. The same is the case with regard to the tobacco.

You may be aware that the Tobacco Board was constituted only for the benefit of the tobacco growers. But, still, the growers are suffering more than ever before. My hon. friend Shri Venkatasubbaiah would also share the same thing with me. Only recently the Agricultural Prices Commission had invited the tobacco growers to offer their suggestion. Sir, I can tell you from my own experience that tobacco is being sold at Rs. 2700 or so a ton. This is the price which the tobacco growers are getting. In the Guntur market also the price may be at Rs. 2,500 or so—not more than Rs. 3,000 a ton. I may tell you that persons owning Pan shops are better off as compared to the farmers owning 25 acres of land in the rural areas. They have been able to give better education to their children whereas the poor farmers who are owning 25 acres of land are unable to give right type of education to their children.

Ours is a poor country and it depends on 75 to 80 per cent of agricultural people. I have to congratulate the lady Member for having brought forward this Resolution. In Andhra Pradesh, in the rural areas, the agriculturists are suffering because they are not getting a remunerative price for their produce. I hope the Communist friends will agree with me that the agricultural labourers cannot be maintained unless something is done with regard to fixing up of a remun-

erative price to the agricultural products of the farmers. In my part of the State, so far as agricultural problems are concerned, all people belonging to the Communist Party (M) or C.P.I., Janata Party and the Congress have joined together in recognising this problem. Our Chief Minister has also issued a circular to implement certain schemes. But the officers are not cooperating with him. This is an unfortunate thing in our country. We depend on our officers for each and everything. There is no experienced person in the Agricultural Prices Commission represented. I would urge on the hon. Minister that the Agricultural Prices Commission should be constituted with experts who have knowledge on commercial crops, food crops etc. Then only it will be possible for the Commission to fix a remunerative price for the products.

Sir, I have forgotten to table my amendment. I know that our Food Minister, Shri Barnala is taking a lot of interest in agriculturists. I would request him to include a representative on a part-time basis in the Agricultural Prices Commission while fixing the prices for the agricultural commodities. What is the harm in having such a representative there?

In our State, we grow tobacco. But, there is no remunerative price given for paddy. There is no storage facility given by the Government. They have stopped this facility even in Haryana and Punjab—surplus states. My request to the hon. Minister is that whether the States are surplus or deficit, he should see to it that either private godowns or government godowns are provided for storing the grains. I was told 20 per cent of our agricultural produce was ruined on account of the lack of storage facilities.

Now, I come to groundnut. In 1972-73 the groundnut production was to the tune of 4.09 million tonnes whereas in 1976-77 it rose to 5.26

million tonnes. But what is the price that it fetched. It was very low. So many producers of groundnut in Andhra Pradesh were ruined. It seems either our Agriculture Minister has no voice or he is not able to convince other ministers. The same thing happened to sugarcane and tobacco. They are also importing cotton. Three to four years back there was surplus in cotton but not now. they say the price is normal now but three years back they encouraged all the farmers to produce cotton but as the price of cotton became very low many farmers in Andhra Pradesh were ruined. Government should take care of the farmers and only then our country will be able to survive. I do not want to blame the present government entirely. Previously also we did not do much but this government promised to get a price of Rs. 150 per quintal for wheat but they have not fulfilled their promise. Tobacco is the major foreign exchange earning commercial crop but see the building of the Indian Tobacco company and the plight of tobacco producers. Only the cigarette manufacturers have been benefited. You must rectify this. Although you wanted to rectify yet you have forgotten. Please consider all these things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: I do not want to blame your party. We are all Indians. After having been elected we are the representatives of all groups. I am a representative not only of agriculturists but of the entire country. So, in this context I would like to urge upon the government to get remunerative prices to the farmers and there should also be crop insurance. You can save the country only by saving the agriculture community which is 70 per cent of our total population.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support
3625 I.S.—20.

this resolution wholeheartedly. This resolution correctly represents the aspirations and sentiments of crores of kisans who have been trying for the last so many years for a reasonable remunerative price for their produce.

Sir, it is not only the case that crores of kisans are demanding this. Various representative organisations of kisans and kisan sanghs have placed their view points before the Government, before the respective Ministries and before the Planning Commission. They have demanded that unless these kisans, who are the backbone of agricultural country like ours, are given enough protection for their products, the national economy cannot be set right.

Sir, you know; I need not narrate. What has happened in the last two years? It has been expressed in this House on various occasions. What is the condition of the jute grower? What is the condition of the cotton grower? What is the condition of the rubber grower? What is the condition of the miserable tobacco grower? And, Sir, what is the condition of the growers of the major foreign-exchange earning products of my State,—coconut and rubber? These peasants are forced to resort to distress sale. Because of what conditions? Because of whom? Who is exploiting the situation really? The monopolists and the industrialists who are using these raw materials for their industrial production and the traders; it is they who take the benefit out of the whole thing. What is the impact of the economy in our villages? Sir, unless the peasant is given a remunerative price, unless he is given a fairly reasonable margin of what he produces, how can he just have an incentive and an impetus to go on with his agricultural operations? And unless he does his agricultural operations in time, what is the future and fate of those agricultural workers who are dependent upon this particular vocation? That also affects an important section of our people. The

[Shri K. A. Rajan]

agricultural workers cannot even aspire for jobs for three months in the year. That is the position in which our economy has been put during this period.

It has been our experience during the past two years of 1977 and 1978 that tobacco growers have been forced to sell their products at distress price. Those people who have been sitting tight over their necks like the monopolists and the industrialists have been amassing money like anything. See the fate of the jute-growers in West Bengal. They have to sell their products at distress price. Even the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission have not been implemented. They were forced to sell the whole thing at this distress price. Who is exploiting these people? It is these jute industrialists and the jute barons who are exploiting them. It is these people who are amassing money at the cost of the sweat and blood of these poor peasants. What is the machinery envisaged? How is this mechanism going to work? What is to be done in the larger interests of our economy, in the larger interests of our nation? Unless the agriculturists who form the majority in this country, who are really the backbone of this country, and of our economy, are helped in every way, our economy cannot be set right in any way.

