

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

indicates that there is some serious malaise in the body politic and the political system under which they are living.

Then it says:

'Shri Mahtab has of course been exposed but there may be many more in high places who have sufficiently enriched themselves and are still enjoying their positions of power and authority. Corruption, if it seeps from the top, rapidly contaminates the lower layers of our social and political life; and that is why we find it corroding and eating into the vitals of almost every phase of our social and political structure.'

All that I wanted to say, I have said, Sir. If the Government means business at all, they must implement the interim report of the Wanchoo Committee and also take the suggestions which have come from various good quarters about demonetisation.

Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up discussion under Rule 193 on the working of the Food Corporation of India.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Just a minute, Sir. I referred to the Delhi raid in which I first, said architects, then I said valuers. I would like to correct myself. There are 10 architects. The eleventh is coming.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You have been named, Mr. Piloo Mody!

SHRI PILOO MODY: I may be permitted to refer to the last point that he mentioned. What is it between architects and valuers? There are some architects who work as valuers, in which case, we call them valuers, just like, when we have a planter working as Minister we call him a Minister. If he is a horse-ranger we will not call him a horse-ranger, we would call him, a Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Anyway, we proceed to the next item. Shri Piloo Mody.

15.54 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: WORKING OF FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA.

SHRI PILOO MODY (GODHRA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, After having heard Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu talk about black money and how black money is generated, I feel, Sir, that of all the money unearthed in this debate—something like Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 crores,—a very substantial part of that must have emanated from the Food Corporation of India.

I have heard many famous names this evening, like Shri T.T. Krishnamachari, like Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, Shri Partap Singh Kairon, like Shri Hare Krishna Mahatab, like Goenka, like Morarka, like Mundhra, like the Balmer Lawrie scandal, the Shaw Wallace deal, and all manner of other things. But all of these pale into insignificance when it comes to the Food Corporation of India swindle.

The Food Corporation of India has perhaps the largest turnover in the whole of Asia, namely Rs. 2000 crores; Rs. 2000 crores goes through the fingers of the coffers of the Food Corporation of India.

15.56 hrs.

SHRI K. N. TIWARY *in the Chair.*

Rs. 2000 crores; not even the Congress can dream of that much money; Rs. 2000 crores. Out of this Rs. 2000 crores, several crores of rupees have disappeared, evaporated, were stolen, were eaten, were rat-eaten, were infested leaked out; I do not know what. But out of Rs. 2000 crores, several crores have disappeared. After having collected all this information on the Food Corporation of India, I have only been able to discover and identify about Rs. 6 to 8 crores. If a person like me so far remote from the Food Corporation of India can identify only Rs. 6 to 8 crores, that has somehow disappeared, how many more crores must have gone, which is in the know of all these knowledgeable colleagues of mine sitting on and behind the Treasury Benches.

Having done all this, the fraud having come to light, we find that the

Chairman of the Food Corporation of India has been trying in one way or the other to whitewash his own image, which is something fantastic. This Government, particularly the Food Ministry. (I do not know whether I am addressing Shri Annasaheb Shinde or Shri F A Ahmed)—but I cannot understand it—have permitted the chairman of the Food Corporation of India to continue in office for the last so many weeks in spite of the fact that all this has come in the papers and it has been exposed here, and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha himself wrote to me to say that there had been ten questions answered here in this House, let alone as many as may have been answered in the Rajya Sabha, and he has been allowed to whitewash his own image by going around to the press and printing articles in newspapers going through a long list of every correspondent and every editor of the paper. All this at whose expense?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Yours and mine.

SHRI PILOO MODY: At whose expense? I have here a letter that has been written, calling a press conference at the Akbar Hotel. I think it is too funny not to read, and with your permission, I shall read it. It is addressed to the Manager, Food and Beverages, and it says

"The Chairman of the Food Corporation of India is arranging a press conference on 20th September, 1972 and is hosting a cocktail lunch."

What is a cocktail lunch? You either have a lunch party or you have a cocktail party, but what is this cocktail lunch? Is he trying to give to these poor journalists a three-in-one, all in the middle of the day? Then, it says:

"The number of participants will be from 45 to 50. 75 per cent non-vegetarian, 25 per cent vegetarian, with slight variation on either side. The arrangements for the lunch party may please be made on the following terms and conditions:—

(1) The lunch will be buffet-cum-sitting at the rate of Rs. 30 per head".

If he had only brought them here or come here himself and fed them with the sandwiches that we eat day after day here, he could have fed the whole Lok Sabha for that amount of money, namely Rs. 30 per head; and the head of every journalist must be certainly very very valuable to be fed with Rs. 30 worth of Food. But this does not include what it has to be washed down with thereafter. Then, the letter goes on to say:

"The hall will be decorated with pots, plants and flowers. Liquors, cigars and cigarettes will be required to be served. Only cashewnuts and wafers will be served with the drinks. Sales tax at 5 per cent, service tax at 10 per cent; and Permit L 22 is being obtained".

16 hrs.

Now, in order to entertain these journalists, for whom all of a sudden he has discovered great liking, he has had (a) to ask for permission from some authority of the Government of India or other that he be permitted to serve liquor. I do not know why it is necessary to ask Government whether you should or you should not be permitted to serve liquor. But this is the sort of police-controlled state we are living in, and even the Chairman of the Food Corporation of India has to comply with it. The only tragedy is that when he applies, he gets a permit and when I apply, I don't.

Then he has to apply to another authority to get special permission to increase the number of guests from the statutory minimum of 50. I do not know that there was a statutory minimum of 50. But naturally, when the Food Corporation of India with its budget of Rs. 2,000 crores has to entertain, it cannot possibly entertain less than 50 people; it has to entertain more. So special permission was also given to the Food Corporation of India to hold this great press conference at which the Chairman of the Food Corporation was going to whitewash his

[Shri Piloo Mody]

image by telling pressmen that he has been very innocent, he has been accepting only one rupee as regular salary for the whole year. Whereas the free house that goes with his one rupee costs Government and the Food Corporation, along with furniture and ancillaries, Rs. 44,000 a month. That is the rent, that Shri Shinde or Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed—I do not know who has been paying on behalf of Sardar Iqbal Singh for the privilege of having given him a salary of only one rupee a year.

I would very much like to know—I am sorry that I am a little late because previously the income-tax officers were also listening to the proceedings—whether Sardar Iqbal Singh pays tax on this house rent that he is receiving because according to the law, as I understand it, he is supposed to. I would recommend to Shri Shinde that he finds out a little more about it. That is as far as the house goes.

Most of us get a permit from the Lok Sabha to buy a Fiat or a Hindustan. The Food Corporation of India has so many of its state transport cars, staff cars as they are called, and yet the Chairman can only go about in a luxury taxi, and an air-conditioned luxury taxi at that. And he makes—God knows why—50 trips to Fazilka alone I do not know what is there in Fazilka except perhaps that they have a small depot of the Food Corporation over there.

SHRI P K DEO (Kalahandi): That is his home town.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He has been making—God knows why—many trips to Bombay. I do not know why Bombay, because there seems to be no over abundance of food in Bombay, and therefore why an over-abundance of trips on the part of the Chairman.

Now, the pointed facts are that in every conceivable deal, dealing with every conceivable commodity whether it is buying, whether it is selling, whether it is under-selling, whether it is under-buying, whether it is a commission, whether it is transport, whether it is accommodation, whether it is anything connected with money, there has been a systemised working which a

takes a rake-off on each and every operation of the Food Corporation of India. I have so many facts to disclose that even if I were to continue until 6 o' clock I would not be able to go through them all.

In one of these interviews that was given to the *Evening News*, in which a most fascinating and handsome photograph of the Chairman was published, he says that because I wanted to eradicate corruption and because I wanted to streamline the organisation, I have to move people around and this has created a great deal of resentment.

Sir, it is a fact. He certainly moved a great many people around, but in what direction? In the direction of centralising of commercial transactions under the Chairman, himself. This is one singular reform that has been carried out in the last year or two: this centralisation of commercial transactions dealing with the Food Corporation of India, all tenders, all sales, all purchases under the Chairman himself, and thereby I think he has really performed a masterpiece of centralising corruption.

Now, if anybody is interested in eliminating corruption from the Food Corporation of India he can leave all the other departments alone and concentrate only on the commercial department centralised under the Chairman of the Food Corporation.

Sir, just to give a little flavour and a taste of some of these deals, they really are—

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mody, it is a one-hour debate. I hope you will keep the time in mind.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I know it is a one-hour debate. I will take as much time as necessary and the rest of them will take the balance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will not be fair on your part.

Shri PILOO MODY: Take the question of mustard oil. Three unknown, unregistered people were allowed to submit tenders for a quality of mustard oil which does not exist; Agmark III, they call it. The market knows about Agmark I and Agmark II, but this tender was Agmark III, and the

tender was for Rs. 10 more than the market price of this. I do not know how many thousands of tonnes were bought in this manner, of an unknown grade of mustard oil.

AN HON. MEMBER: 70,000 tonnes.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Thank you. Take sugar. It is the same thing. Take the movement. I must tell you about this movement: in the name of the emergency, in the name of Bangladesh, in the name of refugees and in the name of war, the Food Corporation rushed to Assam and other destinations in Assam thousands and thousands of tonnes of foodgrains which were not demanded from them, which were not requested by them, and this entire operation was entrusted to Messrs Malout Transport Co. I do not know what this Malout means. It must be some sort of composite.

(Interruptions) The funny thing about this it takes actually only about Rs. 12 a bag to transport this grain from here to there. Nevertheless, Rs. 48, four times the commercial price of it was paid. Four times the amount: a fantastic amount. Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, I do not know where you are going, but this is primarily addressed to you. Four times the price was being paid. The rules are that when a transhipment takes place, the transport costs are to be paid at the other end. That means that they were paid by the Food Corporation in Gauhati, and these have to be by cross and order cheques according to the regulations. It just so happened that these cross and order cheques issued by Gauhati could be cashed at the Food Corporation of India's headquarters at Kanpur and turned into bearer cheques. So, these cross and order cheques will fill the requirements. Thereafter, Kanpur obliged and turned them into bearer cheques. It just happened, and it is quite possible in India, that at least 20 drivers are called Iqbal Singh. (Interruptions) At least 20 drivers are called Iqbal Singh, and cashed those cheques and all in different handwritings.

Then there is the question of wooden crates. The ceiling for crates

is Rs. 20. No more for crates. But it was given for Rs. 21 to some systematic fellow from Punjab who turns up in Uttar Pradesh and opens up a shop over there. Just to go through there notes, makes my heart bleed. Then, 50,000 tonnes of maize were sold to starch manufacturers when the prevalent price in the market was Rs. 65-68, it was sold to Messrs. Anil Starch and Bharat Starch chemicals for something like Rs. 63.99. All of us have been trying to bring prices down but I do not think this is the place to start bringing the price down. Let us start providing food cheaply to all manner of people who really need it in drought and famine affected areas, and not to starch companies wherever they may be located.

There is centralisation of tender enquiries and opening global tenders in which all manner of fiddling goes on by allowing some tenders to be opened earlier and others being allowed to submit their tenders later, so that juggling of one sort or another can go on.

In addition to that, sales offices have been opened all over the country. I do not know what these sales offices do and each sales office. I am told, costs Rs. 30-40,000. It is amazing that something like 30-40 girls have been employed for the purpose of running these sales offices. Is it 300 or 400 girls? The Minister can clarify in his reply—(Interruptions.) The present requirement is of 520.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): This is very cheap.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He has finally understood it. So many things have been happening. Promotions have been given to officers with retrospective effect, not once but twice. I do not want to carry on. In one word there is no conceivable activity in the Food Corporation of India in which the fullest use or exploitation has not been made for the purpose of draining that organisation of its vitality and efficacy.

Here is a very important thing about shelling of paddy. The current rate was 81 paise per quintal; the rate allowed was Rs. 2.25 paise per quintal.

[Shri Piloo Mody]

The current rate in Haryana is 61 paise per quintal. . . . (Interruptions) QTR. What does it mean? It is for shelling. It is in the shelling that you make the difference.

On the other hand, the Gujarat Government requested the Food Corporation of India to release some food-grains so that they could bring down the price by distributing them through fair price shops and this is the quotation that the Gujarat Government were given; for gram Rs. 141.41 whereas the open market rate was Rs. 125—Rs. 138. The supply by the Food Corporation of India to other dealers in the States was at Rs. 80—130. In other words the Gujarat Government must be made to make up the differences that have been accruing on other deals Gram dal—Rs. 157 quoted to the Gujarat Government, open market price was Rs. 143—150; sold to traders of the Food Corporation of India Rs. 118—143. Mung Dal price quoted to the Gujarat Government Rs. 251.62, open market price Rs. 193—230. Sold by the FCI to other dealers Rs. 205. Yet, they wanted Rs. 250 from the Gujarat Government.

In Orissa, in Balasore district. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken twenty minutes; please conclude.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I shall take another five minutes; may be less.

Paddy is bought from the farmers over there at something like Rs. 50—55 and thereafter resold at Rs. 125. How can we possibly ever get grains which are absolutely basic for survival at anything like the prices at which they should be available?

In conclusion, I would like to point out that while Mr. Iqbal Singh had called a press conference at the Akbar Hotel to white-wash his own image, the Food Corporation had paid an advance of Rs. 4,000 to the Akbar Hotel to cover the cost. Unfortunately, the conference never took place, because the workers reached there before the Chairman and the Chairman thereafter was too afraid to go to the hotel, with the result that the press conference never took place. I would like to know, who

is going to pay that Rs. 4,000 and whether any refund will be available.

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Mody is going to pay it.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I would be certainly happy to pay, because after all, people who make Rs. 6 crores in one year, and make all others look like amateurs, will not mind getting Rs. 4,000 from a poor man like me. I would be happy to donate that, so that you can live just a little better.

I believe that people who perform important tasks in the running of this country—and the Chairman of Food Corporation of India is certainly performing a very important task—should be given all the comforts that are necessary and commensurate with the performance. But there is a limit to the amount of money that can be taken away in this particular fashion. Therefore, I appeal to you to lay bare the facts that you have discovered. I know you have discovered some facts from the CBI enquiry you have conducted, from whom you have received a report. I would like to know from the Food Ministry and the Government of India why to this date Sardar Iqbal Singh has not been removed from the post that he occupies as Chairman of the Food Corporation of India, because I have it in my knowledge that he has already started tampering with the records in order to do whatever he can to white-wash himself.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA (Balasore): Sir, Mr. Mody in his speech has referred to a gala cocktail party thrown in honour of the journalists. From my experience as public relations chief of a public undertaking, I can say that probably that was the best treatment to be meted out to the members of the fourth estate, because they are very dignified persons and it is the custom in every public undertaking. If we want to question it, we must question the entertainment guest item which all public undertakings have, under which they spend lakhs of rupees every year. Food Corporation is no exception to this.

