

[Dr. Karan Singh]

the gunmen, it has been possible so far to ascertain that 16 packages, of which 15 were from Bombay and one from Frankfurt, were valued at U.S. Dollars 2,74,763. It is understood that the remaining 15 packages from Bombay were valued at approximately Rs. 20.80 lakhs.

Air-India's Chief Security Manager from Bombay is proceeding to New York to liaise with the local authorities. In so far as Air-India is concerned the loss of the consignment of precious stones is covered by insurance. The Ministry of External Affairs is in touch with our Consul-General in New York who has been asked to pursue the matter with the local authorities.

Sir, with your permission I would also like to inform the House of a serious incident that occurred in Kabul on the 1st May at about 6 00 p.m. According to information so far received a person entered the Indian Airlines office and directed the Chief Traffic Assistant, Shri M. S. Sajwan, who was on duty to stand up. The intruder whipped out a revolver and fired a shot at the Traffic Assistant which fortunately missed him. The Traffic Assistant, displaying considerable courage and presence of mind, rushed towards the intruder and felled him with a blow on the head. The intruder fired two more shots which also missed. During the scuffle that ensued, the Traffic Assistant hit the intruder on his head and rendered him unconscious. An open knife which the intruder was carrying fell on the floor during the scuffle.

On hearing the revolver shots some persons collected, and the intruder's three accomplices who were standing outside the office, started running away. The crowd chased them and with the help of Police these three accomplices and the intruder were arrested. The revolver and the knife have been taken into possession by the Police who are investigating the matter.

The Afghan authorities have been requested to provide necessary protection for Indian Airlines office and staff. The Chief

Vigilance Officer of Indian Airlines is proceeding to Kabul today to liaise with the local authorities. Our Embassy in Afghanistan is seized of the matter and is in close touch with the local authorities.

14.05 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. SUPPLY OF FOOD-GRAINS TO VARIOUS STATES

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): I have had the privilege to place before the House the present difficult food situation in the country and the steps taken to meet the food requirements of the deficit and drought affected States within the stocks that are available with the Central Government.

In view of the severe drought conditions prevailing in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and some parts of Mysore and other States, supply of foodgrains were stepped up considerably. During the year 1972, public distribution was to the extent of 10.5 million tonnes while during 1971, it was 7.8 million tonnes. Allotment of foodgrains are made to the State Governments every month taking into account the over-all availability in the Central Pool and the needs of all deficit and drought affected States. In view of the difficult food supply position in the country resulting from last year's inadequate and erratic rains and consequent widespread drought conditions in the country it has not been possible to meet the entire demand made by the State Governments. Every effort was made to meet substantially the requirements of the State Governments. The allotment of wheat during the first 4 months of this year has been to the extent of 4.9 to 5.2 lakh tonnes per month during this period.

The procurement of wheat has started in an encouraging way. As against last year's procurement of 3.1 lakh tonnes, the current year's procurement so far has been

a little over 6.05 lakh tonnes. At this rate we feel confident that procurement during the year may exceed 8 million tonnes. Taking into account the very encouraging wheat procurement and the steady arrival of imported foodgrains from abroad, the allotments of foodgrains for the month of May have been increased considerably to all the State Governments in general and to the drought affected States in particular. Against the allotment of 4.9 lakh tonnes of wheat allotted for April, the quantity of wheat allotted for the month of May is a little over 8.8 lakh tonnes. The total foodgrains allotted for April was a little less than 8 lakh tonnes while for May it is a little over 11 lakh tonnes. This increased allocation will enable all the State Governments to maintain supplies at reasonable level, through the public distribution system, thereby mitigating the hardship of the people to a considerable extent. To ensure the quantities allotted for the month of May are made available to the State Governments steps have already been taken in consultation with the Railway Board to move foodgrains by specials to various parts of the country.

The Hon. Members will be keen to know the actual increased allocations made for the month of May to the drought affected and chronic deficit States. The table below will indicate the increased allocations given in May over what has been allotted for the month of April :

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

State	Allocation	
	April	May
Maharashtra	178	290
Gujarat	69	105
Mysore	23	40
Rajasthan	60	90
West Bengal	125.7	165
Kerala	67	75

As I had occasions to inform the House, the most difficult phase of the food situation is practically over and from this month onwards it will be possible to meet in

full the reasonable requirements of all the State Governments, particularly the drought affected and chronic deficit States. I would like to appeal once again to the Hon. Members to extend their whole hearted cooperation and support to enable us to tide over the difficult situation

14.06 hrs.

