

[श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद गदव]

मैने जग डायरेक्टर श्री खन्ना सहयोग नहीं दे रहे हैं बल्कि इन इन्जीनियर्स के साथ समानवीथ व्यवहार कर रहे हैं। जब ये इन्जीनियर्स अपनी एसोसियेशन बना कर बाजरी के लिये उन के पास गये तो बाजरी के बदले उन पर लाठियों से प्रहार किया गया।

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER You can continue on Monday

15 30 hrs

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTY-NINTH REPORT

SHRI BANAMALI BABU (Sambalpur) I beg to move

'That this House do agree with the Thirty-ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th April, 1974

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The question is

'That this House do agree with the Thirty-ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th April, 1974'

The motion was adopted.

15.30½ hrs

RESOLUTION RE POLICY REGARDING PRICES AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION—contd

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri Madhu Limaye on the 15th March, 1974—

'This House is of opinion that the Government should re-cast its policy with regard to price and agricultural production in such a way that—

(a) essential articles of consumption sell at 1½ times the cost of production, including transport charges taxes and profits,

(b) there shall prevail parity between the prices of industrial goods and agricultural produce;

(c) fluctuations in foodgrains prices of more than 15 per cent shall not be permitted;

(d) the Government shall take the responsibility of purchasing cotton, sugarcane, raw jute, foodgrains and other produce at support prices which may take into account the cost of production plus a reasonable margin for the farmers;

(e) electricity rate per unit for agricultural purposes shall not be more than ten paise, and

(f) fertilizers shall be made available to the Kisans with landholdings of less than ten acres at subsidised rates and the irrigation rates shall be reduced by 25 per cent'

Altogether, 4 hours were allotted and 2 hours have already been taken and the balance available is 2 hours Shri R R Sharma was on his legs on the last occasion He is not here today Any other hon Member wants to speak?

SHRI B K DASCHOWDHARY (Cooch-Behar) I would like to speak The resolution deals with very important aspects of policy There is no denying the fact that all of us are very much concerned about the high prices of essential commodities and the present economic situation in the country

16 32 hrs.

[SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINGH IN THE CHAIR]

As I said, this resolution covers almost all the items which are very much required by the people in the name of essential commodities and essential items But before I speak on the resolution proper, I would just mention one or two words On the face of it, it appears from the resolution that we should increase the prices to the extent of 1½ times of the cost of production, keeping in

view of the cost of marketing and other things I feel that this is too much on the high side. The basic spirit behind this resolution is that the prices of agricultural commodities and other essential commodities should be so fixed that there will not be any scope for manipulation in the matter of prices, and Government must have their own pricing policy. To this extent this resolution is really worth considering.

One of the reasons for the commotion in the body politic today that we are seeing in society today is the fact that the poor people are the most hard-hit, as we often times discuss here and the one reason which is advanced for this is the high prices of essential commodities including agricultural produce.

Knowing full well that a large section of the population, nearly 70 per cent are depending on their own agricultural products the first thing that should be considered is that the prices of these products should be so regulated that the poor people and the farmers are not hard hit in the process of growing their produce in various forms and varieties. But what do we find? Under the plea of market mechanism, and in the absence of any consistent policy it has become very difficult to have a comprehensive pricing policy.

I would like to quote in this connection from para 1112 at page 16 of Part II of the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan. It says

"The policy governing agricultural prices, if proposed to be carefully designed. In designing this policy two main considerations are intended to be pointedly kept in view "

'Firstly, while price policy is recognised as having a role in providing incentive for sustained and higher production, it can be effective essentially as a complementary measure to other programmes for increasing the agricultural production. Secondly a discriminating

manipulation of intercrop price relationship can help to induce the farmers to plan the production of different crops in line with the estimated demand. The price policy has to be particularly tailored with care in respect of such crops as to have too high supply elasticity.'

The spirit of the Plan document which after careful consideration the Planning Commission the hon Members and the hon Ministers too have adopted is nothing counter to nor against the spirit of the Resolution moved by my hon friend.

So what should be the position? The pricing policy should be such as to take into account two points there may not be over supply and there must be a direct relation between the cost of production of agricultural commodities and the prices of other essential commodities. But as a matter of fact we find in some cases that this relationship is not there, nor maintained by the pricing policy of the Government.