The Food Corporation was created in 1964 when in the country there was economic instability. Government wanted to arrest prices and create buffer stocks to help the people. But it has happened that there is no buffer stock for three years, which is the cardinal aim of the Food Corporation. Whatever stock they have for the present year, the officers show it as buffer stock. I may be wrong, but these facts I have collected from the employees' association and the rival employees' association also. They are very particular about it. I am not going to pinpoint the arguments or counter-arguments on Mr. Iqbal Singh. In fact, I wanted to locate him because I wanted to clarify some of the points I looked at every turban and every beard, but I could not find him.

I want to place before the House one fact "Gunny bags scandal! Thy name is FCI!" There is enough scandal involved in it. The Food Corporation gives free gunny bags to millers, traders and businessmen. The cost of each gunny bag is Rs. 3.50 and it goes to the black market.

The FCI purchase gunny bags worth Rs. 25 crores to 31 crores. Here is a resolution of the employees' association which says that the gunny bags are sold not only in India but also outside India where a gunny bag costs Rs 7. The resolution says:

There is scope to believe that under the table heavy deals continued to be made at high levels while ships are shifted from one port to another causing bunching of ships in some ports while some go without any work, thus making the whole game of collusion with contractor's agents, stevedores and middlemen. The shippers get scope to smuggle out of the country gunny bags and sell them there at double the price quoted here."

The employees' association, which represent 20,000 employees of the

Food Corporation, passed this resolution in April at their Bangalore session, and we cannot close our eyes certainly to this aspect.

I have come to know that only in the last week of June 2,000 tonnes of wheat had to be carried from one port of India to Assam by air. I asked one airline official what would be the expenditure incurred and he said "more than one crore of rupees". I want to know who is responsible for this, the Chairman, the Managing Director or any other official. If there is any inquiry by the CBI, or any other inquiry, it should not be limited to the affairs of the Chairman but should cover the entire machinery, a machinery which has been corrupt for the last so many years. Whatever may be the status of the Managing Director, ICS or IAS, whatever may, be the status of the Purchase Officer of the FCI, every deal entered into by these people should be inquired into.

Today one employee came and told me that a contractor who is building a house for the FCI is also building a house for a big officer of the FCI.

SHRI S A KADER (Bombay Central South): Who is responsible for this?

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA. The responsibility lies on the government which is giving place to people who are corrupt. I have no doubt that both Shri F. A Ahmed and Shri Shinde very experienced and dynamic as they are, will certainly go into the affairs and leave no stone unturned to find out corruption, wherever it exists, and root it out.

As far as Wallace Floor Mills and Anil Starch are concerned, the purchases were as follows:

1968	30,000	tonnes	of	maize
1969	25,000	"	"	"
1970	20,000	"	"	"
1971	25,000	"	"	"
1972	50,000	"	"	"

All these years it has been done on negotiated tender. Probably only this year it has been stopped. What do

[Shri Shyam Sunder Moha-putra] you mean by negotiated tender? Probably there was no advertisement in the lowest tender was not accepted, probably there was no advertisement in the newspapers in India or perhaps the sanctity of the tender was violated. Wherever there is negotiation, there is likelihood of corruption. The hon. Minister must go into it.

I have come to know that Messrs. H. K. Dave & Company got a transport and stevedoring contract in Gujarat. Junior officers were sent because if the senior officers were sent they would have certainly found out the irregularities. The FCI could not find any alternative agent. So, the same party was again entrusted with the agency system for transport of goodgrains from Kandla to Ahmedabad, Bhavanagar to Ahmedabad and Jamnagar to Ahmedabad. I hope this will be gone into.

There is another form of corruption and that is the moisture in the grain. Whenever wheat is supplied to the millers 15 per cent is the moisture gain allowed to the millers. But what about wheat that comes from dry areas? It is only five per cent there. But ten per cent was allowed which amounts to more than Rs. 25 crores, which has gone to the coffers of the corrupt officials of the FCI.

I come from Orissa. I pass through Calcutta Railway station. When I was passing through Calcutta once, one FCI officer told me that there is a scandal in the railway siding at Ramkrishnapur. When I asked him the details he said that instead of delivering the food supplies from the FCI depots after proper weighment, the FCI allowed the millers to go and take delivery *ex godown*. That means that there was no FCI officer when the weight was taken and it was left entirely to the millers and the business community. Now they are demanding more. FCI says the weight is so much while the millers say the weight is something else. So, there is corruption to the tune of Rs. 70 lakhs. We have to bow our heads in shame that through this public corporation Rs. 16 crores has gone down the gutters and history

will never excuse those people who are manning today the FCI.

The FCI has 40,000 employees. There are direct recruits, Central Food Ministry transferees, State Government deputationists, deputationists turned abso. bees, State cadre officers, members of the All India services, pay and accounts office employees and employees of the private sector.

It is an organisation of so many people and that is why there is no division of responsibility and there is division of allegiance also. The Chairman has withdrawn recognition of one Association which represents 15,000 employees. A few dissidents have now come out and they are blaming the Chairman. I understand, these people were henchmen of the Chairman. Suddenly they staged a *dharna* before the Prime Minister. They are now going round saying, "That is what; that is what." If the Chairman or the Managing Director does not talk across the table with the employees, how can they solve the matter? The matter now is that immediate recognition should be given to that Association and they should sit across the table.

Now, the position is that the employees have made the matter worse confounded. The employees are now going from door to door telling the people about corruption. The employees come to Members' houses; they go to press; they go everywhere saying, there is corruption. I want to say one thing. Within 11 month, Mr. Iqbal Singh has not eaten the entire money of F.C.I. It is a chain reaction starting from the very beginning of F.C.I. If Mr. Iqbal Singh is found guilty, such a lesson be given that no Chairman of any public sector undertaking in his life-time will ever commit this mistake.

Sir, I come from Ballasore district of Orissa. Last time, when I went to Orissa, I found in the paper that foodstuffs worth about Rs 30 lakhs had vanished from FCI godowns and other godowns. I was surprised. Ballasore district is in perpetual poverty. The people are dying without food. There was cyclone; there was flood and there was drought. Now, after inquiring into two godowns, they

found foodstuffs worth Rs. 7 lakhs had gone away. I would like to give you some figures. A. B. Rice Mills—foodstuffs worth Rs. 2,34,000; D. C. Industries Rs 5,25,000; Mahavir Rice Mills—Rs. 5,13,000; Raghupati Rice Mills—Rs 2,84,000; D. C. Khandelwal—Rs. 62,250; Gopinath Swain—Rs. 1,00,000; Bharat Commercial Co.—Rs. 1,62,000; etc. etc.

This is a catalogue of details I have got according to which foodstuffs worth Rs. 30 lakhs have vanished. How can the foodstuffs vanish? The foodstuffs do not have their hands and legs to walk from Orissa to some other zone.

One Assistant Manager in FCI in Baliaasore district superannuated in last June Orissa Government did not want to extend the period of his service. Someone higher-up came from Orissa and talked to the officers here and re-appointment was given to the same gentleman. On the issue of that particular man, his conduct and career, as to what he was doing, we fought two election in 1961 and in 1971 in Badrak constituency. The man became himself a symbol of corruption in our State. This is the type of goings on in the FCI. The man who was not given extension by Orissa Government has been re-appointed by FCI. Who is responsible for that?

I submit there should be a thorough probe into the workings of FCI. Let us not hold guilty only one man. Let us know how many persons are involved in it and let us root out corruption once and for all.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I want a ruling on one item that in the last few days, we have been facing vigorous lobbying in the Central Hall originating from a Chairman of the public sector corporation—may be, he is an ex-MP or an ex-Minister. I want to know from you how fair it is and why the public sector corporation Chairman takes advantage of his opportunity to enter the Central Hall and go on lobbying in favour or against. What surprised me most is that Ministers even phoned me, one sector wanting to give masala in favour and the other sector against.

I do not know what is the reason. Whenever we get some material of this nature, that is always an outcome of internal feud I do not know about that.

But I want to ask this Mr. Iqbal Singh, our former colleague in the House, a pleasant man to talk to, well-mannered and polite, I have a feeling that he has overdone his job—the High Command's approval of depositing 12 annas out of a rupee that was collected for socialist purposes; perhaps he exceeded it by something, and then the trouble started. Congress starts with the letter 'C' and corruption also starts with the letter 'C'. Congress stands for corruption (*Interruptions*) There is no doubt about it. The FCI Chairman may be a small fry I will deal with the fountain head in a minute.

MR CHAIRMAN: May I request you to take the debate on to a higher level?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am trying to go to the head of the fountain. Why should I dwell on the bottom of the fountain where poor Iqbal Singh lives? I am talking about the top of the fountain-head of all corruption in the country. This FCI scandal may surprise many, but not the people who are in the know of things. How Mr Gokhale after getting clearance from the Prime Minister's secretariat, could buy Balmer Lawrie & Co., paying an excess amount of Rs 67 lakhs—a sinking company! (*Interruptions*) I am just saying that corruption is widespread.

In this well edited Economic and Political Weekly, it is said very nicely:

"To get rid of excess stocks the Corporation . . ." The Food Corporation of India

" . . . the Corporation, some time around 1970 hit upon the brilliant idea of organising open market sales. The *modus operandi* to beat all, it thought, was to organise auctions in mandis and sell wheat and other grains to the highest bidder.

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

"The Chairman of the Food Corporation went on record as late as July that, given the size of the stocks he was holding, famines and droughts were things of the past. If prices would not behave, he would immediately enforce discipline by organising bigger and better open market sales of grains. The Chairman had been true to his word."

What I am trying to say is that it is a part of the big net, the big policy, the decisions to benefit a particular class and thereby get benefit to further their political cause. This man—the whole thing—has suddenly come out! He was one in hundreds. That is all that I want to say. I have stated many times here about Tulsian of Karnatak Corporation, the wool combers, B. K. Shaw of jeep scandal, R. P. Goenka, Bansilal and so many other things.

This Food Corporation Act is another ambiguous piece of document in order to grant political patronage of different types. There are discriminations between Chairman. If he is whole time, then he will be enjoying a particular thing; if he is part time, he will not be entitled to those things. This is how they have been functioning. We cannot understand how Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam was a part-time Chairman of the Indian Airlines Corporation, a public sector unit, and here you see Sardar Iqbal Singh—may he live long!—becomes a whole-time Chairman. We do not understand this. This anomaly must be cleared. We have seen about this Jute Corporation Chairman. The Minister was under pressure from Bengal politicians. The man who has never seen a jute plant is Chairman of the Jute Corporation. We do not want to go into details. The FCI, as the class character of the Government is, has been the paradise of middle-men. So also Cotton Corporation, State Trading Corporation, etc. Poor farmers are robbed and the consumers are also robbed. The total turn-over in a year, I am told, is Rs. 1,600 crores.

The Public Undertakings Committee of this year has given some interest-

ing observations. Storage losses increased to Rs. 21.96 crores upto 1971-72. Loss of foodgrains in transit goes up from Rs. 95 lakhs in 1965-66 to Rs. 7.80 crores in 1970-71. Subsidy from the Government for storage and other facilities—Rs. 69.98 crores. Outstandings from State Governments—Rs. 49.42 crores. Outstandings have risen from Rs. 33.60 lakhs in 1967 to 67.90 crores. That is the position with regard to this Food Corporation of India. Mr. Piloo Mody and the friend opposite, Mr. Mohapatra—next time he would not be given a ticket, I suppose—have dealt with it very well. Now, I quote some more figures. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not attack your comrades.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Now, infructuous expenditure is 25 per cent—of the nation's money which could be utilised for development plans—it is all public money—it comes to Rs. 25 crores every year. By way of gunny bags each worth Rs. 3 and the flour mill owners who are making hay while the sun shines and they are the greater beneficiaries. These gunny bags are re-exported to Singapore and other places. They make foreign exchange which is preserved there for the purpose of smuggling gold. It is always a transaction and Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Saheb will understand these things, I hope. This is how you are encouraging these things. This is what is happening. Zonal imbalances in constructing storage depots, leakage, in national buffer stocks—these are known to all of us. The question is how to make quick money.

About the Mustard oil, Mr. Piloo Mody has already said—I do not wish to repeat it—that it is very strange that one Prasad & Co., order suppliers and Annapurna & Co. who are not even registered for the purpose of Sales Tax were given orders to purchase on a higher price. He had plundered the country's money. From the order file, I have been able to get a copy of the order and the order file where Mr. Iqbal Singh says about a deal and Mr. J. D. Bacha notes:

"As desired by the CCM the above information is also given."

Then, the Chairman's PA writes:

"With files for discussions with Chairman."

After discussion, then he writes:

"I discussed this case with the Chairman. He may now please see for orders on the request of M/s Bharat Starch Factory for reducing the rates at which we have sold maize to them."

Then the Chairman notes:

"We have sold maize @ 60.21 per quintal for delivery upto March, 1972. Since this party has also sent offer during the same period, stipulating same conditions and delivery, being a small scale unit—we should treat them at par with large scale units in providing raw materials."

We may, therefore, give to this party at the same rate of Rs. 60.21 with delivery upto March."

This is how he has been riding rough-shod and he has been doing this job like this.

Then about polythene bags deal. This is another scandal. There is one Calcutta Commercial Corporation where by manipulations they have been taking orders for polythene bags to the tune of Rs. 1.35 crores. I am told some people belonging to certain political parties had been deeply interested financially and materially in that company and there have been agents serving the party. Here, Sardarji is also a party. Wonderful thing. The amount involved is about Rs. 1.35 crores.

All this came out due to a factional fight, as I said before and different lobbies are working. So different things are coming out. We want to know—who said that? I think Napoleon once said, 'We must remember that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world'. Sardar Iqbal Singh is sitting in the cradle. let us find out the hands that rock the cradle!

I do not know what is the internal fight that is going on, somebody else wanting to replace his chair. I can see a particular section working vigorously saying that he is very bad and another section saying that he is a very good man. We understand that these have come out because of internal factions, share of the booty. So we want a thorough probe into the whole matter.

I have read once about the Sarjoo Prasad Commission Report. They said that unless the fountain-head and the source of corruption at the highest level is tackled this will be of no use.

Finally, Sir, supporting what Mr. Mahapatra said, I demand that there must be a thorough probe into the whole affair immediately. Is it not a fact that Mr. Iqbal Singh, Chairman of the FCI had been collecting money for the political party to which he belongs and he had retained more than what he had been allowed to retain? These are very important points.