Now, I am sorry to say this: There is no difference between the earlier Government and this Government because the attitude of this Government towards the agriculturists is deplorable. I am sorry to say this. They just want to cater to those industrialists who just take more and more acres of production of raw materials, produce their things and sell them in the market. If you take the comparison, what is the price of any commodity which has been put in the market, which has been produced by the industrialists out of these raw materials of the poor peasants? Has that price come down? Has the peasant been benefited by this price rise or

price fixation? No. They are still at the mercy of everyone. The poor agriculturist is being exploited like anything.

That is why, Sir, at least this time, some agriculturists are raising their heads, organising themselves, and demanding all these things.

Sir, I would like to point out in this juncture two important points regarding my State where the agricultural producers are being put to difficulties; one is the question of rubber and the other is the question of coconut. Regarding rubber, our Government here is acting just in favour of these big industrialists of the tyre industry, like Dunlop, Firestone and all these companies. This they do, at the risk of hundreds of the rubber growers in our State. Our State Government has repeatedly represented, repeatedly demanded and appealed to this Government not to import rubber at the cost of the rubber-growers. But in all these matters their demand has just become a wild cry and it has gone futile. So, the rubber growers are demanding from the Government, why cannot the Government have a remunerative price for rubber in the interest of the rubber growers, as also in the interest of the economy of Kerala? That is one point which I would like to impress upon the hon. Minister. Stop this import of rubber. Save the rubber grower. Save the economy of Kerala and save the country and do justice to a vast section of agriculturists who produce products which earn a good amount of foreign exchange.

Then, Sir, one more point and then I conclude. This is regarding coconut. Kerala produces almost 90 per cent of our coconuts. In Kerala, after the land reform, there is no big estate owner, there is no big coconut planter. Every household has got two or three coconut trees. Every middle class family, lower-middle class family, upper-middle class family has got coconut trees in the compound of their houses. What is the position now? Coconut is now fetching a very reasonable price.

One thousand coconuts fetch about Rs. 1000. The Kerala Government has been demanding, appealing and even begging the Government of India not to import copra and coconut oil from outside the country. What is the misconception going on in the heads of the Government? The Government treats the coconut oil as an edible oil. But it is not. It is a commercial oil. 60 per cent of the total production of the coconut oil in the country is used for the commercial and industrial purposes. The statistics shows like that. Now what is going on in the country? With all the assurances and promises, with all the representations from the Kerala Government and the M.Ps. of Kerala State, import of copra and coconut oil is being continued. The price of the commodity has come down and the economy is in shambles. In this context, I whole-heartedly support the Resolution. In the interest of the nation, in the best interest of the economy, I would request the Government to please see that remunerative prices are given to the thousands of growers of rubber, coconut, tobacco, cotton, jute and other things.

श्री बिनायक प्रसाद यादव (महरा) :
 सभापति महोदय, हम लोग कांग्रेसी दृष्टिकोण में एक नारा लगाया करते थे "पेट है खाली मारे भ्रष्ट" बंद करो दामों की लूट ।

यह नारा हम लोग 15-20 साल तक लगाते रहे और इसलिए लगाते रहे कि गांवों के दाम कभी भी दूर नहीं हो सकते अगर देश के किसान की उपज की प्राइम के मबाल को तय नहीं कर लिया जाता । जनता पार्टी की सरकार ने अपने मैनफेस्टो में यह कहा था कि हम शहरों और गांवों के अन्तर को दूर करेंगे और गांवों की गरीबी दूर करने के लिए उचित और आवश्यक कदम उठावेंगे । सभापति महोदय, यह ठीक है कि हमारे कृषि मंत्री जी खुद किसान हैं, वे किसानों के दद को जानते हैं लेकिन अफसोस है कि जय गेहूँ, चावल और धान का वक्न आता है तो चाफ मिनिसटरों को बुलाते हैं और कहते हैं कि इन का दाम क्या होना चाहिए । उन से दाम तय करने को कहते हैं । चीफ मिनिसटर और मंत्री महोदय कभी पांच रुपये मन बढ़ा देते हैं, कभी दस रुपये मन बढ़ा देते हैं और यह सोचते हैं कि जैसे किसानों को बहुत बड़ी राहत दे रहे हैं । इस तरह की नीति अभी भी चल रही है । लगता है जैसे किसानों पर दया करके उन्हें भीख दे रहे हैं ।

सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके जरिए निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्रस्ताव अभी सदन के सामने है, अगर सरकार और मंत्री महोदय इस प्रस्ताव को मान लें तो हम समझते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान की गरीबी बहुत हद तक दूर हो सकती है । शहरों की अभीरी का कैलाश दह सकता है और गांवों की गरीबी का पाताल पाटा जा सकता है ।

सभापति महोदय, हम जहाँ से आते हैं वहाँ पर किसान जूट, पट्टा नकदी फसल के रूप में पैदा करता है । हमारी पब्लिक ग्रण्डर टैकिंग कमेटी इस सबाल पर दो साल से विचार कर रही है और उसने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा है कि जूट पैदा करने में जितना खर्च होता है, उसके लिए किसान को अगर मुनाफा देना है और उसका खर्चा उसको दिलाना है तो जूट की कीमत तीन-सौ, साढ़े-तीन-सौ रुपये क्विंटल होनी चाहिए । उत्पादन खर्चा जोड़ कर पब्लिक ग्रण्डर टैकिंग ने जूट का दाम कम से कम साढ़े तीन सौ रुपये प्रति क्विंटल निश्चित करने की सिफारिश सरकार से की है तभी किसान को जूट की खेती में कुछ बचत हो सकती है ।

