

I do not mind it this time since the Minister himself has come forward with a suggestion to extend it, but it should not be a regular practice in future. I am going to stick to the report of the Business Advisory Committee strictly.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : As it is, the Home Ministry's grants will come at the fag end of the day, and it will help those who are going to speak on those Demands if you can give a clear indication.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : The Home Ministry's Demands may be taken up tomorrow

MR. SPEAKER : Agreed.

12.37 hrs.

**CENTRAL SALES TAX
(AMENDMENT) BILL**

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO
SELECT COMMITTEE**

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam) : I beg to move :

"That this House do appoint Shri Muhammed Sheriff to the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri M. Muhammad Ismail."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do appoint Shri Muhammed Sheriff to the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri M. Muhammad Ismail."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Now that the time for the discussion on the Demands of the Agriculture Ministry has been extended, we should get more time so that one more member from our party may speak.

MR. SPEAKER : We will revise the allotment of time to the various opposition parties according to the extended time.

12.38 hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1972-73-Contd.
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE—Contd.**

MR. SPEAKER : We will now resume the discussion on the Demands of the Ministry of Agriculture. Shrimati Jeyalakshmi.

***SHRIMATI V. JEYALAKSHMI** (Sivakasi) : Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Agriculture Ministry.

At the outset I would like to request the hon. Minister of Agriculture that, if I am critical about the performance of the ministry, it should not be misconstrued as my making allegations. Solely motivated by the desire that, so far as Agriculture is concerned, the money allocated for developmental schemes should be utilised in full and at least in the next year there should not be such huge savings in the Demands.

Under Demand No. 25—Agriculture, there is a saving of Rs. 77.11 lakhs during 1971-72. A sum of Rs. 1.02 crores has not been spent under Demand No. 26 during 1971-72. The allocation under Demand No. 28—Forest—has been under-utilised by Rs. 25.20 lakhs. In the Community Development Department, a sum of Rs. 2.25 lakhs has been saved under Demand No. 30. During 1971-72, there is an unspent amount of Rs. 1.40 lakhs under Demand No. 31. During 1971-72, the expenditure on Capital Investment in Agriculture under Demand No. 115 is less by 8.55 crores.

I need not elaborate my contention that the sums allocated under these Demands for developmental schemes in Agriculture have not been spent in full. The Ministry has enumerated certain cogent reasons for the shortfall in expenditure. I would like to pin-point some of them for your information.

For the saving under Demand No. 25, the reasons given are that due to late starting of certain cattle breeding farms and also due to non-filling of vacant posts in the regional centres of agro-economic research there has been this shortfall. Apart

* The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shrimati V. Jayalakshmi]

from other causes advanced, how can we appreciate this explanation ?

Some excuses have been offered for less expenditure under Demand No. 28. They are : The provision for grants to cooperative banks for credit facilities for small farmers has been reduced by Rs. 30 lakhs; Lesser provision has been made for the Directorate of plant protection Quarantine and Storage; No provision has been made for grants to the Fertiliser Promotion Council; The subsidy for fishing trawlers has been reduced; consequently the scheme of fishing trawlers has not been implemented and the Fertiliser Promotion Council has not been set up; Vacant posts for implementing fisheries programmes have not been filled. Can you in all seriousness commend these reasons for the acceptance of the House ?

For less expenditure under demand No. 28, one of the two reasons offered is reduced expenditure on the Forest Research Institute mainly because of non-filling of vacant posts. I would like to ask of the non-Minister whether this is the endeavour the Government are making to create employment opportunities for the ever-increasing unemployed agricultural and agricultural engineering graduates in the country.

The saving under Demand No. 30 is because of non-setting up the High Power Commission to examine the working of Community and Panchayati Raj. I would like to know the hurdles which the Government have to cross in setting up this High Power Commission.

For less expenditure under Demand No. 31, no reason has been given.

One of the many reasons given for the saving under Demand No. 115 is the lesser investment in the debentures of Lands Mortgage Banks by Rs. 50 Lakhs. Am I to point out here that the Land Mortgage Banks do help the small farmers by giving loans on their lands and the investment in their debentures has been reduced to the detriment of the interests of small farmers ?

I have made specific reference to the reasons also because I earnestly feel that at least at the end of 1972-73 these things will not recur.

If today the agricultural sector has fulfilled its target of the IV plan. It is primarily due to unceasing hard work of the farmers. This factor also should make us realise that, whatever money is allocated for agricultural development it should be spent in full and no excuses for any shortfall should be put forth in the coming years.

It is anticipated that by the end of IV Plan annually Rs. 4000 crores worth of paddy is to be processed into rice. At present every year paddy worth Rs. 3000 crores is processed into rice. Out of this, Rs. 1500 worth of paddy is hand-pounded in rural areas, which results in the loss of Rs. 150 crores worth of paddy. The remaining Rs. 15000 crores worth of paddy processed in old and outdated rice mills and the Government have stated that only 70% of the paddy is processed into rice. This means that every year Rs 1450 crores worth of paddy is lost, do you not consider, Sir, that we cannot afford to incur such a heavy wastage ? So far, during the past seven years, the Food Corporation of India has set up only 13 modern rice mills I have no information as to how many modern rice mills have been set up in the private sector. When we talk so much about achieving self-sufficiency in foodgrains, how is it possible to translate this into a reality if we do not have adequate number of modern rice mills throughout the country ?

During the years under report, a sum of Rs. 1 crore has been allocated for strengthening the 400 agricultural cooperative marketing societies. If each society is given Rs. 25000 for its share capital, naturally these societies will be able to ensure that the farmers get fair price for their produce. In fact, I would suggest that the F. C. I. should be directed to make its procurement only through Agricultural Marketing Co-operative societies; direct procurement by F. C. I. should be banned. In the matter of procurement, there is an unseemly competition between the F. C. I. and the State Governments in the matter of procurement, which creates great confusion in the minds of farmers and which also acts as a stumbling block in the farmers getting a fair price for their produce; We have invested huge sums of money in F. C. I. It is also incomprehensible how

the administrative expenditure in F.C.I. could come to 25%, which seems to be the highest as compared to all other public undertakings. In spite of this, the F. C. I. is not functioning energetically and effectively.

For example, in the godowns of F.C.I. for the past four or five years, fertilisers remain unsold. On the other side, the agriculturists are to pay double the price for purchasing fertilisers. As far as I know, in the Visakhapatnam godown in Andhra, 2200 metric tonnes of Urea and CNA are lying unsold. On seeing the auction notices, some business men went and saw the godown. If stored for long, Urea absorbs moisture and dissolves itself into water. I understand that many buckets of such water had been thrown out of this godown. I had on an earlier occasion brought this to the attention of the hon. Minister. Rs. 3 lakhs worth of fertilisers is becoming water and no action has so far been taken by the Government. I do not understand the hesitation on the part of Government in doing something expeditiously.

The hon. Minister once told me that in the matter of accepting tenders, co-operative societies are given preference. If it is categorically stated even at the time of calling for tenders that only co-operative societies would be given preference, it would help the private people. Otherwise, they submit tenders and they also deposit earnest money on such tenders. After three, four months, if they are told that their tenders have not been considered, naturally they get the suspicion that even the public tenders are subject to prejudicial treatment on the part of Government. They lose confidence in the fair dealings of the Government. Then, what happens to the earnest money which lies with the Government without interest? Do they not lose the interest on the earnest money? I would request the hon. Minister to examine this question and to have a clear-cut definite policy in regard to tenders.

When the damaged grains in the warehouses are auctioned, the business people and traders buy them and mix them with good grains. When the Government are trying to implement the Food Adulteration Act vigorously, with this not being giving encouragement to adulteration? Why should we auction such damaged grains? They can

be converted into cattle feed or chicken feed and freely distributed in rural areas.

As an agriculturist, I want to point this out with all force at my command. The Reserve Bank charges only 4½% on loans to be given to agriculturists. But by the time the agriculturists get the loans, the interest rates go up to 9½%. The reason for this is that these loans are routed through the State Government, the Central Bank, the District Bank and the Credit Society in rural areas. All the overheads in these organisations go to raise the rate of interest to 9½%. All this burden is passed on to the agriculturist in the form of high rate of interest on loans. The State Government just acts as a middle man. I would strongly plead with the Government that all the agricultural credit institutions should be brought under the direct control of the Reserve Bank. Then only the farmer will be able to get credit at 4½% interest.

The State Governments as also the Central Government are thinking of taxing the agricultural income. Already, there is income-tax on the crop basis. Throughout the country there should be a uniform level of taxation on agricultural income. The income-tax should not be on the acreage. It should be only on the income derived from lands. The industrialist is given protection and security for his factory, for his production, for his investment, and for his finished goods. What about agriculturists? Is there crop insurance, cattle insurance, insurance against failure of monsoon for the agriculturist? Have we assured him fair price for his produce? Unless we give him crop insurance, cattle insurance, fair price and immediate credit facilities, the Government should not think of levying tax on agricultural income. If the hands that feed you get benumbed, then the whole country will be frozen. Do not wake up a slumbering tiger.

In a recent Seminar held in Ahmedabad, our Planning Minister, who is himself an agriculturist, stated that 80% of our agricultural tenants have not got security of land or tenure even after 25 years of independence. I am sure that what our Planning Minister says is true. I would suggest that the Centre should bring forward a comprehensive legislation giving protection and security to 80% of our agricultural tenants.

Here, I am reminded of the allegation made by my hon. friend in the Opposite that

[Shrimati V. Jayalaxhami]

sitting away, 2000 miles away, from the villages, the Centre cannot understand the problems faced by the agriculturists in villages. I would like to tell him how his Government, sitting 300 miles away from villages, in the Fort St. George, is not showing any appreciation of rural problems. When I found that Tamil Nadu has only 3 plant protection mobile squads, while Kerala has 9, Mysore 19, Andhra 30, I asked the hon. Minister why the Centre has shown such a negligence towards Tamil Nadu. The Minister promptly told me that it is within the competence of the State Government. I would like to know from my hon. friend in the Opposition why the State Government has not taken steps to increase the plant protection mobile squads even to the level of Kerala State.

To sum up, so far as Agricultural Demands are concerned, during 1972-73 there should not be any saving for one reason or the other. If necessary, priority should be given for importing modern machinery and equipment from abroad for implementing agricultural developmental programmes.

A rice Mills Corporation should be set up by the Centre so that modern rice mills can be set up throughout the country as early as possible.

Direct procurement either by F. C. I or by the State Government should be prohibited. Procurement of foodgrains should be done only through co-operative marketing societies.

Auctioneering of fertilisers should be stopped. The unsold fertilisers which dissolve into water on long storage should be distributed free through cooperative societies, or at 50% cost.

Similarly, the damaged grains should not be auctioned. After converting them into cattle feed and chicken feed, they should be distributed free to the farmers.

The agricultural co-operative credit institutions should be brought under the direct control and supervision of the Reserve Bank of India.

A central legislation should be enacted for giving protection and security to agricultural tenants.

Crop Insurance and Cattle Insurance

should be introduced for the benefit of farmers.

Agriculturally there are backward areas in each State and the State Government may not have adequate resources for developing them. In such cases, the Centre should make available additional financial resources to the States for the development of such backward areas.

The crash programme for rural employment should be implemented vigorously.

Finally, I would suggest that a National Cropping Board should be constituted by the Centre. It should be ensured that alternative crop pattern is formulated by this Board so that, if the country unfortunately happens to face the drought of 1965-66, the people are not left high and dry. Shortly it is expected that the population would go up to 59 crores and then our requirement of foodgrains would be to 12.9 crores of tonnes. Unfortunately, if we are to face a drought like that of 1965-66, what can we do? We should have an alternative programme for such an emergency. That is why I have suggested the constitution of a National Cropping Board.

With these words, I thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: How much time will the Minister take?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F.A. AHMED): My colleague will take about half an hour and I will take about 40 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Please try to finish in an hour, both of you. According to the allocation formula, Congress (O) will get 12 minutes, Swatantra-6 minutes, Socialist Party-5 minutes, unattached Members-12 minutes. They have been given $1\frac{1}{2}$ times more than the usual time allotted for them.

श्री जयलक्ष्मी (श्रीमती) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कृषि विभाग की मांगों पर चर्चा चल रही है। पूरे देश में हरित क्रांति का नारा जोरों से लगाया जा रहा है। इसी कुल समय हुआ तब से सूखी सीलिंग के ऊपर चर्चा चल रही है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले दिनों जब खासरी की प्रधान मंत्री के तो उन्होंने जब

जबान जय किसान' का नारा लगाया था। मैं चाहता हूँ कि यदि इस देश में सही मान में द्रवित क्रान्ति को प्रामाणिक रूप देना है, इस को कार्यान्वित करना है तो हमें यह नारा देना पड़ेगा कि देश में जो खेती करे, हल जोते उसी की जमीन होनी चाहिए। आज हो यह रहा है कि बड़े-बड़े जागीरदार, जमींदार और बड़े-बड़े पूंजीपति लोग जमीनों को हड़प कर के बैठ गए हैं और जो भूमिहीन लोग हैं वह आज जमीन के लिए भटक रहे हैं। इस वजह से कृषि में जो प्रगति होनी चाहिए वह नहीं हो रही है। तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि जितनी जमीन है वह जमीन केवल भूमिहीनों को, भ्रष्ट-भूमि वालों को ही दी जाय। इसके साथ-साथ जो कौड़ी लोग हैं जिन्होंने इस देश के लिए बहुत कुर्बानी की है, अपने परिवार को छोड़ अपने धाप को जिन्होंने देश के लिए कुर्बान कर दिया है, उन लोगों को भी जमीन मिलनी चाहिए। साथ-साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहूँगा कि भूमि की सीलिय के बारे में प्रलग-प्रलग राज्यों में कानून बनने जा रहे हैं, मुख्य मंत्रियों ने कुछ निर्णय भी इस सम्बन्ध में किए हैं, तो उसके लिए एक समिति गठित होनी चाहिए। वह विकास खण्ड स्तर पर हो, चाहे जिला स्तर पर हो, चाहे प्रान्तीय स्तर पर हो क्योंकि पिछले दिनों हम को यह देखने को मिला है कि जितनी जमीन जिन-जिन प्रांतों में बंटी है वह जाली नामों से बंटी है जिनके पास सैकड़ों और हजारों एकड़ जमीन थीं, और है उन्हीं को भिनी और जो सही जाने में उसके हकदार थे जिन को जमीन मिलनी चाहिए थी, उनको नहीं मिली। इसी वजह से आज हमारी खेती पिछड़ी हुई है। हो सकता है पंजाब में खेती के मामले में उन्नति हुई हो या हरयाने में उन्नति हुई हो। लेकिन कई प्रांत ऐसे हैं कि जहाँ हजारों एकड़ जमीन उपजाऊ पड़ी हुई है लेकिन न पानी मिलता है, न खाद मिलती है, न बीज मिलता है और जितना पैसा कृषि के नाम पर जाता है उस रकम का प्राधा हिस्सा या तो सरकारी अधिकारियों की जेबों में जाया

है या ऐश आराम में खर्च होता है। खेती पर खर्च नहीं होता है। इसके लिए भी कोई ऐसी समिति गठित होनी चाहिए खास कर विकास खण्ड के स्तर पर जो इस बीज को भी देखे। आज विकास खण्ड के माध्यम से द्रवित क्रान्ति को सफल बनाने के प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं। उसके लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार भी पैसा देती है और प्रान्तीय सरकारें भी पैसा देती हैं। लेकिन विकास खण्ड स्तर पर जो कर्मचारी हैं उन में ग्राम सेवक तो एक ऐग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट का है, सहकारिता विकास अधिकारी सहकारिता विभाग का प्राधमी है, प्रलग-प्रलग विभाग के होने से उनमें सम्बन्ध न होने से ठीक तरह से काम नहीं होने पाता है। कभी कभी कम पैसा जाता है, तो एक तो रकम कम होती है और दूसरे उसका खर्च भी ठीक ढंग से नहीं हो पाता है, तो किसान जो काम करना चाहता है वह काम ही नहीं पाता है। तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में भी एक समिति गठित होनी चाहिए विकास खण्ड स्तर पर।

साथ ही उर्वरक के मामले में एक तो उर्वरक मिलता नहीं है और मिलता भी है तो इतना महंगा मिलता है कि किसान क्रय नहीं कर सकते हैं। मिलने के बाद भी दूर बेहात में बारिश के दिनों में ले जाने ले दिक्कत होती है। हर जगह तो किसान सड़कों के पास नहीं रहते हैं, उनके पास जाने जाने और उसे ले जाने का साधन नहीं होता है, तो काफ़तकार बैठा रहता है और जब उसे जरूरत होती है खाद डालने की तो खाद डाल नहीं पाता है। उससे किसान को नुकसान होता है।

इसी तरह से जो कीड़े मारने की दवाइयाँ होती हैं, फसल में जो बीमारी लग जाती है, उसके लिए जो दवाइयाँ होती हैं, वह फसल समाप्त हो जाती है, कीड़े फसल खा जाते हैं तब वह दवाई बेजते हैं। नतीजा यह होता है कि किसान रोता रहता है और शासन के अधिकारी बीज करते रहते हैं, कोई देखने वाला

[श्री भागीरथ भंबर]

नहीं रहता। इसके लिए भी देहातों में बारिश के पूर्व जहाँ पर सबके नहीं हों जहाँ देहात का इंटीरियर हो, वहाँ पर गोडासन्स बनाए जाये चाहिए और क्रीट-माशक दवाइयाँ भेजी जानी चाहिए ताकि काश्तकार उसका लाभ उठा सके।

13 hrs.

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ और वह है सहकारिता विभाग के बारे में। सहकारिता विभाग इसी मंत्रालय से सम्बन्धित है, होना तो यह चाहिये था कि इस विभाग के द्वारा सहकारी आन्दोलन तेज गति से चले और उसका लाभ देश की करोड़ों जनता को मिले; लेकिन मेरा अनुभव यह है कि यह सहकारी आन्दोलन अब सरकारी आन्दोलन बन गया है, वहाँ राजनीति घुस गई है और राजनीति के घुसने के कारण जिस उद्देश्य को लेकर यह आन्दोलन चलाया गया था, उसमें अब भ्रष्टाचार घुस गया है। मैं मध्य प्रदेश के बारे में कहूँगा जहाँ पर किसान ने कोई कर्षा नहीं लिया है, खाद नहीं ली है, उन पर पैसा निकाला जाता है, उनके नाम से खाद निकाली जाती है और तरह-तरह के कर और बकाया निकाला जाता है और करोड़ों रुपया जो केन्द्र ने दिया है या राज्य सरकार ने दिया है, बीच के जो बिचौलिये हैं, दलाल हैं, या राजनीतिक दृष्टि से जो लोग घुसे हुए हैं, वे खाते हैं, वे उसका लाभ उठाते हैं, तमाम पैसा खपक कर जाते हैं। उदाहरण के तौर पर मध्य प्रदेश में एक आदिम जाति सहकारी विकास निगम बना हुआ है, उसको करोड़ों रुपया के िय सरकार ने दिया। जिस बन्दोबस्त को आदिवासियों के विकास पर खर्च किया जाना था, सहकारी समितियों को दिया जाना था, बहुत सहकारिता की हासत यह है कि उसमें करोड़ों रुपये का बाटा है। उस निगम की जांच के लिये एक कमीशन बैठा, कमीशन ने जांच की कि वह

पैसा कहाँ गया, लेकिन अभी तक ठीक से उस की रिपोर्ट भी नहीं आई है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप समाप्त कीजिये।

श्री भागीरथ भंबर मैं कुछ सुझाव चाहता देना हूँ। प्रत्येक विकास खण्ड में या प्रत्येक जिले में एक आदर्श कृषि फार्म होना चाहिये। आज के वैज्ञानिक युग में जब हम खेती की प्रगति करना चाहते हैं, कृषि की उन्नति करना चाहते हैं तो बहुत से किसान ऐसे हैं जिनको आधुनिक युग के विकास के साधनों का ज्ञान नहीं होता है और वे उन तरीकों का उपयोग नहीं कर पाते हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि कई जगहों पर तो काश्तकारों को इन माधनों से दूर रहना पड़ता है। इसलिये मेरा सुझाव है कि देश के हर जिले में एक आदर्श कृषि फार्म होना चाहिये और उस कृषि फार्म के जरिये काश्तकार को भाकित किया जा सकता है, उसको प्रशिक्षण दिया जा सकता है और वे लोग उमका लाभ उठा सकते हैं।

देश के कई हिस्सों में जहाँ बंजर भूमि पड़ी हुई है, जिसको गर्मी के दिनों में जोत नहीं सकते हैं, क्योंकि उनके पास ट्रैक्टर आदि साधन नहीं होता है, ऐसे स्थानों के लिये हर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में एक ट्रैक्टर डिविजन बना दीजिये, जिसके माध्यम से किसान ट्रैक्टरों और दूसरे साधनों को प्राप्त कर सकें और भूमि को जोत सकें। जो छोटे-छोटे काश्तकार हैं, जैसा मैंने पिछली बार कहा था कि वे फूए भी खोद नहीं सकते हैं, क्योंकि वे चार-चार एकड़ के काश्तकार हैं, ऐसे लोगों की यह भूमि बहुत मजद कर सकता है। उनकी शमीनों को ट्रैक्टरों के शरिये जोता जा सकता है, और उसका जो भी टैक्स पासव की ओर से निश्चित किया जाय, वह उन से वसूल किया जा सकता है, जैसा कि आप महुरों के सम्बन्ध में करते हैं।

MR. SPEAKER : We now adjourn for lunch and meet at 2 p. m

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha resembled after Lunch at four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : *In the Chair*]

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1972-73—*Contd.*

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE—*Contd.*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) :
I wish to draw the attention of the House to a very urgent matter which is continuing. A few days ago this matter was raised on the floor of the House. This is about the bank strike in Andhra Pradesh, that is, the State Bank of India in Andhra Pradesh and the Andhra Bank. The result now is, the whole work of banking operations has been paralysed and this dispute is still going on. I see the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance is here. He had assured the House earlier that he and the Labour Minister were both seized of the matter and were hopeful of bringing about a settlement. May I know whether the Government made some recommendations which have been rejected by the management? If so, what do the Government propose to do? They should come and tell the House about it.

SHR. S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) :
The Minister will no doubt make a statement on this, but I wish to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister and to the House that 42,000 employees of the LIC are going on strike from the 25th of this month. May I request the Minister to kindly tell us whether the Chairman is having some sort of negotiations with the All-India Insurance Employees Association to avoid the strike, Sir? I would request him to say about this in his statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Minister happens to be here and he has heard what hon. Members have said...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We want to know whether it has been rejected by the management.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Let him say what the position is ;

SHRI S. B. GIRI (Warangal) : The strike has been going on for such a long time. Last time also, the hon. Minister promised on the floor of the House that there would be settlement, but unfortunately, the bank management has not accepted the proposal of the Government whereas the workers are prepared to accept it. May I know what action the Finance Minister is going to take in this matter? He must inform the House of that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : Since I happen to be here and since the hon. Member has raised this question, I would say that if the hon. Member gives a proper notice of this question, I shall try and get all the facts and place them before the House.

Regarding the point which he raised about the formula worked out by the Labour Minister in relation to the Andhra Bank, I regret that the formula has not been acceptable to the management, and, therefore, the stalemate as far as the Andhra Bank is concerned, is continuing.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE rose—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, that should be enough.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Please permit us for a minute. Otherwise, we shall again trouble you some other day. We would request you to permit the hon. Minister to tell us something about the LIC employees. Let him tell us whether negotiations are going on regarding the 42,000 employees of LIC. The strike would be coming off on the 25th. I only want to know whether the hon. Minister is seized of the matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has made a gesture that if proper notice is given, he is prepared to accept it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will he accept a short notice question on the subject?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In view of the urgency of the matter, I think that a short notice question would be the best way of doing things, and the hon. Minister has already indicated it,

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If he does not accept short notice question, then it is of no use

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The hon. Minister has not said anything about the LIC employees.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let there be not more than one subject raised now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Then, you may allow me tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let tomorrow come.