श्री बरबारा सिंह (होशियारपुर) : चैयरमैन साहब, मैं किसी को डिफेंड करने के लिये नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूँ, लेकिन एक जरूरी बात की तरफ मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ, और वह यह कि सी० बी० आई० ने एक इनक्वायरी शुरू की चैयरमैन के खिलाफ, वार्जंसीट क्या है, उसके जवाब को देखा कि नहीं, यह भ्रमल बात है, पर मामला सी० बी० आई० को चला गया, अब तमाम फैक्ट्स उन के सामने चले गये। तो यहाँ शोर मचाने से क्या होगा? आखिर उस की इनक्वायरी होनी है, और अगर ऐस्टेबलिश हो जाय कि करप्शन हुआ है तो ठीक बात है जिस आदमी ने गलत काम किया है, उसको सजा मिलनी चाहिये।

मैं इल्हामबाजी के साथ साथ कुछ और बातें आप के सामने कहना चाहता हूँ, और वह यह कि ऐसा तो नहीं कि जैसे ऐंबीडेंस दी जाती है अदालत में जा कर तो वहाँ सर्वेम्स्टेंटिवल ऐंबीडेंस भी होती है। कहीं ऐसा तो नहीं कि चैयरमैन के नीचे बैठे हुए यूरोफेड्स ने यह सब

[श्री बरबारा सिंह]

बवडर खड़ा किया हो। क्योंकि जिस तरह यूरोक्रेट्स काम करते हैं उस को दुरुस्त करने के लिये चेयरमैन ने कुछ कदम उठाये हैं और उस में नाराज हो कर यह सब मैनपुलेशन तो नहीं हो रहे हैं? कहीं ऐसा तो नहीं है कि बरमिथान की एजेन्सी को वर्तमान चेयरमैन ने निकाल दिया हो जिसमें नाराज हो कर यह सब गड़बड़ चोटासा किया जा रहा हो। क्योंकि पहले नैकड् ग्रेन जो लिया जाता था वह कमीशन एजेन्ट्स की मार्फत लिया जाता था, लेकिन अब उस बरमिथान की एजेन्सी को बन्द कर दिया गया और फूड कारपोरेशन सीधे फार्मर से अब ग्रैन्ट लेती है। सब उन्होंने ग्रेडिंग मशीन लगा दी है जो कि उनकी ग्रेडिंग करती है। इनकी वजह से इस्पेक्टर द्वारा नाजायज पैसा लेने वाला सिस्टम बंद हो गया हो और इसलिये यह सब मैनपुलेशन हो रहा हो।

पहले फूड ग्रेन्ट जो खरीदा जाता था वह फ्लोअर मिल को वैसे ही बोरी भहित दिया जाता था, जिस बोरी की कीमत 3.50 पैसे होती है। उस बोरी की कीमत फ्लोअर मिल से बसूल नहीं करते थे। चेयरमैन ने इस सिस्टम को बन्द करने के लिए सरकार को लिखा जिस से सारे अधिकारी खुशी हो गये हैं। जो 15, 15 साल तो बड़े बड़े घाघ कारपोरेशन में थे, जो सब चीजों को निगल जाते थे उन को ठीक करने के लिये चेयरमैन ने कदम उठाये, कहीं ऐसा तो नहीं है कि उन्होंने ही यह सब मैनपुलेशन किया हो। इसलिये मेरी सरकार से दरखास्त है कि उनका भी इंतजाम कीजिये जो 15, 15 साल से वहाँ बैठे हुए हैं।

जैसा कि मैंने पहले ही अर्ज किया, मैं किसी को डिफंड करने के लिये यहाँ नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। अगर सरदार इकबाल सिंह मुल्तान हैं तो उनको निकालना चाहिये। लेकिन इस के साथ यह बात भी है कि जो बड़े बड़े घाघ हैं, यूरोक्रेट्स हैं वह खाते जायें और उन के खिलाफ कोई सुनने वाला न हो, यह भी नहीं होना चाहिये बैमिनिस्टर साहब से कहता हूँ कि आप मेहरबानी

करके भकेले चेयरमैन वाली बात ही सी० बी० आई० को न दीजिये, बल्कि उन भ्रमरों के सामने भी सी० बी० आई० को दीजिये जिन के खिलाफ इल्जाभात हैं ताकि सब बातें मुकम्मल तौर से आपके सामने आ जायें कि कौन कहां खड़ा है।

दो हजार करोड़ रुपये का यह एम्पायर फूड भिनिस्ट्री के तौर है और वह जो काम करने वाले हैं वह कैसे करते हैं? प्राइमैज क्यों हाई हो रहे हैं? यह उन्होंने ही कहा है जो ऐसी-सिएशन वाले मेमबरन्डम को देने वाले हैं। उन के खिलाफ भी मुकदमे चल रहे हैं, लेकिन मैं उन की तरफ नहीं जाता। जो सत्याग्रह हो रहा है वह कोई फोर्थ क्लाम के सर्वेन्ट्स नहीं करते हैं, वह तो सेक्रेट क्लाम के सर्वेन्ट्स हैं जो हजारों रुपया तन्खाह वाले हैं। वह आ कर प्राइम भिनिस्टर साहब के सामने बैठे हैं। वह नहीं बैठे हैं जिन को पूरी तरह से रोटी नहीं मिलती है खाने के लिये। वह लोग लड़ रहे हैं जिन के पेट पहले से भरे हुए हैं। (ब्य ध्यान) मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि वह पटुंचते किस के पास है। वह उन के पास पटुंचते हैं जिन को मार्केट से निकाल दिया गया है। किसान जो है वह अपने तमाम अनाज को मार्केट में सरकार को या एक० सी० आई० को दे दे और दरम्यान के जो आदमी है, कमीशन एजेंट उनको निकाल दिया जाये। सारे देश में जो कमीशन एजेंट हैं उन की क्या राय है और यह काम कैसे होने लगा है, जरा इसकी भी सफाई हो जानी चाहिये। मुझ को न किसी से मुहब्बत है और न किसी से नफरत है। मैं आपकी मार्फत एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप इस की शिपिटिंग एन्क्वायरी करायें हम इंटेग्रिटी के आदमी चाहते हैं, बेईमान को नहीं चाहते हैं। अगर कहीं बेईमानी हुई है तो आप दोनों तरफ से देख लीजिये। यह नहीं होना चाहिये कि एक अफसर बार सहीने की छुट्टी ले कर कहे कि मुझे इधर जाना है या मुझे उधर जाना है, छोड़ना है या नहीं छोड़ना है और चेयरमैन से छुट्टी लेकर वहीं घंस जाय और कहे कि मुझे यहाँ रहना है। यह सब बातें बहुत एहतियात और बैकनन्ड तरीके से करने वाली हैं।

श्री राम सहाय पांडे (राजनदगाव)
अफसर का नाम बनना चाहिये।

श्री सरदार सिंह मुझे उम को बनवाने की जरूरत नहीं है। मैं पार्लियमेंट में नया हो सकता हूँ लेकिन एम० एल० ए० बहुत दिना में हूँ। मुझे पता है कि यहाँ नाम नहीं लेना चाहिये लेकिन समझने वाले समझ जायेंगे कि कौन है मुझे पता नहीं उम का क्या नाम है। (ब्य धा।) मैं मैं सैगल का नाम लेना चाहता हूँ श्रीर न डेविड का नाम लेता हूँ, किसी का नाम नहीं लेता, लेकिन हमको यह सोचना चाहिये कि किस से यह बात की जाये। हम को मौका मिला है, बेशक सरदार इकबाल सिंह के फौले ने यह मौका पेश किया हो, उन के कम में दिया हो, इम का फायदा उठा कर यह बान सी० बी० आई० को एन्ट्रस्ट कर दी जाये कि कौन कौन अफसर किस किस जगह पर किम किम तरीके से काम कर रहे हैं, किस तरह में टेडर में गडबडी की गई है किस किस तरह में टेडर भागे बढ़ाये गये हैं या उनके बारे में क्या क्या काम किया गया है। इमकी शिफ्टिंग इक्वियरी जरूर होनी चाहिये। दन दोनो चीजो का इकट्ठा करना बाध कर दे दिया जाये ताकि पूरी बात का पता चल सके कि कहा गलत बात हुई है कहा नहीं।

श्री शार उबे राय (घोरी) समापति महीदय, जो आगेप सरदार इकबाल सिंह के खिलाफ लगाये जा चुके हैं या लगाये जा रहे हैं उन में से अगर 10 फीमदी भी सही हो तो मेरा मत है कि उन को तुरन्त इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिये और उनके इस्तीफा देने के बाद ही सी० बी० आई० की इन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिये। उन के उस पद पर रहते हुए निष्पक्ष और सही जाच नहीं हो सकती है। इस बात का अनुभव हम लोगो को देश के कोने कोने में है। मेरी भाग है सरकार से कि अगर वह इस्तीफा नहीं देते हैं और उन में जरूरत है तो और शर्म नहीं रह गई है, तो सरकार उन को वहाँ से हटायें और तब उन के खिलाफ जाच करवायें।

सरकार से मेरा यह भी आग्रह है कि जाच से केवल चार विषय दिये गये हैं जो कि बहुत कम हैं। जितने भी आरोप उन के खिलाफ हैं उन सब को जाच होनी चाहिये। यह एक पब्लिक सेक्टर है और पब्लिक सेक्टर को नजीर बनना चाहिये। महाजवाद या साम्भवाद की पहली आघारशिला रखी जा रही है। अगर उम का नमूना हमारे देश में पेश नहीं होगा तो उम से किन लोगो को प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा? जो गैर-समाजवादी हैं, जो गैर-परिवर्तनवादी हैं, जो यथार्थवादी हैं, जो समाज को और देश को जहाँ का तहाँ खना या पीछे ले जाना चाहते हैं। इमलिये इम में उदाहरण की सजा होनी चाहिये। मेरा तो कहना यह है कि अगर इसके लिए कानून में भी परिवर्तन करना पड़े तो वह किया जाये। चाहे सरदार इकबाल सिंह ही हो चाहे दूसरे, अगर पब्लिक सेक्टर में ऐसे कलुषित आदमी मिले या दिखलाई पड़े उन्हें कड़ी से कड़ी सजा जो हमारे कानून में हो सकती है देनी चाहिये। उनके खिलाफ 24 आरोप हैं। ओपन सेल किया है, कड़वे तेल का भामला है जिस में गडबडी की गई है, चीनी में, दाल में, लकड़ी फ्रेट में, मेज में, चने की खरीदारी में, धान की कुटाई में, प्रस्तावित प्रेस कान्फेस में सरदार इकबाल सिंह द्वारा जो कनवैमिंग हुआ है, मजदूरो में फूट डालना, कर्म-चारियों का दमन, रिकार्डों को छिपाने की कोशिश और उने कई सप्ताह छिटाए रहना गबाहियों को तथा सबूत को मिटाने की कोशिश, ट्रांसफर, प्रमोशन में चापलूसी की बहार, कानपुर से गोहाटी गल्ला ट्रको में ले जाना, पाच हजार रुपये प्रति मास टी ए सेना, एयर कडीशड ल जरा कार के इस्तेमाल का भामला, कुर्सी मेज आदि का छ. मी अन्फाइंड बगले के नाम पर किराया देना, भकान का भाडा 3,200 रुपये माहवार, मजिमतल में फूट डालने का प्रयाम करना, प्रधान मंत्री को भी प्रभावित करने की कोशिश, एक सीनियर कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर को अपने पक्ष में करना, शक्ति एवं अधिकारों का पूरा केन्द्रीयकरण, ट्रक ड्राइवरों को बेचरर बैंको द्वारा भुगतान, आदि ऐसे कलुषित काम हैं जिन को आँखों से भी नहीं देखा

[श्री झारखण्डे राय]

जा सकता है। इस तरह से 24-25 आरोप हैं जिनका जवाब उनको या सरकार को देना होगा। इतने गंभीर आरोप उन पर होने के बाद भी वह अपने पद पर क्यों बने हुए हैं? एक मामूली कर्मचारी के खिलाफ कोई आरोप हो तो उसे पहले मुअत्तल किया जाता है और फिर उसके खिलाफ जांच होती है। उच्च पदस्थ अधिकारी कुछ भी करे और कैसे ही गम्भीर आरोप उसके खिलाफ हो, उसे उस पद पर बनाए रख कर उसके खिलाफ जांच पड़ताल की जाएगी तो यह ठीक नहीं होगा। डबल स्टैंडर्ड क्या व्यवहार क्यों?

सभापति महोदय, हमारे देश में दो तरह की शक्तियां काम कर रही हैं, एक तो समाजवादी विचार धारा वाली शक्तियां और दूसरी गैर-समाजवादी विचारधारा वाली है। इन घटनाओं, से, इन वाक्यात से गैर समाजवादी शक्तियों को बल और प्रोत्साहन मिलता है। यह इस बात को सिद्ध करती है कि हमारे देश में मिक्स्ड इकोनोमी, मिश्रित अर्थ व्यवस्था, जिसके जनक स्वर्गीय पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू थे, असफल सिद्ध हो चुकी है और पूरे तौर पर इस मिक्स्ड इकोनोमी को, मिश्रित अर्थ व्यवस्था को तिला-जलि दे कर, इसका तर्पण करके हमें भागे बठना पड़ेगा। यह मिश्रित अर्थ व्यवस्था या समाजवादी या पब्लिक सेक्टर के काम पूंजीवादी व्यवस्था के कृपित समूह में छोटे छोटे टापुधों की भांति बिखरे पड़े हैं जिन के चारों ओर पूंजीवादी विक्षुब्ध लहरे टपकर मार मार कर इनको निगल जाना चाहती है और इस प्रकार इन्हे ध्वस्त या अस्तित्वहीन कर देना चाहती है।

सभापति महोदय . यह फूड कारपोरेशन की बात है। सिद्धान्त के ऊपर न चले जाये।

श्री झारखण्डे राय : पब्लिक सेक्टर का मामला है और समाजवाद की धारारशिला रखी जा रही हो तो थोड़ी सी उसकी चर्चा जरूरी हो जाती है।

खाद्य निगम भी एक सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र व्यवसाय है, जिसमें 1600 करोड़ पूंजी लगी है

इस में ऊपर से नीचे तक अष्टाचार व्याप्त है। इसलिये मैं उस माग से सहमत हूँ, उस बाणी से सहमत हूँ जो उठी है कि इसकी पूरी जांच होनी चाहिये और इन विषय में पूरी कार्रवाई होनी चाहिये। वह नहीं कि केवल एक व्यक्ति के खिलाफ जांच हो बल्कि आज तक के जो अधिकारी रहे हैं, जब से एफ० सी० आई० ने काम करना शुरू किया है, तब से लेकर अब तक की पूरी कार्रवाई की जांच के लिए एक उच्च-स्तरीय जांच आयोग स्थापित होना चाहिये और जो रिपोर्ट वह दे उस पर कार्रवाई होनी चाहिये। खाद्य निगम मिलजुब का जन्मत बना हुआ है, ठेकेदारों का स्वर्ग बना हुआ है। खाद्य निगम का मम्ब ध मिलवालों ने एक दम तामाप्त होना चाहिए।

बोरो की कीमत की चर्चा हो चुकी है। क्या इनको पहले देखा नहीं जा सकता था। एसोसिएशन ने अपने माग पत्र में इनकी बड़ी चर्चा की है। उसके कुछ शब्द बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

“There is a loot of public money to the tune of about Rs 25 crores every year by way of giving gunny bags, each worth in India about Rs 350 free with the gunnies to the millers, roller floor mills, traders etc”

बाहर बहुत सी जगहों पर इनके दाम सात रूपये तक मिल जाते हैं। इनका कोई हिसाब नहीं है। इस जवन्य लट में एक उच्च पदस्थ अधिकारी शामिल है।

सभापति महोदय : अब प्रायः खत्म करने की कोशिश करे।

श्री झारखण्डे राय : कितना समय देगे ?