सभापति महोदय, अभी क्या स्थिति है, वह मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ । दूसरे महायुद्ध के समय और अंग्रेजी हुकुमत के समय किसान को जूट का दाम 90 रुपये, 100 रुपये मन मिलता था और उस समय जूट का बोरा चार अने में आता था । अब जूट की कीमत सौ रुपये से घट कर 50-60 रुपये पर आ गई है और यह कीमत भी किसान को बेचने के वक्त नहीं मिलती है । जब जूट बेचने का वक्त आता है तो बेगन नहीं मिलता है । इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि किसान को अपना जूट 70, 80, 90 रुपये के बजाय 40-45 रुपये में बेचना पड़ता है । और बोरा यानी बैग जब किसान बाजार में खरीदने जाते हैं तो एक बैग का दाम अभी 5-6 रुपये देना पड़ता है । जब किसान को एक मन के दाम 90 रुपये मिलते थे तब जूट का एक बोरा चार अने में बिकता था और अब जब जूट के दाम घट कर 50-60 रुपये पर आ गए हैं तो बोरे के दाम साढ़े चार, पांच और छः रुपये तक चले गए हैं । देश की यह एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है कि किसान जो चीज पैदा करता है उसके दाम तो घटते जाते हैं लेकिन किसान को जो चीज बाजार से खरीदनी होती है उसके दाम बिगन 15-20 साल में आसमान को छूते जा रहे हैं । 15-20 साल पहले एक मन धान किसान बेच कर चार पांच जोड़े धोती खरीद लेता था लेकिन अब एक जोड़ा धोती खरीदने के लिए उसको डेढ़ पीने दो मन धान बेचना पड़ता है । और इस तरह किसान की बहुत ज्यादा आज लूट हो रही है । जिसके चलते वह गरीबी की कीचड़ में फँसता जा रहा है ।

इस वास्ते यह जो प्रस्ताव आया है इसको सरकार को मान लेना चाहिए । इससे गांवों की हालत मुधेरी और गांवों की गरीबों का जो क्षण्डा चल रहा है वह भी ठीक हो सकेगा । गांवों की

(श्री बिनायक प्रसाद यादव)

गरीबी को दूर भगर आप करना चाहते हैं वो आपको दाम बांधने के सवाल को एक सिद्धान्त के रूप में प्रपनाना होगा और किसी सिद्धान्त को सामने रख कर ही किसी कृषि जन्य पदार्थ के दाम तय करने होंगे। अभी जो प्रहस कमेटी है वह जो मन में धाता है दाम तय कर देती है। एक प्रिंसिपल को सामने रख कर ही किसी वस्तु के दाम तय होने चाहिए फिर चाहे वह कारखाने की वस्तु हो या खेती की वस्तु हो। हर वस्तु के दाम उसकी प्रोडक्शन कास्ट को मद्देनजर रखते हुए तय होने चाहिए। यदि एक मन धान पैदा करने में हम को 50 रुपये खर्च करना पड़ता है तो उसका डेढ़ गुना दाम तो कम से कम होना ही चाहिए और वह किसानों को मिलना ही चाहिए। पब्लिक प्रिन्सिपल के कमेटी ने जूट की प्रोडक्शन कास्ट को ध्यान में रखते हुए एक क्विंटल जूट के दाम साढ़े तीन सौ रुपये कम से कम किसानों को देने की सिफारिश की थी। अभी किसान को मुश्किल से 125 रुपये एक क्विंटल का मिल रहा है। इस तरह से आप देखें किसान की कितनी लूट हो रही है। उसी तरह से, गेहूं, कपास आदि जो कुछ भी किसान खेत में पैदा करता है उस के दाम बिल्कुल नीचे रहते हैं और किसान जो चीज बाजार से खरीदना है उसके उसको बहुत ऊँचे दाम देने पड़ते हैं। इसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि गांव दिन प्रति दिन गरीब होते जा रहे हैं, ध्वस्त होते जा रहे हैं और शहर दिन प्रति दिन तरक्की करते जा रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस प्रस्ताव को मान लेने से ही गांवों की गरीबी दूर हो सकती है। आज हालत यह है कि जो करोड़पति थे वे अब बर्बाद बन गए हैं। अंग्रेजों के बाद कांग्रेसी राज में जो करोड़पति थे वे आज बर्बाद हो गए हैं। गांवों की गरीबी तभी कम हो सकती है जब इस प्राइस के मवाल को तय कर दें, एक सिद्धांत को आधार मान कर आप दाम तय करें। तभी यह जो गरीबी की समस्या है इसका समाधान हो सकता है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं निवेदन करता हूँ कि यह प्रस्ताव जो सदन में रखा गया है इसकी आप मान लें और इसके मुताबिक काम करें। ऐसा अगर मंत्री महोदय करेंगे तो उनको हजार हजार धन्यवाद मिलेगा और नये गांव का निर्माण होगा।

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) : इस विषय में बिल्कुल भी विवाद की गंजाइश नहीं है कि खेती से जो चीज पैदा होती हैं उनके दाम सस्ते हो रहे हैं क्योंकि स्वयं वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में इस चीज को कुछ दिन पहले स्वीकार कर लिया था और कहा था कि यह जो सामान है खेती का यह मन्ता हो रहा है। उन्होंने कहा था :

"In the last three months, that is, between November 12, 1977 and February 11, 1978, there was a net price rise in cases such as barley,

moong, ghee, meat, groundnuts and groundnut oil, tea, soap, cotton cloth, jute manufacturers, and cement"