श्री बल्लोप सिंह (बाह्य दिल्ली) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कृषि मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करना चाहता हूँ और कृषि मंत्रालय का थोड़ा सा शुक्रिया भी अदा करना चाहता हूँ। कृषि मंत्रालय ने काफी कोशिश करके किसानों के लिए कुछ सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध किया है और कुछ हार्ड ईल्ड बेरायटी का बीज गेहूँ और दूसरी चीजों का किया है। लेकिन ग्रामीण देश में सिंचाई के लिए बहुत सी भूमि पड़ी हुई है जिसपर कि सिंचाई का इन्तजाम होना चाहिए। कल मंत्री महोदय ने यह बताया कि हमारी जो माइनर इरीगेशन की योजना है उसके जरिए बहुत काम किया है लेकिन उसको और भी ज्यादा बढ़ाने की जरूरत है। खेती में सबसे पहली जरूरत पानी की होती है। अगर किसान को पानी मिल जाता है तो वह मेहनत करके उसमें कोई न कोई चीज पैदा कर लेता है। अगर पानी नहीं है तो बढ़िया बीज मिले उससे कोई फायदा नहीं बढ़िया खाद मिले उससे कोई फायदा नहीं इसलिए खेती में सबसे जरूरी चीज पानी है। हमारा कृषि मंत्रालय और हमारे सभी महोदय इसकी तरफ कदम उठा रहे हैं उसके लिए मैं शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ।

श्रीन रेबोल्यूशन का नाम इस देश में बहुत जोर-शोर से लिया जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ किसी देश में या किसी देश में अगर क्रांति आती है तो सबसे उसमें एक नयी जमाना आती है।

लेकिन किसानों में हरित क्रांति कहाँ आई है इसको आप किसी गाँव में जाकर देखने की कोशिश करें। हाँ, एक जगह पर मुझे क्रांति नजर आई है कि दिल्ली के बागों तरफ के ब्लैक-मार्केटियर्स ने, कुछ महरोली की तरफ, कुछ नजफगढ़ की साइड में और कुछ झलीपुर की तरफ एग््रीकल्चर फार्म बनाए हैं और उन पर बड़े-बड़े बोर्ड लगा दिए हैं, बहुत खूबसूरत फूल लगे हुए हैं और वहाँ पर अगूर पैदा करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। अगूरों की फसल आ गई तो गवर्नमेंट ने समझा कि यह बहुत ज्यादा आमदनी की चीज है। लेकिन आप वहाँ जाकर देखें, मेरे रास्ते में एक छोटा सा बाजार आता है अगर आप हीजलास महरोली से जायें, वहाँ उन अगूरों का दाम 8 आना किलो होता है और उसको खरीदने वाला कोई नहीं। तो यहाँ पर अगूर पैदा किए जा रहे हैं हालाँकि यहाँ की क्लाइमेट सूट नहीं करती है और लाखों रुपए की आमदनी अगूरों से दिखाई जा रही है। इस तरह से वे लोग अपनी ब्लैक मनी को व्हाइट करना चाहते हैं। इसलिए मेरी समझ में नहीं आया कि हरित क्रांति कहाँ है? मैं तो कहता हूँ कुछ होशियार लोगों ने श्रीन रेबोल्यूशन का नाम लिखा है। जो होशियार लोग हैं, वे किसान के पीछे पड़े हुए हैं। भाज से नहीं बल्कि बहुत पहले से, उनके दिमाग में एक बात रहती है कि किसान तो बिल्कुल हर टैक्स से बचा हुआ है और दूसरे लोगों पर टैक्स लगता जा रहा है इसलिए सरकार का मुँह किसान की तरफ कर दो जिससे किसान पर ज्यादा से ज्यादा टैक्स लग जाय और जो ब्लैक मार्केटियर्स हैं उन को टैक्स में कुछ राहत मिल जाये। लेकिन भाज देश का किसान जाग गया है और वह इन बातों को समझ रहा है। आप ने देखा जब गेहूँ का भाव कम करने की बात चल रही थी तो किसानों ने अपनी आवाज उठायी। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता, मंत्री महोदय बतावेंगे कि एग््रीकल्चर फार्म कमीशन में क्या कोई किसान भी बैठा हुआ है या सारे नागरिकों

लोग ही उसके सदस्य हैं। उनका कहना है कि 67 रु० में एक क्विंटल गेहूं किसान पैदा कर लेता है उस दिन माननीय पांडे जी ने बड़े ढग से हिमाचल लगा कर अपनी कालिंग प्रदर्शन में बताया था कि 105 रु० में एक क्विंटल गेहूं जा करके किसान को पड़ता है। मैं खुद भी जानता हूँ क्योंकि खेती अपने हाथ से करता हूँ, कि किसान को क्या-क्या परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ता है। एग्रीकल्चर प्राइज कमीशन ने बर्गर सोचे समझे किसान के गले पर छुरी चलाने की कोशिश की है लेकिन पंजाब, हरियाणा और दिल्ली के किसान यहाँ उठ कर के चले आये और हम लोग प्रधान मंत्री जी से मिले और अपनी बातें उनसे कहीं। मैं अपनी प्रधान मंत्री जी को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ कि उन्हीं ने सहानुभूतिपूर्वक हमारी बातें सुनीं। उन्होंने कहा कि खाने पीने की चीजें सस्ती होनी चाहिए। मैं भी मानता हूँ, लेकिन यह तभी हो सकता है जबकि किसान की जो जरूरत की चीजें हैं वे भी सस्ती हों। खाद की बोरी जो 5,7 साल पहले 13 रु० में मिलती थी आज उसकी कीमत 52 रु० हो गयी है। अगर आज किसान का बच्चा इस बात की जिद कर जाये कि मैं भी एक टैरीसीन का कुर्ता या कमीज पहन लूँ, और मां बाप को परेशान हो कर बनबानी पड़े तो एक क्विंटल गेहूं तौल कर वह किसी दूकानदार को देगा सब जा कर अपने बच्चे की जिद पूरी कर पायेगा।

आप जरा सोचें कि किसान को कितनी मुसीबतों का सामना करना पड़ता है। अगर बोला पड़ता है तो किसान के सर पर पड़ता है। कभी आप ने देखा कि किसी दूकानदार की तराजू पर पड़ता हो या फेंकट्टी मोनर की फेंकट्टी पर पड़ता हो? वे तो अपना सारा सामान उठा कर भन्दर रत्न लेते हैं, लेकिन बेचारा किसान उस समय में अपने खेत से खड़ा होता है और भोले उसके सर पर पड़ते हैं। अगर थ्यादा बारिश हो तो भी किसान ही मारा जाता है। पूर्वी बू० पी० और बिहार के अन्धर

लाखों एकड़ जमीन पानी से भर गयी और वहाँ के किसान और उनके बच्चे परेशान होते फिरे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कृषि मंत्रालय ने उनकी क्या मदद की। आखिर लोन दिया, तकावी दी या क्या मदद की जिससे ऐसी प्राकृतिक आपदाओं का सामना वह कर सकें। पाला जब पड़ता है तो सारी फसल की जला कर रख देता है, वह भी एक मुसीबत किसान पर ही आकर पड़ती है। आखिर में लाचार होकर बेचारा भगवान का नाम ही लेता है। इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्राकृतिक मुसीबतें किसान पर आती हैं कृषि मंत्रालय ने इन के बारे में क्या सोचा है? यह मैं मानता हूँ कि सारे देश में एक साथ वे मुसीबतें नहीं आतीं, लेकिन जहाँ भी ऐसी मुसीबत आती है उनके बारे में कृषि मंत्रालय के पास कौन सी राशि है जिससे गरीब किसानों की मदद की जाये?

खेती पर टैक्स की बात चल रही है, आज जगह-जगह भाव चटाये जा रहे हैं। अभी कल माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि गन्ने की फसल इस साल कम हुई है जिससे गुड़ और चीनी की कमी है। इस कमी का कारण वह है कि पिछली वर्ष किसान का गन्ना बिल्कुल सस्ता बिका, और जो मिल में नहीं ले गया उसकी उन्होंने शक्कर और गुड़ बना लिया किस का 8 आने किलो का दाम किसान को मिला। इसलिये उसने तय कर लिया कि यह चीज नहीं बानी है और उसकी खेती उन्होंने बन्द कर दी। इसलिये पिछले साल की बनिस्बत इस साल 50 फीसदी गन्ने की फसल कम हो गयी। किसानों में यह चर्चा है कि जैसे गन्ने की फसल को कम कर दिया, वैसे ही अगर गेहूं का भाव गिराया जायेगा तो वह गेहूं भी कम बोयेंगे, और दूसरी फसलें बोयेंगे। इसलिये इस बारे में मंत्री जी पहले से सोचें कि कौन सी फसल वे बोयें जिस से उनके बच्चों को खाना पीना, पहनने के लिये कपड़ा और पढ़ाई के लिये कुछ पैस

(श्री दलीप सिंह)

मिल सके। अगर आप ने गेहूँ का धाम इस तरह 4 ६० कम किया, या भ्रमले साल ऐसी कौशिल की तो किसान दूसरी फसल बोयेगा, जैसे कपास और तिलहन है।

सीलिंग की बात बड़े जोरों से चढ़ रही है। मैं मानना हूँ कि सीलिंग हो। हमारे मनीफैस्टों में भी है। लेकिन मेरा कहना है कि जमीन की सीलिंग उम ढंग से होनी चाहिये जो इकानामिकल हो। अव्वल तो पहले ही होल्डिंग्स बट चुकी हैं क्योंकि जिसके पास पहले 50 बीघा जमीन थी और उसके चार बच्चे हो गये तो वह चार हिस्सों में बट गयी। ठाई ठाई एकड़ एकड़ बच्चे के हिस्से में पड़ी। इतनी छोटी खेती में वह कैसे दो बैल पाल सकता है क्योंकि डेढ़ एकड़ तो बैलों के चारे के लिये ही चाहिये, शेष एक एकड़ में वह कैसे अपने बच्चों का पेट भरेगा। आज भी स्माल होल्डिंग्स हैं देश के अन्दर, सीलिंग कितनी भ्रायेगी, उसके साथ गहरी सम्पत्ति पर भी आप को चँक लगाना होगा। और सूबों में सीलिंग है, दिल्ली में भी 1953 में सीलिंग की गयी, लेकिन जो शहरी आबादी है, जहाँ पर एक-एक भ्रादमी के पास 50, 50 कोठियाँ हैं, ऐसे तमाम ब्लैक मार्केटियर्स वहाँ भरे पड़े हैं, लेकिन जब से आप ने यह बात की है कि प्रबल प्रोपर्टी पर पांच लाख की सीलिंग होगी उसी दिन से लोगों ने कोठियाँ बनाना शुरू कर दिया है। कितना समय लग गया इस बात को निश्चित करने के लिये। इस काम को तुरन्त करना चाहिये।

हम सीलिंग चाहते हैं, किसान अपने नौजवान देता है, पेट भरने के लिए धान, जौ, दूब और फल देता है, लेकिन जो ब्लैक मार्केटियर्स हैं जिन्होंने नाजान्बज तरीके से धन कमाया है इनकी भी पांच लाख की सीलिंग फौरन होनी चाहिये, उसके बाद किसान की सीलिंग हो। मैं तो इस राय का हूँ कि पांच लाख भी बहुत है, इसको घटा कर एक लाख कर देना चाहिये।

देश में स्माल होल्डिंग्स हो गये हैं, और महामान्य राष्ट्रपति जी की एक स्कीम मैंने कल पढ़ी, मैं कहना चाहता था कि हर गांव में आप यूनिट बनाइये और उस यूनिट में ट्यूब वैल्व हों, ट्रैक्टर हों, थ्रॉशर्स हों, केन क्रशर्स हों उनका काम छोटी होल्डिंग का किसान किराया देकर उठा सके, और सारा रुपया उसमें सरकार का लगे। अगर ऐसा किया जायेगा तो छोटे किसान के बच्चों का समय बच सकेगा जिस को वह अपनी पढ़ाई में खर्च कर सकते हैं। यह आप को करना होगा।

एक बात मुझे पानी और सौइल टैस्टिंग के बारे में कहनी है। यहाँ पर पूसा इन्स्टीट्यूट है, 1956 की बात है, दिल्ली के नजदीक मेरे भी खेत थे, जो अब ऐकबावर हो गये हैं। मैंने वहाँ की सायल और पानी टेस्ट के लिये पूसा भेज दिया। लेकिन उसका जो रेजल्ट आया है वह अजीब है। मैंने तो समझा कि सायल सैम्पल बदल गया होगा। उन्होंने कहा कि इस जमीन में चावल खूब पैदा हो सकता है, जब कि हमारे इलाके के अन्दर जबदस्त बरसात के बाद भी एक घंटे से अधिक पानी नहीं रुकता है। ऐसी हालत में वहाँ पर चावल कैसे बोया जा सकता है। मैंने स्वर्गीय प्राइम मिनिस्टर, जवाहरलाल जी को चिट्ठी लिखी कि इस पूसा इन्स्टीट्यूट में रिसर्च के लिये करोड़ों रुपये खर्च किये जाते हैं। क्या वह इसी तरह से रिसर्च करेगा मिट्टी और पानी के बारे में। इसके बाद पूसा वाले प्रफसर वहाँ पर खुद गये और उसको जा कर उन्होंने देखा। पता चला कि जिस खेत में पालक बोई हुई थी उसके लिये कह दिया कि वहाँ पालक अच्छी हो सकती है और जिस खेत में गोभी बोई हुई थी उसके लिये कह दिया कि वहाँ गोभी अच्छी हो सकती है।

श्री सिद्ध कुमार शारदा (धर्मसद) :
उपरोक्त महोदय, कृषि की सभी समस्याओं की तीव्री जानकारी बहुत कम लोगों को है। वर्ष-वर्षों से जो कृषि की समस्याओं के एक कौने में जोड़

सा गेहूं बोवा कर धीरे उसकी देख भाल करा कर यह अनुपात बिकाल लेते हैं कि सारे देश में कितना उत्पादन हो सकता है? कोई-कोई लोग तो गमलों में भी प्रयोग करते हैं इसका लेकिन किसानों की जो समस्याएँ हैं वे बहुत विषम हैं धीरे देहात में रहने वाले व्यक्ति ही उन को सीधे जान सकते हैं। किसानों को प्राज भी उतने साधन उपलब्ध नहीं हैं जितनी मंहगाई बढ़ गई है। अगर किसी कृषक का एक बैल किसी प्रकार से खराब हो जाता है या मर जाता है तो कम से कम डेढ़ हजार रुपये का नुकसान हो गया। अगर उसकी मँस खराब हो जाती है या मर जाती है भ्रथवा दूध देना बन्द कर देती है तो उसमें भी हजार पन्द्रह सौ रुपये गये। जो फसल नो दी उसको तो वह काट लेगा लेकिन दूसरी फसल प्राप्त करना मुश्किल हो जाता है। इसके लिये जो कुछ सरकार कर सकती है उसको ध्यान में रखना चाहिये, धीरे यदि उसको ध्यान में रक्खा जाये तो फिर खेती की भूमि पर टैक्स लगाने की बात नहीं उठती।

प्राज कल तो जोर इस बात पर दिया जा रहा है कि खेती के ऊपर भी टैक्स लगाना चाहिये। जरूर लगाना चाहिये जो बड़े-बड़े फार्म हैं, जिनके कारखाने बहुत चलते हैं और काले धन की सफेद करने के लिये उन्हींने अपने फार्म बनाये हुए हैं उन पर जरूर नजर जानी चाहिए, व्यापारियों धीरे बड़े-बड़े कारखानों पर नजर जानी चाहिए। लेकिन किसान के विषय में कितना बिरोधाभास है कि एक तरफ तो भ्रथानकर खेती संभळ करके उच्च प्रदेश में 6 एकड़ तक की जमीन पर टैक्स माफ किया जा रहा है और दूसरी तरफ प्रायः धीरे प्रकार के टैक्स लगाना चाहते हैं।

इसके साथ-साथ जो सीलिंग का नारा है वह बड़ी कुशलतापूर्वक व्यवहार में लाने योग्य है। इस व्यवहार पर धरकर आप एक परिवार की एकई मान कर 18 एकड़ की सीलिंग की

बात करते हैं, कहीं-कहीं पर 12 एकड़ की बात भी हो रही है, तो कल्पना कीजिये कि प्रागे चल कर क्या स्थिति हो सकती है। आप चाहें कितना ही परिवार नियोजन के लिये जोर लगायें, लेकिन प्रागे चल कर अगर किसी के दो या तीन लड़के हो गये तो वह भ्रथानकर जोत हो जायेगी और जो टैक्स सरकार के पास प्राता है वह भी बन्द हो जायेगा।

इसके साथ-साथ प्राप यान्त्रिक खेती करवाना चाहते हैं। आप देश में ट्रैक्टर चलाना चाहते हैं तो चलायें। लेकिन लोगों के पास जहाँ छोटी-छोटी जमीनें हैं वहाँ पर ट्रैक्टर क्या करेगा। प्राप जरा देखिये कि ट्रैक्टर इस समय वैसे ही खटिनाई से उपलब्ध हो रहे हैं, अगर छोटी भूमि के टुकड़े लोगों के पास हो जायेंगे तो यान्त्रिक खेती की समस्या बहुत विकट हो जायेगी। अगर प्राप कोभापरेटिव बैसिस पर ही सारे का सारा काम चलाना चाहें तो कोभापरेटिव का अनुभव भी आप के सामने है। जहाँ पर एक बाप के चार बेटे मिल कर खेती नहीं कर सकते वहाँ सारे गांव के लोग मिल कर किस प्रकार काम कर पायेंगे। इसलिये यह कोभापरेटिव वाली बात भी भ्रथवहाय्य है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। उनकी धीरे कृषि मंत्री कृपा कर के ध्यान दें।

भारतवर्ष में मुख्य समस्या जो है वह कृषि में क्रान्ति लाने के साथ-साथ दुधारू पशु, अच्छे बैल किसानों की मिलने की है। इसके लिये जब तक आप ऊँचे स्तर पर यत्न नहीं करेंगे तब तक कुछ नहीं होगा। प्राप की रासायनिक खाद इंजेक्शन का काम करती है, फसल को थोड़ी देर के लिये अच्छी कर देती है, लेकिन वह भी हमें बतलाया गया है कि वह जमीन को कमजोर करती है। अगर दूसरी बार खेती को खाद न दी जाये तो भूमि की पुरानी उर्वरा शक्ति नहीं रहती, लेकिन अगर गोबर की खाद दी जाये तो वह कम से कम तीन फसलों तक जमीन की शक्ति को बनाये रखती है। इसलिये आप को

पशुओं की वृद्धि की ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये, जिससे हम को दूध भी उपलब्ध हो और उसके साथ साथ भ्रच्छी खाद भी मिले। उससे हम को दोहरा लाभ होगा। जहाँ हम धी दूध पायेंगे वहाँ खेती को चलाने के लिये बढिया खाद भी पायेंगे। अगर बिल खेत में चलता है और वहाँ पेशाब करता है तो किसान के खेत में खाद पड रही है, अगर वह चलते हुए गोबर करता है तो किसान के खेत में खाद पड रही है, लेकिन अगर आप का ट्रैक्टर चलते हुए पेशाब कर दे, उसका बीजल गिर जाये, तेल गिर जाये तो जितनी जगह वह तेल से चिगो देगा उसमें बीज भी पैदा नहीं होगा। इसलिये आप को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये।

यह केवल भावुकता की समस्या नहीं है। वर्तमान कृषि मंत्री से पहले कृषि मंत्री ने इसी सदन में दुधारू पशुओं की रक्षा की बात कही थी, गो रक्षा की बात कही थी, वह केवल भावुकता में ही नहीं कही थी। जिस तरह से आप भ्रच्छे बीजों की बोवाई कर के हरित क्रान्ति का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं, वहाँ आप को दुधारू पशुओं की भ्रच्छी नस्लों को बढाने के लिये भी परिश्रम करना चाहिये और जितने उनको रखने योग्य किसान हों उन्हें वह उपलब्ध करने चाहिए।

साथ ही सिंचाई की व्यवस्था भी बहुत आवश्यक है। अगर आप देखेंगे तो देश में इस समय भी बहुत बड़ा भूभाग इस प्रकार का पड़ा हुआ है, जैसे बिहार को आप देख लीजिये, उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी भाग को देख लीजिये, जहाँ भूमि समतल है और पानी आसानी से निकल सकता है लेकिन बहा के लिए भी कोई सिंचाई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई। उत्तर प्रदेश के पश्चिमी जिलों में जहाँ नहरे नहीं पड़ती हैं वहाँ ट्यूब वेल्स हैं लेकिन वहाँ चार-चार पांच-पांच घंटे दिन में बिजली गायब रहती है। वह रात को आती है। मैंने अपने जिले में कुछ प्रयत्न किया और वहाँ के अधिकारियों से पूछा कि जो

आदमी अपने खेत में पानी देने के लिये दो या तीन नौकर रखते हैं उनको तीन-तीन चार-चार घंटे तक बिजली गायब रहने के कारण नौकरों को मुफ्त तन्खाह देनी पडती है। अगर आप अखबारों में या पत्र द्वारा प्रयत्न व्यक्तियों द्वारा यह सूचना दिला दे कि इतने में इतने बजे तक बिजली नहीं प्रायेगी तो वह उसके अनुसार अपना कार्यक्रम बना सकते हैं। आज उनके लिए यह बहुत बड़ी कठिनाई है।

एक और बात की ओर मैं आप का ध्यान विशेष रूप से दिलाना चाहता हूँ। यह कठिनाई उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ती जा रही है और स्वतन्त्रता के बाद उसमें किसी स्थान पर मैंने कोई सुधार नहीं देखा। यह समस्या उन स्थानों की है जहाँ पर नहरे चल रही हैं। पुराने समय से आप की नहरों के आस-पास दोनों तरफ लगभग आधा फर्लांग जमीन पानी में डूबी रहती है और वह सब्बा खेती के आयोग्य हो जाती है। एक तरफ पानी की यह समस्या है कि नहरों से पानी लेने के लिए किसानों को कितना कष्ट उठाना पडता है और दूसरी वह जमीन आपकी पानी से भर गई है। मेरे क्षेत्र में तो ऐसा एक उदाहरण है जो आप को सुनने को भी न मिला होगा कि गंगा नहर के करीब करीब किसानों से पानी का टैक्स बसूल किया जा रहा है यह युक्ति देकर कि हमारी नहर का पानी आपकी जमीन में लगा है जरा देखिये तो सही एक तो वहाँ पर भूमि फसल पैदा करने के योग्य नहीं रही उससे भी टैक्स बसूल किया जा रहा है। आपको इसकी ओर भी अपने वैज्ञानिकों का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहिये कि नहरों के आप-पास की जो भूमि है उसमें से पानी को निकाल कर किस तरह से फसल पैदा करने के योग्य बनाया जा सकता है।

इसके साथ-साथ दूसरा मुद्दा भी है कि हम जहाँ नहरों का पानी लगाते हैं वहाँ नमक आदि पैदा हो जाता है। यह बीजें खेती को नुकसान पहुँचाती हैं। निस्संदेह हम नहर का पानी खेती

के लिये चाहते हैं लेकिन यह जो खराबी पैदा होती है इसको आप किसी तरह से दूर करें।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पांडे (खलीलाबाद) : सर्वप्रथम में आपको बधाई देता हूँ कि आज आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया।

सदियों से दबाए गए, सताए गए और प्रस्त किए गये किसानों, गरीब मजदूरों को अब यह विश्वास हो चला है कि प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी के नेतृत्व में उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान होगा, उनकी समस्याओं की ओर सरकार ध्यान देगी। इसमें कोई दो राये नहीं कि आज देश में भीमाबंदी, लैंड सीलिंग की योजना बनाई जा रही है। परन्तु अगर देखा जाये तो आज सीलिंग प्राने के पहले ही देश के बड़े-बड़े किसान, बड़े-बड़े लैंडलाब्स अपनी जमीनें बेच चुके हैं, अपनी जमीन की सीलिंग का कार्य कर चुके हैं। आपको सीलिंग करनी है और वास्तव में इस कानून का पालन कराना है तो आज से दो तीन साल पहले के उनकी जमीन के प्रांकड़ों को आपको देखना होगा और देखना होगा कि तब उनके पास जमीन कितनी थी और कितनी अब है। इस पर अग्र ध्यान नहीं दिया जयेगा, इसको अगर नहीं देखा जायेगा तो यह कानून केवल कानून मात्र बन कर रह जाएगा, कार्यान्वयन में इसके आदेश का प्रतिपालन नहीं हो पाएगा।

