

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRA-SAD): (a) to (c). Yes. The Goa Administration has proposed to take up the following two major projects during the Fourth Plan:

Name of schemes	Area expected to be irrigated after completion of the scheme
1. Salauli project	36,00 acres.
2. Tillari project	45,000 acres in Goa and 5,000 acres in Maharashtra.

(d) The report of the Salauli project is already under technical scrutiny in the Central Water and Power Commission, before it is considered for approval by the Planning Commission.

Dudsagar Hydro-Electric Project in Goa

7949. SHRI SHINKRE : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the potentialities of the Dudsagar fall in Goa in respect to generation of power;

(b) whether Government are aware that even during the Portuguese Colonial Rule, a survey was made by Shri Vishvesharaya of the substantial potentialities of this fall;

(c) whether Government are aware that Goa is completely dependent on supply of power from Mysore and Maharashtra and is not having her own power and also there are frequent breakdowns in power supply due to damage to the lines passing through hilly areas of Sayadri range; and

(d) whether Government are finalizing any plant to give priority to Dudsagar Hydro-Electric Project as industrially developing Goa should have her own and cheap power ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRA-SAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. But the Power that can be developed at Dudsagar will not be adequate to meet the need of Goa.

(c) The Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu receives its power supply largely from Maharashtra and Mysore. It is reported that the cases of failure of power due to damage to the transmission lines passing through Sahvadri range are not frequent.

(d) The question of economic feasibility of the Dudsagar Hydel Project and its implementation will be considered after the detailed investigations now in progress, are completed.

12.18 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported sale in Black Market of Gift Wheat

SHRI S. XAVIER (Tirunelveli): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance, namely—

Reported sale in black market of 13,000 bags of American gift wheat meant for free distribution in the drought affected areas of Tamil Nadu.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : Government of India have entered into an Agreement with the Government of U.S.A. under which supplies of foodgrains and other foodstuffs including milk powder, processed foodstuffs and multi-purpose foods, drugs and medicines, hospital equipment and supplies, agricultural implements, etc. are accepted for free distribution by approved Voluntary Organisations. Government of India are responsible for clearing these gifts at the ports and for despatching them to the persons nominated by the voluntary agency receiving the gifts.

In the second half of 1968, Church World Service, one of the approved Agencies for the distribution of these gifts allotted 9641 bags of wheat to one Mr. P. Sundaram, for free distribution in Kōilpatti and Kadambar in the Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu State. The Regional Director (Food),

Madras despatched these bags as per despatch instructions given by Church World Service. The alleged sale of the wheat in the black market is being verified by the Central Bureau of Investigation, Madras. Appropriate action will be taken on receipt of a report from the Central Bureau of Investigation.

SHRI S. XAVIER : Sir, before asking some questions on this statement, I will cite some more facts about this.

It is not correct to say that 9,000 and-odd bags were taken like this but 13,000 bags have been taken away from the Madras Port with the connivance of the Deputy Director of Stock Operations at Madras Port. This transaction had been going on for four months, from June 1968 up to October, 1968, and the entire stock of 13,000 bags had been consigned from Madras free of freight—the freight being about Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000—to Kadambur and Koilpatti in Tirunelveli District in Tamil Nadu. One P. Sundaram had been at the bottom of all these things. He had signed at Madras as 'P. Sundaram' in English and had endorsed the railway receipt to two persons, by names Pooliah Thevar and Sankararaj. This P. Sundaram had not gone personally to take delivery of those consignments at Koilpatti and Kadambur but had endorsed the railway receipts in the names of two persons I have mentioned just now and in the endorsement he signed not in English but in Tamil as P. Sundaram.

I want to know as to who is this P. Sundaram; what has he to do with the charitable organisation; what is the address of that P. Sundaram; why should he sign at one end in English and at the other end in Tamil; have these consignments reached the charitable organisation at all up till today; and what happened to the stocks.

These bags were sold in the black market by the agents of Sundaram at Koilpatti and Kadambur at Rs. 50 a bag and Rs. 8 lakhs have been swindled by the said Sundaram and his partymen. This could not have been done unless the Government
..... (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has said that the CBI is inquiring into it

now. Of course, you are giving very good information.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN (Mettur) : This will help the inquiry.

SHRI S. XAVIER : I would like to ask as to how the Railway Department and the Food Department connived in these transactions for four months, who is this Sundaram and have they traced the address of Sundaram. If these things come to light, it will remove the disgraceful image that has been created of our country about the free supply that had been sent from America.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE : We do not nominate the party to whom the gifts are to be delivered; the voluntary organisations themselves nominate the party. From our records it appears that one P. Sundaram was the party nominated by the voluntary organisation to receive these gifted foodgrains. The CBI is inquiring into it. That the position as I have explained.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lakkappa. Without any comments please put your question because Hiren Babu is taking serious objection now and I will take objection now.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : Sir, I can call this Ministry (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : That is exactly what I wanted to avoid. If Opposition Members do it, I cannot control the Government Benches. Then it becomes a two-way traffic.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : I can compare this Ministry with a goose but it does not even lay one golden egg. When I criticize the Government, specially the Food and Agriculture Ministry, it is because this big racket is going on in this country. In the Food Corporation of India a big racket is going on. Black Market is going on in the foodgrains handled by the Food Corporation of India. Even apart from the facts which are narrated, a big fishy and shady deal is there. They have not come out with the truth. I would like to know who are all the persons who are involved in it. I am told that the Food Corporation of India has been involved in this.

[SHRI K. LAKKAPPA]

I put a specific question in this regard. What is the policy of this Government so far as dealing in foodgrains which are supplied by foreign countries are concerned? Throughout India these things are going on, that wheat that has been given as gift has been sold in the black market. This is not the only instance; there are several other instances. So, what has the Government of India done to check pilferage, blackmarketing and looting of these things? I would like to have a categorical answer.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The name of the Food Corporation of India has been wrongly involved by the hon. Member. As far as these foodgrains are concerned, I have submitted that the agreement with U.S.A. is in existence since 1951. This is not a new thing. Some voluntary organisations are working in India.....

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: What is the policy of the Government of India in regard to shady deals? May I know whether stern action is going to be taken, whether any committee is going to be appointed?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: If any specific complaints are received, we are prepared to look into them. In areas where drought occurred, many voluntary organisations did good work and we should not forget that.

12.21 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**Petroleum and Natural Gas (Amendment) Rules**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) On behalf of Dr. Triguna Sen I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Petroleum and Natural Gas (Amendment) Rules, 1969 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 792 in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 1969, under section 10 of the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-909/69.*]

(2) A statement showing reasons for delay laying the above Notification. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-910/69.*]

Hindustan Latex Ltd.—Govt. Review and Annual Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers under sub-section(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(1) Review by the Government on the working of Hindustan Latex Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1967-68.

(2) Annual Report of the Hindustan Latex Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1967-68 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-910/69.*]

Cochin Refineries—Govt. Review and Annual Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : I beg to lay on the table a copy each of the following papers under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the Cochin Refineries Limited, for the year 1967-68.

(2) Annual Report of the Cochin Refineries Limited, for the year 1967-68 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-911/69.*]

Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.—Govt. Review and Annual Report; and Amendment to Notification under Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act.

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—