मैं वित्त मंत्री का ही उद्धरण देना चाहता हूँ, उन्होंने कहा है कि जो खाद्यान्न हैं जैसे राइस, ज्वार, मसूर, उड़द, पोटेटोज, अनियनज, एरुज, फिण, गुगर, खण्डमारी, गुड़, वनस्पति, मस्टर्ड, धायल एण्ड टरमरिकस आदि, इनके दाम कम हो रहे हैं, और जो मिलों में बना हुआ सामान है, उनके दाम ज्यादा हो रहे हैं। यह मेरा कहना नहीं है, यह सरकार का कहना है। अब मवाल यह है कि क्या हमारे माननीय कृषि मंत्री को यह शोभा देना है कि किसानों की चीजों के दाम कम किये जायें और औद्योगिक चीजों के दाम ज्यादा किये जायें? अगर उनका यह न्यायप्रद लगना है, तो मुझे कुछ कहना नहीं है।

मारी जगहों पर अभी तक हम किसान का गुण गाते रहे हैं, लेकिन उनके माय बराबर अन्याय हुआ है। हम आपके सामने यह रखते हैं कि काटन-रा 1977 में 200 रुपये था जो कि अग्रस्त. 1978 में घटकर 168 रुपये हो गया, लेकिन काटन क्लायज जो 1977 में 176 रु था वह अग्रस्त. 1978 में बढ़ कर 183 रुपये हो गया। महापति महोदय, मेरे पास अगर समय होता तो मैं मारी चीजों के आकड़े आपके सामने रखना कि खेती के सामान की कीमतें घटती रही हैं और औद्योगिक चीजों की कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं।

इस्पात, सीमेंट और माबन के मूल्य बढ़े हैं, लेकिन पटमन आदि जिनकी चर्चा हम कर रहे हैं इसके दाम कम हो रहे हैं। अगर मूल्यों की यही नीति अपनाई जाती रहेगी, तो किसान का प्रेरणक टूट जायेगा और ऐसा होने से भारतवर्ष की अर्थ-व्यवस्था अस्त-व्यस्त और ध्वस्त हो जायेगी। इसलिए कम समय होने के कारण मैं कुछ मुझाब आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ।

एक बात तो यह है कि हमें यह सोचना चाहिए कि जो औद्योगिक सामान है और जो कृषि का सामान है, उनके मूल्यों में कुछ अनुपात होना चाहिए कि नहीं। डा० लोहिया कहा करते थे कि फिनिश गुड्स और रा-मैटीरियल की रेशियो बननी चाहिए, यह हमारी मूल्य नीति का एक खम्भा होना चाहिए। हम नहीं कहते कि क्या रेशियो हो, जो डा० लोहिया ने कहा, उसको मान लें, मैं उनकी पार्टी में कभी नहीं रहा, लेकिन जो अच्छी बात उन्होंने कही है, उसको स्वीकार करना चाहिए।

चौधरी बलबोहर सिंह (होजियारपुर) : उन्होंने बुरी बात तो नहीं कही है।

डा० रामजी सिंह : कुछ लोगों को डा० लोहिया के नाम से चिढ़ हो जाती है, इसलिए मैंने कह दिया।

मैंने इसीलिये कहा कि यह सोचने की बात है, अगर रेशियो स्थापित नहीं करते हैं तो कमी प्रदर्शन होते हैं। अभी हाल में प्रदर्शन हुआ और आपने गेहूँ का 5 रुपये बढ़ा दिया, यह अच्छा किया। मचमुच में जनता पार्टी के समय में, यह बात सही है कि गेहूँ के कुछ मूल्य बढ़ाये गये हैं, और चीजों के भी बढ़ाये गये हैं, इसके लिए वह धन्यवाद की पात्र है। यह फर्स्ट स्ट्रेज है, एमर्जेंसी ट्रीटमेंट भी कर रहे हैं इसलिए आवश्यक है कि आप रेशियो बनाइये और कच्चे माल व पक्के माल में डेढ़ गुना से ज्यादा अन्तर नहीं होना चाहिए। यह सिद्धान्त के रूप में आप मान लेंगे तो ठीक रहेगा। औद्योगिक मिल-मालिकों की लाभी काफी मजबूत है, वह लोगों को खरीदते हैं, यह हम देखते हैं, बेचारे खण्डसारी वाले, किसान छोटे-छोटे लोग होते हैं, वह भागे भी नहीं सकते हैं। इसलिए हम निवेदन करेंगे कि आप दोनों चीजों का एक रेशियो बनाये और इसके लिये जो इस संकल्प के मूवर ने रखा है कि संसदीय समिति बनाये, अगर वह न भी बनावे तो एक समिति बनाइये जिसमें तकनीकी लोगों को रखिये, संसद् के लोगों को भी रखिये और एक नेशनल पालिसी बनाइए, नहीं तो किसान भूखे मरने रहेंगे, रेली करने रहेंगे और कुछ नहीं होगा, क्योंकि वह संगठित नहीं है और दूसरे लोग संगठित हैं। दूसरा हमारा यह कहना है कि जो ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमिशन की फिलाम्फी पिछले तीन वर्षों में रही है वह गलत है। हम इसीलिए कहते हैं कि इस को देखना होगा। वह कहते हैं कि अगर हम जट का दाम ज्यादा दे देंगे, कपास का दाम ज्यादा दे देंगे, पटमन का, तम्बाकू का दाम ज्यादा दे देंगे तो उस में इन्फ्लेशन हो जायगा। किम धर्म-शाम्ब का यह दर्शन है, मैं नहीं समझता हूँ। यह गलत है। ऐग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज कमिशन को तीन वर्षों की इस फिलाम्फी को उलट देना चाहिए और इस को समझना चाहिए। जहाँ आप ने किसानों के प्रतिनिधियों को इस में दिया है वहाँ छोटे छोटे किसानों के प्रतिनिधियों को भी इस में दीजिए।