मैं किसान परिवार से आता हूँ। आज जमीन की सीलिंग जो की जा रही है वह दस से अठारह एकड़ सिंचित भूमि के लिए की जा रही है। इसको नहीं देखा गया है कि दस से अठारह एकड़ के बीच वाले किसानों को खेती से तथा उससे सम्बद्ध कार्यों से कितना फायदा होता है। मैं कृषि मंत्रों जी तथा सरकार से अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर किसानों की, गरीब मजदूरों को वास्तव में आप लाभ पहुंचाना चाहते हैं तो फसलों के बीमा की योजना बनाएं, फसलों का बीमा

करने के लिए निगम जल्दी से जल्दी बनाना चाहिये।

बम्बई अधिवेशन में राष्ट्र ने फैसला किया था, कांग्रेस ने निर्णय किया था कि उत्तर प्रदेश तथा अन्य प्रान्तों की गन्ना मिल्नों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाएगा। यह प्रस्ताव सर्व सम्मति से पास किया गया था। उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने कृषि मंत्री को प्रार्थना की है और लिखा है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की मिल्नों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के आदेश आप दें। आप जानते हैं कि आज उत्तर प्रदेश में किसानों का मुख्य बंधा गन्ना बोना है। मई का महीना हो या जून का हो, किसी भी महीने में आप जाकर देख लें गरीब मजदूर किसान गन्ने के खेत में तपती हुई धूप में काम करता हुआ आपको मिल जाएगा। इतना परिश्रम करने के बाद भी उसको गन्ने का उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलता। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसी वक्त सरकार घोषणा करे राष्ट्रीयकरण के बारे में ताकि देश के तथा उत्तर प्रदेश के किसान मजदूरों को यह आशा बंधे कि हमारी समाजवादी सरकार उनकी तरफ ध्यान दे रही है।

मैं एक खेद भी प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। कृषि मूल्य प्रायोग न जाने कैसा बनाया गया है, न जाने उसमें कैसे अधिकारी रखे गये हैं कि उनको जनता से कुछ मतलब नहीं है, किसानों से कुछ मतलब नहीं है। जो मूल्य उनके मन में आता है वे निर्धारित कर देते हैं। परन्तु मैं मुख्य मंत्रियों को, प्रधान मंत्री जी को तथा कृषि मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने गेहूँ के मूल्य की ओर निगाह डाली और किसानों के साथ न्याय किया। कृषि विश्वविद्यालय पंजाब ने गेहूँ पर रिसर्च किया है और बताया है कि एक बिबटल गेहूँ का लागत मूल्य 82 रुपये से 95 रुपये आता है। परन्तु इस ओर कृषि मूल्य प्रायोग ने ध्यान नहीं दिया। मैं कृषि मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने गेहूँ के

[श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पांडे]

मूल्य पर ध्यान दिया और किसानों के साथ स्थाय किया।

उत्तर प्रदेश का जो पूर्वी अंचल है वहां की मुख्य पैदावार धान है। वहां पर एक कृषि विश्वविद्यालय खोला जाना चाहिये जहां विशेष रूप से धान पर खोज की जाए, 'राइस' पर रिहर्स की जाए। हिन्दुस्तान का बच्चा बच्चा जानता है कि वहां की महत्वपूर्ण फसल धान है और बासमति, जहाँ, बंगाल काला नमक आदि धान यह वहां पैदा होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उसके लिए वहां रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट खोला जाए।

कल हमारे कृषि मंत्री जी ने कहा कि तिलहन की पैदावार बढ़ाई जानी चाहिये। मुझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के बस्ती जिले में हमारी खलीलाबाद, बांसी और झमरियागंज आदि तहसीलों में हमारे किसानों ने सोयाबीन को बोया और उसकी ज्यादा मात्रा में पैदावार की लेकिन उसकी वहां खरीदने वाला कोई नहीं है और किसानों को उसे अपने बैलों को खिलाना पड़ा। एक तरफ तो आप किसानों से अपील करते हैं कि तिलहन की पैदावार बढ़ाओ और दूसरी तरफ खरीदने वाला कोई न हो, तो यह कितने खेद का विषय बन जाता है, इसका अनुमान आप भंग सकते हैं।

उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी अंचल में बाढ़ें आती हैं। उन पर नियंत्रण करने के लिये कोई योजना जल्द बनाई जानी चाहिये। आप जानते हैं देश में सिंचाई के साधनों का बड़ा अभाव है। अगर आप हरित क्रांति करना चाहते हैं, किसान मजदूर का भला करना चाहते हैं, उसका कल्याण करना चाहते हैं तो आपको चाहिये कि किसान मजदूर के बस्ते सिंचाई के साधन जल्दी से जल्दी और अधिक से अधिक मात्रा में उपलब्ध किए जायें।

उत्तर प्रदेश के इन पूर्वी जिलों में कहीं पर पशु अनुसन्धान केन्द्र नहीं है। वहां पशु अनुसन्धान केन्द्र खोला जाना चाहिये।

कृषि मंत्री जी ने कल कहा कि कृषि प्रोग्राम उत्तर प्रदेश में तथा अन्य प्रदेशों में चलाए जा रहे हैं। मैं अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ इस प्रोग्राम की आवश्यकता है, जहाँ इसकी जरूरत है वहाँ उन प्रदेशों में तथा उन जिलों में कृषि प्रोग्राम अधिक से अधिक चलाये जायें उनके लिये अधिक से अधिक धन दिया जाए। कल हमारे पंजाब के एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि पंजाब में तीन रुपये से कम में कोई मजदूर नहीं मिलता। परन्तु हमारे वहाँ उत्तर प्रदेश में दो और डेढ़ रुपये में मजदूर उपलब्ध हो जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जन संख्या के आधार पर जो कृषि प्रोग्राम का धन है, उसका वितरण होना चाहिये।

मैं सीलिन के मामले पर कृषि मंत्री जी का ध्यान एक बार फिर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने चाय बागानों को छोड़ दिया है, काफी बागानों को छोड़ दिया है, इलायची बागानों को छोड़ दिया है। परन्तु जो अपने देश का अग्रणी बन है, धान, उसकी ओर कृषि मन्त्रालय का ध्यान ही नहीं गया है। आज आप जानते हैं कि उत्तर प्रदेश के मलिहाबाद तथा बनारस में तथा अन्य जिलों में जो धान पैदा होता है और जिसको आप विदेशों में भी भेजते हैं, उसकी ओर किसी का ध्यान नहीं जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप सब मामलों में समान व्यवहार करें। देश में आप समाज-वादी कार्यक्रमों की ओर बढ़ना चाहते हैं तो आपको समान इष्टिकोण से कर चलना होगा। एक ओर सड़कों में लोगों के पास सम्पत्ति बढ़ती चली जाए, एक तरफ अट्रालिकाये खड़ी होती चली जाए और दूसरी तरफ शरीर मजदूरों को सड़क की कोशिशों जारी रहीं तो यह जो सोचा हुआ देश किसान है, वह शायद

धीरे उसके जागने से देश में क्रांति आयिगी। मकसलबाब का जन्म कहां से हुआ, इसकी ओर कृषि मन्त्री जी को ध्यान देना चाहिये। देश का हर किसान और हर मजदूर इस समाजवादी सरकार साथ है और वह इन समाजवादी कार्यक्रमों को कार्यान्वित होने देखना चाहता है। इस वास्ते में निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि अगर उनकी ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया, अगर उनकी उन्नति के लिये काम नहीं किया गया, तो यह ग्राही चलने वाली नहीं है। देश के खेतीहर मजदूर की तरफ आज तक कृषि मन्त्रालय ने ध्यान नहीं दिया है। आज उसकी स्थिति यह है कि वह दिन भर काम करता है और उसको मजदूरी क्या मिले यह तक निर्धारित नहीं है। मेरी प्रतीति है कि कृषि मजदूर की मजदूरी भी निर्धारित की जाए। कृषि देश की रीढ़ है। यह देश कृषि पर निर्भर करता है। इस देश की जनसंख्या का मुख्य भाग, 85 प्रतिशत किसान मजदूर हैं, लेकिन उन पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। उन पर ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इन मांगों का समर्थन करता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Although the extended time has been redistributed among the parties, I find that most of the opposition parties have got only one minute two minutes or three minutes. I do not know what they can say in two minutes. Anyway, I will give them five minutes each but they should kindly be brief and not exceed the time limit ; otherwise, it becomes difficult.

SHRI BIREN DUTTA (Tripura West) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all, I draw the attention of the Minister to the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1969-70 where it is stated :-

"A large number of tenants and share-croppers belong to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and in the absence of specific legislative safeguards in several States for protection

from eviction, such persons are deprived of land before they can take advantage of technological development. It may also be mentioned that even where legislative provisions exist, unless special measures are taken to safeguard the interest of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes peasantry, due to weaker social and economic position, the tenants and share-croppers are likely to be reduced to the status of agricultural labourers."

It is also stated :-

".....Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to contract a simple mortgage for raising institutional credit for agricultural development, such persons are in practice tenants at will, with no facilities to improve their lands. It is, therefore, apprehended that unless special measures are undertaken for protecting their interests in all stages....."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have almost exhausted your time in reading that out.

SHRI BIREN DUTTA : I want to draw the attention of the Agriculture Minister to the findings in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Commissioner's Report. There is so much howling and big words regarding ceilings and other things, but a great section of the people, who had land are being deprived of their land gradually and are being ousted from it. This is stated by Commissioner appointed by the Government itself. What steps is the Agriculture Minister going to take to safeguard their interest ? I belong to a State where half the population belongs to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. I find that most of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people have been deprived of their land in spite of the Land Reforms Act being implemented there.

I want to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that during the last year all the plains lands, lying in the border areas with Bangla Dosh, remained fallow due to the war and the upheaval in Bangla Dosh. In the hill areas also there was scarcity. This year we are finding that most of the agricultural activities have stopped and there is starvation prevailing already in those

[Shri Biran Dutta]

areas. I have very little time and therefore, I only want to impress upon the hon. Minister that unless he takes note of it and immediately helps Tripura State, there will be a great havoc in the near future.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P SHINDE): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me permission to intervene in this debate. I must, first of all, take this opportunity to thank this hon. House and the very large number of hon Members for their extremely generous approach to the problems of my Ministry and the problems of food and agriculture in India. I also wish to put on record the thanks to the very large number of Members of this House who were good enough to spare their valuable time and to join the tours which were organised by my Ministry to see the various institutes and what my Ministry is actually doing in the field. It is really surprising—the Members themselves may not be aware—that almost more than 100 Members participated in these tours. I am really grateful to them. In fact, they were good enough, many of them, to inform the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that he should address a letter thanking my Ministry, my senior colleague and myself for organising these tours. I am really grateful to them. I think, it was our duty to organise such tours.

In fact, my Ministry has been making a very substantial progress and doing a great service to this country mainly because of your cooperation. I do not want to criticise anybody. There is such a good appreciation, whether it is a question of land reforms; whether it is a question of small farmers or whether it is a question of production. Many hon Members of this House have been taking such a keen interest in it. I think, this Parliament has provided genuine leadership to the agricultural problems of this country. That is why this country has succeeded in attaining major success on various fronts as far as agriculture and food of this country are concerned.

I do not know why Shri Bhattacharyya has been unkind to us. He is a very senior Member and I have great respect for him. Of course, he admitted that agricultural production has increased. Nobody can deny it. Even the strongest critic of this Ministry cannot deny it. Therefore, Shri Bhattacharyya observed, it is true that agricultural

production has increased. I am thankful to him for at least mentioning this one fact. But the first sentence that he uttered was that the working of Agriculture Ministry was not satisfactory. I do not want to criticise the hon. Member individually. As I stated earlier, I have great respect for him. But there must be something basically wrong with his party. He sees everything wrong with the Congress Party, with the politics of this country and with the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I do not know what has happened to his party. I have no remedy for that. It is for him to think about it.

May I submit very humbly that the year 1971 has been an outstanding year in the history of Indian agriculture? It is great land-mark and water-shed. Many people in this country, many critics and sympathisers outside, in the world, never thought that this country could attain self-sufficiency in foodgrains. There were many doubting Thomases here and outside. But what has happened? The year 1971 will be recorded in the history as an outstanding year, not only for the outstanding victory of Bangladesh—that is also an outstanding historical event—but equally important is the outstanding achievement of this country that it attained self-sufficiency in foodgrains. This would be recorded by future historians. All of us should be proud of it. We are a proud country in the world today.

I think, we faced the Bangladesh crisis very bravely. No imperialist force could threaten us because we were not afraid of managing the food economy of this country. About 10 million refugees were inducted into this country. We extended all hospitality to them. At no stage the supplies were disputed. Many times, our friends criticise the functioning of public sector organisations. I am myself aware of the weakness and shortcomings of the public sector organisations. All efforts should be made to improve them. I am not trying to defend their weakness. But I would like the House to appreciate, for instance, equally the work done by the Food Corporation of India which was entrusted with the job of supplying food to the refugees. During that period, there were many floods, dislocation of transport; and defence priority movements. I would like to ask this honourable House to point out a single instance where the dislocation of supplies had taken place. Should

we not at least put on record our thanks to the Food Corporation of India for doing such a good job and delivering the goods in such a difficult situation ?

The Government of India and my Ministry had given a very solemn Pledge to this House and to this country that we shall stop imports after 1971. That pledge has been redeemed and today we are not importing anything. We have ended the PL 480 Agreement. We are not going to have any agreement with any country like the PL 480, now. In fact, we are on the threshold of export markets. Surpluses are emerging. This has to be realised in the background of what has happened in the last 20 or 25 years; in fact half a century. This country has been importing foodgrains since 1920s, for the last 50 or 60 years. And after these 50 or 60 years this outstanding achievement has taken place. The hon. members will appreciate this. We were examining the figures, how much of total quantity of foodgrains we had imported in the last 20 or 25 years. You will be surprised to know that the figure is a staggering one. We imported 101 million tonnes during the last 20 or 25 years, since independence. The price in terms of rupees comes to almost Rs. 4,655 crores. What a staggering figure; What a tremendous strain on the economy; In fact, there was a stage in the country when people thought that the Indian economy would break under the strain of import of foodgrains. But we have overcome all those difficulties. Now those difficulties need not frighten us. I think, our scientists and farmers deserve to be congratulated for this achievement. I wish to congratulate the scientists and farmers on behalf of all of you. I hope you will join me in the sentiments that I express.

One of the hon. members said that farmer were not respected in this country. I think, it was Shri Vijay Pal Singh. He is not here now. Let me tell him that man who labours in the farm, the landless labour, the small farmers, the farmers who toil in the farm, deserve to be congratulated for the achievement. Credit goes to the tiller of the soil. And may I tell Shri Vijay Pal Singh that, as far as Government of India is concerned, we have in our Ministry sincerely worked to raise the status of this man—to see that the tiller of the soil gets the real status in the country. (interruption) That is

our approach. We want that the tiller of the soil who actually cultivates the land should have the highest prestige in the country. (interruption) My senior colleague would be dealing with the very basic problem with which the House is rightly concerned. I am coming to the other problems. The time is very limited. My senior colleague would be dealing with the major problem of land reforms.

I have again to come back to what Shri Bhattacharyya said. He said that, during the United Front period, his Government did more than any one else for land reforms. I have to put a very humble question of Shri Bhattacharyya, When you were in power, why did you not enact the ceiling law ? It had to be done by the Government of India; the Government of India, during President's rule, had to enact the ceiling law, and not the United Front Government. What the United Front Government did was only to encourage illegal occupations. They did nothing else. Even in the case of ordinary tenancy law, what happened ? We are really clear on this; as far as my Party is concerned, we want that tenants must be conferred the inheritable right of cultivating the land; we are very clear on that. Even this simple law was not enacted by your United Front Ministry ? Again the Government of India, under the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had to do it. Your Party did not do it. Truths are very bitter. You will kindly excuse me for this.

I have no quarrel with DMK. Shri Rajangam is not here. He said that Tamil Nadu's ceiling law was the ideal law and that should be copied by all, all over the country. He should be good enough to read the provisions of the Bengal law which was enacted by the Government of India during President's rule and also the Kerala law. I wish the DMK Government itself copies some of the provisions and broad approach of the Government of India. I have no quarrel with them. But I would welcome some amendments to their law; to my mind, some amendments are still desirable in the Tamil Nadu law. There are many exemptions, many flaws. My earnest request to our DMK friends would be to persuade their Government to see that the necessary law, at least on the lines of Kerala and Bengal laws, is enacted by their Government. I don't want to take much time of

[Shri Annasaheb P Shinde]

the House. As far as land reforms is concerned, as I said, that subject is being dealt with by my senior colleague.

Then, Sir, many friends referred to the problems of production, inputs, short-supplies of credit, fertilisers, tractors, etc. May I say that I am not making a claim that everything is all right everywhere? In fact, ours is a vast country and fortunately or unfortunately, agriculture happens to be a State subject under the Constitution. What we can do is to help the States and advise them as our brothers and fraternal colleagues, but, ultimately the implementation is with the State Governments. But, even then, this hon. House will appreciate that as far as our new strategy in agriculture is concerned, irrespective of Party patterns, whether it is the DMK or even the Gana-tantra Parishad government or the United Front government which was there in Bengal, no government presented to us a different view regarding our new strategy in agriculture. That is why the agricultural production has come up.....(Interruptions) In fact, if I was to say something, I would say that except our Congress Party, no other Party in this country has understood the problems of agriculture. I am not saying from any narrow angle.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Dharpuram) : Why then did you fail in the previous years? You could not achieve your targets even though the Congress Party was in power all over the country.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Nobody is born wise. May I submit that agriculture is the most complicated subject...

SHRI R. S. PANDEY (Rajnandgaon) : Past is past. It is dead and gone

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : If we look to the previous history of our agricultural economy, any drought, any serious set-back due to floods and natural calamities gave a set back to the food economy and agricultural production of this country. Now, last year was the real testing period of our new strategy in agriculture, the test as to whether it was a sound strategy and whether it would stand by us in the most difficult period. Last year we had very unfortunate climatic conditions. There was drought in Andhra. In fact, in regard to rice economy of this country,

history indicates that whenever there was a severe drought in Andhra, the whole rice economy of this country got in to difficulties. But this time, neither the rice economy nor the wheat economy got into difficulties. There was drought in the south and floods in the north. Despite that, I anticipate that there will be a massive production of foodgrains this year. Our experts are struggling and though I am not an astrologer, but, since I know many facts and my Ministry has a full grip over the situation, I can say with confidence that I shall be surprised if this year the production is less than 112 million tonnes as against 107-108 million tonnes last year. That means that we are going to have a record production this year. Here again, it is despite all these difficulties. What does that show? It shows only that the agricultural strategy worked out by the Government of India is really sound. Newer and interesting developments are taking place in the agricultural front. This, I would like the hon. Members to appreciate. For instance, rice has started coming up in a massive way in areas where people do not know how to grow rice—Punjab, Haryana, Western UP, etc.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : As also Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Madhya Pradesh is already a rice-producing area.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY (Kendrapara) : But what about the Price?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Now, you will be surprised to know that Punjab this year gave us almost 8 Lakhs tonnes of rice to the Central pool. That is the Highest figure that any State has given to the Centre. Mind you, it is a non-rice-producing area. Haryana is coming in the same way. UP is coming in the same way. This year my Ministry, with the co-operation of the State Governments Plans to take up 500 larger programmes for rice production for these years.

Then, Sir, an important development is coming up in North-East India, Particularly in West Bengal. This is a very important development not only for West Bengal but also for Assam, Tripura,

Manipur, Orissa and Part of Bihar...

(Interruption)

15hrs

The North-east India has been an unfortunate area in this country where there have been always natural calamities, cyclones, floods etc. Every year this part has been suffering due to one calamity or the other. What was the remedy for that? This fortunately happens to be one of the areas in country where the under-ground resources of water are plentiful. It did not strike us so far how to harness the underground water resources. But now we have taken up a summer rice programme in Bengal. This year we had summer rice programme in 8 lakh acres. I myself visited West Bengal a fortnight ago to see how the programme worked, I am very happy to say that this year West Bengal would get almost 1.2 millions tonnes of rice, from this summer paddy. Mind you, the yield is the highest in Asia. They get almost $1\frac{1}{2}$ tonnes of rice, not paddy per acre. This is the average yield from summer paddy. Now that a solution to this problem is found out we want to extend the area. We want to undertake a very ambitious programme. In fact, in Calcutta itself, I had consultations with the West Bengal Government. I asked them to extend this from 8 lakh acres to 15 lakh acres. We want to take up similar programmes in Orissa Tripura, Assam and some parts of Bihar. By this, even supposing there is a natural calamity due to rainy season or flood, this area will not have a set back, and if this programme comes up this area will be able to feed the whole country. This is an important aspect of it.

The second aspect is the employment potential that is generated by these programmes. In Bengal itself if you provide employment per man for 4 months—actually it comes to two men on one acre of land. With the addition of 4 lakhs of acres, you must be giving employment to about 4 to 5 lakhs of people and if this programme is taken to 15 or 20 lakh acres, you can well imagine the great employment potential which it will generate. We are going to expand our programme in the years to come. So, I think, this will solve many social and political problems of this area which we have witnessed so far.

Even in respect of commercial crops, when the midterm appraisal was being discussed, some Members asked: What about cotton? What about Jute? What about oilseeds? As far as cotton is concerned, we had imported cotton worth more than Rs. 100 crores from outside to meet the requirements of our textile industry during the last one year. But this year, we have taken up a programme of new varieties of cotton H-4 and MCU-5. coming up in cotton areas very fast in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, and parts of Tamilnadu and production is expected to be almost one million to twelve lakh bales more this year.

But then, with massive production there are certain other problems. There is the problem of price and marketing. I will come to this subject a little later on. If there is proper marketing support, price, proper support, in this country, there should be no reason why India should not become self-sufficient in cotton in a very short period of say, 2 to 3 years. The soil condition and the climatic conditions are very favourable. The soil is rich. Our farmers are hard-working. With proper marketing support for their products, with regard to Oilseeds or cotton, I am sure we can make very substantial progress.

Similarly, in the case of oilseeds, the picture was very gloomy when the mid-term appraisal took place. Last year, the production of oilseeds was however almost 9.2 million tonnes. This year, despite all these difficulties and setbacks, the production of oilseeds is expected to be just a million or half a million tonnes less only; it is not less by a greater quantity. This has happened in spite of difficulties, because in many years there has been a setback due to drought. For, many crops like groundnut etc. are rain-fed crops, and because of failure of rainfall in Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, a large part of Maharashtra etc. there was drought, but despite these setbacks, there has not been a setback as far as oilseeds production is concerned.

As far as oilseeds are concerned, there is again a very important new development. One is soyabean which is being introduced in the country. Soyabean gives not only oil but it gives a very rich, protein-rich—food. In our country where people suffer from

[Shri Annasahab P. Shinde]

under-nourishment and malnourishment, this is a very important thing.

Then, we are having sunflower seeds. I must tell the House, though with a little bit of pride and yet in a spirit of humility, that I have been responsible for introducing sunflower seeds in this country. Three years before, I happened to be in the Soviet Union, and at that time, naturally I had carried some impression. I think Suryamukhi is referred to in our Puranas, and therefore, it was known to our forefathers, but we failed to commercially exploit the potential of sunflower seeds. I thought that its cultivation should be introduced in our country. I came here and discussed it with our scientists, and our scientists all responded very well, and now we have tried on a very large scale in this country and we find that our Indian climate is particularly suitable for it; particularly South India is suitable for it, where it can be grown in all the three seasons. In Madras or Tamil Nadu it can be grown in all three seasons, and its cultivation is coming up. Even in North India, I found that in Pantnagar a very good experiment was being carried out.