सभापति महोदय : यह एक घंटे का मोशन है और बोलने वाले बहुत हैं

श्री झारखण्डे राय : दो मिनट तो मिलेंगे ?

सभापति महोदय : वे तो मिल जायेंगे। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य कम से कम समय लें तो ज्यादा सदस्यों की एकमोडेट किया जा सकेगा।

श्री नारदराय : 200 करोड़ रुपये की लूट अब तक हो चुकी है। 25 करोड़ रुपये की लूट हर साल होती है और पूरी धनराशि का 25 फीसदी भाग करप्शन के रूप में चला जाता है। जहाजों को बन्दरगाह से बन्दरगाह भटकाया जाता है और उस के माध्यम से कलुषित व्यापार चलता है। पी० एल०-480 के बन्द होने के बाद निगम में एक जबर्दस्त भ्रमरीकन लाबी इस पब्लिक सैक्टर प्रडरटोकिंग को असफल बनाने के लिए काम कर रही है; उस को पकड़ना होगा। निगम में संगठित भ्रष्टाचार ऊपर से लेकर नीचे तक फैला हुआ है; उसकी गहराई में जाना पड़ेगा।

निगम में पक्षपात इस हद तक है कि जो अपने भ्रादमी है, जो यैसमैन है, उनको हैड-क्वार्टर में रखा जाता है और झालीचकों तथा समालोचकों को दूर फेंक दिया जाता है। निगम के केन्द्रीय दफतर में रिजनल इम्बैलेंस-श्रेणीय असंतुलन-कायम हो गया है। निगम के राष्ट्रीय चरित्र को हमें बनाये रखना चाहिये। भारत सरकार साध निगम को 130 करोड़ सहायता देती है। इसकी अब कोई जरूरत नहीं है। यह एड बन्द हो। रेलवे के बाद भारत का सबसे बड़ा उद्योग है।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से दो तीन सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ। श्री इकबाल सिंह के खिलाफ जो चार्ज लगाये गये हैं, उन्होंने उन का जो जवाब दिया है, वह हम लोगों को मिलना चाहिए।

सी० बी० आई० की जांच केवल चार केसिज में क्यों कराई जा रही है? टर्म्स आफ रेफरेंस में वे तमाम आरोप शामिल क्यों नहीं किये गये हैं, जो एसोसियेशन ने अपने मांगपत्र में लगाये थे?

भ्राम्न तेल सैटर का जो उद्घाटन हुआ था, सारे देश में उस पर कुल किसता ध्यय हुआ है, उसके आंकड़े हमको पता नहीं चल सके हैं। मुझे ध्याता है कि मंत्री महोदय इस पर प्रकाश डालेंगे।

श्री शिन्दे ने 26 अगस्त को एसोसियेशन के शिष्ट-मण्डल को जो बचन और आश्वासन दिया है, उसकी तफसील क्या है और कहां तक उसका पालन किया गया है?

क्या पब्लिक सैक्टर ऐसे ही चलेगा? क्या पब्लिक सैक्टर में ये काले घब्बे ऐसे ही रहने दिये जायेंगे? क्या इन्ही लोगों के सहारे स्टेट ट्रेडिंग होगा और समाजवाद का रास्ता प्रशस्त होगा? उन को उस पद पर रखा क्यों जा रहा है? क्या उन को वहां से हटा कर जांच नहीं कराई जा सकती है, ताकि उस जांच और उस के नतीजों में देश के करोड़ों लोगों को विश्वास हो कि वह निष्पक्ष जांच हुई है, उस में किसी प्रकार का पोलिटिकल प्रेशर नहीं पडा है और न ही कोई पक्षपात किया गया है।

17 hrs.

श्री राम नारायण शर्मा (धनबाद) : सभा-पति महोदय, फूड कार्पोरेशन के कार्य-कलाप सम्बन्ध में जो विचार हो रहा है, मैं देखता हूँ कि कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने तो इसको एक व्यक्ति विशेष के कार्य-कलाप पर बहस बना दिया है। वास्तव में फूड कार्पोरेशन अपने अन्दर-रूनी कलह का शिकार है और वह कलह यह है कि उममें 42,000 मुलाजिम हैं, जिन में से 15,000 भारत सरकार के डेपुटेशनिस्ट्स हैं, जो फूड एन्ड एग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट के कर्मचारी हैं। इन 15,000 लोगों की एक एसोसियेशन है और उस एसोसियेशन के अभी दो अंग हो गये हैं। उन में से एक अंग ने बैयरमैन को चार्जशीट दिया और वह डिमांड नोटिस सरकार के सामने जून के अन्त में आया। और सरकार ने 2 जुलाई को सी० बी० आई० के सुपुर्व कर दिया। एक तरफ तो जबाब मांगा और दूसरी तरफ 2 जुलाई को सी० बी० आई० के सुपुर्व कर दिया। हम लोगों को बहुत से पब्लिक सैक्टर से पाला पड़ता है और पब्लिक सैक्टर के अंकित को अच्छी तरह से हम जानते हैं कि किस तरह से उसके बैयरमैन, किस तरह से मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर रहते हैं और उन के क्या ठाट बाट हैं

श्री राम नारायण शर्मा :

श्रीर किस तरह की जिन्दगी वे व्यतीत करते हैं। और, यह बात तो हुई। एसोसिएशन की तरफ से वे चार्ज आए और फूड एंड ऐग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट ने तीन दिनों के अंदर उस के ऊपर सी० बी० आई० की एम्बायरी बैठा दी। यह इतनी प्राम्प्ट सरकार है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि फूड एंड ऐग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट ने क्या भ्रमी जो महापात जी ने अग्रिल, महीने के प्रस्ताव को पढ़ा, उस के ऊपर भी इस तरह की एम्बायरी बैठाई है? अगर बैठाई है तो उस का क्या फल है और यह एम्बायरी बैठाई है तो इस का क्या फल निकला है और ये सारी परिस्थितियाँ कैसे पदा हुई? ये इतने भ्रमी लोग हैं कि 2 जुलाई को एम्बायरी बैठी है और अग्रस्त महीने में इन लोगों ने प्राइम मिनिस्टर के घर पर उसी डिमांड को ले कर रिले फास्ट शुरु कर दिया। और ये कौन लोग हैं? यह सब गजेटेड आफिसर हैं। यह एसोसिएशन सैक्रेटरी क्लास गजेटेड आफिसर की है, फर्स्ट क्लास गजेटेड आफिसर उस का प्रेसीडेंट है। यह इन लोगों की एसोसिएशन है और इसी ने रिले फास्ट किया तो हमने पूछा, हम ने चिट्ठी लिखकर के दी है फूड एंड ऐग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर साहब को कि आप बताएं भ्रमी जो हंगर स्ट्राइक प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब के घर पर चल रही है इस हंगर स्ट्राइक में कौन कौन से लोग शामिल हैं? वे खोज ड्यूटी पर ह या ड्यूटी से गैर हाजिर हैं? छुट्टी पर ह या ड्यूटी पर है? इसका जवाब नहीं मिला। . . (अपबन्धन) . . वे स्ट्राइक पर हैं तो उन के ऊपर क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है? सरकार के फर्स्ट क्लास और सैक्रेटरी क्लास गजेटेड आफिसर उस डिमांड को लेकर स्ट्राइक पर हों जिस डिमांड को तीन दिनों के अंदर सरकार ने सी० बी० आई० के सुपुर्द कर दिया है तो ऐसी हालत में सरकार कौन सी कार्यवाही कर रही है, यह मैंने जानना चाहा था सरकार के फूड एंड ऐग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट से। इससे यह जाहिर होता है कि इन के हित पर किस तरह से चोट लगी है। इन के हित पर चोट लगी है और व्यवसायी वर्ग के हित पर चोट लगी

जिसकी वजह से बहुत से लोग पायल है। वह व्यवसायी मंडियों के है। आज तक फूड कारपोरेशन का सारा गल्ला मंडियों से खरीदा जाता रहा है और इस बेयरमैन ने एक साल के अंदर मंडी वालों को भ्रमण कर दिया। इन्होंने सीधे ऐग्रीकल्चरिस्ट से गल्ला लेना शुरु किया। उस के लिए मशीनें बैठाई जिसमें कि अनाज एक स्टैंड का हो। पहले इन के इस्पेक्टर मंडी वालों से सौदा करते थे और अपनी नजर से 66 से लेकर 76 रुपये के बीच का भाव तय करते थे। 66 से 76 के बीच क्या भाव होगा यह मंडी वाले और इस्पेक्टर मिल कर तय करते थे, उसमें बाहे जो भाव वह तय कर दें, 66 का 76 हो जाय 76 का 66 हो जाय, यह उन के हाथ में था। इन्होंने मशीनें बैठाई और स्टैंड का गल्ला लेना शुरु कर दिया। जो उसमें कचरा निकलता था वह ऐग्रीकल्चरिस्ट अपने घर ले जाता था। इस तरह का काम इन्होंने किया। और फिर पहले मंडी वाले जो देते थे वह फूड कारपोरेशन ले लेता था। अब इन्होंने मशीन बैठा दी और कहा कि इस मशीन से तोलो, मशीन से नाप करलो, मशीन हर चीज को देखगी। इस मशीन के बैठने से यह हुआ कि जो हमारे एफ०सी०आई० के भाई लोग थे उन का धन्धा भर गया, जो व्यवसायी और इस्पेक्टर लोग थे, दोनों का धन्धा भर गया, उसके बाद दोनों मिलकर जो हमारे विरोधी दलों के भाई ह, उन के यहां दरबार करते हैं और दरबार कर के इतना लम्बा चौड़ा तुफान खड़ा किया हुआ है, जैसे सरदार इकबाल सिंह के भाने की वजह से यह सब कुछ हुआ है। उनको भाये हुए 12-13 महीने हुए हैं, इन 12 महीनों के अंदर सी० बी० आई० की एम्बायरी बैठ गई है। हमारे भाइयों ने कहा कि इसको हटा दो, जब चार्जशीट दी है तो डिस्मिस कर दो—ये खेल तमाशे तो रोज होते हैं। सभापति जी, मैं सरकार के यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे आफिसर, जो फर्स्ट क्लास आफिसर हैं, जिन्होंने ये सारी डिमांड्स तैयार की हैं, मैनेजिंग डाइरेक्टर के आफिसर में बैठकर ये सारे काम हुए हैं, मैनेजिंग डाइरेक्टर भी एक आई० इ०

एस० आफिसर है—पिछले साल अगस्त में प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने एक आर्डर दिया था कि जो डेप्यूटेशनिस्ट है वे या तो इस्तीफा दें और इधर आएं करें या अपने डिपार्टमेंट में अपनी सबस्टे-नटीव पो ट पर वापिस जायें। ये सज्जन 4 महीने की छुट्टी लेकर दिसम्बर में वापस आये और दिसम्बर में इस्तीफा दे दिया, फूड कारपो-रेशन की एफिशियन्सी का वह नमूना है कि दिसम्बर से लेकर अब सितम्बर आ गया लेकिन इस्तीफा अभी तक मजूर नहीं हुआ और वे मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर साहब अभी भी दो नावों में पांव रखे हुए हैं। वह चाहते हैं कि एडीशनल सैक्रेटरी की पोस्ट पर उन का प्रमोशन हो जाय, यदि नहीं होगा तब वह इस्तीफा देगे।

17.07 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the chair.]

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रश्न यह है कि ऐसे ऐसे प्रश्न को लेकर अफसरों की जमायत सैक्रे-टेरियट में बैठ कर, आफिस में बैठ कर गड़बड़ करें, ऐसा किसी दूसरी जगह देखने में नहीं आता खास तौर से जहां चैयरमैन और मैनेजिंग डाय-रेक्टर दोनों होल-टाइमर हों, दोनों आपस में कुश्ती लड़ें और डिपार्टमेंट लडावे। अगर डिपा-र्टमेंट को यह बात ठीक नहीं महसूस होती थी तो वह मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर को हटाता या चैयरमैन को हटाता और अगर दोनों को रखना था तो उन की पावर का डिवीजन होना चाहिये था। आज यह देखने में आता है कि मैनेजिंग डाय-रेक्टर का कोई फंक्शन नहीं है, सिवाय इस के चार्जशीट तैयार कर के हम लोगों के बीच में बटवा दी गई। सारी पावर्स चैयरमैन के पास हैं, मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर के पास कोई पावर नहीं है, मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर को कोई अख्तियार नहीं है। जब वे कोई काम नहीं करते हैं, सारा काम चैयरमैन करते हैं, तो वे क्या करते हैं, अपने आफिस के लोगों को भी डिस्प्लेन में नहीं रख सकते हैं, डिपार्टमेंट में बैठ कर इस्तीफा को रोकता हुआ है। इस तरह की बातें वहां पर चल रही हैं, क्योंकि वे डेप्यूटेशन के लोग हैं और

उनके पैर दो नावों पर हैं, सोचते हैं कि एक नाव डूबेगी तो दूसरी पर चढ़ जायेंगे इस तरह की परिस्थिति फूड एण्ड एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री की मिसहैण्डलिंग से पैदा हो गई है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि डिपार्टमेंट अपने दिमाग को साफ़ कर के इस पर शीघ्र उचित कार्यवाही करे। आज जो चार्जेंज लगाये जा रहे हैं, जो बुकलेट तैयार कर के एम्प-लाइज एसोसिएशन की तरफ से बांटी गई हैं मैं चाहूंगा शाहनवाज खां साहब यहां बैठे हुए हैं, वह 70 परसेंट पब्लिक सैक्टर के मालिक हैं, इस उदाहरण को फाली करें। मैं आपको गारंटी देता हूँ कि इनका कोई भी मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर, कोई भी चैयरमैन सेफ नहीं रहेगा, क्योंकि सी० बी० आई० सब पर बैठेगी। आप सभी के ऊपर सी० बी० आई० की जांच बिठालें, सभी की इन्क्वायरी करवायें। वर्कर्स की नजर में तो, जो सारी बातें गुजरती हैं, वह रहती है। वर्कर्स की दृष्टि से, उसके स्टैंडर्ड से अगर आप सारी चीजों की जांच करना शुरू करें तब मजे में आप जांच करें, हम उसका स्वागत करेंगे। (व्यवधान) . .