तीसरी बात हम यह कहेंगे कि ऐसी स्थिति में जब कि औद्योगिक वस्तुओं की कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं। और कृषि वस्तुओं की कम हो रही हैं तो एक काम हो सकता है। या तो मणकन और मक्षम रूप में प्रशासन को इस में हस्तक्षेप करना चाहिए और नहीं तो दूसरा रास्ता यह है कि इसके लिए मणकन को आप-रेटिव हो और उस को आप-रेटिव में सरकार का भी हिस्सा हो। चन्दाण साहब बैठे हैं, उनको लगेगा कि यह कैसी बात कह रहे हैं लेकिन उस सहयोग समिति को सबल बनाने के लिए सरकार भी उसमें हिस्सा ले जिस से डिस्ट्रेस सेल की स्थिति न पैदा हो जैसे आन्ध्र में तम्बाकू का डिस्ट्रेस सेल हुआ, वह न करना पड़े और इस तरह से किसानों के हितों की रक्षा हो।

हम समझते हैं कि यह जो प्रस्ताव ग्रहिल्या जी ने रखा है जोरदार जी के बदले में उस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार किया जाना चाहिए। उस में अगर आप संशोधन कुछ चाहें तो कर लें लेकिन एक समिति तो जरूर आप इस के लिए नियुक्त करें ताकि प्राइसिंग पालिसी के बारे में आप को वह सुझाव दे सके। इससे सरकार का भी लाभ होगा।

SHRI V. ARUNACHALAM alias 'ALADI ARUNA' (Tirunelveli) : Mr. Chairman, I support the resolution moved by the hon. Member. I would like to say a few words about this. India is an agricultural country and nearly 70 per cent of the people are engaged in agriculture. In spite of all these things, it is unfortunate that there is no scientific body to fix the prices of agricultural goods. If you go through or examine the functions of the Agricultural Prices Commission, you will find that they are far from satisfactory. It is always under the political influence. It does not care about the sentiments or the factual position or the prevailing conditions among the farmers. It is blindly carrying out the instructions of the party in power.

Therefore, the Government must come forward with constructive measures so as to help the farmers to form a scientific body by collecting all facts and figures, demand and other things in the country so that we can assess the factual position prevailing in the country. So far, neither the past government nor the present Government is serious about these measures. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Minister to think about these conditions and come forward with constructive measures and form a scientific body to fix prices of agricultural goods so that the remunerative prices may be paid to the farmers in future.

Now the Government is having this agency, that is the marketing society. If you examine the functions of the marketing society, you will find that its functions are very poor, because there is no adequate fund with the marketing society.

We know all the commission agents or private agents. They give more advance to agriculturists. So, they are preferring these agents instead of marketing society. Unless the Government grants a large amount of money to the marketing society, we cannot expect that the marketing society can function successfully. Therefore, to get

[Shri V. Arunachalam alias 'Aladi Aruna']

remunerative price for the farmer or help the farmer, the Government must grant an adequate amount of money or the required amount of money to the marketing society.

17 hrs.

Now, if you examine the prices of the agricultural goods throughout the country, you will come to know what they are. When the monsoon is successful, when the rain fall is above the average, there is surplus production or marginal surplus production with the result that there is an automatic fall in prices. My suggestion to the government is that when there is a successful monsoon or above-average rainfall, government need not hesitate to export at least 25 per cent of the agricultural produce to other countries. Then only we can give remunerative price to the farmers. This year the Government has granted permission to export chillies so that there is some remunerative price to chillies in our state. But if you take onion, the government has not permitted exports and farmers have been seriously affected. I am an agriculturist myself and last month I sold 36 bags of onion for Rs. 115 because there was no market and one cannot keep onion for months together; there was damage and 36 bags got reduced to 15 bags and I sold them at Rs. 115 because there was no export permitted. In granting export licences the government is following a partial policy. You take into account what is happening in Chandigarh or Delhi; you are not taking into account what is happening in Hyderabad or Ernakulam or Trivandrum or Madras. In granting permission for exports government should be impartial. If farmers are not getting remunerative prices, they are unable to give adequate wage to agricultural labourers; naturally incomes are kept at a low level and people remain poor. That is why I say the entire economy depends on agriculture. There is no difference of opinion in this House

that remunerative prices should be paid to agriculturists; I do not know why the government is still hesitating, at least in future government should come with constructive measures so as to help the farmers.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):

The resolution contains two specific recommendations: firstly the House should appoint a parliamentary committee to go into the twin problems, namely, fixing remunerative price for the cash crops and seeing that remunerative prices are made available to the growers. It is known to the Government, to the House that there is an economic phenomenon in our country, the growing disparity between the price of agricultural products and industrial goods and we can ignore this phenomenon only at our peril. As my time is short I do not want to discuss this matter in greater detail but the government's policy should be directed towards taking steps to narrow and bridge the yawning gap and disparity between agricultural commodity prices and the prices of industrial products. The Janata government's economic policy is 'so-called' rural orientation and if the economic phenomenon is not given proper shape and direction it cannot be really rural-oriented. I have to say that the Indian economy is a capitalist economy. During the last three decades, the Government of India under the pretext of the so-called mixed economy, has developed nothing but a capitalist economy in the country. They have taken to the path of capitalist development and this has led to the growth of monopoly houses. Under monopoly capitalism, the disparity between the prices of raw materials and finished products must continue to grow. That is the economic phenomenon which nobody can ignore. If they ignore it, they do so at their own peril. I want to remind them of this basic economic phenomenon governing the economic laws. I have got statistics which show that never has there been any

year during the period 1971-78 when there has not been a gap between the prices of agricultural commodities and industrial commodities and this gap has been continuously growing. My first point is whether the Government considers it necessary and desirable even at this stage to revise the policy which creates this disparity and widens it. That is the question to be directed at them.