This is one of the oilseeds having 50 per cent oil content. That means, if you have one quintal of sunflower seeds, then you will get half a quintal of oil. Another thing which is of interest to heart-patients is that it has no cholesterol qualities. This means that even heart-patients can consume it. It is a very good type of oil. I think there is a great future for it. So, we are having a plan for producing more sunflower seeds. I think it was Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha who had asked why we should not import seeds from outside in order to expand the acreage. I may tell him that we are even thinking of importing it, and we have already negotiated, and we are importing large quantities of seeds from the Soviet Union and the East European countries where sunflower is one of the popular crops. We want to take up a very large programme of sunflower seeds production during the coming season itself, and I anticipate a production of about 40,000 to 50,000 tonnes of sunflower oil during the coming season.

Similarly, there is a very ambitious programme for soyabeans. I need not go into the details of the programme, but it is a very very ambitious programme.

In the case of jute also, we have taken up an intensive jute production programme and we are trying to take up package programmes in very difficult areas like West Bengal. But I may say that even on jute, if the other programmes come up and they have started coming up, as I said earlier, I do not anticipate difficulty. So, the picture as a whole is very encouraging one. Of course, there has been some setback on two or three fronts, and I must share my feelings with the House and take the House into confidence on those matters.

For instance, in the case of pulses, there has been considerable diversion of area taking place from pulses to wheat. The main reason is that large areas have come under irrigation. The main reason for this diversion in this country has been that pulses have never been grown under irrigated conditions. As soon as the land is irrigated, the farmer naturally would like to grow other crops. But my Ministry is seized of the problem, and the scientists are seized of the problem, and we are trying to see how this problem has to be handled. Ultimately, the availability of pulses is important to a very large section of our population consisting of vegetarians and even those non-vegetarians who are not in a position to get meat, poultry and other products; from the point of view of protein, pulses are very important for those people. So, my Ministry is seized of the matter at the moment.

Then, in regard to coarse grains, there has been some difficulty. One hon. Member had asked me why there had been price rise. It is true that there has been some marginal price rise. I would request the House to appreciate that despite the Bangla Desh refugees, despite floods in the whole of North India, despite drought in the South, the price rise was not so great and the food economy never went out of our control; in fact, that is a credit to us. But there are certain factors which must be born in mind. Last year, bajra and jowar had a setback and naturally, if one looks into the price index, one would find that the prices of all these grains had gone up.

Naturally, that has a reaction on other foodgrains. But they have come under the impact of a massive production of wheat which is likely to come during this season. Prices have started receding. Wheat prices

also went up. There are many reasons for this. I need not go into them in detail. The food economy of the country is part of the whole economy. If there are inflationary trends in the economy, they are bound to have some effect on the food economy. But despite that, I think we have succeeded in managing the food economy in such a way that it has been brought within manageable proportions. The reasons why prices went up is that there has been monetary expansion. We also come to conclusion on the basis of our analysis that the public distribution system in many states is very weak. We have sizeable stocks. But the paradoxical situation is that even as we have the largest stocks we had ever in the history of the food economy, a price rise was taking place. The main reason was that the public distribution system was not well knit, particularly so in the state of Orissa. I wish the hon. member over there would use his good offices with the State Government to see that the public distribution system there is well organised so that the poorer sections of the people particularly get the needed relief. The hon. member is a part of that Government, at least he is influential and I would request him to use his good offices with them to bring about to the necessary change in the attitude of the Orissa Government.

I have very limited time and many more points to cover. There were many suggestions made. We have taken to massive production of foodgrains. Some people feel there is no harm in discouraging it. I personally feel that if we did that, it would be the darkest day in our country. In fact, there are millions of people in the country who are under-nourished even today despite bumper production. What is necessary is that we should create the necessary purchasing power for them. In fact, my Ministry is trying with the idea that by massive production of foodgrains we can feed people and also give employment to them. There are many administrative difficulties. Still I would like to pursue this idea of using food for works programmes in years to come. I am discussing this with other Ministries and the State Governments.

This country has still to see a very bad year. Fortunately, wheat production has come up very well because of scientific

support. This year we expect it would be 26 million tonnes. I personally feel that the production is going to be larger than 26 million tonnes, much higher than the Fourth Plan target of 24 million tonnes.

What is to be done with this massive production of wheat? The Government of India has taken a decision to have a Wheat and Wheat Products Development Council. We want to use this Council to promote the consumption of wheat. There are many areas where coarse grain is consumed. We want such areas to take wheat in their diet. This applies even to the rice eating areas because consumption of only rice is not good for health. It should be a diversified, mixed diet. So it is desirable to popularise the consumption of wheat in those areas. I am particularly happy to say that one of the public sector organisations, the Modern Bakeries, is operating in Cochin and Madras which are rice-eating areas. In fact, I am proud to say that most of the public sector organisations under our Ministry are doing extremely well. The Food Corporation of India, the Central Warehousing Corporation and Modern Bakeries—all are doing wells. In Cochin and Madras, Modern Bakerie units are working to 101 per cent of capacity. This year we anticipate a profit of Rs. 47 lakhs from the Modern Bakery units, operating in various parts of the country.

My Ministry has formulated a plan to encourage a very large number of medium type of bakeries all over the country, so that the massive production of wheat is used to feed our people.

There was some criticism as to what is being done to supply fertilisers to farmers and to organise fertiliser production in the co-operative sector. As far as the co-operative sector is concerned, the Indian Farmers' Fertiliser Co-operative, the largest fertiliser project in the co-operative sector, is licensed to produce 300,000 tonnes of ammonia, 3,96,000 tonnes of urea and 4,75,200 tonnes of NPK per annum. It will have an urea and ammonia plant at Kalol and a NPK plant at Kandia. The total cost of the product is Rs. 91.6 crores. It is expected to be completed in 1973-74.

Then, there is the problem of day-farmers; a most important and again a very

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

difficult problem. It is a human problem. We are doing a number of things and undertaking a number of programmes in the dry areas. The recent, and an important decision has been to have an international crop research institute for the arid and semi-arid tropics. This would be established at Hyderabad, a world centre for improving jowar, millet, Bengal gram and red gram. I would not like to go into the details, but the only reason why all the countries, or many of the leading countries in the world thought that this international institute should be located here was that they found, apart from its being a very good area for experimentation of millet and coarse grains, that the research organisations in the country are so good and are functioning well that they would provide the necessary background for this institute to operate here.

I would not go into the details about storage and inputs. *(Interruption)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Storage and marketing.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : As far as storage is concerned, may I assure the house that no procurement operation will be adversely affected? We will take care to see that all foodgrains that come into the market, which are fairly of average quality are purchased and necessary arrangements would be made for storage in the surplus States particularly of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. *(Interruption)* No effort would be spared in this direction.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I do not have any storage reserve of time.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : About cotton marketing. I would make only one observation. For the first time, time, the Government of India have taken a very revolutionary decision that the procurement price or the purchase price of cotton has to be fixed. We are working out the price and in a day or two we shall be announcing the price. That means, in times to come, like wheat and other crops, whatever cotton is offered, it will be bought at a pre-determined price which we anticipate would be a remunerative price. The Cotton Corporation would go in a big way to provide the necessary support for the production programmes and marketing of cotton.

Then there are the problems in regard to coconut and tobacco. We are attending to these problems.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHMAN (Badagara) : We have lost during the past six months Rs. 60 crores, and you cannot neglect two crores of people like that.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : As you know, as a result of the discussion that yourself and your colleagues had with me, we took the decision to send an expert team to go into this question. I would like to explain our broad approach to this question, whether it is tobacco or coconut. Particularly in regard to coconut, there is need to have a very effective marketing organisation. My Ministry's effort would be to see how to bring about some institutional set-up so that the coconut, growers, the small or petty farmers could be given the necessary support in times to come. We will be consulting you and the State Government.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY (Rajmandgaon) : Mango and banana. You come from Maharashtra.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : I may be excused if I say a few words about it. We are attending to the problems in regard to mangoes. To Pandey ji. I would only say that we are aware of the problem of establishing an additional agricultural university in Uttar Pradesh which is a very big State. First, we took a decision that each State should have an agricultural university. But, as far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, we have no objection if the Uttar Pradesh Government comes up with an appropriate proposal for having one additional agricultural university, and at their discretion, if it is to be located in eastern Uttar Pradesh, it would be most welcome.

Sir, I am extremely thankful to the hon. Members for their suggestion and for having given me a patient hearing.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, please. The senior Minister is yet to reply at the end of it all, you may put questions,

Shri R. S. PANDEY : Mangoes come from his State.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can discuss these things in detail with the Minister. He has an open mind.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): Water, water, everywhere, but not a drop to drink. You have a surplus production of rice in Punjab. But in Kerala quality rice is not available.

That is the major problem. I want to know whether you have addressed yourself to that problem.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He will look into it. (*Interruption*)

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE ; We will look into it.

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar) : I have been keenly hearing the hon. Minister Shinde who has been demonstrating his enthusiasm for making certain declarations and who expressed his extreme happiness over the past performance of his Ministry.

I would only request him and his colleagues in the Ministry to approach this problem with a spirit of introspection. My friend is satisfied over the increased production. We had not discussed about the factors contributing to that. While there has been increased production on the one hand, there is famine and starvation death in Orissa. For 12 days people went on hunger strike. If the reactionary coalition Government of the Utkal Congress and Swatantra party are not taking any responsibility, is it not the duty and the responsibility of the Centre to rush in food to Orissa? Under our Constitution, it is a matter for the Centre also. It is only their party people, a collective body of people who had gone there; leader of the Congress party had gone there, to see that the matter ends and the people who resorted to hunger strike are persuaded to withdraw their strike. The Centre is demonstrating a callous and cold attitude to the famine, starvation situation there.

The hon. Minister spoke about increased production. But what about sugar? There are two crops of cane-growers, 30

lakhs of them in U. P., alone. My friend knows that they have, in most cases, given up cane cultivation. Sugar production had gone down from 42 lakh tons three years ago, to 40 lakhs last year and this year it will be still less. My hon. friend declares that he would nationalise the sugar industry. What about the demand of the cane-growers for an increased cane price, Rs. 100 per tonne? The hon. Minister Shri Ahmed made a statement in the House in reply to the debate here and in that he says that the Government have been following a pragmatic approach to the problem of cane price and that they are alive to the interests of the cane-growers and the need to ensure adequate cane; and he says that all these aspects will be taken into account while fixing the minimum price for cane for 1971-72. Whenever this question comes, they say they will fix it up the next year. This year also they say so; I shall advise them not to make a statement with regard to cane price saying that it will be decided next year, 1972-73.

On page 30 of the report of this Ministry, they say that they are satisfied with the steps that are being taken to carry on lift irrigation. On the same page, para 1.5 they say that final reports about ground water schemes are still to be received. Last time they said that they had established a central ground water board. Now they have amalgamated it with the geological survey committee. By this how has the problem been solved? Things are very vague; there is no target at all... (*Interruptions*) Everybody knows that better irrigation will increase productivity of the land.

One last point about Orissa. The total land for manufacturing salt is 1,36,240 acres. Out of that in the public sector there are 3,979 acres and in the co-operative sector there are 8,798 acres. In the private sector they have kept 1,23,487 acres two thirds of the total land under salt. A handful of individuals are harvesting the maximum profit at the cost of the salt workers. My appeal to them is not to lease out any further land to these private individuals: it should be given only to salt workers co-operatives. In my district, Ganjam, there are so many salt worker's co-operatives; let it be given to them.

My last point is...

MY. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat; this is really being unfair to the Chair.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : There are thirty lakhs of agricultural wasteland available in Orissa and they can be distributed among the Adivasis, Harijans and landless agricultural people.

SHRI K. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY (Nalgonda) : I rise to support the demands of the Agricultural Ministry. This Ministry deals with food and agriculture, community development, co-operation and forests also. These subjects very much concern the peasants and people in the rural areas and it is through this department that the rural areas can develop.

In India more than eighty per cent of the people are agriculturists who live in the rural area. Some of our friends criticised this department and said that it was not doing well. It is not correct. There is a green revolution which is in progress and we are achieving self-sufficiency. Just now hon. Minister Shinde said that imports under PL 480 had stopped and we need not depend upon other countries. ICAR is one of the wings of this department and the scientists are doing a good job. They are working in the fields also. Hundreds of hybrid seeds are evolved and they do research on them and experiment with them. Afterwards they are sent to the public for their use. There are so many ministries, but only the Department of Agriculture arranges several tours for Members of Parliament to see their work. I have had the opportunity to visit Izzatnagar, Pantnagar, Karnal, Bombay and Ludhiana and I have seen that the scientists there are really working very well and they deserve the congratulations of this House.

We are self sufficient in food. In 1970-71, 107 million tonnes of foodgrains were produced, which represents an increase of 8.3 million tonnes over the previous year. 7.9 million tonnes of stock of foodgrains are available with the Government.

During the last elections, the slogan of *garibi hatao* was raised and the public also responded to it. Now it is our duty to

fulfil our promises made during the elections. In the last session, privy purses were abolished. Earlier we nationalised the banks. Now the Chief Ministers have been advised to take necessary steps immediately to introduce land ceilings. Unless the land ceiling Acts are implemented immediately, we would not be fulfilling our promises to the people.

Even though Telangana and Andhra are one, the Tenancy Act of Telangana, which is very progressive, has not been applied till now to Andhra area. I am at a loss to understand the reasons for it. In that Act, there are many provisions giving protection to the tenants. They can even become owners of the land under section 36. Many acres of *banjar-poromboke* land are being distributed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI K. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Some incentives have to be given to the cultivators. Tested seeds and fertilisers have to be supplied to them at the block level, so that they may not have to go far to get them. Crop insurance should also be introduced for the small and marginal farmers. Exploitation of ground water should be done. The rural people are earning very much less than those in the urban areas. When the question of ceiling comes, the ceiling to be imposed on the rural areas should be on a par with that of the urban areas. Then only the ceiling Act will be properly implemented. Otherwise, there will be discrimination between rural areas and urban. If we do all this then the agriculturists will occupy a pre-eminent position in the economic development programmes of the country. There must be formulated a permanent plan to eradicate famines in chronically affected famine areas particularly in Telangana and Rayalaseema, etc.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please Mr. Reddy; I hope you are ready to sit down now. Mr. Prasannabhai Mehta.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister who intervened in the discussion, who is not present here, referred to higher agricultural production, but that is not the criterion for

judging the real progress or evaluation of the position. We will have to see whether the higher production has benefited either the agriculturist or the consumer. If you take the case of agriculturist you will notice that they have not been benefited by the higher production. The reason for this is that the Ministry do not have a comprehensive, integrated and coordinated programme for the development of agriculture.

In the agricultural sector there are so many problems like rural employment, irrigation, power, rural electrification, inputs, fertilizers, pesticides, flood and famine control schemes. They should all go hand in hand. Because this Ministry failed to have an integrated and coordinated effort, the farmers are not getting the benefit of higher production. They do not get financial help in time. The agricultural credit which they get is not adequate. When they get water, there is no supply of electricity and when there is supply of electricity there is no water. Then, either they do not get fertilizer at all or they get adulterated fertilizer. Then, they do not get improved seeds to the extent they require.

In view of all this, merely having increased agricultural production is no achievement of the Ministry. If at all there is increased production, it is mainly due to two factors. One is the hard and ceaseless effort of the farmers in this country even though they are not getting the due return for their labour. If you go to the villages you will see that in spite of the increased agricultural production the economic condition of the farmers has not improved. The second factor for increased production is favourable monsoon. The contribution of government towards increase in agricultural production is very little, because they tackle the problem in a piecemeal way. They do not have an integrated and comprehensive planning for rural employment.

The small farmers development scheme is not adequate. There is no medium wage for agricultural labour. Then, how much have you given to the farmer by way of electricity and water? It is a very small percentage.

There is no planning about production. When the demand in the market is good, the farmer gets a higher price for a particular

crop in a particular year; he grows it again the next year but finds that he does not get that higher price. So, a problem is created for the poor farmer and this Ministry is helpless regarding this. They do consider that there should be a support price but the Foreign Trade Ministry never agree to that. So, there is no coordination between the two ministries. It is the same regarding sugarcane growers. They are also not getting a due return for their production. The same thing is there about jute.

Therefore, quoting higher figures of production is not the criteria to evaluate the agricultural position of the country. The consumers are not benefited; the growers are not benefited; prices of sugar and other things are going sky-high day by day. Everything is rising. It is not so regarding cereals but it is so in the case of pulses, jute and other cash crops.

So, the first and foremost thing for this Ministry to do is to have an integrated and coordinated approach to the problems of agriculture. This Ministry should not work in isolation or in a piecemeal way. They must have coordination with the Irrigation and Power Ministry, the Foreign Trade Ministry and the Finance Ministry.

Very poor conditions prevail in regard to rural finance. The farmers do not get adequate finances either for agricultural purposes or for consumer purposes. Too much has been said about the nationalised banks, but the small farmers have not got any benefit out of these commercial or nationalised banks. It has adversely affected the working of the cooperative banks also.

So, I want to stress that this Ministry should not be satisfied simply by quoting figures of higher production but they must think what really the problems are, namely rural unemployment, rural finance, rural electrification, power and irrigation to the fields. Please do not get over-satisfied by the achievement. It is not due to the assistance given by the Government but it is due to the endeavour and hard work of the farmers of this country. Kindly create conditions by which the agriculturists and the consumers are benefited.

श्री बेकारिया (जूनागढ़): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कृषि मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ। आज कई सालों के बाद पार्लियामेंट ने यह सुनने को मिला है कि हम धन्न के बारे में स्वावलम्बी हो गये हैं। इसके लिए मैं इस देश के करोड़ों किसानों और बीज-सुधार के लिए काम करने वाले मैकडो वेत वैज्ञानिकों को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं एग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट को धन्यवाद नहीं दे सकता और उसको फिटिसाइज भी नहीं कर सकता, क्योंकि जो कुछ हुआ है, उसमें थोड़ा बहुत अच्छा भी हुआ है। मगर इस बात की व्यवस्था करना बहुत जरूरी है कि किसान जो चीज पैदा करता है, वह कहां जानी चाहिए, कैसे जानी चाहिए। ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए कि किसान का उत्पादन बाजार में जाये, तो उसके दाम कम हो जाये और वह कबाड़ी के माल की तरह बिकने लग जाये। इसको पहले से तय किया जाना चाहिए कि इतनी चीज पैदा होगी तो इतना हम अपने गोदामों में रखेंगे, इतना एक्सपोर्ट करेंगे दूसरे देशों को और इतनी चीज जरूरी है हमारे अपने देश के लिए। यह जो रिपोर्ट बननी चाहिये, एस्टीमेट बनना चाहिए, वह एस्टीमेट बनाने में अपनी मिनिस्ट्री फेल रही है। मंत्री महोदय ने बहुत अच्छा शाब्दिक चित्र, भालकारिक भाषा में खेती की प्रगति के बारे में रखा है। मैं उसके साथ इतना सहमत नहीं हो सकता।

इसके बाद मैं खाद्यान्न की बात बताऊँ। आज किसान के नेहूँ का भाव नक्की करना हो, काटन का भाव नक्की करना हो या और किसी भी चीज की कीमत नक्की करनी हो तो यह कौन करता है। एक कमीशन बिठाया गया। मुझे खुश के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जब ट्रैक्टर की प्राइस नक्की करते हैं तो उसके लिए ध्यापरियों के प्रतिनिधि को लिया जाता है लेकिन जब किसान की पैदावार का भाव नक्की करना है तो क्या करते हैं कि जो किसान वहीं हैं, जिन

का खेती से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है, जिन्हें पता नहीं किसान खेती से प्रनाज कैसे पैदा करते हैं, उनको उसमें बिठा देते हैं और किसान को उसमें कोई प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं मिलता। जिन लोगों को यह पता नहीं कि अनाज कैसे पैदा होना है वह आई० ए० एस० और आई० सी० एस० लोग बैठ जाते हैं, उनको क्या मालूम कि किसान किस तरह से प्रनाज पैदा करता है? किसान को ट्रैक्टर लेना पड़ता है, फटिलाइजर लेना पड़ता है, बँस लेने पड़ते हैं उसकी कीमते कितनी बढ़ती जा रही हैं, उस पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है।

इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो भी कमीशन बिठाया जाय ट्रैक्टर, या फटिलाइजर, के लिए या इस तरह का दूसरा कोई कमीशन हो उसमें किसानों के प्रतिनिधि को अवश्य रखा जाय। अभी तक जो हुआ वह जाने दीजिए। लेकिन आज से यह बात नोट कीजिए। जो मिनिस्टर साहब देश की प्रगति के बारे में कह चुके हैं वह इसको नोट करें कि भविष्य में यह गलती न होने पाये। इसका ध्यान रखा जाय।

15.46 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARI in the chair]

दूसरी बात यह है कि लैंड सीलिंग की बहुत सी बातें कही गईं। मैं लैंड सीलिंग का विरोधी नहीं हूँ। मैं मानता हूँ कि लैंड सीलिंग होनी चाहिए। लेकिन मैं इसके साथ साथ यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में करोड़ों किसान हैं और लाखों लोग जो शहरी मिलिक्यत वाले हैं, आप ने कभी सोचा है। शहरी मिलिक्यत की सीलिंग के बारे में, शहरी मिलिक्यत की मर्यादा के बारे में भी कभी ध्यान सोचा? ऐग्रीकल्चरल सीलिंग के लिए तो स्टेट्स में जाना पड़ता है, लेकिन शहरी मिलिक्यत की जो सीलिंग है वह तो धाप लगा सकते हैं। आप क्यों अभी तक इसमें जुप हैं? वह सीलिंग लगाने में आप

को अब कौन सी बाधा आ रही है? और बाधा आती भी है तो जब सभी स्टेट्स में अपना ही राज है तो उस बाधा को दूर करने में कौन आपको रोकता है? किसानों की सीलिंग कम की जाय इसके पहले शहरी मिल्कियत पर भी सीलिंग लगनी चाहिए। दोनों सीलिंग साथ साथ लागू करनी चाहिए जिससे करोड़ों किसानों के मन में यह भय पैदा न हो जाय कि हमारे प्रति बुरा व्यवहार किया जाता है और शहरों में रहने वाले लोगों के साथ अच्छा व्यवहार किया जाता है। इसलिए मैं कहूँगा कि दोनों सीलिंग साथ साथ लगनी चाहिए।

दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो स्माल फार्मर्स हैं, मीडियम साइज फार्मर्स हैं उनको बैंकिंग की सुविधाएं मिलनी चाहिए। यह अभी तक नहीं मिली है। बैंकिंग की सुविधाएं खेती के लिए मिलें लेकिन जिनके पास एकोनामिक होल्डिंग नहीं है उन लोगों को पील्डी के लिए, डेयरी के लिए अच्छी से अच्छी सुविधाएं मिलें तो अपने छोटे से खेत पर डेयरी का बिजनेस कर सकते हैं या पील्डी का बिजनेस कर सकते हैं। इसके लिए भी उनकी बैंकिंग की सुविधाएं मिलनी चाहिए।..... (व्यवधान)..... एक मिनट और...