बहुत सी बातें यहां पर कही गई हैं, मैं जानता हूँ कि व्यवसायी वर्ग, धंधा करनेवाले जो है जोकि आंच से सारी चीजों को नाप लेते हैं नजर से सारी चीजों का सीदा करते हैं वे मण्डी वालों की सल्लेदारी में रोजगार किया करते थे, उनके रोजगार की धक्का लगा है इसलिए यह सारी साक्ष्य हुई है इसलिए यदि सी०बी०आई० की इन्क्वायरी हो तो वह सारे मामले पर हो, यही मेरा कहना है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Shah Nawaz Khan.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kan-
pur): Sir, I want your guidance. This debate concerns the Food Ministry. I know he is an ex-Chairman of FCI.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is intervening only as a member of the House; not as Minister.

SHRI JAGANNATHARAO JOSHI (Shajapur): If you are calling Mem-
bers in an order, you have to call the representative of DMK first and then our party.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will call everybody. Whether you speak first or last, it is all the same. He who laughs last laughs best.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is very painful for me to sit here and listen to the debate on the Food Corporation of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You could have saved that pain for yourself.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I had the privilege of heading that organisation for two years. A lot of adverse criticism has been made of the Food Corporation on the floor of this House. In fairness to the Food Corporation, I would like to place before the House the magnificent work which this organisation has done.

Those of the members who come from the rural areas and have seen what was the condition of farmers before the Food Corporation came into the field are fully aware of the magnificent work which the Food Corporation is doing in Punjab, Haryana and Western UP. During the months of May and June there is virtually a flood of foodgrains that comes into the market. When the Food Corporation was not there in the field to buy everything that came, the farmers used to be flected mercilessly, the prices used to be brought down and the storage godowns of the private traders used to be filled up and later they used to exploit the consumers also. The Food Corporation has done a magnificent service to the farmers as also consumers all over the country. Whereas the prices of other commodities have risen so high, if you see the price of foodgrains, particularly those foodgrains in which the Food Corporation of India is dealing, their prices have been kept very much in control.

I am not here to defend the Managing Director or the Chairman or to say who is right or who is wrong.

I am here to say that the Food Corporation of India has done very magnificent work and continues to do that work.

About 90 lakhs of refugees came from Bangladesh and they came at a time when there were heavy rains, floods, etc. Due to the Food Corporation of India, we were able to feed all those people. I dare say, there was no starvation death anywhere on account of supplies not reaching them. Some hon. Members said, without asking anybody, foodgrains were rushed to Assam. It is the responsibility of the Food Corporation of India to store foodgrains in strategic places so that they are available at the time, they are required. It is a part of their responsibility. If there had been any mal-practice or anything like that, it is always open to the Government to have that inquired into . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You could not run special trains?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I am not saying that special trains were not run. Special trains were also run. But they were perhaps carrying more strategic material, like, ammunition, arms, troops.

श्री ज्योतिरमोय बोसु : दो हजार टन हवाई जहाज से भेजा गया था, क्या यह सही है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खान : यह मुझे नहीं मालूम, मिनिस्टर साहब बतायेंगे ।

Some hon. Members have tried to make out that all this trouble in the Food Corporation of India is because some mal-practices which were prevailing were done away with by Sardar Iqbal Singh and that the bureaucracy got together and made a conspiracy against him. My hon. friend Shri R. N. Sharma, has named Mr. Dave, the Managing Director. Mr. Dave is not present in the House to defend himself. But I feel it my duty, as I have worked with Mr. Dave, as I have had the pleasure and privilege of working with Mr. Dave, to say that Mr. Dave is one of the most hard-working and most honest and devoted officer who

gave his unstinted loyalty to the Corporation . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur): You must not say that. In that case, you are partial. This House demands full inquiry into all that. You are defending one man and condemning the other man. . . (Interruptions).

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: In all fairness to him . . .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I rise on a point of order. I do not think even Mr. R. N. Sharma mentioned the name of Mr. Dave. He said, the Managing Director. His demand was that C.B.I. inquiry should embrace everything. My point of order is, even if the name has been mentioned, it was open to the hon. Minister to defend any bureaucrat. But now, after hearing Mr. Shahnawaz Khan, I feel that a thorough inquiry should be conducted against Mr. Dave. Why should an ex-Chairman of the Corporation defend a bureaucrat? (Interruptions).

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: We would like to know from the ex-Chairman of the Corporation about the non-magnificent part of the work of the Food Corporation of India. We have heard about the magnificent part of the work of the Food Corporation of India. What about non-magnificent part of its work about which Shri Mohapatra and others spoke. Therefore, there should be a thorough inquiry into the conduct of not only Mr. Dave but into the entire Food Corporation of India . . . (Interruptions).

श्री श्री० पी० श्री० (हापुड) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यहाँ का वातावरण ऐसा बन गया था कि मैं उन लोगों में से था जो इसमें भाग नहीं लेना चाहते थे लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस फूड कारपोरेशन में जो भी भ्रष्टाचार है जिस की इस समय चर्चा हो रही है, वह केवल दस महीने के अन्दर का नहीं हो सकता। जब से इस का जन्म हुआ तब से इसकी बुनियाद डाली गई होगी इस लिये फूड कारपोरेशन के पूरे कार्य की जो प्रणाली है उसकी दम्बायरी होनी चाहिए।

इस समय मैं सी० बी० आई० की बात नहीं कहता सी०बी०आई० की जब चर्चा होगी तब बोलूंगा। लेकिन इसके लिए एक हाई पावर कमिशन बनना चाहिये।

Let there be a full inquiry into the entire working of the Food Corporation. (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let there not be any more debate on this. There is a point of order. I am going to deal with that. (Interruptions). Why do you not allow me?

Now it is a very well established Parliamentary practice to avoid mentioning individual names . . .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: It was Shri Shahnawaz Khan who mentioned.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me finish. I have only begun half the sentence and members do not allow me.

Whether it is for condemnation or for approbation, it is all the more an established parliamentary practice that the names of bureaucrats should not be mentioned here. I make a little distinction between an individual holding a public office and a mere bureaucrat. I think, we should avoid that as far as possible, and I would expect that a member of the Treasury Bench should have avoided that even more. I think, it is unfortunate to give a certificate to any bureaucrat in the House.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I thought it my duty, in fairness to that officer, since his name had been pointedly brought in . . . (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not mention it any more. Let us avoid individual names and let us not issue certificate from this House to any bureaucrat . . . (Interruptions). Whatever has gone on record has gone, I request the Minister not to continue with that.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: It has been said that direct purchase from farmers was a good thing.

[Shri Shahnawaz Khan:]

This is a thing which was started fairly a long time ago, and I am glad that this thing has been done which has been greatly appreciated.

I entirely agree with the House that, if there are any allegations against anybody, those allegations should certainly be inquired into.

I think, it is unfortunate that there are factions within the workers of the Food Corporation of India. There are two different Unions: one union belongs to the Food employees—those who have been transferred from the Food Department; and there is the other union which belongs to direct recruits. And it is unfortunate that one union has started supporting the Managing Director and the other may be supporting the Chairman. There is internecine trouble. That has to be looked into and proper action taken to eradicate that sort of thing—inter-union rivalry within the organisation.

Then I would like to say that, in spite of all the weaknesses which have been pointed out, the Food Corporation has done good work, and I am sure it will continue to do the work for which it has been set up.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: On a point of order. I think, the hon. Minister, Shri Shahnawaz Khan, has intervened in this debate in such a manner that we feel that it would have been better if he had not spoken at all.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. That is your opinion.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: The reason is this. The matter has been sent to CBI. There was no reason to give certificate to any one. . . (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. There is no point of order here.

Mr. Sezhiyan.

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): The present discussion is not on the rivalry between two Trade Unions. It is not even on the mis-

deeds and malpractices of a single individual in the Food Corporation of India. It is a discussion on the whole working of the Food Corporation which is full of corruption, corruption of the worst order and of a stinking order.

The mover of the motion, Mr. Pilo Mody, because of the limited time, brought out only some of the malpractices and misdeeds that are being perpetrated by the present Chairman of the FCI. Whatever it may be, either the mustard oil deal or the cocktail party arranged in the Akbar Hotel—all these things are there and the persons who spoke on the other side, Mr. Mohapatra and Mr. Sharma, only enlarged the scope. They added more names and more instances of corruption. It looks as though the entire organisation is now stinking to the high heavens.

Here, we should be very alert, and I want to focus attention on one thing. I do not want to go into individual items that have been brought here to our notice. They deserve the full attention of the House. But the country is fully interested and is fully concerned about the huge amounts that are being spent from the public Fund of India. The working capital of the Food Corporation in 1965-66 was about Rs. 39 crores. That is the total capital employed. By that, I mean the share capital, the Government loans and bank over-drafts, everything including. It was Rs. 39 crores in 1965-66. Now it has gone up to Rs. 464 crores.

Regarding subsidy, from 1967-68 to 1970-71 we have paid as much as about Rs. 61.98 crores. For 1971-72 the Budget Estimates was Rs. 30 crores. The Revised Estimates went to Rs. 50 crores. For the year 1972-73 the Budget Estimates has provided Rs. 100 crores as the subsidy for the Food Corporation of India. Sir, these amounts are not small amounts. If you add up all these things, it comes to more than Rs. 200 crores, which is the subsidy given to the Food Corporation.

What is the working result of the FCI? The turn-over has been of the order of Rs. 289 crores in 1965-66. In

1970-71 it has gone over Rs. 1,400 crores. Now, it is more than Rs. 1,600 crores.

The way these things have picked up, on the other side of the medal, the corruption has also picked up. The mis-management has gone out of bounds. The wastages, the losses, the misappropriation, all these things have outstripped even the magnificent strides that our friend was speaking of. He was speaking not as a Minister, but as a Member of the House. But, the other side of the medal is very black and very stinking.

If you take the storage losses, in 1965-66 the storage losses were only Rs. 95 lakhs. Now it is Rs. 660 lakhs. Transit loss which was only Rs. 95 lakhs in 1965-66 has gone upto Rs. 7.8 crores. (Interruptions). Suppose you take this one, though they are handling more turn-over—the FCI is having a very high turn-over of Rs. 1,600 crores—the transit losses, the storage losses, all these things also have increased. If you calculate it per tonne, it will come to Rs 2 in 1967-68, i.e. transit and storage loss and now it has gone upto Rs. 13.7 per tonne. The freight charge which was only Rs. 27.6 in 1967-68 has gone upto Rs. 29.60 now. If you take the interest on capital, previously, in 1967-68, it was only Rs. 8.5, whereas now it is Rs. 11.6 per tonne.

In the establishment charges you find that this figure per tonne has gone up from 4.40 in 1967-68 to 13.50 now. The stocks of FCI increased by about 11 times. But the loans and overdrafts went up by 18 times. The same is the position about rental charges.

Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan waxed eloquent about the excellent services done by the FCI. But, it is the middleman who has always taken a lion's share out of the handling charge items. He has benefited at the expense of the producer and the consumer. There are statistics provided for the last year. These figures are given for the period, April 1970 to March, 1971. If you take the rabi crop. . . (Interruption).

AN HON MEMBER: Sir, there should be silence ensured from the side of the ruling party: there is too much noise.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please.

SHRI SEZHIYAN: The direct procurement has been of the order of 0.1 per cent, in respect of wheat, rabi crop. The cooperative sector contributed 41.1 per cent; the middlemen gave 58.8 per cent. If you take the figure for April 1970 to March 1971 in respect of kharif procurement, direct procurement was of the order of 3.4 per cent, and by cooperatives, 7.8 per cent only. The private individuals procured 83.8 per cent. That means, 90 per cent of the procurement has been done through middlemen who do not belong to the cooperative sector. We hear much talk about socialism; we hear much talk about the cooperative movement in the country. If you take next year, that is, April 1971 to March, 1972 the direct kharif procurement was 1.3 per cent. The figure of the cooperative sector was 9 per cent. The middlemen had procured 89.7 per cent. It is the middlemen who have always plundered, taking a major share.

Last year there was a study of the FCI by the Public Undertakings Committee. The PAC Report has commented upon a misappropriation to the tune of Rs. 32 lakhs in the FCI of the Calcutta office in regard to the sale of maize to the private party. This is only one case. In a single case they have lost Rs. 32 lakhs. The amount has been misappropriated. Out of a total transaction of about Rs. 68 lakhs, only Rs 36 lakhs were paid to the FCI and Rs 32 lakhs were never paid to the FCI with the result that Rs. 32 lakhs of misappropriation was found out. And, I am told that the CBI has taken up the case. I do not know what turn it has not come to. I would like to be informed about this matter.

Then, Sir, there is a definite recommendation of the committee on public undertakings made on the basis of an earlier suggestion accepted by the Government itself that the managing director and the chairmanship should be combined. That was not done so far. They are keeping these posts separately. For what reasons, I do not know.

Before concluding I want to say one thing. There was a reference made by Mr. Darbara Singh that these misdeeds are now under a CBI enquiry

[Shri Sezhiyan :

and therefore we need not touch this matter. CBI enquiry is not a judicial enquiry. It does not have the effect of finding or binding of a judicial enquiry. It can only state how far and to what extent it thinks that misdeeds had been perpetrated. My point is, if the Government thought it fit to hand over these cases to the CBI, it follows that a *prima facie* case has been established in the minds of the Government itself. I do not know what prevented them from suspending the officials whoever they may be, the Chairman or the Managing Director, I am unable to comprehend what stood in their way in removing them, whoever they may be, till the enquiry is over. If we do not rectify these things, this premier organisation which has been brought into existence to procure, to purchase, to store and to ensure a minimum price to the primary producer and to protect the consumer will inevitably turn into a storehouse of the blackmarketeers and the corrupt officials, and instead of being called the Food Corporation of India, it may become the Fraudulent Corporation of Iqbals, because things have come to that level now.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Of Iqbal Singh.

SHRI SEZHIYAN: In reply to a calling-attention notice raised in the other House—on the 17th August, the hon. Minister had taken shelter under the plea that the CBI was seized of the matter; he said that he had received a complaint or an inquiry report from the chairman; and he was going into that. 15 to 16 days have passed now, and now he should be in a position to tell us what steps he has taken, and why there is delay in taking action against those officials who have been suspected and who are under inquiry by the CBI. It is only fair to the Department and to the Food Corporation of India and to this House that he should immediately suspend those officials from their posts. Otherwise, this inquiry will be a mockery and will not bring out the result that is sought out of it.