My other point is, APC is a machinery which is not for the interest of the growers. This is another fact which the House should note for certain. The APC has all along been working against the interests of the grower. I have got a press cutting which describes the actual situation in regard to cotton price. I quote from the editorial which appeared in *Tribune*, Chandigarh:

"This year also the purchase and support policy follows the all too familiar pattern. The Centre has fixed Rs. 225 a quintal as the price for average varieties of cotton, even through the minimum cost of cultivation worked out by the Punjab Agricultural University experts ranges between Rs. 350 to 400."

Does it require any explanation as to for whose interests the APC is working? APC has fixed the support price of raw cotton at Rs. 255 per quintal whereas the experts of the Punjab Agricultural University have worked out that the cost of production ranges between Rs. 350 to Rs. 400. You can imagine the concomitant effect on rural economy.

Coming to jute, my State is an unfortunate State because it has taken to jute cultivation. On the last occasion I described the plight of the jute growers. The economy of jute is the economy of West Bengal. I would like to quote the main recom-

mendation made by the Public Undertakings Committee:

"...the cost of production of jute per acre for the study as a whole in turn worked out to Rs. 377.34 per quintal including the bye-product and Rs. 344.34 per quintal excluding the cost of the bye-product."

What has the APC done? It has fixed the support price of raw jute at Rs. 148. I made a rough calculation and found that for each quintal of jute a peasant family is losing Rs. 28 to 40. Some journalist made an estimate saying that crores of rupees are being taken away from the growers and the five monopoly houses in West Bengal are amassing fabulous profits.

Therefore, I feel it is in the interest of the Janata Party, if they are true to their professions about following a rural-oriented economic policy, if they really want to give their economic policy a rural bias, to seriously take into account these two or three economic factors, instead of just being guided by two or three experts of a Commission because that will not provide the real thrust to the rural economy which it now needs.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर)
सभापति महोदय, इकबाल ने कहा था —

उठो मेरी दुनिया के गरीबों को जपा दो
काख के उमरो दरो दिवार हिला दो
जिम खेत से दहकां को मयमगर नहीं रोटी
उम खेत के हर गोशये गंदुम को जला दो ।

आज यह ग़ेर पूरी तरह से लागू होता है । किसान पैदा करता है और उसकी पैदावार की कीमत सरकार मुकर्रर करती है । सरकार की एक एजेंसी ए० पी० सी०, एग्रीकल्चरल प्राइमिज कमीशन है । जिस तरह से एक डाक्टर, अगर किसी आदमी के दंढ़ हो जाए तो ए० पी० सी० की पुड़िया देना है ताकि उसे टेम्परेरीली आराम आ जाए उसी तरह से यह कमीशन जो कि ए० पी० सी० है, वह भी किसान को पुड़िया देगा ताकि किसान का दंढ़ हल्का हो जाए । क्या बात है कि जो चीज किसान पैदा करता है उसकी कीमत सरकार मुकर्रर करती है ?

[चौधरी बलबीर सिंह]

बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि किसान का एक बेटा एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री की गली पर बैठा है और वह किसान की हर हालत को समझता है। क्या वह छाती पर हाथ धर कर कह सकता है कि काटन के लिए जो 255 रुपये प्राइम मुकरर की है वह दुस्त है ? अगर वह कह देंगे कि दुस्त है तो हम इस सबाल को छोड़ देंगे। एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर साहब इस बात को जानते हैं जो काटन की प्राइम 255 रुपये रखी गई है वह कम है। यह किसानों के साथ फाड़ है, बहुत बड़ा धोखा है। अगर किसान की जेब में पैसा जाता है तो शहर में रोक होती है। और उसकी जेब में पैसा नहीं जाएगा तो शहर में कहां से रोक भ्रायेगी ? आज से पांच साल पहले काटन साढ़े चार सौ, पांच सौ रुपये से ऊपर थी और पांच साल के बाद जब हर चीज की कीमत दुगुनी हो गई है तो काटन की प्राइम घाघी हो गई है।

सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि यहां पालियामेंट के बाहर पंजाब के किसानों ने डिमांडेशन किया था। आज वे जेलों में बन्द हैं। उन्होंने यहां अपना कपाम जलाया था। जिस तरह से इकबाल ने कहा था कि हर गांधी नदम को जला दो, उसी तरह से उन्होंने अपना कपाम यहां ला कर जलाया था। उन्होंने कहा था कि जिस से हमारी रोटी पैदा नहीं होती है उस को हम जलाते हैं। अगर किसान के मन में यह बात आ जाए कि जो जीज उसके बच्चों को रोटी नहीं दे सकती, है उसको जलाना ठीक है तो हिन्दुस्तान कहां जाएगा ?

जो किसान के लिए आज बान करने हैं वे किसान की रेली को एण्टी हरिजन रेली कहते हैं। जब किसान अपने लिए इकट्ठा होता है तो बड़े सरमायदारों और बड़े बड़े किसानों के दिमागों में एक जहर भर दिया जाता है कि यह रेली एण्टी हरिजन है। किसान रेली को कहा जाता है कि यह एण्टी हरिजन है। किसान अगर अपने हक के लिए लड़ता है, इकट्ठा हो कर सामने आता है तो जो सरमायदार लोग हैं वे इस तरह से गलत प्रचार करते हैं। उन्होंने एक लाबी कायम कर रखी है और उसी का नतीजा है कि किसान और हरिजन जो खेतों में काम करते हैं उनकी लड़ाई करवाने की बातें सोची जाती हैं।