सभापति महोदय : पांच मिनट से ज्यादा हम किसी को नहीं देंगे क्योंकि हम लिस्ट के सभी नाम को पुकारना चाहते हैं और मिनिस्टर साहब को मैं पांच बजकर 20 मिनट पर बुला दूँगा। इसलिए आपलोग मेहरबानी करके पांच मिनट में खतम कर दीजिए।

श्री बेकारिया : एक बात खेत सुधार के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। इस देश के अन्दर कई लाख हेक्टर साल्टी जमीन है। उसके सुधारने के लिए जल्दी से जल्दी कुछ न कुछ किया जाय और इसके लिए जितनी बनराशि की जरूरत पड़े वह खर्च करने के लिए मिनिस्ट्री को तैयार रहना चाहिए।

एक बात मैं कम्यूनिटी डेवलपमेंट के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। छोटे छोटे गांव के लोग बड़े बड़े अफसरों के पास नहीं पहुँच सकते, ऐसे गांवों में ग्राम पंचायतों और कोऑपरेटिव सोसायटी का जल्दी से जल्दी विकास करना चाहिए और उनको सफल बनाने के लिये पूरा प्रयत्न करना चाहिए।

क्राफ्ट इंडोरेस के बारे में यहाँ पर कहा गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जब किसान बीज बोता है, उसी समय क्राफ्ट इंडोरेस किया जाना चाहिए और यदि किसी समय प्लड आए, फेमिन आये या किसी भी तरह की मुसीबत आये और उससे खेती नष्ट हो जाय तो उसको इंडोरेस का पैसा तुरन्त मिल जाय, इस प्रकार की स्कीम आपको सानी चाहिए।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस मांग का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI D. D. DESAI (Kaira) : I would not like to take the time of the House on matters which have been dealt with already. But there are a few items like cotton, tobacco, finance and related things on which I would like the Ministry's attention to be drawn.

You have mentioned that, last year, we imported Rs. 100 crores worth of cotton. This year we are having surplus cotton. Unfortunately the cotton growers are still finding themselves with large stocks on hand. The monsoon season is close and the stock are still not lifted. The Cotton Corporation which was directed to purchase the cotton has been playing a sort of double game : on the one hand they are saying that they are lifting cotton; and on the other hand they are saying privately that they are interested in disposing of the stocks, thus depressing the cotton prices in the market. We should, at the earliest, discontinue the import of cotton because we have already achieved a certain amount of self sufficiency. The finance that is available to cotton growers as loan is very low. The margin that is demanded today is of the order of 60 per cent. In other words, on even one crore rupees worth of goods the maximum

[Shri D. D. Desai

amount that a person can get is 40 per cent i.e. Rs. 40 lakhs whereas the same bale of cotton, if it goes into industry, will get it a loan of 75 per cent. The same is the case with oilseeds. We are talking of small scale industries. If a tin of oil is in a village small scale oil mill, a man can draw Rs. 25 as loan on Rs. 100 worth of goods, but the same tin of oil, the moment it enters into a vegetable ghee plant, will enable that unit to draw a loan of Rs. 75 on Rs. 100 worth of goods. Therefore, the small scale entrepreneur and the grower—both these people—are at a disadvantage compared to the industrial units.

Then, we have been talking about our green revolution successes. We would not rest on our oars but should establish water and soil analysis systems all over the country with the result that whatever reduction we have in trace elements and the deterioration in the food values of our crops are made up by introduction of trace elements along with fertilisers which is presently not done,

I now come to the question of cattle. We have on hand about 17 crores of cattle. Somehow or other this problem should be solved. Israel is one country which has succeeded in this respect. We have no relationship with that country, but all the same we might borrow some technology in respect of raising cattle breed. There are certain cows which give annually ten tonnes of Milk in Israel. My investigations in Sweden and Denmark have shown that the cows in those regions are not suitable because they have no sweating cells. But the crossbreeds developed in arid conditions like Israel have sweating cells and are, therefore, better suited to this country.

I know, Sir, you have given me a few minutes only. With these points, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Satyanarayan Rao.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO (Karimnagar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I start my speech, I will have to draw your attention to the procedure adopted by the Secretariate...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You need not go into it. You please speak on the subject. It is for the Chair to see whom to call and the Secretariat has nothing to do with it. You please speak on the subject...

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO : You must have some patience also. I want to draw your attention that if this is the attitude...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE : Mr. Rao, please go ahead.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO : In this session I have not spoken on any Ministry. Notice was given to me that ten minutes are given to me and that I can speak on any subject I want. I have chosen two subjects. Agriculture is one. Before hon. Mr. Shinde replied, I wanted to speak. What is the use of my speaking Now ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Secretariat does not call any hon. Member. It is the Chair which calls the Members. I call you to speak. If you want to speak, you can speak because the senior Minister is yet to reply.

AN HON. MEMBER : He does not want to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO (Bellary) : I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I find myself with the constraint of time and, therefore, I would not be able to say all the things I would like to have said. I will say them in some other Platform.

But what I would like to tell the House is this. Well, there is no doubt that we have done very well on the agricultural front. There is no doubt that in some ways, I think, this year marks a historic year in the history of Indian agricultural economy and the Indian food problem. For the first time, we have stopped imports of PL-480 foodgrains and for the first time, we have reached the record level of production which is more than the highest level of agricultural production reached about 10-12 years ago. But what I would like to draw the

attention of the hon. Minister to is this, that now we are going to face new sets of problems. I was very much impressed by the enthusiasm and the complete self-confidence of the Minister when he was speaking. but I was a little perturbed because during all his speech, he did not show any awareness though I know he was aware of it

SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE : Is will explain it. Distribution of subjects was made between myself and my senior colleague and hence did not touch this. The time also was limited.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO : I was only saying that the Government should become aware of the fact that we are going to face a set of problems, a new set of problems such as that you have not seen in the Indian agriculture for the last 15 to 20 years. For the last 15 to 20 years we here accustomed to a certain psychology of shortage, a certain psychology associated with shortage—public distribution and procurement etc. The position has changed enormously. I would like to give you one figure.

16 hrs.

If you take the figure of the years 1966-71, imports have fallen from 10.36 million tonnes to 2.10 million tonnes procurement went up from 4 million tonnes to 9 million tonnes and public distribution has gone down from 14 million tonnes to 7 million tonnes. I want that particular fact to be borne in mind by this House, that public distribution is coming down. If you take the question of wheat—particularly, wheat has been the star of the show—there has been an enormous increase in the production of wheat, something like more than three times, since the beginning of the planning period and the total procurement of what last year was 5 million tonnes and this year it is expected to be 6½ millions tonnes. But the distribution is steadily falling down and I think this is a matter on which very much more attention needs to be given.

The Minister said quite rightly that they are not going to stop with wheat, that they are going to extend the green revolution to rice, and other crops. There is a combination of these. On the one hand there is a large procurement. On the other hand there

is falling distribution. Falling distribution is not the fault of any particular organisation. Falling distribution is there because, people do not want to go and buy from the shops, because, they can get what they want from the open market and therefore this is a question which must be taken into account when we talk of the price policy, when we talk of buffer stocks, when we talk of distribution system and so on. As it is, the Budget is placing a burden of Rs 132 crores on account of the wheat prices I don't want to enter into any details on this subject, but, at this stage, I should go on record, as saying, I regret the decision of the Government for having accepted the recommendation or the consensus of the Chief Ministers, conference regarding the present level of the procurement price of wheat. What is the issue price of wheat? It is Rs. 78. Now, what is the issue price of rice? The procurement price of rice Rs. 74.3 to Rs. 99. The issue price of rice is Rs. 100 to Rs. 128, there is a difference of Rs 25 to Rs. 29. In the case of wheat this difference is only Rs. 2. I hope the hon. Minister will tell about this when he replies to the Debate, because, there are a large number of rice consumers in this country. The total distribution is almost the same as between rice and wheat. Then, why should there be this discrimination between the rice consumers and wheat consumers? Rice consumers pay Rs 25 to Rs. 29 more on the procurement price whereas the wheat consumers pay only Rs. 2. Why should there be this discrimination?

I know the Minister will tell us, this is due to historical reasons and so on. But I may say, those historical reasons disappeared with enormous production and I would like the hon. Minister to deal with this when he replies.

Then, there are certain commodity imbalances coming up. I had said earlier elsewhere that green revolution is going to bring the problem of public distribution. We are all aware of it; everybody talks about it. I would have been glad if the hon. Minister had given the House a whole history of the growth of the different commodities.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He may try to conclude,

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO : Actually I did not want to speak. Sometimes, I think, Sir, there is no point for a person who is a professor and economist to seek election and come to the House, (*Interruption*) it looks as if the Chair is interested only in equal distribution of the time to all the hon. Members. . .

MR CHAIRMAN : You may continue,

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO : I don't want to go in to detail with regard to commodity imbalances. There are fluctuations with regard to output of jawar, bajra and so on; one year they go up, the next year they come down. Quite apart from that, from the regional point of view, I was trying to look at the figures procurement figures for example, which are given. I find there are certain traditionally rice-growing States, like, for example, Andhra, Orissa and so on and Assam.

These were; three original traditionally rice-growing States, which once had a very big rice surplus. But during the last four years, look at the record of their production. Rice production has gone down in these States, but in the non-traditionally rice-growing States, the production has gone up. In Tamil Nadu also, the production came down; Still, it has not reached its particular level. And the Tamil Nadu Government has also stopped the procurement system. Why? I suppose the hon. Minister will be able to tell us the reasons for this, when he replies to the debate, why in the traditionally rice growing States, the rice production is coming down, while as the hon. Minister said with such great cheerfulness, in Punjab, Haryana, UP and MP it is going up. UP is now growing more rice. Madhya Pradesh is growing much more rice, and Punjab and Haryana, are growing much more rice I do not want to raise any kind of regional or parochial sentiments at all, and it would be very wrong on my part to do so, because we are a united country. But we also know that we are living in a world of reality, and we have to recognise in time that the kind of agricultural revolution and strategy that Government are planning, while undoubtedly it is resulting in increase in production, is, however, creating regional imbalances; it is creating commodity imbalances, the consequence of which so cially and

politically would be seen in the next three or four years, if some serious attempt is not made to try and reverse the trend as far as possible.

I know that Government are all the time talking about dry farming and dry areas and so on. But what is the progress in production in dry areas? What is the concrete programme for increasing production in the dry areas? Are Government going to get a kind of division of the country such that dry areas will have lower and lower agricultural incomes while the irrigated areas and the rain-fed areas will have larger and larger agricultural incomes? Then, on the top of that, what is the price policy that they are going to adopt?

I was just taking a look at the figures in regard to the stocks. We started this year with a stock, I am told, on 1st March, of 7.4 million tonnes in the Government godowns. We may release 1.8 million tonnes in April and May. That will give us 5.6 million tonnes as the available storage space, even if we take out the 1.8 million tonnes. We are proposing to procure 6.5 million tonnes of wheat. As you know, this wheat is to be procured in about six weeks' time. You cannot wait till the monsoon to procure it. The wheat has to be procured between the end of April and the end of May, or between the middle of April and the end of May, which means we have a storage capacity of over 8.1 million tonnes, and we shall have a strain on the storage capacity to the extent of 12 million tonnes; even if we increase the storage capacity by about a million tonnes or so, we shall still need about three to four million tonnes storage capacity, which would mean that the grains would be left in the open or stored in the open; it is no use blaming the railways for it. Where will the railways take it? So, it seems to me that this again is a point on which the country would like to hear from the hon. Minister when he replies what concrete storage measures they propose to take to deal with this enormous addition that is going to be made on the storage demand, as soon as the wheat procurement season starts and gets into full swing.

I do not think that I should take advantage of your generosity. Finally, there is one other very important point that I would

like to mention. I have the feeling that as production grows, the distribution is coming down; in the case of wheat, for example, it has come down. We shall have at the end of 1972, probably a wheat stock of about 5 to 6 million tonnes, and there is no doubt that wheat production is going to grow. I must pay my fullest tribute to the Indian scientists, the Indian factory workers and the Indian peasants and also to the Government of India for the way in which they have been able to increase production. But if we are going to buy it, then the question of prices comes in. I think that it is going to be extended to other crops. We had once the minimum price. Still, there is a theoretical minimum price for paddy, a theoretical minimum price for jowar, bajra and so on. But in the case of wheat, the minimum price has been merged into the procurement price; I quite understand it because I am told that it is very difficult to distinguish between the procurement price and the minimum price, because the rich farmers are getting more by getting a higher procurement price, while the poor fellows are left in the lurch and they will have to get only the minimum price. But if Government are going to make the procurement price the minimum price, I would like to ask the hon. Minister to tell the House the economics of what the difference between the procurement price and the minimum price is. If circumstances have made it necessary for us to equate the procurement price with the minimum price, what are the principles that he proposes to apply? I think it is very important to know it because procurement price becoming the minimum price means that we shall buy any quantity offered of the commodity at the particular price, and we have got to store it and we have got to sell it; and if we cannot sell it through the distribution system, what shall we do? Are we going to export it? We all know that we cannot export our agricultural food products except at heavy subsidies. Are we going to use it in the rural works programme? Are we going to make use of it in creating rural employment, in the nutrition programme and so on. Very good, if it happens. But it means a tremendous amount of expenditure.

Before I sit down, I would say that a new situation has arisen in India's agricultural economy. I do not think we should

get into the stage of the US. We know that the US has got no public distribution system of wheat. In fact, they tried in the thirties under the Stamp method, to make people consume more wheat. But in spite of all such attempts, they found they had large surpluses of wheat. Then there was the PL-480 programme. Are we going to have a PL-480 programme? Who is going to pay? It would be wonderful if we had such a programme, but where is the money to come from? At this moment if I may be parochial for a moment--Mysore is having tremendous difficulty in trying to induce the Centre to give them what they lost by the Finance Commission's award. But the Centre say they have got no money. Here we are spending Rs. 130 crores this year. I suggest if we do not take an integrated look at the whole thing, the subsidy may rise from Rs. 130 crores to Rs. 200 crores, Rs. 300 crores or Rs. 400 crores within a not immeasurable distance of time, quite apart from storage and other problems.

I would, therefore, ask the Ministry to ask the Agricultural Prices Commission not only to produce a report on khariff grain prices, cotton prices, or jute prices or wheat prices, but to produce a special report taking all the prices together, what will be the relative price, what should be the commodity pattern, what is going to be happen if there is a distribution system, how much the Government should procure, what should they do with what they procure. All these are questions which did not emerge earlier. But they have emerged now as the very result of the success which the Minister has quite so rightly lauded of the agricultural policy of the Government of India. I hope and trust that the Government will act in time, take up these problems and try to find some answers for them before they themselves are faced with even more difficulties than they faced when we were having the problem of shortage.

In this connection. I must say that the Government's very hasty rejection, after all the build-up given earlier, of the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission, is not a good pointer. It is surprising how suddenly they came to accept the consensus of the Chief Ministers--mening thereby, I suppose, the three Chief Ministers

concerned. This does not give me encouragement that Government has yet mustered up sufficient courage to deal with all the aspects of the problems with which we are going to be faced as a result of what I call the success of the new agricultural strategy.

SHRI. M. SATYANARYAN RAO (Karimnagar) : I wanted to raise the same points which Dr. Rao was raising here.

Recently, we had been to so many places thanks to the courtesy of Shri Shinde who provided all the facilities for some members to visit all the research centres. We have seen what is the green revolution. Therefore, I really salute the farmers, scientists and engineers responsible for this.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru)
Agricultural labourers also.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO :
They are also included in farmers.

While I am happy, I am also unhappy. The reason is that only Punjab, Haryana, West UP and some other areas are developing whereas other regions are being neglected. I do not say they are intentionally neglected, but they are being neglected. When I visited those developed areas, I saw not only big farmers but even medium and small farmers having tractors. I want to see such a state of affairs in the whole country. If that happens, I will be the happiest person.

I do not know why the southern region is being neglected. Dr. Rao has pleaded for the rice-eating areas. We have achieved self-sufficiency in wheat production, but what about rice production? Why have we not done so, although more 50 per cent of our countrymen eat rice. But even then, why it is neglected, I do not know. I want a categorical answer from the Ministry about this matter.

We speak about the green revolution. It is not sufficient; let us have a white revolution also. I have seen with my own eyes; there is a dairy from research centre. We must develop all this. Not only should we develop dairying, but also fisheries and horticulture. Vegetables are necessary and fishery development is also necessary. Fish is an important food.

Moreover, I have already told Mr. Shinde that we are neglecting forestry. Although we have got a rich forest land, we are neglecting it. Forests are very essential for the development of the country. Of course, we have achieved remarkable results in the production of foodgrains. But forests should also be taken into consideration whenever we formulate our policy.

About cotton also, it is being improved in the southern region also, particularly in Andhra Pradesh. I have not seen in other parts, but in Andhra Pradesh, the Agricultural Department is now encouraging the production of cotton also. Further, I suggest that some research centres must be set up in Southern India also; not only in Andhra Pradesh but in other regions also.

May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the research centres that are set up in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh? I want to know why such centres are not set up in the southern region also. If the farmers want to get any training from such centres and gain experience they have to come all the way from the south, travel 1,000 or 1,500 miles, to the north. It is not possible for any farmer to come like that. They have to know what is happening in relation to the research and what methods should be adopted. Farmers are also working in the southern regions and they are also interested in this and they are also very progressive farmers. In view of this, these research centres should be established in the south also.

When I visited Karnal recently, I suggested to the Director, and he said that they are also doing that. I wish to draw the attention of the Minister also to this aspect, and take into consideration this aspect particularly, namely, opening of research centres in the southern region also. It should not only be done in northern India; may be you have got facilities here.

One other aspect is this. About agriculture, we have achieved self-sufficiency, and you are doing everything. I congratulate the Ministry of Agriculture as well as its officers, everybody. I will have to appreciate their enthusiasm. They are working not only as workers but are working with enthusiasm with the feeling that this is our nation and we should produce more.

With such enthusiasm they are working. We must congratulate them all, and I should think that this house should extend its congratulation to the Ministry and all its departments.

I now come to the Telengana region. You may say that whenever I speak I always come to that point only. But as you know, it is a neglected area and so it deserves your attention.

SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE : We are friends of Telengana.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO : You are our friend, but even then, you must give more consideration to that region. It is most neglected not only from that point of view of agriculture but from every point of view, whether industry or any other thing. So, please have some consideration for my region also.

Lastly—I do not want to take up much time of the house and because most of my points have been covered by my predecessors—I want to emphasise only one point, and that is, the regional imbalances should go. For that, please tell us what steps you are going to take.

श्री चकलेश्वर सिंह : समापति महोदय, जब मुझे इस सदन में कृषि पर बोलने के लिये समय मिला है, तब मुझे यह डर भी लगता है कि धारा न जाने कब मुझे बिठा देंगे। इसलिए मैं कोई विस्तृत व्याख्या न करके कृषि के सम्बन्ध में केवल अपने विचार ही व्यक्त करूंगा। जब हमारा देश पराधीन था, तो विदेशी पूंजीवादी सरकार ने हमारे गांवों के, जहां देश कि अस्सी प्रतिशत जनता रहती है, उन कुटीर उद्योगों को समाप्त कर दिया, जिनके द्वारा यह अपनी जीविका उपार्जित करती है। आजादी का चरण छाते छाते हमने यह भी देखा कि देहात से यह तेल घानी के कोल्हू उखड़ गए, जुलाहे के करघे उखड़ बये, वह हमारा चमड़ा उद्योग नष्ट हो गया। और इस तरह से हमारी इस कृषि प्रधान धरती पर भूमिहीनों का मार झतना अधिक बढ़ गया कि आज वह हमारे लिये एक समस्या है। यह समस्या जहां हमारे देश के बरदान के लिए एक बरदान ही

सकती है, वहां वह एक अभिशाप भी है। अभिशाप इस माने में है कि जब हम आंकड़ें देखते हैं और कृषि की हालत देखते हैं तो हम यह कह सकते हैं कि हमारी 80 प्रतिशत जनता गांवों में है और कृषि योग्य भूमि पर 70 प्रतिशत पर हम स्नायान्न पैदा करते हैं, 9 प्रतिशत पर तेलहन पैदा करते हैं। 5 प्रतिशत पर कासस पैदा करते हैं और 11 प्रतिशत पर जूट, गन्ना फसलें आदि पैदा करते हैं। यह जाहिर है कि हमारी समस्या हमारे पेट की समस्या और है और हम गत तीन पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में इस समस्या को पूरा करने के लिए, देश के लोगों को अन्न देने के लिये, दरवाजे दरवाजे भटकते रहे, अपने देश में साधन उपलब्ध करते रहे और आज यह गौरव का दिन मिला जब 1971 में आकर के देश में यह स्वाभिमान पैदा हुआ कि हम दूसरों से रोटी न मांगें, हम दूसरों को रोटी दे सकते हैं। यह उपलब्धि हमको किन कारणों से हुई? हम अपने किसानों को इसके लिये धन्यवाद दें, उन मेहनतकश लोगों को धन्यवाद दें जिन्होंने अपने श्रमकण से अन्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाया और अंत में मैं यह भी कह दूँ तो शायद अतिशयोक्ति नहीं होगी कि हम माननीय मंत्री महोदय को भी इसके लिये धन्यवाद देते हैं कि उन्होंने यह गौरव प्राप्त किया, साथ साथ इसके लिए भी कि उन्होंने गिरते हुए किसान के दिल को जरा धाम्ह लिया, उन्होंने गेहूँ के दाम गिराये नहीं ज्यों का त्यों रख दिया।

मैं अब यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश की काफी भूमि ऐसी है जो कृषि के योग्य बनाई जा सकती है और काफ़ी जमीन ऐसी है जिसके लिए यह आवश्यकता है कि धारा खंड प्रिटिलाइजेशन सर्वे कराएँ और इस बात का पता लगायें कि कौन सी भूमि देश की किस योग्य है और उस भूमि में उसी प्रकार की पैदावार हो, साथ ही साथ उसके लिए उसी प्रकार की व्यवस्था भी उपलब्ध कराई जाए। यह सरकार की सबसे बड़ी जिम्मेदारी है जो

[श्री चकलेस्वर सिंह]

हमें खाद्यान्न में आराम निर्भर करने में बहुत बड़ी सहायक हो सकती है। किसान के लिए सब से बड़ा दुर्भाग्य यह है कि उसकी आस्थायें, उसकी संस्कृति ऐसी है, उसे घरही माता से इतना बोह है कि वह कहता है— बाप की पोखर में कीच खाय रहियो, कितना भी भूखा रह जाय, कितनी भी यातनाएं सह ले, कितना भी कष्ट का जीवन व्यतीत कर ले, घरती माता के मोह से अपने को पृथक नहीं कर सकता और कहाँ इतना उबारवादी उसका स्वभाव है कि वह कहता है—गम की चिड़िया, राम का खेत, लाभो चिड़िया भर भर पेट। इतने सरल और सीधे किसान को मन्त्री महोदय का ध्यान में आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ जहाँ सरकार ने उसके गल्ले का सही दाम उसे मिले, इसकी व्यवस्था की, जैसे आपने जमींदारों को खत्म किया, जागीरदारों को खत्म किया। वहाँ न जाने कितने बिचौलिए किसान की छाती हर पैदा हो गए और आप की सारी व्यवस्था के बावजूद, मैं यह कह सकता हूँ, मथुरा जिले से मैंने यह पत्र लिखा था, वहाँ के जिला मजिस्ट्रेट ने भी स्वीकार किया है कि किसानों की लूट हो रही है, हम उनको सही मूल्य नहीं दिला सके बावजूद आपकी सारी व्यवस्था के, तो मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि किसान को इन बिचौलियों से और इन पूँजीवादी मनोवृत्ति के लोगों से बचाइए। देश के उत्पादन में यदि आप प्राकड़ों से पता लगाए तो यह स्पष्ट हो जायगा कि इस हरित क्रांति के हीरो 20 एकड़ से ऊपर वाले किसान है जिनकी संख्या 25 लाख से ऊपर है। 50 एकड़ से ऊपर वाले 50 हजार हैं और 20 से 50 एकड़ तक 20 लाख 90 हजार, 10 से 20 एकड़ तक 56 लाख 50 हजार हैं। उन्हीं को इन विकास योजनाओं का लाभ मिला है, उन्होने उत्पादन में सक्रिय सहयोग दिया है, लेकिन जो सबसे बड़ी संख्या है वह एक एकड़

से पांच एकड़ वाले किसानों की है जो भलाभकर जोतों से अपना जीवन-यापन कर रहे हैं, उनके लिए सुविधाएं प्रदान की जायं और आपको मंत्रालय उनकी ओर विशेष ध्यान दे, कहीं ऐसा न हो कि ये छोटे किसान लंब-लैस लेबर में बदल जायं और पीछे से जो विकास हो रहा है, जो क्रांति हो रही है, वह हुदशा की ओर चली जाय।