[SHRI S. A. KADER in the Chair]

सभापति महोदय यह आप लोग क्या भन जान है कि जब चेयर खड़ी होती है तो आप का बैठ जाना चाहिए और यह सब लामो के लिए है।

स्टेटमेंट के बाद कोई क्वेश्चन एलाऊ नहीं होना है। इसलिए अब कोई क्वेश्चन नहीं किया जाएगा।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह (चतरा) कनेक्टिविटीज का सवाल है।

सभापति महोदय नहीं, वह तो फिर वही क्वेश्चन आन्य हो जा जायेगा।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह मान्यवर, मैं दूसरी बात कह रहा था। मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। मैं यह कह रहा था कि मैंने 28 तारीख का 177 के अन्तर्गत सरकार में यह भाग की थी कि बिहार के खाद्य और आपूर्ति मंत्री खुद यह कह रहे हैं कि बिहार में कहीं भी गेला नहीं है, कोयला नहीं मिल रहा है और बिहार में अभाव की स्थिति है, उसके ऊपर सरकार बतलवा दे। अभी अभी जिन्हे माहब ने जो बतलवा दिया है उस में बिहार का नाम तक नहीं है जब कि वहां अभाव देखें।

सभापति महोदय नहीं, देखिए वह एक इन्डायरेक्ट वे में वही क्वेश्चन और आन्य की बात आ जाती है (अवधान) अगर आप को कुछ कहना है तो आप पहले लिखिए, उस के बाद (अवधान) शंकर दयाल जी, प्लीज आप बैठ जाइ। यह अच्छा नहीं है।

इन के ऊपर सबाल इस तरह के नहीं उठ सकता है। स्टेटमेंट हा गया। आप उस का अध्ययन करें। उन के बाव आप कुछ चाहें तो लिख सकते हैं।

श्री शंकर बहाल सिंह सली महादेव का हम तरह स्टेटमेंट दे कर एबदम बने नहीं जाना चाहिए। उन को सुनने के लिए रहना चाहिए था। वह उठे और बने गए। उन को स्पष्टीकरण के लिए यहाँ रहना चाहिए था।

14.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULES 377

(1) SUPPLY OF KEROSENE OIL

SHRI S. M. BANARJEE (Kanpur) Mr. Chairman, with your permission I would like to raise the question of inadequate supply of kerosene oil to the various shops in Delhi. I am told that in Delhi all the depots which supply kerosene oil are not getting adequate oil, with the result that even a person who waits in queue from 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. does not get any kerosene oil. I would request the hon. Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals or any other Minister who knows the situation to make a statement and see that this situation is averted. The shopkeeper clearly says that Government is not supplying kerosene oil. We do not know the fact. The consumer is sandwiched between the Government and the oil dealer. I would like through you, to request the Minister to make a statement.

At 12 O'clock I gave a notice. I never speak without giving notice. But the hon. Minister perhaps in a very casual manner chose to remain outside this House. I am surprised that we have spent 2-1/2 hours on a particular word. In Maharashtra I am called 'dada Banarjee'. They do not say I am a goonda. Bombay dada is a different thing.

Kindly direct the Minister to make a statement at the earliest opportunity.

(2) SHIFTING OF DEFENCE DEPOT FROM GURGAON

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to a report in the press today saying that the Defence Ministry is right now engaged in an exercise to shift the Defence Depot from Gurgaon. It is reported that a team of Indian Airforce Officers is at present inspecting the site and preparing a blue print for this exercise that will cost the people a tidy sum but will save the Government a lot of embarrassment and spare the Maruti, a private factory, the nuisance of the Defence Depot in the neighbourhood. This depot feeds the Airforce stations on the western border with Pakistan.

The report further says that a move has been made to shift the inconvenient Defence installations in Gurgaon away from the Maruti factory there to a distance specified in the Works of Defence Act if possible or remove them altogether to another place if necessary.

This step would jeopardise the Defence interest of the country and appears to be designed to protect private interests at the cost of the paramount Defence interests of the country.

As there have been allegations in Parliament about the violation of the relevant Defence laws, rules and regulations, this step amounts to destruction of evidence after the crime is committed.

I would like the Defence Minister to make a statement on the subject clarifying the whole thing.

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) Sir, I presume the hon. Member is referring to the Airforce Depot 54 ASP. Nothing that exists there is being shifted. The hon. Member's information is completely wrong and unfounded.