जो पैदा करता है उसको अपनी चीज का ठीक पैसा नहीं मिलेगा तो देश कहां जाएगा। एक बार यह नारा लगाया गया प्रोड्यूस और पैरिश। अब यह नारा है प्रोड्यूस एण्ड पैरिश। गन्ना ज्यादा किसान ने पैदा कर दिया तो सरकार के सामने और उसके सामने एक संकट आ कर खड़ा हो गया। छोटे बजीर साहब जो हैं उन्होंने कहा था कि गन्ना ज्यादा पैदा हो गया है इस वास्ते सरकार के सामने एक संकट आ कर खड़ा हो गया है। मैं कहूंगा कि जो पैदा करता है उसको आप इंस्टिट्यूट दें, उसको जो मेहनत लगती है उसका मुनाफा, उसका एवजाना उसको मिलना चाहिए। तभी देश आगे बढ़ेगा।

आप इनफ्लेशन का खयाल न करें। भाव बढ़ते हैं तो बढ़ने दें। आज कैसी बिगम्बना है कि कपास तो सस्ती है और कपड़ा इतना ज्यादा महंगा है। यह कहां की इकानॉमिक पालिसी है, कहां की ध्युरी है ? मैं समझता हूं कि किसान को उसकी उपज का पूरा पूरा पैसा आप दिलवाएंगे तो देश खुशहाल होगा और आपको धन्यवाद देगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time of two hours allotted for this will be over by 5.21. So, let us extend the discussion by a few minutes, so that Minister speaks and the mover replies.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): I will not be able to conclude within that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue on the next day.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Then, why not allow some more Members to speak on this?

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): I want to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members who have sent their names have already spoken.

SHRI YUVRAJ: I have moved an amendment, and I have been here all the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, the Minister will reply on the next day. Shri Yuvraj.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The next resolution is an important one in the name of Shri Sivaji Patnaik. Kindly see that it is moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As the Minister will reply on the next day, it will not be possible.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Cannanore): There is time for the Minister to reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : May I make a submission? If you kindly postpone the time for Half-An-Hour discussion, if we take up the Half-An-Hour discussion after 15 minutes, the Minister can reply and the mover also can reply and the next resolution can be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not be possible for the Minister to reply within such a short time.

श्री युबराज (कटिहार) : सभापति जी, पूरे देश में किमान खाने के अन्न के अलावा वाणिज्यिक फसलें भी पैदा करते हैं, उस में से पटमन, शुगर केन और कपास यह तीन मुख्य फसलें हैं। यह ठीक है कि कहीं चाय की भी खेती होती है, बहबे की भी खेती होती है, लेकिन मुख्य रूप से किमान 3 फसलें सारे देश में पैदा करते हैं। किन्हीं प्रान्तों में पटमन की खेती होती है, किन्हीं में ईख पैदा करने हैं और दक्षिण भारत के कुछ प्रान्तों में कपास की खेती करते हैं।

आपको प्राइस पालिसी फार रा काटन फार दी ईयर 1978-79, जो कि एग््रीकल्चरल प्रार्टीस कमीशन की रिपोर्ट है, उसे देख कर ताज्जुब होगा कि किसान जब अपनी कपास बेचता है तो उसे क्या दाम मिलते हैं। जिस तेजी से किसान खेतों में मई पैदा करता है, उसी तेजी से उसकी कीमत गिरती जाती है। 1977-78 का टेबल प्राइसेज के बारे में है, मई महीने में यह 1540 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल या कपास का, और धीरे धीरे वह घटता गया और सितम्बर के अन्त में उस की कीमत 1535 रुपये हुई। यह गुजरात की है। इस के अलावा हैं कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र, बंगाल, पंजाब में सब जगह आप देखेंगे कि जहां शुरू में कीमत अधिक थी वहां हर महीने कुछ न कुछ कीमत घटती गई है। यह कपास की हालत है। शुगर केन की दशा आप जानते हैं, कई दिनों से इस पर यहां बहस हो रही है कि शुगर केन जो किसान पैदा करता है, एग््रीकल्चरल प्राइस कमीशन ने इसके दाम 9, साठे 9 रुपये निर्धारित किये हैं। (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this resolution is now over. Is it the pleasure of the House to extend

the time, say, by half an hour so that this may be taken up next day allotted for the Private Members' Business?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : If the time on this resolution is extended, that will mean another very important resolution in which we are all interested—perhaps, they are not interested—will not be taken up. The time allotted for this resolution is over. The discussion should be completed and we want that the next resolution should be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has to reply; he will need time. The mover of this resolution has also to reply. It is not possible.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: We do not mind taking up the Half-An-Hour discussion at 6 O' Clock. Let us sit for half an hour more. If you want to extend time, we propose let us sit beyond 6 O' Clock, upto 6-30. Let us finish this discussion at 6 O' Clock and take up the Half-An-Hour discussion at 6 O' Clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rule 26 says:

"The last two and a half hours of a sitting on Friday shall be allotted for the transaction of private members' business."

It is not more than 2½ hours. In that case, the rules are to be amended.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: We can waive that rule and extend it by half an hour more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not possible.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It is possible; it has been done in the past. You cannot give a ruling like that. We have waived the rule on many occasions, in this House, by allowing other members to move their resolutions before the Minister's reply. The precedents are there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will be taken up on the next day allotted for the Private Members' Business.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It will not be taken up on the next day because there is no more next day coming for the resolutions. Next week is the last week of the session. Unless you allow it to be moved, it will go by default. Let us waive rule 26 which you read out. If that rule is waived, the Half-an-Hour Discussion can be taken up at 6 O'Clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are well aware that rules can be suspended only with the permission of the Speaker and not otherwise.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It can be done with the permission of the Chair. With a Chairman, from the panel of Chairman, sitting in the Chair, rules have been waived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I understand the importance of that Resolution as well. For the time being, the time for this Resolution is extended by half an hour; it will be taken up on the next occasion, on the day fixed for Private Members' Business—Resolutions.