Here I would like to bring to your notice the effect of lower prices for Jute and how it has adversely affected the Jute growers. Jute is one of the most important items of our export which gives us the largest share of the foreign exchange earning. But I find that the Jute growers have been doomed for a few decades together. Nowhere has the spirit of the Resolution been observed in regard to this commodity. I would be happier in future under the leadership direction and guidance of the hon Planning Minister the new pricing policy is so formulated as to bear a relation between the cost of production of agricultural commodities and the cost of other essential commodities.

We find a certain commotion nowadays in the rural areas. We find that whatever the farmers and growers produce after selling them the yield therefrom is not enough for them to purchase the other essential commodities they require for their livelihood in regard to the everyday necessities.

[Shri B. K. Daschowdhury]

of life. This conclusively proves that the value of their produce is not commensurate with the market price. As a result, what happens? Even after working for months and months together, for years and years together, they are not in a position to make both ends meet. They always remain in debt. By and by they have had to part with their properties, their land, their cow, their everything. This is the basic reason why we find today that the poor are really getting poorer.

We have gone through some of the recent recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission. But I must categorically say that the standard maintained by the Agricultural Prices Commission in the matter of fixing prices of agricultural commodities, particularly, wheat, cotton and Jute is different from what it should have been. I would quote from the Report submitted by the Agricultural Prices Commission on price policy for raw cotton for the 1972-73 season, page 11, paragraph 18:

"For 1971-72, the Commission had recommended a minimum support price of Rs. 326 per quintal for lint of 320-F variety. On the basis of the ratio of lint to *kapas* prices varying from 2.1:1 to 2.5:1, the corresponding prices for *kapas* would range between Rs. 130 and Rs. 155 per quintal yielding an average of Rs. 142 per quintal".

"The average price, it would be seen, is comfortably above the cost of production." But in the case of Jute, unfortunately, the Commission could not find out any conclusion as to what is really the cost of production. And most mysteriously, they have mentioned that as there are difficulties to find out the per capita cost of production of jute, they have just assessed the cost considering the last year's price, giving a certain margin. Even in their own admission—I quote from page 3 of the Report on the price policy for jute for the year 1972-73 season—"the index number of the

wholesale price of jute dropped by 13.5 per cent from 56.1 in April, 1971 to 135.2 in August 1971. Heavy rains and the consequent floods in Assam, Bihar, Orissa West Bengal, further accentuated the fall in prices. Being unable to save it from floodwater and also fearing a further fall in prices, the farmers were eager to sell their crop." Then they say that "the index number of the wholesale price registered a further decline from 135.2 in August to 117.9 in November, 1971. And having considered this steady fall from month to month, up to the month of November 1971, they had concluded that even with a little margin in the absence of any particular cost structure will satisfy the jute growers at the price fixed up at Rs. 115 per quintal. Of course, we do not agree with the report. Thanks to the Government—though not very much—with qualified thanks, I must say—they have increased the price at a very late stage from Rs. 115 per quintal @ Rs. 157.60 per quintal at the mill gate at Calcutta. Now, there is a difference between the price at mill gate in Calcutta and the actual price in the primary market. As you know, Sir, coming from one of the jute-growing area, the mill gate price in Calcutta and the primary market price, there is a large difference. The hon. Minister in his report, as has been received from the officials, said that there will hardly be 10 to 12 per cent difference. But, as a matter of fact, the differences range from 35 to 55 per cent or even 60 per cent in some cases. What is really the price even this year received by the jute growers in the interior parts of Bihar, your State? I was told by my friend, Mr. Md. Jamilurrahman the other day, that even in this year the prices went down to an extent of nearly Rs. 27 per maund whereas according to your own price, whatever rate you have fixed Rs. 157.60 per quintal at Calcutta with 10 to 12 per cent or even 15 per cent—taking into account the charges for transportation and other things—even according to that rate, per maund it ought to have been to the extent of nearly Rs. 60 to 70.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That happens when the JCI stops purchasing. Can you throw some light on the activities of the JCI?