श्री साधूराम (फिल्लौर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय यह जो मामला आज हाउस के सामने आया है यह एम्प्लॉईज का झगड़ा मिनिस्टर्स

के गले पड़ा हुआ है। श्री चैयरमैन के गले पड़ा हुआ है। जितने एम्प्लॉईज हैं उन में से 3 हजार एम्प्लॉईज ऐसे हैं जिन के एंजोसिएशन का नाम लिया जाता है और वह इस वक्त क्लॉस टू के आफिसर्स हैं। वे प्राइम मिनिस्टर हाउस के सामने घटना मारकर बैठे हुए हैं। दूसरी तरफ 22 हजार आदमी हैं और उन के जो प्रेसीडेंट हैं वह अशु बोस और मलिक हैं। ये अपना पक्ष पेश करते हैं और वे अपना पक्ष पेश करते हैं। वे तीन हजार के प्रतिनिधि जो हैं वह अपना पक्ष पीलू मोदी को पेश करते हैं और ये दूसरे जो करते हैं वह सारे एम० पीज० को करते हैं। इन्होंने जो इल्जाम लगाए हैं उस के जवाब में उन्होंने यह कहा है कि मल्लौत मण्डी में कोई ऐसा ट्रांसपोर्ट नहीं है जो हायर किया हो चैयरमैन ने या कारपोरेशन ने अपना जो ठोने के लिए। वह चैलेंज करते हैं कि इस बात को जो पीलू मोदी ने कही है। वह इस को बिल्कुल गलत कहते हैं। उन का ट्रांसपोर्ट बसेज का ट्रांसपोर्ट है, ट्रकों का नहीं है। वह गलतफहमी इसमें हुई है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि मैंने कई दफा कहा कि जो इल्जाम चैयरमैन साहब के खिलाफ लगाए हैं उन का जो जवाब उंहोंने अपनी स्फार्ड में दिया है, गलत या सही वह तो फिर देखा जायगा, लेकिन वह आज तक हाउस के टैबल पर नहीं रखे गए। मैंने कई दफा इस बात के लिए इनसिस्ट किया। स्पीकर साहब ने इस हाउस में यह वादा किया था कि परसों को वह सारे का सारा जवाब हाउस की टैबल पर रख दिया जायगा। लेकिन वह आज तक नहीं रखा गया। यूनियन का यह ख्याल है कि चार दिन के बाद मिनिस्ट्री ने सी० बी० आई० को केस दे दिया लेकिन जब तक फूड कारपोरेशन के चैयरमैन का जवाब पहुंचा नहीं था, यह नाइंसाफी की बात है। हम इस बात का क्लेरिफिकेशन चाहते हैं कि यह मामला क्या है? यह इम्प्लॉईज का झगड़ा है तो चैयरमैन और मिनिस्टर के सिर पर क्यों आ रहा है? चार मामले जो उन्होंने बताये हैं, यनिवर्स बालों ने जो कागजात भेजे हैं उन से यह मान्य

पड़ता है कि इंसपेक्टर और धाड़ती मिल कर जो किसान के धनाज को लूटते थे उस को बन्द करने के लिए स्कीनिंग मशीन हर एक मडी में इस चेयरमैन ने लगाई ।

वह रिजेक्ट कर देते थे कि धनाज ठीक नहीं है और उसमें सात भाठ रुपये का फर्क रख कर धाड़ती और इस्पेक्टर मिलकर खाते थे । इस तरह से वह किसान का धनाज लूट लेते थे । स्कीनिंग मशीन लगने से उनका यह धन्धा खत्म हो गया । दूसरे बेइज का था, 100 किलो की जो बोरी भरते थे उस में 101 किलो भर देते थे । चेयरमैन ने बेइज मशीन भी मडियों में लगा दी ताकि किसान को लूटा न जा सके ।

तीसरी बात, फूड कारपोरेशन या फूड मिनिस्ट्री की एक रवायत थी कि लोगो से मण्डियों में धनाज लेने के बाद उस धनाज को साढ़े तीन रुपये की बोरी में भर कर मिल मालिको को दे देते थे । आप धन्दाजा लगाइये, अगर एक करोड बोरिया देश में तकसीम हो और एक बोरी साढ़े-तीन रुपये की प्राये, तो कितने करोड रुपया जो गवर्नमेन्ट के हक का था, मिल मालिको के पास चला जाता था । इस पर कुछ धादमियों में झगडा हो गया तो उन्होंने एक मसीदा तैयार करके फूड कारपोरेशन के चेयरमैन पर चार्ज लगाये । मैं उन को डिफेण्ड नहीं करना चाहता हू, क्योंकि इस पर सी० बी० आई० बैठ गई है, लेकिन मैं यह जरूर चाहता हू कि जब लोग यहा इस चीज को लेकर फिटिसाइज करते हैं, तो इस बारे में वह जो जबाब देते हैं, वह भी हाउस के सामने धाना चाहिये । उनके जबाब को मेम्बरो के सामने क्यों नहीं प्राया जाता । जब यहा पर कहा जाता है कि चेयरमैन ने यह किया है, चेयरमैन ने वह किया है, तो चेयरमैन का जो जबाब है, वह भी हाउस के सामने धाना चाहिये ताकि सबको सन्बाई मालूम हो जाये, असलियत मालूम हो जाय । अगर तीन हजार आफिसर्स इस तरह से कारपोरेशन के चेयरमैन को मारना चाहते हैं तो क्या गवर्नमेन्ट इन तीव्र हथार लोगो के कहने से उनको मार देगी, उनके पोलिटिकल कैरियर को

खत्म कर देगी । हम चाहते हैं कि उन का जो जबाब है, वह हमारे सामने प्राये और मेम्बरो म तकसीम किया जाय और उसको पढ़ने के बाद जो सही बात हो, उस पर निर्णय लिया जाय ।

अगर एथीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री को कोई गलत-फहमी थी, तो उनसे उसका एक्सप्लेनेशन मागना चाहिए था, उनके एक्सप्लेनेशन पर गौर किया जाना चाहिये था, लेकिन बिना एक्सप्लेनेशन के इस तरह से सी० बी० आई० को कैस देना बिल्कुल नाइन्साफी है । हम यह नहीं कहते कि उग्रमे क्या गलती है और क्या सही है, लेकिन जो कागजात हमारे पास प्राये हैं, उनसे यही साबित होता है कि वहा पर चेयरमैन के खिलाफ एक किस्म की कास्पिरेसी चल रही है । लेकिन हम उसमें नहीं जाना चाहते हैं, हम तो यह चाहते हैं कि जो इल्जाम लगाये गये हैं, उन के जबाब हाउस में सुना दिये जाये और उसके बाद जो फैसला सी० बी० आई० या गवर्नमेन्ट को करना है, वह करे । लेकिन बगैर किसी को सुने, बगैर एक्सप्लेनेशन के, किसी को फासी की सजा देना नाइन्साफी है । उन के जबाब को हाउस में जरूर पेश किया जाय । आज देश में ऐसा वातावरण पैदा हो गया है, कोई कहता है, चेयरमैन बेईमान है, कोई कहता है एम्प्लाइज बेईमान हैं, कोई कहता है मिनिस्ट्री बेईमान है, इस बात की सफाई के लिये सारे कागजात हाउस में रख दिये जाये ताकि लोग उनको देख सके और समझ सके कि असलियत क्या है ।

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Jagannathrao Joshi.

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी (शाजापुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, भारतीय अन्न महामण्डल के कार्यकलापो के विषय में आज हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं । जिस उद्देश्य की लेकर इस महामण्डल की स्थापना की गई थी ।

श्री साधू राम उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, ये उन के बोडे से जबाब है, इन को टेबिल पर रख दीजिये ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please. No, no.

श्री पन्नालाल ब.ब.लाल (गंगानगर): इस में धाप को क्या डर है ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER Order please Will he sit down?

श्री पन्नालाल बाबुलाल : चेयरमैन ने जो जवाब दिये हैं, उन को हाउस के सामने लाना चाहिये, धाप इन को क्या नहीं रखने देते। जब नौकरशाही की बात यहाँ पर रखते हैं तो इस को भी रखिये।

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Order please I won't allow this This Table cannot be used for placing any kind of document from any individual.

Shri Joshi

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी भारतीय ग्रन्थ महा-मण्डल के कार्यकर्ताओं के बारे में सदन में चर्चा हो रही है जिस उद्देश्य को लेकर इस ग्रन्थ महा-मण्डल की स्थापना की गई थी, क्या वह उद्देश्य सफल हुआ, यदि सफल हुआ है तो कहा तक सफल हुआ है, यदि नहीं हुआ है तो क्यों सफल नहीं हुआ यह देखना होगा। यह सवाल किसी एक व्यक्ति विशेष का नहीं है। आज जब जाच की बात हो रही है तो मैं यह समझता हूँ कि पूरी बातों की जाच हो। यह इस लिये आवश्यक है कि आधे-दिन सरकार का काम बढ़ता जा रहा है, ऐसी स्थिति में कोई भी सरकारी संस्थान यदि ठीक ढंग से नहीं चलता है तो अन्ततोगत्वा यह न जनता के लिये अच्छा है न सरकार के लिये अच्छा है।

जहाँ तक ग्रन्थ महा-मण्डल का सवाल है वह इसलिए पैदा हुआ था कि वास्तव में जो ग्रन्थ पैदा करते हैं, किसान, उनको उचित मूल्य मिलता नहीं है। तो किसान को उचित मूल्य मिले और उप-भोक्ता को सत्ता मिले बिना जो मुनाफा खाते थे, व्यक्तिगत रूप से कमाकर, वह कार्पोरेशन के जरिए फिर देश के पास चला जाये, और जहाँ पर अभावग्रस्त स्थिति पैदा हो वहाँ पर तुरन्त यातायात से आवश्यकतानुसार अनाज पहुँचाया जाये और जहाँ पर अनाज भी होता था वह अनाज भी दूर हो, अव्यवस्था दूर हो—इन तमाम बातों को करके यह कार्पोरेशन पैदा हुआ था। इसके साथ

और भी कुछ बातें जोड़ी गईं जैसे बच्चे को अच्छा आहार मिले, उसकी भी कुछ व्यवस्था हो। किन्तु मैं समझता हूँ स्वयं शिन्दे में जिस बात को लोक-सभा में दोहराया है उसको देखने से पता चलता है कि यह मामला कुछ ठीक नहीं चल रहा है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि हमारे मन्त्री महोदय, श्री शाहनवाज खाँ ने बड़ा भारी सर्टिफिकेट देने की कोशिश क्यों की? क्योंकि आज तक जो हुआ है, वह पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग की रिपोर्ट है उससे ठीक पता चलता है कि जहाँ गोडाउन की व्यवस्था है, स्टोरेज की व्यवस्था है उसके जो लासेज हैं वह हर साल बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। ये धाकड़े हैं जिनको मैं पढ़ कर सुनाना नहीं चाहता हूँ।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : लेकिन फूडग्रेन्स जो लेते हैं उसकी तादाद भी बढ़ रही है।

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी : जैसे तादाद बढ़ती है वैसे ही जिम्मेदारी भी बढ़नी चाहिए। यह कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि तादाद बढ़ गयी। जो व्यक्ति अकेला होता था वह जब शादीशुदा होता है, बच्चे पैदा होते हैं तो घर की जिम्मेदारियाँ बढ़ती हैं। इसलिए यह कहकर टाला नहीं जा सकता कि जिम्मेदारी बढ़ी है इसलिए ज्यादा गलत ढंग से काम करे। . . . (ब्यवधान) . . . इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Because you have not married does it mean that you speak with less responsibility?

श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी : इसलिए मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि वास्तव में सारी गलतियाँ जो हैं

Therefore, I understand the difficulty and can deal with it with all objectivity and impartiality. My assessment will never be subjective. It will be an objective and impartial assessment, because I am unmarried I am completely unattached and non-committal. A married man's viewpoint is always married by something or the other.

इसी प्रकार इसमें स्टोरेज के जो लासेज हैं वह बढ़ रहे हैं। इतना ही नहीं, चोरियों के जो आकड़ें हैं वह भी बढ़ते चले जा रहे हैं। एक साल में 28 हजार, अगले साल दो लाख, फिर चार लाख, फिर पांच लाख। इसलिए यह कहना ठीक नहीं है कि चोरिया इसलिए बढ़ रही हैं क्योंकि माल ज्यादा भेज रहे हैं। इसी तरह ट्रांसिट में भ्रष्ट वैनन में माल भेजे उससे भनफिट फार कन्सम्प्शन जो हो जाता है उसकी संख्या बढ़ रही है। आखिर वह तर्क नहीं हो सकता कि तादाद बढ़े जैसे जैसे काराबार बढ़ेगा वैसे वैसे एफीशिएन्सी भी बढ़नी चाहिए यदि एफीशिएन्सी बढ़ती नहीं है तो कारोबार बढ़ाते समय सीचना चाहिए। इसीलिए मैंने कहा कि प्राये दिन सरकार व्यापार बढ़ाती चली जा रही है।

He will have to do it with utmost efficiency and speed

मह भी करना पड़ेगा। जब काम ज्यादा हो उसकी वजह से अव्यवस्था पैदा हो, यह सजूर नहीं है। आप देखें कि सामान्य आदमी, बिचौलिए जितना मुनाफा लेते थे एक क्वीटल के पीछे वह पीने चार रुपए था लेकिन आज अन्न महामण्डल 13 रुपए लेता है। उनका प्रति क्वीटल खर्चा दो रुपए था लेकिन अन्न महामण्डल का 9 रुपए खर्चा है। तो न सामान्य जनता को अनाज सस्ता मिलता है न पैदा करने वाले किसान को उचित मूल्य मिल रहा है—आखिर क्या हो रहा है ?

शिन्दे साहिब ने बताया था :

"Mr. Shinde said that during 1970-71, the FCI's transit, storage and voyage losses were about Rs. 15 crores. . ."

आखिर मन्त्री महोदय स्वयं कहते हैं, यह क्यों हुआ है ?

"The reasons for losses were high moisture-content in the grain at the time of procurement, storing of grain in sub-standard godown . . ."

Why were sub-standard godowns built?

बन्नी गोडाउन बनाते समय स्टैन्डर्ड गोडाउन नहीं बनाये, सब-स्टैन्डर्ड बनाये और यह पता कब

चला ? जब सारा बैल खराब हो गया तब पता चला कि गोडाउन सब स्टैन्डर्ड हैं। इसी तरह से पिलफरेज एंट गोडाउन। इस पिलफरेज का मतलब रेट से बही होता।

It is not due to rats or black rats, It is done by human hands In transit, losses caused by insects and rats in godowns and movement of foodgrains in open wagons

यानी कोयला बन्द वैगन में लाया जाय और अनाज को भोपिन वैगन में लाया जाय। वैगन तो है रेलवे के पास, फिर खुले वैगन में नेहू क्यों ले जाया जाता है ? यह न होने की वजह से मन्त्री महोदय कहते हैं

The FCI was now constructing godowns with improved storage facilities and had initiated several measures to plug loopholes and offset the losses

अभी जो गनी बैन्स का मामला आया उसमें पता चला कि 25 करोड़ ६० की लूट होती थी। यह दूसरा आइडम है एफ० सी० आई० का ही :

The Food Corporation of India has sought the approval of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to its proposal to recover from buyers of foodgrains the cost of gunny bags An FCI spokesman said the Corporation spent over Rs 31 crores annually on the purchase of 90 million gunny bags.