श्री सुबराज: किसान जो ईख पैदा करता है किस तरह उस में उस का शोषण होता है और बड़े बड़े उद्योगपति जब उस से चीनी बनाते हैं तो बाजार में वह उन को कितनी महंगी खरीनी पड़ती है! ... (स्वव्ययान....)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: There are precedents in this House. When it was necessary, when the House felt and the Chair also felt that certain motions could be discussed and should be discussed, we waived rule 388, and allowed the Members to move their motions before the Minister replied. It happened in the case of a motion by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and also in the case of one motion by Shri Samar Guha. I would like you to cooperate with us and waive that rule and allow this Resolution by Mr. Sivaji Patnaik to be moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees, that can be taken up. Certainly permission may be allowed if the House agrees....

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Then I move formally:

"That Rule 388 be suspended for the time being without making it a precedent and Mr. Sivaji Patnaik be allowed to move his Resolution."

MR. CHAIRMAN: I find from the records that such proposals were put up previously, but the Chair has not agreed in previous cases.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: You carefully go through the records, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I find from the records.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: You will find these precedents in the case of a motion by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and also in the case of a motion by Shri Samar Guha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are quite correct. But that proposal was not acceded to by the Chairman.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It was accepted and the motions were moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was not accepted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It was accepted. It was accepted in presence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Later on it was not accepted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: do not know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have gone through the records. That is the case.

श्री सुबराज : मैं यह निवेदन कर रहा था कि ये तीन जो मुख्य पैदावार की फसलें हैं जूट, काटन और गुगर के उस में आप देखेंगे कि किस तरह से जो ये उत्पादक किसान हैं उनका शोषण होता है ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member will continue on the next occasion—on the day allotted for Private Members'

Resolutions. The Minister will intervene and the Mover also will reply.

Now, let us take up the Half-an-Hour Discussion.

17-30 hrs!

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

TERMINAL BENEFITS TO BEAS-SUTLAJ LINK WORKERS, TALWARA.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now let us take up the half-an-hour discussion. Shri Bhagat Ram.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN (Cannanore): Now you are calling him. You are really creating...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will show you the records and you will be satisfied.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN: I could have raised the matter of quorum and got the House adjourned but I do not want to do it.

श्री भगत राम (फिल्लौर) : सभापति महोदय, मैंने 9 अगस्त, 1978 को एक क्वेश्चन भेजा था जिसका नम्बर था 3456/355। क्वेश्चन यह था :

(a) Whether the Co-ordination Committee of Beas-Sutlej Link workers of Talwara had drawn Government's attention towards discrimination while giving terminal benefit to the workers;

(b) How many workers got terminal benefit and the number of those who did not get the same;

(c) whether there is a great resentment among the workers against this discrimination and the Co-ordination Committee has started agitation; and

(d) whether Government propose to give terminal benefit to the remaining workers?

इसका रेप्लाई मुझे यह दिया दिया गया था :

(a) Government is not aware of any discrimination in the grant of benefits under the rules, to the workers?

(b) to(d). Do not arise.

मैं समझता था कि शायद मिनिस्टर साहब को गलत-फहमी हुई हो, उनको इस बात की जानकारी न हो इसलिए मैंने फिर इस सेशन में इसी क्वेश्चन को रिपीट किया, उसका रेफेन्स देकर मैंने पूछा :

(a) under which rule some workers had been given terminal benefit and others denied;

(b) the number of those who got the terminal benefit and those who were denied; and

(c) whether Government propose to give terminal benefit to the remaining workers?

मुझे अफसोस है कि इस बार भी मुझे जो उत्तर दिया गया उस में पहले की गलती पर परदा डालने की कोशिश की गई । मेरे क्वेश्चन नं० 3538 का गलत उत्तर दिया गया । इस में कहा गया कि 1947 का जो इण्डस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट ऐक्ट है उस के क्लॉज 25 (एफ) (के) के अन्डर रिट्रेन्चमेंट कम्पेन्सेशन दे दिया गया है । अब इसकी जो असली पांजीशन है वह मैं बताना चाहता हूं । यह जो कम्पेन्सेशन ऐक्ट है उस के अंतर्गत जो बताया गया है वह असली टर्मिनल बेनिफिट नहीं है । थोड़े से वर्क्स को तीन तीन महीने का टर्मिनल बेनिफिट के रूप में वेतन मिला है जबकि वहां तलवाड़ा और सुन्दर नगर जो डैम्स हैं उन पर 50 हजार से ज्यादा वर्क्स काम करते रहे हैं । उन्होंने अपनी जिन्दगी का बहुत ही कीमती भाग वहां पर लगाया है । इस से पहले उन में से बहुत से वर्क्स ने भाखड़ा डैम पर काम किया था । उन्होंने सदीं गर्मी की कोई परवाह न करते हुए दिन रात काम किया था । 425 से ज्यादा लोगों की मौतें हो गई । हजारों लोग नाकारा हो गए । एक्सीडेंट में किसी का बाजू टूट गया, किसी की टांग टूट गई और किसी का कूड़ा और हो गया । इन लोगों ने इतनी मेहनत कर के डैम का तैयार किया जिसका आज देश में बिजली और मिचबाई के लिए उपयोग किया जा रहा है । यह मजदूर जो कथित तौर इनकलाब लाये उस से कराड़ों का बेनिफिट आज देश को मिल रहा है । लेकिन जो ऐसे मजदूर हैं इन लोगों का टर्मिनल बेनिफिट नहीं दिया गया, जबकि दूसरे लोगों को—मैं उन के लिये विरोध नहीं करता हूं, मिनिस्टर साहब ने बहुत अच्छा काम किया है—दिया गया, जो इन्जिनियर्स थे या ऐसे वर्क्स थे, जो रेगुलर थे । लेकिन जिन्होंने अपनी जान की बाजी लगा दी, आप के डैम को तैयार किया, उन को नहीं मिला । इस लिये मुझे उम्मीद है—मिनिस्टर साहब आज इसी हाउस