छोटे किसानों को सहकारिता से भी बचा लीजिये। सहकारिता आन्दोलन किसानों के विकास के लिये है, लेकिन मैं कह सकता हूँ, मुझे दूसरे प्रदेशों की जानकारी नहीं है, लेकिन मैं उत्तरप्रदेश के सम्बन्ध में कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे यहाँ के छोटे किसान बगैर कोई सहायता लिये, बगैर कोई कर्जा लिए कर्जदार हैं, उन्हें पता भी नहीं है, लेकिन उनको कर्जदार बना लिया गया है। प्रबन्ध संचालकों ने और संचालकों ने इस प्रकार उनका शोषण किया है, यदि आप जांच कराये तो आपको पता लग जायगा कि किसानों को किस कदर लूटा गया है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस माग का समर्थन करना हूँ और इस आशा और विश्वास के साथ समर्थन करता हूँ कि आप मेरे सुझावों पर ध्यान देंगे और किसान की हालत को किसान के दिल से देखेंगे।

श्री चिरंजीव झा (सहरसा) : सभापति महोदय, जहाँ मैं कृषि मंत्रालय को धन्यवाद देता हूँ, वहाँ अपने देश के किसानों को भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ, जिन्होंने वर्ष की विषम स्थिति के बावजूद इस वर्ष ऐसी पैदावार करके दिखावाई कि आज हरेक दूसरे के सामने हाथ पसारने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं। लेकिन साथ ही मैं उन चुटियों की ओर भी इस मंत्रालय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ जिनके अन्तर्गत बरीब किसान, मध्यम वर्ग के किसान और मजदूर जुल्म के नीचे पीसे जा रहे हैं।

सभापति महोदय, हम लोग गांव से आते हैं, गांव की स्थिति क्या है? हमारे मंत्रालय के

नियम और कानून सब सही हैं, इनकी तरफ से आदेश है कि किसान को समय पर कर्ज मिलना चाहिये। लेकिन होता क्या है? किसान को कभी समय पर कर्ज नहीं मिलता, भ्राज वे चारों ओर से लूटे जा रहे हैं। इनकी हालत इतनी दयनीय हो चली है कि मालूम नहीं पड़ता है कि समाज के शोषक वर्ग के जो लोग हैं, वे भ्राज देश के अन्दर समाजवाद सही रूप में लाने देंगे—इसमें सन्देह हो रहा है।

क्या होता है? जब लोगों को सरकार की ओर से कर्ज नहीं मिलता है तो उन्हें अपनी उपजाऊ जमीन साहूकार के पास गिरवी रख कर कर्ज लेना पड़ता है और वह साहूकार उनकी गारी फसल मूद में लेकर चला जाता है। वह बेचारा कभी पनप नहीं सकता, उसकी जमीन उनके चंगुल में कभी निकल नहीं सकती। इसी तरह में जब फसल तैयार होने को आती है, उसके घर में बिमारी होती है, लड़की की गादी होती है या कोई आवश्यक काम पड़ता है तो उसे ऋण नहीं मिल सकता, तब वह किसी महाजन धनी-मानी के यहां जाता है। तब वह महाजन उससे कहता है कि अगर तुम अपनी फसल को हमारे हाथ कम कीमत पर बेच दो, इस ऋण के बदले, तब मैं तुमको रुपया दूंगा और उसको ऐसा वायदा करना पड़ता है। मैं आपको बताऊं कि जो पाट 40 रुपये मन में बच सकता है, उसे उस महाजन के हाथ अपने बादे के अनुसार 15 रु० और 20 रु० मन में बेचना पड़ता है। मैं पूछता हूँ—अगर इसी तरह से किसान लूटे जाते रहे तो क्या कभी समाजवाद आएगा? और अब उनकी हालत सुधर सकेगी। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ इस ओर मंत्रालय का ध्यान जाये और सही रूप में उनके जो निर्देश हैं उनका पालन हो और समय पर उनको पैसा मिले— इस तरह की स्थिति पैदा होनी चाहिए।

इसरी बात यह है कि आज हमारे यहां

बिहार में, खासकर मैं जहां से आ रहा हूँ, पूर्णिया और सहरसा जिले की बात में आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि वहां के करीब 80 प्रतिशत किसानों के बिल मर चुके हैं। आज किसानों के पास बिल खरीदने के लिए पैसा नहीं है और पैसा कहीं से मिल भी नहीं रहा है। ऐसी दशा में पूरी आशंका है कि उनकी खेती मारी जायेगी। पता नहीं कैसे उनकी स्थिति सम्हलेगी। इसलिये सरकार को तुरन्त इसका इन्तजाम करना चाहिए। साथ ही कम हास पैावर के ट्रैक्टर का निर्माण भी किया जाना चाहिये। अब जो भूमि की सीमा का निर्धारण हो रहा है, दस एकड़ जमीन किसानों के पास छोड़ रहे हैं तब वे किसान चालीस पचास हजार का ट्रैक्टर कहां से खरीद सकेंगे और वे उसको लेकर भी क्या करेंगे? इसलिये तुरन्त ही दस पन्द्रह हास पैावर के ट्रैक्टर का निर्माण किया जाना चाहिये और वह किसानों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में गोहैया किया जाना चाहिए ताकि किसान उससे अपनी खेती कर सकें। बिहार एग्री इंस्टीट्यूट का परिषद ने बहुत दिन हुए इसके लिये आवेदन-पत्र दिया था मिनिस्ट्री के पास लेकिन उसकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं हो रही है। वे ट्रैक्टर बनाने के लिए इंस्टीट्यूट की सारी व्यवस्था कर चुके हैं इसलिये उनको फौरन इसकी अनुमति मिलनी चाहिये।

इसके साथ ही साथ छोटे छोटे कृषि भोजार भी बनाये जाने चाहिए। अब भूमि सीमा निर्धारण के बाद जो जमीन निकलेगी वह वह भूमि-हीनों में बटेगी और कुछ ग्रंथों में भूमिहीनता मिटने के बाद मजदूरों की भी कुछ कमी हो जायेगी। इसलिये शीघ्र जमीन की चकबन्दी कर दी जानी चाहिये फिर छोटे छोटे भोजारों का निर्माण किया जाना चाहिये जिनका उपयोग कम मजदूरों के द्वारा ही खेती में किया जा सके और बृहद रूप में मजदूरों का प्रभाव न लाने इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

सभापति महोदय : आप समाप्त कीजिए ।

श्री चिरंजीव भ्वा : अभी तक हमारे यहां कोसी तटबन्ध से बाहर भी सिंचाई की पूरी सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं हो सकी है जहां नहर की व्यवस्था है भी, समय पर फसल को पानी नहीं मिल पाता । एक बड़ी खुशी की बात है—मंत्रालय को शायद पता हो या न हो— कि बिहार के सहरसा और पूर्णिया जिले में बांस बोरिंग का प्रबन्ध स्वयं जनता ने किया है जिससे डेढ़ कौ, दो सौ रुपये में बोरिंग हो जाता है और सबसे सिंचाई की सुविधा प्राप्त हो रही है परन्तु खेद की बात यह है कि ऐसे बोरिंग को भी अभी तक बिजली नहीं मिल पायी है । इस प्रकार की स्थिति वहां पर है ।... (व्यवधान).....

एक और बहुत जरूरी बात है । रासायनिक खाद का प्रयोग बड़े षड्ले से होता है लेकिन उसके कुपरिणाम की ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता । यद्यपि हमारे यहां बिहार में खाद की इतनी ज्यादा मांग है कि उसकी सप्लाई नहीं हो पा रही है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से अप्रह्व करूंगा कि खाद की पूरी व्यवस्था वहां पर होनी चाहिए सिन्दरी खाद कारखाने से 75% खाद बिहार को दी जानी चाहिए । बिना जांच पड़ताल के और बिना जानकारी के रासायनिक खाद के प्रयोग के परिणाम की तरफ भी ध्यान जाना चाहिए । मिट्टी की जांच होनी चाहिये और उसकी जांच किये बिना रासायनिक खाद का प्रयोग हानिकारक होगा । साथ ही हरी खाद एव कम्पोस्ट खाद के प्रयोग को भी प्रोत्साहन मिलना चाहिये ।

सभापति महोदय : आप समाप्त कीजिये । अब और मैं एलाऊ नहीं करूंगा ।

श्री चिरंजीव भ्वा : एक व्यावहारिक बात आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि समुन्नत बीज का बहुत प्रचार हुआ है इसमें बड़ी सफलता भी मिली है । आप जानते हैं कि लत वर्ष बरदास में बिहार

का सारा गेहूँ नष्ट हो गया और उसके बदले- इस बाब बाहर से जो बीज गेहूँ का दिया गया वह समुन्नत बीज तो था लोगों ने उसको खरीदा भी गवर्नमेंट से कर्ज लेकर, लेकिन उसकी हालत क्या है ? इस तरह का अधिकांश बीज दिया गया जो कि 15 नवम्बर तक बोना चाहिये था लेकिन वह बोया गया दिसम्बर या जनवरी में । चूँकि उस समय तक जमीन बोने के लायक नहीं हो सकी थी, जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि वह सब गेहूँ बरबाद हो गया लेकिन लोगों के सिर पर उसका कर्जा चढ़ा हुआ है । अतः सरकार इसकी जांच कराये कि ऐसा क्यों हुआ ? इसलिए परिस्थिति के अनुसार जहां पर जिस तरह के बीज की आवश्यकता हो उसीको मोहैया किया जाना चाहिये ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ ।

श्री राम सहाय पांडे : श्री शिंदे साहब जब जबाब दे रहे थे तो उन्होंने कई बातें कहीं । मैंने और बनाना का ऐक्सपोर्ट नहीं होना चाहिये । मैं राय देता हूँ कि this must not be exported. It does not matter if we earn a little less of foreign exchange. This export of Bananas and mangoes should be banned.

SHRI S. B. PATIL (Bagalkot) : Mr, Chairman, I am very thankful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak in this august House on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Agriculture. I will confine my speech to only a few important points like prices of foodgrains, procurement price, glut in the cotton market and land reforms. Because of the limited time at my disposal, I will not be able to touch other important points.

Only a little earlier I was reading in the library an article on the cost of cultivation studied by the various universities. The Research Director of the Mysore University has quoted some very important figures there. A study was made of the cost of cultivation in various regions of Mysore and the cost of cultivation comes to Rs. 800 per acre. The average yield comes to 12 quintals. The

market price for wheat in Mysore is Rs. 88 per quintal. So, for 12 quintals it comes to Rs. 1,056. The procurement price fixed for the current season is Rs. 76 and at that rate it comes to Rs. 912. So, after deducting the cost of cultivation, the farmer will get only Rs. 112 or 120. It is not fair or reasonable. The procurement price fixed at present is not a tall remunerative. Therefore, the agricultural prices Commission has to go into this matter, take into consideration all factors and fix remunerative price.

The Punjab University scientists have also studied this problem in Harayna. According to them, in the case of irrigated areas the income was as high as Rs. 984 per acre from wheat whereas the expenditure per acre came to Rs. 636. Therefore, I would submit that the prices fixed by the government should be remunerative to the farmers.

According to the Food Corporation of India, if we study the details of the economic cost of it, procurement of indigenous wheat is Rs. 76 a quintal; procurement charges come to Rs. 11/02; and storage, movement and distribution charges come to Rs. 6/94. The total economic cost of procurement, excluding carrying charges to the buffer stock, comes to Rs. 93/96. If we add to this the carrying charges of the buffer stock, which are Rs. 7/94, it comes to Rs. 101/90. The overhead cost for the FCI is about Rs. 25/90

The FCI is selling it to the State Governments at the rate of Rs. 78 a quintal, even though it costs them Rs. 101/90 including the cost of buffer stock. So, the Government of India is subsidising at the rate of Rs. 26 a quintal of wheat. The wheat growers are getting a subsidy at the rate of Rs. 25 or Rs. 26 a quintal but rice, jowar and oilseeds growers are not getting even a single paisa from the Government as subsidy.

If we look at the economic cost of rice, we find that the Food Corporation is purchasing rice at the rate of Rs. 74 to Rs. 99 a quintal, the issue price to the State Governments is Rs. 100 to Rs. 128 and the retail price to the consumer is Rs. 112 to Rs. 140. The procurement price of jowar is Rs. 55; the issue price is Rs. 72 and the retail price to the consumer is Rs. 79 to Rs. 80. The rice and jowar growing area people are not at all getting a single paisa from this Government as subsidy.

Regarding the cotton glut, cotton is an important commodity and is declared as an essential commodity in the country, but it is persistently subjected to the unimaginative Government controls on its production, distribution, consumption, price, storage and advances. Each and every form of Government control has failed to produce the desired results. Ultimately, the sufferers have been the innocent growers and the poor consumers. All the cotton is rotting in the market shops of Mysore, Gujrat and various places. Therefore, I request that something should be done by the Government immediately to clear off all the stocks which are there.

Then, talks have been made about land reforms in the country for the last many years but nothing has been done by this Government and any State Government. The Central Land Reforms Committee has recommended a ceiling of 10 to 18 acres but I am sorry to say that the landlords have already transferred their lands to their relatives in one form or the other. Therefore I request the Government that at least the Central Government should direct the State Governments to pass important laws like land reform laws.

Finally, regarding exemptions. The recent Chief Ministers' Conference exempted plantations from the ceiling. Why should plantations get preference over mechanised or any other farms?

With these words, I support the Demands.

श्री राम कंबर (टोक) : सभापति महोदय, कृषि मंत्रालय की अनुदान की मांगों पर मैं बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। जिन किसानों ने कड़ी मेहनत करके जनाज की पैदावार बढ़ाई है, इस भवसर का लाभ उठाते हुए मैं उनको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ।

साथ-साथ जो छोटे किसान हैं, जो सेइयूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं, उनको मैं धाय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि बेती करने का बहुत ज्यादा तजुर्बा है। वे लोग इस एग्रिकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट से बहुत ज्यादा आशायें लगाए हुए हैं। वे भाज तक बड़े किसानों को कमाकर बेते रहे हैं उनको बेती

[श्री रामकवर]

उपजाऊ बना कर देते आ रहे हैं। उनकी तरफ आप का विशेष ध्यान जाना चाहिये। मंत्री महोदय से मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि शीड्यूल्ड कास्ट के भाइयों को, जो मजदूरी करते हैं और जिनके पास अपनी जमीन नहीं है उनके वास्ते भी कुछ दिया जाए, उनको भी जमीन दी जाए। जो खेतों में मजदूरी करते हैं उनकी चर्चा हाउस में बहुत कम होती है। जब कभी भी हाउस में मजदूरों की चर्चा होती है तो उन्हीं मजदूरों की होती है जो, कि बल कारखानों में काम करते हैं। लेकिन ये जो कृषि मजदूर हैं, जो चलते-फिरते मजदूर हैं इनकी तरफ सरकार का ध्यान नहीं जाता है इनके वास्ते उचित मजदूरी की सरकार की तरफ से कभी कोई घोषणा नहीं होती है। कल मंत्री महोदय बता रहे थे कि अपने वक्तव्य में कि एक ऐसी योजना बह बना रहे है कि हर मजदूर को सौ रुपया माहवार मजदूरी मिले। मैं उनसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि आठ घंटे काम करके, आठ घंटे मजदूरी करके वे सौ रुपये में कैसे काम चला सकते हैं, कैसे अपना कुछ भला कर सकते हैं, जबकि साधारण जो कर्मचारी है, उनको भी आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि चार पांच सौ रुपया महीना तनख्वाह मिलती है। ये जो मजदूर हैं ये हड़ताल भी नहीं कर सकते हैं और नाना प्रकार की तकलीफों का इनको सामना करना पड़ता है। लेकिन वे मजदूर जिनको ज्यादा पैसे मिलते हैं जो कारखानों में काम करते हैं वे हड़ताल जब करते हैं तो आप उनकी भागों को मान लेते हैं। इस वास्ते मेरा निवेदन है कि जो खेती करने के इच्छुक हैं उनको खेती की जमीन दी जाए और मजदूरी करने के इच्छुक हैं, उनको उचित मजदूरी दे कर काम पर लगाया जाए। इन लोगों में जो थोड़े बहुत पड़े लिखें है और जो शीड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं, उनको मिलिटरी में भी भरती किया जाना चाहिये।

और जगह भी ऐसा हुआ होगा लेकिन मैं खास तौर पर राजस्थान की बात करना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर शीड्यूल्ड कास्ट के कुछ लोगों को पिछले दस पन्द्रह वर्षों में जो जमीनें अलाट की गई है कुछ तो व्यक्तिगत आधार पर और कुछ कृषि सहकारी समितियों के आधार पर उनमें कुछ ऐसी जमीनें भी है जिनके नीचे पानी भी है लेकिन सरकार के तरफ से बार-बार प्रार्थना करने पर भी उनको कुआ बनाने के लिए या ट्यूबवैल लगा वे के लिए बजट आदि की सहूलियत नहीं दी गई है। जिन जमीनों पर वे पड़े हुए है वहाँ अगर बरसात ठीक हो जाती है तो उपज हो जाती है और अगर नहीं होती है तो वहाँ कुछ उपजता नहीं है। उनका एक मंत्री वहाँ रहता है और अन्य जो चार पांच मंत्री घर में होते हैं वे देश में इधर उधर भटकते फिरते रहते हैं। राजस्थान में हालत इस चीज को लेकर बहुत गम्भीर हो गई है। कृषि उपमन्त्री पहाड़िया इसको अच्छी तरह के जानते है।

आप यह भी देखें कि वहाँ पर शीड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोगों को जो जमीन अलाट की भी गई है, उसकी स्थिति क्या है? पचास परसेंट केसिस में भगड़े चल रहे हैं, मुकदमे चल रहे हैं। ये जो भगड़े वाली जमीनें हैं ये इन बेचारों को क्यों दी जाती है? जब भगड़े चल रहे होते हैं तो वे लोग मजदूरी भी स्वतंत्र रूप से नहीं कर सकते हैं। इस और भी आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

सरकार के पास लाखों एकड़ जमीन ऐसी पड़ी हुई है जहाँ पर जंगलात नहीं हैं लेकिन जो फारेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट की जमीन है इन लोगों को वहाँ बसाया जा सकता है और वह जमीन इनको दी जा सकती है और उस जमीन में पैदा करके वे अपनी गरीबी का कुछ हल निकाल सकते हैं।

छोटे छोटे किसान हैं, उन तक यह सरकार अभी तक पहुँच नहीं पाई है। उनके बोट प्राप्त करने के लिए भी किसी भीर बादमी से सौदे-बाजी की जानी है जो कहता है कि ये बोट उसके हैं। जो जंगलात पड़े हुए हैं, उनमें इन लोगों को जमीन दी जाये, वनां वे उसको जोतने लग जायेंगे और वहाँ बस जायेंगे, फिर सरकार जो चाहे करे।

सभापति महोदय : माननीय सदस्य अब समाप्त करे।

श्री रामकवर : सभापति महोदय, मैं एक दो मिनट और लूँगा।

सभापति महोदय : नहीं। श्री जमीरुद्दुल्लान

SHRI MD. JAMILURRHMAN (Kishan' gan) : I fully support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture. I would, however, like to make a few points.

Mr. Chairman, you are fully aware of the fact that Bihar has got 86 per cent of its people on agriculture. Most of the farmers are small farmers, small land-holders and that too with a large number of fragmentations of holdings. Therefore, I would suggest of the Ministry that the scheme of consolidation of holdings should be taken up at once. A direction should be given to the State Government that these programmes should be finished within a period of two years.

Secondly, irrigation facilities in the State of Bihar are available only to 30 per cent of the cultivated area. The Kosi Canal scheme has failed ; it has not been able to meet all the demands of the people ; it has not been successful. There is no land leveling scheme in the area. Therefore, the irrigation water is not at all accessible to the fields. There is not sufficient boring in the States of Bihar and that needs the attention of the Ministry. I may mention here that, in respect of the boring scheme, there has been lack of electricity. That should be met. Another problem is water-logging in the Kosi area. Eight to ten per cent of the area remains under water and cash crops like jute and sugarcane fail every year. This has to be attended to. A scheme should be drawn up

for anti-waterlogging so that the kisans may be benefited.

In the district of Purnea, there is one unit of this ministry, the Farmers' Development Agency. But I would say, Sir, that this agency is a dead agency ; it is practically doing nothing. An expert of the Agriculture Department should be placed as the head of the agency so that the work may be facilitated.

So far as the question of fertilisers is concerned, Bihar State is the Worst sufferer. Whereas the demands of Bihar State are about 2 lakh tonnes, only 41,000 tonnes are supplied by the Central Government. This is rather a step-motherly treatment. The demand for higher allotments should be met.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Government through you, Sir that, though the Sindri Fertiliser Corporation of India lies in my State, it has not been able to meet the demands of my State. For the year 1972-73, our State requires 2 lakh tonnes of Ammonium sulphate. I hope the the Government of India will meet this demand.

Take also, for instance, tractors. Our State needs about 55,000 tractors, but the Government of India has allotted only 2,500 tractors. This allotment is quite insufficient to meet the demands of the day.

Thirdly for the land-leveling scheme, my State requires 550 tractors, but nothing has been done with regard to my State.

The Bihar State Agro-Industries Development Corporation has applied for a licence for the manufacture of a small tractor with Japanese collaboration and that scheme is still pending and no licence has been granted though the application was made in 1971.

Sir, last but not the least, the crash programme should be taken up with a crash speed and spirit but nothing tangible has been done. The Central Government should insist on the State Government to take up the crash programme immediately with crash speed.

There is one wing in the Ministry, namely, the National Agricultural Co-operative market

[Sh. Md Jamilurhman]

ing Federation which was supposed to be the friend, philosopher and guide of the Agricultural Co-operative Marketing units. The functioning of this particular agency is quite the contrary. This agency is not at all helping the State. It has become only an export body and is not at all saving the poor kisans from the exploitation of the Aratdars, the middlemen profiteers and the money-lenders.

There is one organ- 'Kurukshetra' of this Ministry. It is published in Hindi and English only. I suggest that it should be published in Urdu also for the benefit of the Urdu-speaking people of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Up and Bihar so that the poor kisans could be benefited out of that.

To sum up the consolidation of holdings scheme should be taken up immediately,

The land-levelling scheme should be taken up on a war footing.

The boring scheme should also be taken up in the right earnest in North Bihar. Electricity should be provided immediately for boring schemes for the State of Bihar and a time limit should be fixed for completion of anti-water logging schemes so that the kisans may be benefited out of that.

The minor irrigation schemes should be taken up in Bihar on a war footing. The demand of my State of Bihar with regard to fertilisers should be met immediately. There should be no step-motherly treatment in this regard.

So far as the question of tractors is concerned, I have already submitted.

Last but not the least, there should be an insurance for cattle and crop for the entire kisans of India and there should be a ceiling on urban and rural property equally

Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rao Birender Singh.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO (Mahendragarh) : How many minutes have I got ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Five minutes.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Five minutes is too short. It is all and one-sided debate. Since morning, three Ministers have participated in this Debate and the fourth one also would speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I should not have given you the opportunity because one man has taken all the time that was allotted to your party, but I am giving you time because you are an agriculturist and you take keen interest in agriculture. Please avail of this opportunity.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : It is quite in the fitness of their scheme, Agriculture has been destroyed and Agriculturists could not raise their voice here.

Sir, you have asked five members from the Treasury Benches to speak consecutively at the fag end of the debate...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Of course, because their number is greater.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Mr. Chairman, all I can say in the short time at my disposal is that agriculture in India has been destroyed and the statement, a few days ago in this House, by the hon. Minister can be said to be the requiem on agriculture there could not be a fitter person than our venerable Shri Ahmed to read the *Fateha* on the death of the peasantry in India.

The bold peasantry, pride of this country, is being murdered. My class of agriculturists, the farmers, are the only class who are not allowed to give opinion the subject. It is always somebody else but a farmer who is an expert on agriculture. There is much talk about the green revolution. But, I don't see any green revolution. It is only the green eyes of some peoples green with jealousy through which they see everything green. I only see red revolution round the corner. That revolution will come out if these policies of the Government are continued to be pursued by them in a fadistic and sadistic way. Sir, those who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others. Let them not prove the Maoist theory that peasants also can bring about revolution.