यानी खुद के गनी बैन्स मुफ्त में देना और जब अपने को आवश्यकता पड़े गनी बैन्स की तो उस को खरीदना :

These are serious omissions and commissions

अब इस के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ :

The Spokesman said the Ministry's approval was necessary as it would also affect some of the states which were taking foodgrains from the corporation for public distribution, although they did not make any profit in the process

आखिर जैसे ऐफ० सी० आई० स्टेट्स को देते हैं वैसे ही सामान्य ट्रेडर्स को भी देते थे। तो जो गनी बैन्स की बसूली है उन के लिये क्या आप की इजाजत

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी :

की जरूरत थी? पहले मुफ्त में दे देते थे और आज जब उस की कूट हो रही है तो इन का स्पोकसमैन कहता है

The spokesman says that it has gone to the Agriculture Ministry to seek approval

इस का मंत्री महोदय खुलासा करे तो अच्छा रहेगा। इसलिये जब चर्चा हो रही है तो सभी पहलुओं की जांच होनी चाहिये क्यों कि हर चीज में घोटाला है।

इतना ही नहीं डैमरेज की रकम भी देखने लायक है। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, डैमरेज 1966 में 28,000 रु० था जो 1971 में बढ़ कर 17 लाख हो गया है। किस चीज में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है? डैमरेज में वृद्धि हुई है, गोडाउन में माल खराब होने में वृद्धि हुई है, ट्रांसिजेंट में होनेवाले नुकसान में वृद्धि हुई है, चोरी में वृद्धि हुई है। हर चीज की वृद्धि होती है, और फिर ऊपर से मंत्री महोदय सॉर्टफिकेट दे कि काम अच्छा चल रहा है, यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती है।

एफ० सी० आई० का मामला मैं जानता हूँ, आज जो हमारे रेल मंत्री हैं, माननीय टी०ए० पाई वह जब चेयरमैन थे, तो कार्यपद का त्याग करने के बाद जो उनके भाषण अखबारों में छपा था वह मुझे याद आ गया उन्होंने कहा कि फूड कारपोरेशन के पास अनाज की उपज के सही आकड़े तक नहीं हैं।

I am subject to correction, Mr Pal happens to be a minister here

तो शुरू से ही, 1965 से ही और आज 1971-72 तक हम पट्टे नहीं इस सत्था में इतने भारी लोसेज होते हैं। जिस कारपोरेशन में इतने लोसेज हो तो जिस समाजवाद को आप मानना चाहते हैं जिस सामान्य आदमी को आप लाभ पहुँचाना चाहते हैं, बिल्कुल उसके खिलाफ कोई बात करें और यहाँ उस की जांच भी न हो, यह ठीक नहीं है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, करप्शन टैप से शुरू होता है, नीचे से नहीं। इसलिये नीता में कहा गया है :

यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठः तत्तद्वैतरोजनाः,

सयत्प्रमाणं करते, लोकस्तदनुवर्तते ।

वह जो करते हैं उसको प्रमाण समझा जाता है। इसलिये कारपोरेशन का चेयरमैन हो या कोई भी हो, यह जो प्रीनरैरियम उनको दिया जाता है Can one live (on this honorarium)? Let the Government reconsider this

यानी जो भी सेवा करते हैं उन के लिए जीवित रहना हमारा अधिकार है। एक रुपये में कोई आदमी जीवित नहीं रह सकता। उन की इन्कम का सोर्स क्या है। जब सम्पत्ति पर मर्यादा आ रही है, पाच हजार से ज्यादा हार्ड नहीं रख सकते, तो एक व्यक्ति एक रुपये में जीवित नहीं रह सकता। यदि मैं देश की सेवा करता हूँ तो मुझे जीवित रहने के लिये आवश्यक साधन देश दे, समाज दे। तभी मैं समाज की सेवा दे सकता हूँ। मैं समाज को अच्छी सेवा दूँ तो समाज को मेरी शिक्षा, खाना और रक्षा का प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये। यह जैसे समाज की जिम्मेदारी है वैसे ही समाज को अपनी सेवा देने की मेरी जिम्मेदारी है। इसलिये इस पर पुनर्विचार होना चाहिये नहीं तो एक रुपया प्रानरैरियम देना और चार हजार रुपये किराये का घर रहने को देना यह उचित नहीं है। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसे हम में सरकार किराया लेती है वैसे ही मंत्रियों से लेना चाहिये। आप उन को तनख्वाह चाहे जितनी दे, लेकिन कोई भी चीज उन को मुफ्त में मिले-न कार मुफ्त मिल, न घर मिले, न बिजली और पानी मुफ्त मिले। सब को हिसाब से पैसा देना चाहिये ताकि उन को पता चल जाय कि किस तरह से काम चलाया जाता है (इस लिये यह जांच किसी बात को भी ले कर हो, इस के लिये जरूर होनी चाहिये कि जिस उद्देश्य को ले कर फूड कारपोरेशन पैदा हुआ था वह उद्देश्य सफल हुआ है या नहीं। हमारे देश में एक महानगर कारपोरेशन में इतनी चोरियाँ होती थी कि वहाँ की जनता उन को मजाक में कहने लगी कि

this is not corporation, this is chorpation.

इस लिये म समझता हू कि इसकी पूरी जांच की जाय और इस के लिये जो भी जिम्मेदार हो उन को पूरी सजा मिलनी चाहिये ।

SHRI P M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar):
Sir, all the members who have participated in this discussion have condemned the working of the Food Corporation. Not a single hon. member has defended its working. Even Mr. Shahnawaz Khan has tried to defend only one officer, not the working of the corporation. Now the common consumer has become the victim of this rampant corruption and malpractices. It was highlighted by my friend Mr. Mody, that when the Gujarat Government found that the prices of pulses were going high and they asked for quotations from the Food Corporation, with the object of distributing pulses through fair price shops, the prices quoted by the Food Corporation were higher than the market price prevailing on the same day or day before. The difference was not small. The difference was Rs. 16 per quintal in the case of gram, Rs. 14 in the case of gram dal and Rs 58 in the case of moong dal. So, the corporation has failed to serve the cause of the interest of the consumer.

I will put two or three questions to the minister and I hope he will listen to them and reply to them categorically. Is it a fact that in view of the findings of the Chief Vigilance Officer of FCI, the Chief Commercial Manager, the Financial Adviser and the Managing Director had recommended that no extension of time should be given to the parties for supply of the balance undelivered stock of 525 metric tonnes of mustard oil, but the Chairman of the corporation ruled out their recommendation and allowed extension of time to the said parties, though the market rates had further decreased by that time and FCI had to suffer a further loss of Rs. 6 lakhs? The Corporation was compelled to quote higher prices for pulses than the market prices prevailing in the same period, because the purchases of gram were all of a sudden stopped by the Chairman when the rates were Rs. 94 per quintal.

They again resumed after some period when the rates went up to Rs. 114 to 117 per quintal. I want to know whether this is a fact or not. This is the only reason why the Government of Gujarat could not arrange the distribution of pulses through the fair price shops

18 hrs.

Much has been said about the open sale centres. What is the total expenditure incurred by the Corporation for the inauguration of open sale centres? Is it a fact that these open sale centres are now banned by the Government of India?

The Corporation sold pulse on 1-5-72 at the State centre, Baroda to the traders at prices much lower than those quoted to the Government of Gujarat. In other words, the Corporation sold pulse to the private dealers at rates lower than those quoted to the Government of Gujarat. How did this happen. In May gram was sold at a price of Rs. 80 to 85 per quintal, in July at Rs. 110 to 130 per quintal and in August at Rs. 127 to 128 per quintal. On 1-5-72 gram dal was sold at Rs 118 per quintal, in June at Rs 118 to 122, in July at Rs. 122 to 135 and in August at Rs. 143 to 145. In August, Moong dal was sold at Rs. 205. How did the Corporation make it possible to sell these commodities to the private dealers at a lower rate than was quoted to the Government of Gujarat and thus deprive the common consumer of getting the benefit of the fair rates and distribution through fair price shops?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Sardar Iqbal Singh is not an exception but one among the many who have successfully discredited our institution of public undertakings or public corporations. I can name one, but I do not want to do it. There is another example of sacrificing personality who takes Re. 1 per month as salary, but who is spending more than Rs. 8,000 per mensem for his bungalow and other requirements.

AN HON MEMBER: Which is that Corporation?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Indian Airlines Corporation. I can mention many other also, like the Chairman of the Fertilizer Corporation who has

SHRI SAMAR GUHA:

recently resigned. In many other public corporations the situation is almost the same.

Today one individual has been pinpointed. I should say that it was a very interesting scene today. Some of the very senior Ministers were sitting in the back benches and some of the other senior members were taking peculiar interest in the debate. I have also observed in this House that some of the members of the ruling party wanted to generalise the whole issue while some of the members wanted to particularise and pinpoint some personalities.

I find a peculiar thing, the ruling party Members, some supporting and some opposing, a personality who is involved in our discussion today. There is a certain basic thing. It is, I should say, a policy of selection of such heads of public undertakings and public corporations. The functionaries of the ruling party, they may be discredited or discarded or they may have some credit in the party, are being selected to head such corporations or such public sector undertakings. Not only so. In the case of some corporations, there are some chosen men or some such yes-men who are selected to head such corporations or such public bodies. Sometimes, if a powerful party functionary is the Chairman of a particular corporation or a particular undertaking, difficulties arise as in the case of the Food Corporation of India. The person who has been selected as the Chairman of the Corporation is a powerful party functionary of the ruling organisation.

What is the result? The result is that, sometimes, a Minister if he is not powerful, if he is not of the Cabinet rank, if he has no organisational backing of the ruling party, finds it very difficult to directly deal with such Chairman. If he is a junior Minister, he tries to take the help of the Managing Director or some other official equivalent to that rank. Then, there is a clash between the Chairman and the Minister as in the case of the Food Corporation. Obviously, such ugly practices are being manifested here. In

this case of the issue of the Chairman of the Food Corporation we see some Members taking this side or that side; some taking this side of the Chairman and others that of some officials; some Congressmen taking this side or that side, supporting one or the other. It is a peculiar thing.

What is the root cause of it? The root cause of all such evil is the process of selection of heads of such public sector undertakings or Corporations. The question is: Why are such persons, the party functionaries belonging to the ruling party, selected? It is shocking to see how these public sector undertakings or Corporations function. It is not in all sphere, in all sector, of their administration but it is their direct functioning through not their own men, Government men, but mostly through contractors either in the process of procurement or distribution—in this case of F.C.I., it is foodstuffs—or transportation or storage, etc. etc. They function mostly through contractors. These contractors are the milching cows for the party funds of the ruling party. Particularly, such chairman or yes-men officials are chosen because they are actually the fund collectors of the ruling party. This is the reason. . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I know it. I know at the time of elections so many contractors who run transports for F.C.I. were asked to charge say, Rs. 20 for a lorry instead of Rs. 12 for a lorry, such balance of Rs. 8 going to election funds.

These Chairmen or heads of such public bodies are being used as some kind of a political *shikhandi* of the ruling party. Sometimes, they may not be actually corrupt; they may not be actually responsible for that. The real responsibility in such case, I should say, with the ruling party audits policy of selection and recruitment of heads and also some top bureaucrats of such Corporations or such public sector undertakings.

In the case of the Food Corporation of India, certainly, Sardar Iqbal Singh cannot deny himself of the charges made against him. Almost

all the members, on this side or that side, have cited many examples of the mal-practices that have been indulged in by Sardar Iqbal Singh.

Sardar Iqbal Singh, I should say, is the culmination of a process, a continuous process, of corrupt practices that were being indulged in by the Food Corporation. My friend, Shri Shahnawaz Khan, may defend the Food Corporation and say that it has functioned magnificently in undertaking foodgrain procurements and distribution in our country. But it would have been more magnificent if better personalities had been chosen as head of such institution, if better persons had been chosen to deal with the whole administrative business.

I want to warn the Government that the whole institution of socialism, the whole mechanics of socialism, the whole concept of socialism, and the whole principle of socialism, are going to be discredited by the functions, by the performance,—and by the attitude of administrative handling of Public Sector bodies by such functionaries who have been chosen not on any other consideration but on the consideration of party affiliations, on the consideration of interests of the ruling party. In this case of F.C.I. in regard to procurement it is done by the agents; in the case of transportation also, it is mostly done by the contractors. About storage,—you will be astonished to know—a decision was taken that Government would construct the godown for storing foodgrains but in every State this principle, this policy, has not been implemented; we all know that in hiring of the godowns or buildings, in the case of fixing rent, something is being done. In the case of distribution also, Government is not directly distributing but is distributing through dealers who are the pet-boys of the ruling organisation. I do not want to go into the details. Unless this process of distributing favouritism to the yes-men of the ruling party, to the milch cows of the ruling party, is changed, as I have said, the whole institution of socialism working through Public Sector, is going to be discredited. Then we have

to bear the responsibility for that. (Interruptions).

Therefore, if they really want to remedy the malady, I would like to make some suggestions. The first one is that Heads or Chairman of such public bodies or public undertakings should not be selected by the Government from any political functionary of any political party—if he is an active member of any political party; no member of any political party should be entrusted with the Chairmanship of any public corporation or public undertakings. (Interruptions) Secondly, there should be some kind of a selection body like the UPSC for selecting personnel to head such bodies; there should be a selection body which should be independent and impartial of the control and interests of the Government. If such a body, as UPSC, is there to select the personnel for heading such institutions, to select such important functionaries, then there is the possibility of overhauling, in the right direction, the functions of the public institutions.

Lastly, I would say, Sardar Iqbal Singh, I think, had been an important functionary in the Congress. He had been a Member of Parliament and a Minister also. As I find, so many Ministers are keenly interested, so many Members of Parliament are taking keen interest in defending him, at least, I think, a certain sense of self-respect demands, before anything is done, that he should resign immediately after what has been told or what has been said or what has been found about him.

Secondly, a high-power inquiry committee should be instituted to go into the whole policy, functioning and the structure of the Food Corporation. Just an inquiry into the deeds of an individual will not help nor will it provide any remedy.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED): I welcome the discussion on the working of the Food Corporation of India. But, I certainly feel very unhappy because of the manner in which this matter has developed into a controversy based on emotion and based on . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: Where is the emotion?