17 hrs.

Within the short time at my disposal, I would like to put certain questions for the hon Minister to answer so that his reply may set at rest our fears and our suspicions.

Is it a fact or not that sugar is being sold in the market today at Rs. 4 per kilogram in the country? This sugar is anything but sugar. Is it not a fact that wheat is not available for less than Rs. 125 per quintal in the market today? Is wheat not fit for human consumption. Is this the way of self-sufficiency? Are you satisfied with it? Have we sufficient water resources, and even fertilisers? Are there not recurring famines? Just as we are in sight of self-sufficiency in food production, they are trying to go back to shortage and hunger instead of consolidating the conditions.

What do the developed countries do? The developed countries want to support their farmers by insuring incentive prices. Developed countries want to support their agriculturists to become prosperous. If there is excess production and it is feared that prices will go down, millions upon millions of tonnes of foodgrains are dumped into the sea. That is what is happening in the USA. That is what is happening in Canada. Farmers are asked to destroy their crops; they are paid compensation. But here, prices of foodgrains are fixed without considering the cost production. Farmers have no voice in the fixation of prices of their produce—wheat, maize, cotton or sugarcane.

They have launched land reforms in a big way I would like to know whether they have collected any data on agriculture in India before taking this plunge in the dark abyss. If they really want to bring land reforms, why could they not wait for the report of the Agriculture Commission which they have set up? Then what is the use of the Agriculture Commission? They did not even want to consult the Members of Parliament before the announcement was made after the Chief Ministers' Conference. There is a Consultative Committee of Parliament for the Ministry of Agriculture. But nothing was ever brought before this Consultative Committee of Parliament. Is that not a disrespect to this

House? Is that not ignoring the representatives of the people?

I only want to ask them whether they have taken all the implications into consideration, when they say they are going to develop rural society, to give it the prosperity that they promised. They want to raise their standard of living. Will the children of the farmers be able to get education and employment within this ceiling of 10 to 18 standard acres? Will there not be rush to the towns where rate of population growth is already double? Have they assessed what the incidence of rural indebtedness today is? Have they assessed what will be the net income of the farmers, the net profit of the farmers, within this ceiling? Have they thought out what should be the cushion of extra acreage against natural calamities in this poor country where hardly one crop out of every four is a good crop, and three crops fail? Do they know how much land is going out of use every year due to erosion, water-logging, salinity and urbanisation? Have they also considered what will happen to the village community if there are no pastures? They are not giving any exemption for pastures. What will happen to their commitment in the Constitution for development of animal husbandry? With the lowering of the ceiling, would they not need more bullocks? What would happen to the fuel problem in the countryside? The fuelwood today costs anything from Rs. 5 to 7 a maund, and that is the only fuel available to the farmer and the poor Harijans. They do not get any gas cylinders in their villages. Where will they get their fuel from if there are no woods on commonlands. Have they ever thought what will happen to over Rs. 1000 crores which they have already spent on consolidation of landholdings? When land is going to be further fragmented, what will happen? Will there again be another attempt at consolidation as was suggested by an hon. Member, with Rs. 2000 crores more to be spent. And after a year a further lowering of the ceilings when dry lands get developed

Have they ever thought how they will stop the increasing desert without tree belts? Have they also thought of how much money they are spending on afforestation? And on the other hand they are going to clear all the forests for intensive cultivation through small holdings,

[Shri Birender Singh Rao]

I would like a full discussion on the statement of the hon. Minister on land reforms and the policy being pursued by Government. There are certain things which I would like to mention briefly. I see also some ease of invidious discrimination. Even in the statement which was read out only the other day, they have thought of exemptions for tea and coffee estates. Is it because the tea and coffee-growers are poor farmers? Or is it because the tea and coffee plantation workers do not want a share in the profits? Or is it because these tea and coffee estates have been purchased from the Britishers who had left, by big influential industrialists and businessmen? Or is it because many of the managers getting fat pay are sons and relations of Ministers and by officers? I can give names also but it would not look nice to do so. Let me know if the hon. Minister can say anything about this?

There is one thing more, and that is about land for industries. Land for industries is being exempted. In medieval India, the great Moghul Emperor Shah Jahan was content with only 117 acres for his Red Fort. He thought that it was sufficient land. The great Emperor also thought that 10 acres were sufficient for the mausoleum of Mumtaz Mahal and himself, and the world famous Taj Mahal was built only on 10 acres. But these industrialists are building their empires on land which is being exempted. Even a small industrialist does not want less than 300 or 400 acres of land, the required land of poor farmers and for no price; yet they are being exempted. Is this the way to remove disparities? Are we really thinking of removing poverty in this country? Have we ever thought of ceiling on urban incomes? For this, was any conference ever held of Chief Ministers by this Government during the last one year? But two conferences of Chief Ministers have been held within the last one year only on land reforms. I would like to know whether this is not an encroachment on the rights of the States and the people of the States. Is agriculture not a State subject? Why is it not left to the State Assemblies and the Chief Ministers? Why are they bent upon running the farmers who cannot pay even land revenue today, what to speak of agricultural income tax.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon.

Member should conclude.

Shri Ram Chandra Vikal.

श्री रामचन्द्र विकल (बागपत) : सभापति जी, मैं धाप का आभारी हूँ कि किसान और किसानों से संबंधित व खेतीहर मजदूरों से संबंधित इन अनेक विभागों पर बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया। मैं बहुत संकोच के साथ यह बात कह रहा हूँ कि सरकार जो कमेटियाँ नियुक्त करती है या आयोग बैठती है उसमें व्यावहारिक ज्ञान वाले किसान नहीं होते। जो मूल्य निर्धारण के सम्बन्ध में कमेटी बैठी उसने व्यावहारिक रूप से किसान के भूखों को लय नहीं किया और जी भूमि सीमा निर्धारण करने की कमेटी बैठी, जिसको मुख्य मंत्रियों ने मान लिया, उसमें भी व्यवहारिक दृष्टिकोण वाले किसान नहीं हैं।

देश में आर्थिक विषमता को मिटाने की प्रतिज्ञा की है। आर्थिक विषमता खेती के क्षेत्र के अलावा अन्य क्षेत्रों में भी बराबर मौजूद है, चाहे शहरी सम्पत्ति हो, या परमिट हों, बड़ी तनख्वाहें हों, उद्योग व व्यापार हों और चाहे और अनेक तरह के काम हों। मगर उनकी तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। सभापति जी, चन्डीगढ़ कांग्रेस में भी मैंने एक प्रस्ताव रखा था कि किसान की सीमा के साथ-साथ धाप अन्य उन आर्थिक साधनों पर भी सीमा लगावों को देख में विषमता पैदा किये हुए हैं। मगर आज तक उस पर गौर नहीं हुआ है। और आर्थिक विषमताओं की जहाँ सीमा निर्धारण कर रहे हैं वहाँ ग्रामवनी के अलावा बहुत जल्दी होना, मगर देश में हम समाजवाद चाहते हैं तो ऊँची पर भी सीमा लगानी होगी। बाकिर ऊँचें कहाँ से घाते हैं लोगों के उस पर हमारे जब शान्ती ध्यान नहीं देते। प्रोफेसर राज का माबल्ल कुन रहा था, मैं संक्षेप में कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह कुछ हद तक क्रांति और किसान की रक्षाकार से बड़े दुखी माजूम हो रहे थे। उनको ऐसे जगता था जैसे कि समुद्र के किनारे पर कोई दुना

पहुँच गया हो और उसने बम्बई के बम्बरगाह पर देखा कि रूई की गाटों से भरा हुआ जहाज आ रहा है और उसको देखकर हैरानी हो गयी की वह तमाम रूई उसे ही चुननी पड़ेगी और उसे बुझार बंद गया। तो अर्थ शास्त्री देश के व्यापारिक दृष्टिकोण को नहीं जानते हैं उन से क्या चाहता हूँ जो ग्रामीण अर्थ शास्त्र, किसान और मिहनत करने वाले मजदूर के अर्थशास्त्र को नहीं पढ़े हैं जिसकी वजह से हमारे देश की समस्याएँ पैदावार बढ़ने के बावजूद भी जटिल हो रही हैं। इस बारे में आज तक कोई व्यावहारिक दृष्टिकोण नहीं अपनाया गया है।

जमीन की क्षीमा के सम्बन्ध में एक बात कहता हूँ, सारी सीमा निर्धारण करने वाली कमेटी की रिपोर्ट, मुख्य अर्थियों की लिफारिफ सामने नहीं है, मैंने कृषि मंत्री जी के बक्तव्य को पढ़ा है, कुछ समाचार-पत्रों को भी पढ़ा है कि 10 और 18 एकड़ बीच में सीमा रखेंगे उनकी जो सरकारी साधनों से जमीन सींचते हैं। सभापति जी, आप स्वयं किसान हैं और उसकी समस्याओं को जानते हैं, आखिर बिड़ला साहब कारखाने चलाते हैं, उनके फार्म उत्तर प्रदेश में मैंने देखे हैं, वह कारखाना भी रखेंगे और निजी साधन से सिंचित 40,50 एकड़ का फार्म भी रखेंगे। अब अगर जो गरीब किसान भी सरकारी साधन से सिंचाई करता है उसके लिये 10 और 18 एकड़ के बीच में सीमा रखना उस के साथ न्याय नहीं है। अकेले बिड़ला साहब ही नहीं, सँ उद्योगपतियों के फार्मों की बात नहीं करना चाहता, दिल्ली के चारों तरफ व्यापार करने वाले अनेक उच्च सरकारी कर्मचारी जो उनकाह भी लेते हैं, व्यापार भी करते हैं और बड़े बड़े फार्म बना कर काला धन पैदा कर रहे हैं वे सब इस तरह से बच जायेंगे विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मैंने नहीं पढ़ी है, लेकिन मैं निःसंकोच कहना चाहता हूँ कि व्यावहारिक

किसान नहीं हैं उस कमेटी से जिसने सीलिंग के बारे में सिफारिश की है। सीलिंग जमीन के साथ साथ और चीजों पर भी होनी चाहिये। कमी विस्तार से विचार हो तो अपनी राय दें के लिए तैयार हूँ।

सभापति जी, किसान के साथ एक नहीं अनेक सन भेदों की चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ जो उसके साथ करते जाते हैं। आखिर सिंचाई की जो बिजली है और उद्योगों की बिजली में भेद क्यों हो आखिर किसान को जो ऋण मिलता है उसके सूद में और उद्योगों के सूद में भेद क्यों है? इस तरह की अनेक भेद नितियाँ हैं जो हमारे देश के किसान के साथ बरती जाती हैं। सभापति जी, एक और भेद भी आप को नजर आयेगा। यह सब केवल पूँजीपतियों की वजह से है। किसान खेत में रात में पानी देगा रात में काम करेगा, जिसको साँप बिच्छू का डर होगा उसको बिजली मिलेगी रात में और कारखानों के लिए बिजली मिल रही है दिन में। आखिर दिन में तो कारखानों को और किसान को रात में जो बिजली मिलती है वह बड़ा भारी भेद किसान के साथ क्यों किया जा रहा है। मैं सरकार से और उसके माध्यम से राज्य सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन भेद की नीतियों को हमें किसान के बारे में मिटाना होगा। जय जवान और जय किसान के मामले में एक बात कह दूँ कि अगर जय किसान का नारा देश में लगाया जाये तो जवान तो किसान का उपजाया धन्न और दूध खाकर जवान बनता है। जय किसान होते ही जय जवान अपने आप हो जायेगा तथा हिन्दुस्तान की सब तरह की आर्थिक जय अपने आप हो जायेगी। लेकिन यहाँ पर किसान को समझा नहीं गया है। हमको किसान की समझना चाहिये कि वह मजदूर है, वह प्रान्दोलन नहीं कर सकता, वह इन्ट्रॉ नहीं हो सकता है, और जैसा लेनिन साहब ने रूस के किसान के बारे में कहा था, किसान कहीं बगावत नहीं कर सकता। इस

[श्री रामचन्द्र बिहार]

लिये भारत में भी किसान की बात सोची नहीं जा रही है। आज किसान की कोई आवाज इस देश में भी नहीं है।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ किसानों के लिए भूमि अधिग्रहण कानून बनाया गया है वह बड़ा दुःखदायी कानून है। दिल्ली में कितनी आबादी है? दिल्ली से सटा हुआ हरियाणा है, उत्तर प्रदेश के पश्चिमी जिले हैं। अगर वहाँ के किसानों की जमीन सरकार के काम के लिए ली जाये तो मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। देश में बहुत सी चीजे हैं जिनकी सरकार को जरूरत हो सकती है। लेकिन आज उनकी जमीन उद्योग को बसाने के लिए और लोगों को बसाने के लिये एक और डेढ़ रुपये गज पर अधिग्रहित की जाती हैं और बाद में उस जमीन को पैसे वाले लोग लेकर 100 और 150 रुपये गज में बेचते हैं और व्यापार करते हैं। किसानों के साथ यह न्याय नहीं है। छोटे किसान उजड़ गये हैं दिल्ली में और अनेक बढ़ते हुए शहरों के पास पास। उनको एक गज कपड़ा खरीबने साथक दाम भी नहीं दिये जा रहे हैं। उनकी जमीन छीनने के बाद उनको कुछ नहीं दिया जाता है। बाद में किसानों को बसाने और जमीन दिलाने के बारे में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। न ही उसके बाद उनको कोई काम दिया जाता है। दिल्ली और उसके पास पास के क्षेत्रों में बहुत समय से यह बीमारी चल रही है। आप उन किसानों के मामले को समझे जिनकी जमीने कानून के जरिये से छीन ली जाती हैं। कभी सेक्शन 4 लगा दिया, कभी सेक्शन 6 लगा दिया, किसान को उसका पता नहीं चलता और वह सरकार से मुकदमा भी नहीं लड़ सकता। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह अधिग्रहण किसानों के साथ न्याय नहीं है।

किसानों के सामने और भी अनेक कठिनाइयाँ आ रही हैं। यह बड़ा अनुचित है यदि

किसान की भूमि या किसी दूसरी चीज पर टैक्स लगने में कई बार राज्य सरकार को और केन्द्रीय सरकार को लिखा कि चूँकि किसान की उपज पर बचन के हिसाब से टैक्स लगाता है। इसलिये उसका हिसाब वह नहीं रख सकता। जो सरकारी कर्म चारी टैक्स लगाते हैं वह उन की जेब में ज्यादा जाता है, राजन कोष में नहीं जाता। सम्पत्ति कृषि सम्बन्धी कर के बारे में जो फैसला करते हैं बिना उसके बारे में कुछ जाने हुए वह पैसा राज्य कोष में कभी पूरा नहीं जायेगा, वह उन्हीं की जेब में जायेगा जो आवेंगे कि कितनी पैदावार हुई। इससे तो यह भ्रष्टाचार है कि बिना पैदावार को आके हुए उसके जमीन पर आप टैक्स बढ़ा दें। जो कि मैं हमेशा लगान बढ़ाने का विरोधी रहा हूँ, और उत्तर प्रदेश में जो सबा छः एकड़ तक की भूमि है उस पर वहाँ की सरकारु को लगान हटाना पड़ा, लेकिन कृषि सम्पत्ति कर से किसान को परेशानी है वैसी ही है। उससे सही लगान भी नहीं जायेगी सारा पैसा रिपब्लिक में जायेगा। इससे तो भ्रष्टाचार यह है कि प्रायः कृषि की जमीन पर ही टैक्स बढ़ा दें।

एक बात और कह दूँ संक्षेप में। कल हमारे कृषि मंत्री श्री शेर सिंह जी ने बतलाया कि नन्ने का दाम हमने बहुत बसूल करा दिया। लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में मेरी जानकारी है कि किसानों ने जो गन्ना पिछले वर्ष दिया था उसका मूल्य अभी उनको नहीं मिला है। बाहरी देशों में किसानों को पैदागी खपवा दिया जाता है लेकिन वहाँ के किसान अपना सामान देने के बाद भी दो दो तीन तीन साल तक खपवा नहीं पाते हैं। यह अनेक कठिनाइयाँ हैं जिनको सरकार सोचे। तभी देश में हरी क्रांति सक्रम होगी वरना मुझे डर है कि हरी क्रांति कहीं लाख क्रांति न हो जाये। यह हरी क्रांति दूसरा रूप भी ले सकती है। हमको व्यावहारिक दृष्टिकोण अपनाना चाहिये। कागजी ज्ञान रखने

बालों के बजाय व्यावहारिक ज्ञान रखने वालों से अपनी योजनायें बनवायें और उनसे ही नीतियां तय करवाये। तभी हम अपने उद्देश्यों में सफल हो सकते हैं।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ।

*SHRI J. M. GOWDER (Nilgiris) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Sir, it has been universally acknowledged that agricultural sector alone has achieved the IV Plan target during the first two years of the plan period. In fact, agriculture has even exceeded the plan target. All of us are duty bound to pay our humble tribute to the energetic endeavours of our agriculturists in playing this vital role in the economic growth of the country.

I request you not to misconstrue what I am going to say and also not to consider me as the prophet of doom. It is always good to be a little bit restrained in our jubilation and it is also good not to sloat our success in agriculture. We will be wise to remember that in 1965-66 the country faced an unprecedented drought situation and spectre of famine loomed large over the entire population. We ran helter skelter to fetch foodgrains from all corners of the world. I refer to this because Indian agricultural is primarily dependent on monsoon. In 1965-66 the monsoon failed us in a big way and the food production took a nose-dive.

I am strongly of the view that in order to reduce the impact of the failure of monsoon on agriculture we should make gigantic efforts in tapping our ground-water resources. All the major irrigation schemes which are under implementation and which have been formulated for implementation should be taken up on a war-footing. In this context, I would refer to the imperative need

of linking Ganges with Cauvery. This will ensure that our Green Revolution is just not a temporary phenomenon. This scheme should be expedited and completed before we are overtaken by any sudden catastrophic drought.

I would just like to emphasise this fact that our agriculturists cannot afford to continuously scan the skies for rain-bearing clouds. Secondly, our hon. Minister, Shri Shine, has categorically stated that we have put an end to PL 480 imports of foodgrains PL 480 foodgrains filled our begging bowl at the time of 1965-66 drought. It will not be there if unfortunately such a drought repeats at any time in future

In this connection, I would like to make another concrete suggestion. It is high time that the Ministry sets up a National Crop Planning Board. This Board should be entrusted with the duty of formulating alternative cropping pattern to face such an eventuality. It is expected that the population would reach the stupefying figure of 59 crores before the next census. If the country is threatened with a recurrence of 1965-66 drought in any year in future, inspite of our achieving self-sufficiency in food-grains, inspite of the fact that we have reached the level of peak production inspite of the fact that we have built up a huge buffer stock, we will be requiring 15 million tonnes to tide over such a crisis. Who is going to be the Good Samaritan then? Therefore, we have to plan in advance because of the fact that monsoon is whimsical and it may let us down any time. So we cannot wilfully neglect the vital need for prospective planning in the sphere of agriculture. The National Crop Planning Board should be constituted forthwith.

In the matter of foodgrains production, the cooperative societies play a vital role. In the matter of giving credit, storage, and marketing, the cooperative societies have got to be encouraged. In Tamil Nadu, the cooperative movement in agricultural has proved very useful and in fact the cooperative societies have been given all the encouragement by the State Government of Tamil Nadu. Though there might be some deficiencies in the cooperative societies they do not warrant wholesale condemnation. In fact, they should be given greater incentives

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri J.M. Gowder]

and encouragement so that they can play their due role in agriculture. I would even suggest that other States can conveniently emulate the example of cooperative movement in agriculture in Tamil Nadu and the support given by the Government there.

With these words, I conclude.

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण पंडेय : सभापति महोदय मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय पर सरकार की जो कृषि सम्बन्धी नीति है वह बहुत ही दोषपूर्ण है। उसका परिणाम यह है कि न तो किसान उससे सन्तुष्ट है और न ही उपभोक्ता खुश है, सन्तुष्ट है। इस दोषपूर्ण नीति में जब तक परिवर्तन नहीं किया जाता तब तक कोई सुधार नहीं हो सकता है।

अहाँ तक कृषि मूल्य आयोग का सम्बन्ध है, उसमें जब तक किसानों को उचित प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं किया जाता है, किसानों की बात जब तक उसमें नहीं सुनी जाती, तब तक मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि किसान को कोई प्रोत्साहन मिल पाएगा। उत्पादन बढ़ाने हेतु प्राइस सपोर्ट भी आवश्यक है। एग्जोर्ब मार्केटिंग भी जरूरी है।

सरकार की ओर से जो चतुर्थ पंच-वर्षीय योजना का मध्यावधि आकलन प्रस्तुत किया गया है, उसके धकड़े यह सिद्ध करते हैं कि हरित क्रांति और कृषि में प्रगति के सरकार के बावों के बावजूद पिछले दो वर्षों में कृषि का उत्पादन घटा है। भले ही गेहूँ का उत्पादन बढ़ा हो लेकिन उच्चर, मक्का और बावल धानि साखाल्लों का उत्पादन घटा है और उसके साथ-साथ अफीम, गन्ना और दूसरी बाणिज्य फसलों का उत्पादन भी घटा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह धानना चाहता हूँ कि वह अपनी नीति में कौन सा ऐसा आभावभूत और मूलभूत परिवर्तन करने जा रहे हैं, जिससे किसान प्रोत्साहित हों और धाने बढ़कर देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था में सुधार लाने और उसको गति देने में अपना योगदान

कर सकें। असंतुलित कृषि विकास से विभिन्न प्रदेशों में कृषि उन्नति प्रपेक्षा से कम है और उसमें मध्य प्रदेश भी एक है।

मंत्री महोदय ने कनसल्टेटिव कमेटी में कहा था कि.....

सभापति महोदय : माननीय सदस्य कनसल्टेटिव कमेटी की कार्यवाही का जिक्र न करें।

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पंडेय : सामुदायिक विकास कार्यक्रमों के साथ कृषि विभाग का ताल मेल बिठाने के लिए एक हाई पावर कमीशन बिठाया जायेगा। मैं उनसे यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है, ताकि इन दोनों विभागों में तालमेल बिठाया जा सके और उसके अनुसार काम हो सकें। क्या आप इसी प्रकार किसानों को ऋण सुविधा हेतु क्रेडिट कोऑपरेटिव कार्पोरेशन बनाये जा रहे हैं या नहीं ?

कृषि मंत्री ने गेहूँ और गन्ने की कीमतों के बारे में जो कुछ कहा है, न किसान उससे संतुष्ट हैं और न ही उपभोक्ता। सरकार किसानों को गन्ने की उचित कीमत नहीं दिला पा रही है। गलत धनी नीति के कारण उपभोक्ताओं को बहुत परेशानी हो रही है और उत्पादन के प्रति किसानों की रुचि भी घटती जा रही है। इस बात की आशंका है कि कहीं स्थिति खदाल्लों के विषय में भी न हो। अगर किसानों को उन की लागत का उचित मुआवजा नहीं मिलता, तो वे असंतुष्ट होंगे और देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को खाने बढ़ाने में अपना योगदान नहीं कर पायेंगे।

सभापति महोदय : मैं माननीय सदस्यों से कहना चाहता हूँ कि कनसल्टेटिव कमेटी या दूसरी कमेटीज में जो बातें कही जाती हैं, उन का रेफरेंस इस सदन में नहीं किया जाना चाहिए। माननीय सदस्य इस विषय में धानर बाउंड होते हैं। वे वहाँ पर उन बातों का जिक्र करते हैं, तो वह मुनासिब नहीं है।

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:
(SHRI F. A. AHMED) As many as 30 members participated the discussion on the Demands of the Ministry of Agriculture. I am very thankful to them for the very nice suggestions and views that they have expressed in the course of; this discussion. After all, we must realise that agriculture represents that largest sector of our economy and, therefore, any change in the economics of agriculture is likely to have very profound implication on our national life. It is true that a large number of questions have been raised in the course of this discussion, but hon. Members will agree that in the short time at my disposal it will not be possible for me to deal with each and every one of the questions which have been raised here. I should like only to touch upon important aspects of the matter which has been discussed in the House and keep the other suggestions of the hon. Members for study and taking action in the Ministry.