श्री ज्योतिरमय बसु : जनाब मंत्री जी, इस को हमोशन कहेंगे तो रियलिटी किस को कहेंगे ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: One side taking the part of one person and another side taking the part of another person. But, I am here not to speak on either view or on behalf of either party and not to defend any party whatsoever. As I said, my position has been very clear in this matter. When certain allegations were made against the Chairman and the officers of the Corporation, all these matters are under examination and, whatever action is called for, it will be taken by the Government after the matter has been gone into and carefully examined . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: How long will it take?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: It will not take a very long time.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It has already taken three months

SHRI PILOO MODY: Meanwhile, he should be suspended.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: Mr. Mody says that the gentleman should be suspended before taking any action. But I would like to point out that it will be a very unfortunate thing to punish a person without knowing his guilt. . .

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: It is not unfortunate that without going into the statement given by the Food Corporation Chairman the matter was referred to the CBI?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: May I just say that his information is entirely incorrect because, so far as my Ministry and my Department is concerned, it has not been referred to the CBI. It is on their own initiative that certain action has been taken.

So far as the allegations made before me are concerned, I wrote a secret letter asking the Chairman to explain what he had to say and I think no one knows anything about it except the Chairman and my Secretary. . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let it be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: I cannot lay it on the Table unless. . .

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: The Minister asked about the allegations on the 28th June. The matter was referred to the CBI in the 1st week of July. . .

SHRI R. N. SHARMA: 2nd July.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: If you say that it will be unfair to ask the Chairman to resign, is it not unfair to refer the case to CBI without going into the statement of the Chairman?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am not talking about punishing him. But, if you keep him as Chairman, the inquiry will be very much hindered. Now he should temporarily retire and if he is absolved of the charges, he can come back and assume the office.

SHRI PILOO MODY: The fact is that he is tampering with the record.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: These are the allegations made by some of the employees of the Food Corporation. What I would like to point out is this: No action for the purpose of making a reference to the CBI was made except in respect of one matter. That was in regard to the pulses deal where some questions were asked on the floor of the House, and as a result of the assurance given by my colleague, the Minister of State, some action was taken in that matter. That matter was referred to the CBI. The other matters were not referred to the CBI by me or by anyone else, because the matter was with me and I had asked the Chairman to explain and he had explained. The reply was received by me on the 5th of August. That is under examination.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You are trying to shield the person.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: It is a voluminous reply of about 150 to 200 pages. It requires some time to go through all the pages. There is also examination to be done of various documents. Therefore it is taking time.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: In the case of the Akali minister, on the strength of one MLA writing, you decided upon taking certain action but in this case you are taking months. . .

SHRI F. A. AHMED: Not at all. I am not taking months in this case at all.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Everything is political.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: As I was saying, . . .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Out of 150 to 200 pages, how many have you read?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: I have gone through the reply. Some of the points mentioned require verification from various documents and various books in the possession of the departments concerned. What I would like to point out is this. So far as hon. Members are concerned, their objective was to make suggestions which will improve the functioning of the F.C.I. I entirely agree with the hon. Members so far as the working of the F.C.I. is concerned that from time to time there have been some lapses, there have been some shortcomings, there have been some failures. It is on the knowledge of the failures, the lapses, the shortcomings, etc. that we had started taking action and we had tried to improve upon the working of the F.C.I. But one thing I would say, that it would be very unfair on the part of anyone to say that the F.C.I. has not served the purpose for which it was established. . . (Interruptions). If the hon. Members will be pleased to remember, they will find, whether it is in the matter of procurement, whether it is in the matter of movement, or in the matter of storage or in the matter of distribution. . .

SHRI PILOO MODY: Corruption, corruption and corruption, nothing else.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: We are not against the F.C.I. We want the entire trade to be handled by Government.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We have been demanding that the entire foodgrain trade should be nationalised.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: The hon. Member may not have said so but some other hon. Members said that the functioning of the F.C.I. was not good and so I dealt with that point. What I want to say is this. Whichever direction we may look to, we

will find that the work of the F.C.I. has multiplied five or six times ever since it was established. It was established in 1900. In 1972 the working of the F.C.I. has multiplied by about five or six times.

The hon. Member pointed out that the total turnover of the Food Corporation was near about Rs. 2,000 crores, it is not so, it is only Rs. 1,600 crores. It is not Rs. 2,000 crores.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: According to the Audit Report, about Rs. 400 crores of them are lost either in storage or in transit etc. This is the yearly loss.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: I would say that if there are any defects pointed out in some directions we are certainly prepared to look into them and to see how they can be rectified. So far as the question of loss is concerned, we should work it out on the basis of percentage and find percentage and find out what the percentage of loss is.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: There is 25 per cent loss, according to the Audit Report. 25 per cent of turnover is lost either in the process of storage or transit or distribution. . .

SHRI F. A. AHMED: It is not 25 per cent, it is not a correct fact.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: How much did the Chairman contribute to your party fund for election? You are in the darkness.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: The purpose of some of the hon. Members is only political motive.

SHRI PILOO MODY: We are casting aspersions, whether you call them 'political' or something else. We are casting aspersions.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: It has been stated by my hon. friend over there that the appointment of a chairman was for a political purpose.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: No doubt about it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: In each and every public sector corporation or undertaking, all the chairmen are selected on political considerations. They are chosen from among the political party's discarded and discredited members. (Interruptions)

[Shri Samar Guha]

SHRI F. A. AHMED: However much hon. Members may shout, there is no basis for such an allegation, and I deny it with all the power at my command.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: My submission is that they may appoint political persons as chairman of corporations. We have no quarrel over it. But let them appoint politically efficient persons who can do the job without defaulting the public exchequer.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Let him appoint Shri R. S. Pandey as the chairman.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: I would like to suggest that Shri Piloo Mody may be appointed the chairman of the Food Corporation, because he is very efficient.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I object to it.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: So far as some of the hon. Members are concerned, they want that there should be no one who belongs to a political party who should be appointed as chairman of a public undertaking. But I do not see why a person belonging to a political party should be deprived of this opportunity. (Interruptions) we do not agree with their views; they may have their own views, but our view is that political persons should not be prevented from becoming chairman of the public undertakings.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I had used the word 'active party functionary'. Active party functionaries should not be appointed.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai): They cannot behave as if they are cross-examining in a court of law.

SHRI PILOO MODY: As soon as a Member has lost his seat, he should be appointed to a corporation.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: As I have said, so far as the working of the Food Corporation is concerned, I am always prepared to have constructive suggestions from hon. Members, which would improve the functioning of the corporation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: First, let him have a thorough probe. Let him appoint a parliamentary commission.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: That is entirely different. . . .

SHRI PILOO MODY: I am making the most constructive suggestion. Let Government suspend him or make him resign.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: So far as these allegations are concerned, there are two sets of allegations. One is against the chairman and the other is against some officers and employees of the organisation.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Let him suspend them all.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: It is very unfortunate that these things should have happened in a public undertaking. I am very unhappy that these things have happened. . . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under his very nose, for the last one and a half years in Delhi.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: These matters have to be inquired into, and after a *prima facie* case is available with us, we shall take such actions as are called for.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let the hon. Minister kindly now evade the issue. Let him tell us his concrete decision as to what he wants to do and within what target date. Let him give us a clear and categorical reply about the target date within which he would come to a final decision. Let him kindly not take us for a ride.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: There is no question of my placing the statement which contains all the allegations before the House; that is a document which is under examination, and after it has been examined, that will be placed on the Table of the House. . . .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will it be completed by the beginning of the next session?

SHRI S. B. GIRI (Warangal): On a point of clarification. May I know

whether the inquiry will be confined only to the last one year or will it cover the period since the inception of the corporation? The malpractices have been taking place for the last eight years.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: That is a matter which Government will examine, when all these facts are before the Government.

One hon. Member had raised a point that some rice was taken in an aeroplane to Assam from here, and for that the responsibility of the Food Corporation or the Department of Food has been alleged.

May I just point out that there was no such transhipment of rice by the Food Corporation or the Food Department by plane? What actually happened was that some of the aeroplanes which were bringing refugees from Assam to Madhya Pradesh and other areas—Russian planes—were going back empty and in those empty planes, it is very likely that we had sent some foodgrains. The Agriculture Department had utilised that vacant space for the purpose of taking foodgrains from here to Assam and other difficult border areas.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: That did not cost anything?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: As far as I know, we have not paid anything. I will find out from the Rehabilitation Ministry whether something was paid by them. I am not sure about it, but so far as we are concerned, we have not paid anything for that.

This is what I would like to say. My position is very difficult at the present moment. . .

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU: I can well understand that.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: . . . for the simple reason that I am going through the facts and it will be very unfair for me to supply place certain facts or my views before the House without that matter being examined by a judicial body or by some other body which can go into the matter very carefully. Therefore, what I would suggest is that

whatever allegations have come before me, whether it is against the Chairman or against the officers or against the employees, they will be looked into, they will be examined very carefully and after the report is available, I shall place it before this House for you to decide.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: May I make a submission?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: One by one. Shri Sethi.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak): I want to know from the hon. Minister—as my hon. friend, Shri Mohapatra also pointed out—on what basis and what principle the ex-Assistant Manager of the, F.C.I. Bhadrak branch, in the district of Balasore, Orissa, has been reappointed after 25 days of his retirement from service?

SHRI S. B. GIRI: The recognition of the majority union, the Government of India Food Corporation Employees Association, has been suspended. Will the recognition be immediately restored as they have the majority?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Apart from the cases of corruption etc., the employees' organisation has put forward certain basic demands. These demands have not yet been conceded. Is the hon. Minister applying his mind to the various demands put forward by the employees?

My second question is to you, Sir. As the House is adjourning today and we shall not be here, let Government announce its own business for the next week at least.

“जी बी०पी० सीई” : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, फूड कार्पोरेशन एफ०आइ०सी० की बाकी है लेकिन उसमें जी बी कार्रवियां होती हैं उस के लिये मंत्री महोदय कहाँ तक जिम्मेदार होंगे इस पर भी इस सदन में अधिकार के लिये निश्चय हो जाना चाहिये। जिस मंत्री के अन्तर्गत बूट्टा धाता है की कितनी जिम्मेदारी है यह निश्चय हो जाना चाहिये।

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: The Government of Gujarat wanted to give pulses at a fair prices to the fair

[Shri P. M. Mehta]

price shops. But what happened was that the sale price quoted by the Corporation was much higher than the prices prevailing in the open market. How has this happened?

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: There is nothing against the Food Corporation as such.

I do agree with the Minister that the very concept of having a corporation is very good to meet the supplies. But the idea is that it should function well. The House is very much agitated at the manner in which the complaints came. An enquiry has been instituted. Who are those people who are involved, has got to be completely enquired into, and they should be punished. It is not a matter of the Chairman or other officials or of those people who have complained. I suggest that there should be a high-power commission appointed to thoroughly enquire into everything, go through it threadbare and its report must be submitted to the House in order that justice may be done to everyone.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I support the demand that the hon. Member has raised.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS
rose—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. Today being the last day, I am going to give some time to everyone. I will allow everybody. Now, Shri Jharkhande Rai.

श्री झारखंड राय : सी०बी०आई०की जांच में केवल चार विषय दिए गए हैं। जितने आरोपपत्र में प्वाइंट दिए गए हैं या उठाए गए हैं, उन सब को जांच के लिए क्यों नहीं दिया गया है ?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is very nice of the hon. Minister to say that he would accept the opinion because the enquiry is going to be there. But I would like to know how it will affect the course of the enquiry, because, one of the Ministers has very categorically expressed his opinion in regard to one gentleman who is

very high up in the Food Corporation. Would the hon. Minister assure us that the categorical expression of opinion of one of the Ministers in favour of one and impliedly against the other would not vitiate the enquiry? (Interruption).

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Sir, he referred to that gentleman being referred to by the Minister. It should be expunged.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, no. There are certain rules for expunction. Mr. Bosu.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I would like to put one simple question. This whole thing has been going on for the last several years, particularly a year and a half; a vast establishment of the CBI is sitting here; a huge body of over Rs. 100 crores. It is watching us, intelligence and all that. Tell us, did you have any prior information about the misdeeds.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I am constrained to say that the Government has decided in its unwisdom to put a blanket over this whole affair. I am not at all satisfied. This debate was scheduled for the last Saturday. Since then it was postponed to this Monday, and they have had plenty of time to come forward with some positive action that they were going to take in respect of all this that has been going on for months on end.

Today, after all this debate, he comes up and says, "We are looking into everything. It is a 200-page report. It has not been seen, and we will examine it." I do not think it is satisfactory at all.

Therefore, I have come to the conclusion that the Government does not want to do anything about it, and it is giving an excuse for doing this sort of thing. I am not surprised. And the House could have been adjourned last Saturday itself. (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. You may be surprised; you may not be surprised. It does not matter.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : खाली गनी बैंग्र की कीमत वसूल न करके जो पच्चीस करोड़ का घाटा अभी तक हुआ है और उसके बारे में उन्होंने आप से इजाजत मांगी है, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय में पहले व्यवस्था क्या थी ?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: The net impression that one gets after this debate is that although some serious charges and allegations have been made, the Government is not in a position to reply to those allegations and charges at the moment. It is not as if these charges and allegations have been flung at the Government all too suddenly. They have been there for a long time. Why has the Government not chosen to reply? Definite charges have been made, and why is it that the Government took cover under a blanket reply that "they are considering the whole matter?" How are you going to be satisfied? With this Government which has been shielding corrupt people, how are you going to be satisfied that it is going to result in any justice? (Interruptions). Let him answer.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: The hon. Minister, in the concluding part of his speech, has given an indication that after going through the preliminary report that he has got, the matter will be enquired into. I want to know what type of enquiry would it be: a high-power enquiry, or a judicial enquiry or some departmental enquiry. What type of enquiry would it be?

श्री साधू राम : जिस वक्त रिफ्यूजी भाई आए थे और कारपोरेशन को कैबिनेट की तरफ से डायरेक्टिव दिया गया था तो क्या यह सही है कि यह कहा गया था कि अनाज को अधिक कीमत में खरीदे या जल्दी इस काम को करे? (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do you want to say anything in reply?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: No.

AN HON. MEMBER: He has already replied.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He does not have anything to say in reply . . . (Interruptions). Order, please. He does not have anything to reply.

I have been listening to you all. Would you kindly listen to me, five or six sentences? We have come to the end of the session. I think we have had a good session. We have had some storms. I am an optimist. I believe in the future of India and I think these storms are reflected of the vigour of Indian democracy. But we have also been able to control those storms. That shows the maturity and strength of Indian democracy.

May I thank all the hon. Members for the very good contribution they have made and I bid them good-bye. God speed and *au revoir*. The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

18.42 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned *sine die*.