I am happy and very much encouraged by the appreciative speeches which the hon. Members have made regarding the achievement which has been made by the Food and Agriculture Departments of my Ministry. There may be shortfalls here and there, but the achievement is something about which we have reasons to be proud. I am not one who would like to take the entire credit for the Ministry, and I would say that the cultivators, the scientists who have found out high-yielding varieties and also our planners and our departments which have been able to provide the necessary inputs to the cultivators, all deserve to be congratulated for this achievement.

In 1969-70 we had increased our agricultural production by about 7.1 per cent. over 1968-69. In 1970-71, agricultural production had increased by about 6.7 per cent. over 1969-70. In both these years, the production was more than the target of 5 per cent fixed by the planning Commission. Apart from that, our achievement has been more on the foodgrains side. As hon. Members are aware, in 1969-70 our foodgrain production was 99.5 million tonnes. In 1970-71 it was 107.8 million tonnes, that is to say, an increase of 8.4 Per cent in the course of one year. For this year the figures are not avail-

able, but in spite of the bad weather conditions in some parts of the country like drought in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Mysore, floods in Bihar, UP, and West Bengal and cyclone in Orissa, I hope we shall end the year with a production of 112 to 113 million tonnes of foodgrains. This, I consider, is no mean achievement, particularly in view of the fact that we were confronted with all kinds of difficulties. We had to feed the unparalleled influx of refugees from Bangla Desh. We have to provide foodgrains to Bangla Desh even now and we have to meet many other requirements in our country. Therefore, I consider that the achievement in this regard cannot be set aside very lightly. It is something which we can be proud of. For that the credit goes not only to the ministry, but our thoughts must go to the cultivators and scientists who have helped us in reaching this achievement.

Five years ago, we had declared that we shall stop all concessional imports from outside. That Promise has been fulfilled by us. Not only concessional imports of foodgrains have been stopped, but we are no longer importing foodgrains even on commercial account. I hope in a few commodities, we shall become self-sufficient within two to three years, time. It is true so far our success has been mostly in wheat. We are also increasing rice production and we hope in commercial crops also we shall be able to become self-sufficient in two to three years' time.

A particularly gratifying development is that wheat production in the current year is likely to move up to a new peak of about 26 million tonnes as compared to 23.2 million tonnes in 1970-71. The progress of wheat production in our country in the past five years compares well with the highest growth rate for wheat achieved anywhere in the world. In the case of commercial crops where our progress hitherto was relatively less satisfactory and inadequate to cope with the mounting demands, a number of new initiatives have been taken to accelerate the tempo of growth. To supplement the supplies of vegetable oil seeds, a programme for cultivation of soyabean in U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat has been taken up on an extensive scale. The aim is to cover 4 lakh hectares under soyabean cultivation by 1973-74. In the current year, the Food

[Shri F. A. Ahmed]

Corporation of India has been authorised to pay a premium of up to Rs. 15 per quintal over and above the support price of Rs. 85 per quintal. Snn-flower oil seed is yet another crop we are trying to introduce. Demonstration programmes have been taken up to acquaint the farmers with the crop and the techniques of its cultivation. An Emergency Action Programme to bring 1.4 lakhs hectares under the crop during 1972-73 in Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh and Mysore is proposed to be taken up,

To further augment oil supplies, steps have been taken to encourage the crushing of cotton seed and rice bran and for greater exploitation of minor oil seeds of tree origin.

For securing substantial rise in output of indigenous cotton and curtailment of imports, new measures are being implemented. An Intensive Cotton District Programme has been taken up in 13 districts, including six predominantly irrigated areas and seven districts in the rain-fed areas. Steps are also being taken to extend the cultivation of high-yielding varieties, hybrid 4 and MCU-5. Development of cotton has also been taken in the canal irrigated areas under the Command of the Rajasthan canal, Tungabhadra and Nagarjunasagar projects. As a result of developmental programmes, cotton production in 1971-72 is reported to have gone up by as much as 10 to 12 lakhs bales over the previous year's production.

For increasing the productivity and total output of jute, an Intensive Jute District Programme has been drawn up by the Government for implementation from 1972-73.

In view of the very large areas under rice and wheat and some of the coarse grain crops, efforts towards the improvement of varieties of these crops were given priority in the past. However, the importance of some of the minor millets and pulses, which are grown under difficult conditions and which are considered important for the poorer sections of the rural people in many areas, has led to the formulation of programmes for the improvement of these crops in 1945 and subsequent years. Among the minor millets, very little improvement was achieved and the conditions under which these crops are grown are hardly conducive

to high yields. Some of the important varieties tried are IP 158 Kodo millet, ISC 701 and ISC 709 in Italian millets, IBM 211 IPM 140 and 223 in common millet. For horse gram there is an important programme in the Central and Southern parts of the country. It is grown under conditions in which it is hard for any other crop to grow usually, it is grown in late Kharif rabi season after the harvest of the Kharif crops. A centre for breeding better varieties of this crop has been sanctioned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Proposals that may be received from the States interested in such crops are always considered in view of the special importance of these favourably by the ICAR crops for areas which can be hardly for suitable other crops. Any such schemes that may be received from Mysore, which is very important areas for this crop would certainly be considered acceptable

Therefore, I would like to point out to this House that efforts are being made not only in the direction of increasing the production of wheat and rice but also with regard to such crops which are inadequate and for which there is a demand in our country. We are making serious efforts for increasing production of such crops so that the deficiency can be made up and we can become self-sufficient in the next two or three years.

The large increase in production record in some crops such as wheat and cotton have thrown up new problems of plenty. Our experience is that these problems are no less complex than those faced during the period of scarcity. It is estimated that this year we may have to procure as much as 6.5 million tonnes of wheat. Such massive procurement would cause a heavy drain on existing marketing, storage and transport facilities.

One hon. Member has raised the question whether we have made adequate arrangements for storage in order to cope with such heavy procurement. I may inform the House that so far as our storage capacity is concerned, the total storage capacity of the Food Corporation of India, the Warehousing Corporation and the State Governments put together is 14.7 million tonnes. It is, of course, not available with the Food Corporation of India. So far as

we are concerned, we have only 8.1 million tonnes under owned and hired categories but we can depend on the storage capacity with the State Governments. So far as our requirements are concerned, we are short by about 2 to 3 million tonnes of storage capacity. For that purpose, we have made arrangement for covered plinth storage and, I think, it would be possible for us to make the necessary arrangement to store 6.5 million tonnes of wheat which we are expecting this year.

Last year, we had difficulty because of higher procurement. Our estimate of procurement was only 4 million tonnes but we actually procured 5.1 million tonnes of wheat. That is why we could not make storage arrangements at the proper time. This time care has been taken to make a proper and adequate estimate so that the same difficulty may not be felt at the time of procurement. We are taking necessary precautions and, I hope, the storage arrangements which we have made will look after the high procurement which is expected in the coming season.

So far as marketing is concerned, we are also trying to improve that. Up till now, as hon. Members are aware, through some pucca *arhatias*, particularly in UP, wheat was procured. But now the State Government has also come in and we are insisting that procurement should be made either directly from the farmer or through the cooperatives. So far as procurement through cooperatives is concerned, that is going to be increased from 33 per cent to about 50 per cent this year. We are also making an effort to make direct purchases from the cultivators. So, that will help the cultivators in the coming season.

So far as transport is concerned, I must say that there is some difficulty. It has not been possible for us to transport as much quantity from the purchasing areas as we would have liked to do due to higher procurement last year and what we expect from future years. But we are in touch with the Railway Ministry and we are taking all necessary steps to see that there is no bottleneck in the future and that whatever is procured by us is transported as early as possible from the procurement centre to the deficit areas.

I have already informed the House that

despite the increase in production, Government has decided to maintain the procurement and issue prices of wheat at last year's level. Dr. Rao said that the procurement price ought to have been reduced and we ought to have accepted the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission. He suggested that there was no reason for the difference in the issue price of wheat and the issue price of rice. I may inform the hon. Member that the procurement price and the issue price of wheat have been fixed on historical grounds and I need not give any explanation for it. As the hon. Member is aware, when we were importing wheat, imported wheat was being sold at a much lesser price. In the beginning it was sold at Rs. 37 or Rs. 38; then it rose to about Rs. 48 and to Rs. 55. There was not so much the question of subsidy. We wanted that this should be issued at Rs. 78. This time, our concern was that the prevailing price level should not be increased and it is only in order to maintain the price level and not to allow the increase in the price that the issue price has not been disturbed.

So far as the procurement price is concerned, at present, we have no data on the basis of which we can definitely say what will be the proper cost of production so far as the cultivator is concerned. Therefore, what we have decided is that we are setting up an organisation to ascertain data for different parts of the country and to find out what is the proper cost of production and, on that basis, to take necessary action in that behalf.

I also agree with the suggestion given by Dr. Rao that the time has come when we have to think in terms of planned cropping pattern so far as all the commodities are concerned. That is a suggestion which is worth consideration. We are seized of that problem and we are taking action in that behalf.

It has been suggested that procurement prices at which support is given should be announced before the commencement of sowings so that the cultivator can plan his crop pattern accordingly. To enable the Government to announce procurement prices for the next year's harvest, before the rab

[F. A. Ahmed]

sowings, a special study of the cost of production of wheat is being expeditiously undertaken. As a matter of public policy, the Government of India have decided that the cooperative institutions should be associated intimately with the operations of the Food Corporation in regard to procurement. The share of the cooperatives in the procurement was 38 per cent during the last rabi season. In the current season, the cooperatives in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Utter Pradesh have been allowed to procure specified percentages of the total quantities purchased by the Government. These percentages are nearly 30 per cent in Punjab, 20 per cent in Haryana and 33 per cent in Utter Pradesh.

Apart from this, the Food Corporation is also utilising the service of individual cooperative institutions whenever possible as their agents for procurement. In the aggregate, the procurement through cooperative agencies may come to about 50 per cent.

Shri Ranabhadur Singh had observed that the price structure should be formulated as to cover the whole range of crops rather than one or two principal crops. It may be pointed out that the minimum support prices are, at present, fixed for paddy, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi and jute. For sugarcane delivered to sugar factories also, the minimum prices are fixed. In addition to these minimum prices are fixed. In addition to these minimum prices in the case of paddy, rice, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize and ragi, the procurement prices are higher than minimum support price are fixed for these foodgrains and, at present, all purchases are made at these procurement prices.

For soyabean, the support price in 1961-70, was fixed at Rs. 85 per quintal. During the current year, 1971-72, the Food Corporation of India has been authorised by the Government of India to offer a premium of upto Rs. 15 per quintal over and above the procurement price of 85 per quintal, to encourage the development of this crop. In the case of rape seed, the Government of India decided in 1971 that it should be purchased by the F. C. I. at a price of Rs. 120 per quintal the price of different crops are generally fixed on the advice of the Agricultural Prices Commission. Their advice on price policies

of agricultural commodities is given with a view to having a balanced and integrated price structure in the perspective of the economy and with due regard to the interests of producers and consumers.

In this case of cotton, the prices in the current year have fallen to low levels due to increase in production and the cultivators in many areas have been facing difficulties in disposing of their produce. To meet the situation, the existing credit control for advances against stocks of cotton has been relaxed. Also, the Cotton Corporation of India has been asked to make purchases at pre-determined prices. Not only they have been asked to make these purchases at pre-determined prices but they have also been asked to hold stocks so that the prices of cotton may not go down. I am sure that these measures will soon have their impact alleviate the difficulties and hardships of cotton growers. Shri Bhattacharyya, Shri Mirdha, Shri Swaminathan and some other hon. members have expressed anxiety about the progress of land reforms. During the recent months, this object has received the close attention of the Central Government. We are fully aware of the pressing need to remove the gaps between accepted policies and legislation and between enacted laws and their implementation. An important landmark in the context of land reforms is provided by the recommendations of the Central Land Reforms Committee. The main recommendations of the Committee are that ceilings should be made applicable to the family as a whole, that the ceilings for a family of five may be fixed within a range of 10 to 18 acres of perennially irrigated land or land under assured irrigation from Government sources for growing two crops; that for various other categories of land, the conversion ratio should be fixed taking into account the availability of water, productivity, soil classification, crops grown, etc.; and that the exemption in favour of well managed and mechanized farms should be withdrawn. I wrote to all the Chief Ministers in September 1971 requesting that necessary action be initiated to bring the State ceiling laws in line with the recommendations of the Committee. Recently I have again addressed the Chief Ministers suggesting that necessary legislation may be enacted during the current session of the State Legislature. As you are aware, the question of exemption under the ceiling law

was discussed again with the Chief Ministers on 14th April and a consensus was reached in favour of doing away with most of the exemptions under the existing law. This is certainly a positive achievement,

An hon. member raised the question of religious and charitable trusts. Our policy is that only genuine trusts of public nature deserve special treatment. They may be either granted annuity or some other suitable arrangement may be made in order to ensure that the objectives for which the trusts were created are not frustrated.

A point was raised about the question of retrospective effect being given to the ceiling laws. The Central Government is in favour of retrospective effect being given to the amendments. As a matter of fact, this principal has been adopted in the laws of several States. Some advance has already been made in the matter of ceiling legislation in accordance with the recommendations of the Central Land Reforms Committee. The ceiling laws of West Bengal and Kerala are already in line with those recommendations. Recently Bihar issued an Ordinance for reducing the level of ceiling. The Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir have introduced Bills for amending the ceiling laws. The other State Governments are also expected to fall in line with this policy. It was made clear in the recent Conference of the State Chief Ministers that Centre had only issued lines relating to outer limit but these were not intended to inhibit any stricter approach should that be found more feasible in any State or Union territory. I must also state before the House that I found the attitude of the Chief Ministers very reasonable in the recent Conference. There was not a single Chief Minister who was opposed to the recommendations made by the Central Committee so far as ceiling laws are concerned.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO : May I know what is the area of land which we expect to get when ceilings are imposed?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : That is a very important question. This was raised in the Chief Ministers' Conference, and I may inform the House that only the Chief Minister of Maharashtra gave certain figures with regard to the area of land which came

under exemptions. I have asked for this information from every State so that we may be able to know the position, how much land is available under exemption and what is to be done with regard to these excess areas. When the figures are available, we shall place them before the House.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : What about the railway land?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : As I have said the other day, the hon. Minister in charge of Railways has been pleased to offer it. We will see how best we can utilise the land.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH (Jhunjhunu) : What steps the Government are taking to see that the unoccupied land which is to-day lying waste is distributed to the landless?

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai) : That is also a very vast problem.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : Our policy is that all the available land should be distributed to the landless, particularly, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH : But what has been done so far? How much land has been given?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : This is a matter which has to be implemented by the State Governments. We are insisting and we shall again ask them to distribute all the available land to the landless people.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : All that should have been done before the 1967 elections.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : Apart from amending the ceiling laws, I have also requested the Chief Ministers to accord high priority to the re-distribution of land to the landless, particularly, those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. No less important is the question of removing the gaps in the tenancy laws and enforcing them with a view to affording effective protection to tenants, particularly, share-croppers. The rights of share-croppers are not generally recorded and they continue to cultivate the land at the will of the landowners. The chief objective of tenancy reform is to protect this class of people from harassment

[Shri F. A. Ahmed]

and eviction. Our experience has been that merely by enacting necessary legislation it will not be possible to protect the really under-privileged class unless such measures are backed by vigorous administrative efforts. Most of our difficulties in the effective implementation of land reforms are rooted in the unsatisfactory conditions of land records. I have, therefore, advised the Chief Ministers to pay special attention to the updating of the land records. I have also advised them to see that this scheme gets the necessary administrative and financial support. I wish to assure the House that Government will spare no efforts in ensuring the speedy and efficient implementation of land reforms.

Shri Darbara Singh and some other Members have referred to the difficulties of small farmers and other weaker sections. Members are aware of the great importance we attach and the keen interest we have in directing developmental efforts for the benefit of these sections of the rural community in pursuance of our objective of "growth with social justice". The special programmes sponsored by my Ministry include the Central Sector Schemes for the development of small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers. The setting up of these SFDA and MFAL agencies in 87 project areas is a pilot experiment for inducing greater flow of credit and other facilities to the participant farmers for their economic uplift. Most of these Agencies started functioning effectively only during 1971-72. The Agencies located in the border areas had to face difficulties during the last year and we hope that they would soon be able to reach the levels of others with greater effort in the current year. From these pilot projects we hope to learn useful lessons in isolating the problems of development of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans, devise suitable measures and adapt them for larger application throughout the country. A pragmatic approach is maintained in the implementation of these programmes and modifications are made in the light of the experience gained in the field. One such modification is the inclusion of marginal farmers also in the SFDA areas.

Till the end of February, the SFDA agencies had identified 19.25 lakhs of partici-

pants and the MFAL agencies 6.95 lakhs. With credit support of Rs. 17 crores of short term, Rs 2 crores of medium term and Rs. 6 crores of long term loans obtained from co-operatives and commercial banks, the participants had invested in 23,400 minor irrigation units and taken up 9,100 units of subsidiary occupations. These agencies had faced initial administrative problems in personnel selection, extension support, programme formulations and credit flow. We have been having discussions with the State Governments and the concerned institutions including Banks by organising Regional Seminars and a National Seminar. The suggestions thrown up in these Seminars have been found to be useful in finding practical solutions to the various operational difficulties faced by these newly created agencies.

One of the important schemes aimed at alleviating the prevailing conditions of unemployment and under-employment in rural areas is that of the Crash Scheme for Rural Employment.

Hon Members will be glad to know that the scheme which came into operation from April, 1971 has made considerable headway during the last year is estimated to have reached a level of Rs 30 crores. Reports have already been received about the employment generated of 538 lakh mandays. This figure will go up when all the reports have been received. As my colleague, Prof Sher Singh has already explained, the scheme involved several operational steps such as, selection of labour, choosing works in consultation with people's representatives, preparing plans and estimates, arranging for proper technical scrutiny, etc. The scheme has aroused considerable interest and enthusiasm among several States and the people in the rural areas. We have adopted a flexible approach and every possible step has been taken to introduce improvements and make the scheme more effective and useful in the field. For example, when it was found that considerable time would have to be spent in identifying families in which no single person is employed, as originally envisaged, we decided that this condition should be relaxed while giving preference to the more needy persons and to those who have no alternative employment. Further, we allowed material content in certain projects to go upto 40 per cent or so, with a view to

ensuring that the assets created would be durable. Similarly, to enable the State Governments to ensure proper execution, we raised the limit on staff expenditure from 3 percent to 5 percent. For speeding sanctions we have also delegated necessary powers to the States with effect from the 1st April, 1972. These measures should enable the States to not only generate the targeted number of man-days of employment but also ensure the durability of the works. The Bhagwati Committee on unemployment has recently drawn attention to the need for undertaking action-cum-study projects in small and compact areas on a pilot basis with a view to understanding the nature and extent of unemployment and evolving suitable programmes. We too have been thinking along these lines for some time. We have now decided in consultation with the Planning Commission to start 10 to 15 pilot projects on an intensive basis in compact blocks generally within the farmework of the Crash Programme.

Another programme which has been taken up to mitigate the severity of scarcity conditions is that of Drought-prone Areas Programme formerly known as Rural Works Programme. The latest reports indicate that several States have spent during 1971-72 larger amounts than allocated for the year. Projects worth more than Rs. 80 crores have been sanctioned and are under execution in different States. Minor irrigation projects account for about 60 percent of outlay, soil conservation and afforestation for about 10 percent and roads for the balance 30 percent. Here too, we have adopted a flexible approach. Where no other form of irrigation is possible, we have agreed to tubewell schemes, although they are not very labour intensive. A few drinking water projects have also been sanctioned in some districts. It is our hope that when all these schemes are completed these chronically drought districts will be in a somewhat better position to face the drought when it occurs in the future. We are conscious that the problems of these backward and poorly endowed areas are complex and that concerted efforts are required to improve the living of the people in these areas. It is proposed to organise studies in a few selected districts with a view to evolving policy guidelines for the Fifth Plan.

I would like to refer to our policy re-

garding sugar. Shri Mukhtiar Singh has stressed the need for an appropriate long-term policy for sugar. There can be no disagreement about the need for such a long-term policy. The fortunate of the sugar industry are linked with the availability of the basic raw material, namely sugarcane. Unless it is possible to ensure a steady level of sugarcane production, sugar production cannot be maintained at a constant level. Sugarcane production depends on the vagaries of the weather and also on the prices of competing crops. The Sugar Industry Enquiry Commission has been asked to suggest, among other things, a blue-print for the development of the sugar and allied industries over a period of ten to fifteen years. The Commission is due to submit its report by the 31st August, 1972.

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पाण्डे : सभापति महोदय, मैंने अपने भाषण में भी निवेदन किया था, गन्ने की मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण वाम्बे अधिवेशन पास हुआ, गन्ने की मिलों के कल पुर्ज सब बिकते जा रहे हैं... (अपवादान)... फ़ाल्खिर कब राष्ट्रीयकरण होगा।

सभापति महोदय : एक तरफ तो लोग इतने बेताब हैं कि कह रहे हैं कि टेबल पर रख दीजिए और दूसरी तरफ आम बीच में खड़े हो कर इस तरह से सवाल कर रहे हैं। आप बैठिए।

SHRI F. A. AHMAD : It is also the Government's intention to evolve its policy on nationalisation of sugar industry after the receipt of the recommendations of the Sugar Industry Enquiry Commission, which has been asked to go into the problem of the sugar industry in all its aspects with an eye particularly on the demand for nationalisation of the industry. In the meantime, the necessity for nationalisation of some of the sick mills in UP was felt by the State Government, and on the basis of the advice given by the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General of India, the State Government had been advised that they were competent to make the necessary law for acquisition of suocr mills. The UP Government accordingly took action to acquire 12 sick units after obtaining the instructions of the President, as required under the Constitu-

[Shri F. A. Ahmed]

tion, but all the mills filed petitions in the High Court against the State Government's action and seven of them also got stay orders. Thus, only five sugar mills are under the management of the State Government, pending final acquisition after the court's decision.

The UP Government have also moved the Government of India for the President's approval for acquiring all the sugar mills in the State, and the matter is under examination.

As regards arrears of sugarcane prices, my colleague Prof. Sher Singh has already replied in detail, indicating the extent to which the position has improved in this behalf.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put all the cut motions standing in the names of Dr. Laxminarain Pandeya, Shri Bhogendra jha, Shri M Rajangam, Shri D. K. Panda, Shri R. V. Bade, and Shri Ramavtar Shastri, namely cut motions Nos. 1, 66 to 75, 82 to 84, 87 to 90, 96 and 97, 14 and 15, 26 to 31, 131 to 145, 16 to 25, 32 to 43, 43 to 55, 57 to 60, 91 to 95, 101 to 129 and 146 to 166 all together to vote.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to Complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 25 to 31, 114 and 115 relating to the Ministry of Agriculture."

The motion was adopted.

[The motions for Demand for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below— Fd.]

DEMAND NO. 25 : DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,54,

75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Agriculture'."

DEMAND NO. 26 : AGRICULTURE.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 25,19, 78 00 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Agriculture'."

DEMAND NO. 27 : PAYMENT TO INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

" That a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,11, 57,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Payments to Indian Council of Agricultural Research'."

DEMAND NO. 28 : FOREST.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1, 64, 45,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of Payment will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Forest'."

DEMAND NO. 29 : DEPARTMENT OF FOOD.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,34, 59,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of Payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Food'."

DEMAND NO. 30 : DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 41, 78,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st

day of March, 1973, in respect of Department of Community Development."

DEMAND NO. 31 : DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATION.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,68,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Cooperation'."

DEMAND NO. 114 : PURCHASE OF FOODGRAINS AND FERTILIZERS.

"That a sum exceeding Rs. 1,32,20,14,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st

day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Purchase of Foodgrains and Fertilizers'."

DEMAND NO. 115 : OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 45,26,60,000 be granted to the President to complete the necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Agriculture'."

18.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday April 20, 1972 | Chitra 31, 1894 (Sahka).