SHR B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Thank you. I am happy that you are also showing adequate interest in this. Before coming to the part played by the JCI as they had stopped purchasing—, I will say a few words about the price policy. This is what they quoted from the latest report for the year 1972-73 of the price policy, fixed by the Agricultural Prices Commission for the commodity of jute. What is the latest report? It is very shocking. On page 88 of the latest economic survey, the figures are given. In December 1972 the wholesale index of prices of raw jute stood at 163; in December 1973 it came down to 123. The index number of cotton rose from 187 in December 1972 to 294 in December 1973; similarly the index number of edible oils rose from 248 in December 1972 to 348 in December 1973. The prices of all essential commodities had gone up by nearly 60 per cent or 80 to 90 per cent while in the case of raw jute it has fallen from 163 to 123. You rightly pointed out that it was the duty of Jute Corporation of India to arrest the price fall by giving at least minimum price of Rs. 157.00 per quintal. But they did not do that.

Replying to the demands for grants of his Ministry, the hon. Commerce Minister said that with some trouble and great difficulty it was only in November or December that some moneys could be got released by the Reserve Bank of India. He did not say in these words; but this is the impression. I have gathered from what he spoke. I am not imputing any motive to any person, but probably at the initial stages the officials of the JCI had some understanding with jute barons; they did not go to the market at the right time and the jute growers suffered. Later on when we raised the issue here on several occasions and the JCI was instructed to go to the primary market and open more and more centres and give immediate relief to the jute growers, the

JCI pleaded that they had no money. From what I could understand from the hon. Minister and also some officials of the JCI it seems that the JCI has got a programme of opening more 100 branches in jute growing areas in Tripura, Manipur, Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Orissa and U.P. Even today we hear so. How long time are they going to take to implement this? Why are they not making up their minds about opening purchasing centres and giving relief to the people?

In our country the jute industry has got a tradition of more than 100 years. On a number of occasions they have decided what should be the price of jute? Everyone knows that there is parity between paddy price and jute price in the ratio of 3:1. The Bengal Land Revenue Commission headed by Sir Francis Floud investigated into the question: what should be the jute parity between jute and paddy prices and came to the following conclusion: "If the price of jute were to remain at Rs. 7 or 8 per maund and the price of paddy about two rupees and eight annas per maund... --nobody could think of it now— "we think there should be little complaint from the agriculturist community in regard to the price of jute." The Flood Commission made this report in 1940 and said the parity was thus found to be, three maund of paddy is equal to one maund of jute. The price being those at the primary level and that is the price the farmer should get. That was known to all. But, Sir, since Independence we have seen that the entire structure in regard to the price policy of jute has been changed from time to time. Now, it was said that jute is a commodity which is not consumed in the country. Whatever that we manufacture out of jute, should be exported. It must enter into competition in the export market and in the international market. Very good. But, there is one aspect. The jute growers, the poor jute growers, who are giving us a larger foreign exchange to the extent of nearly Rs. 300 crores, their condition, their per capita cost of production and all these things are to

[Shri B. K. Daschowdhury] considered. But, at the same time, prices of jute goods and commodities must bear a relation to the price in the international market. Having said so, how is it possible on the part of the Government to impose more and more restrictions on export or in other words to earn more foreign exchange and tell the poor jute growers that 'here is the money; out of this Government may impose certain duties known as export duty'. It ranges from Rs 80 to Rs. 1500 on various commodities in a graded level. During last year, the export duty on carpet backing was released to a certain extent and it was expected that because of this relief given, the jute goods will become competitive abroad and in return the mill-owners may be in a position to purchase jute even at a higher rate. But, this year, though the jute growers are not getting the proper price, the policy has been completely reversed and export duty has been re-imposed.

But Sir, we do not find the same standard in the policy in regard to cotton. Hon Minister knows it very well. Cotton growers, particularly in the western areas like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Punjab and to an extent, may be Haryana too, are mostly favoured. I am happy that the cotton growers at least are being given their remuneration; their fair price. They have been given a fair deal, I am happy. But, I am not happy at all...

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE (Banka): Even cotton growers have not got a fair deal

SHRI B K DASCHOWDHURY: Well, prices of cotton have gone up to a large extent. If more prices are to be given, I do not mind. What I would like to say is, the same standard should be followed in jute also. Despite the fact that cotton prices are going up higher and higher, from day to day, from year to year, prices of cotton or raw cotton have also been fixed at a very higher rate.

But, here we find, Sir, knowing fully well that prices of jute and raw jute are coming down and down and

the poor growers are hard hit, yet the Government seems to be un-nerved on the plea that they do not have a particular cost structure and per capita cost of production and they are not in a position to fix the price of jute more remunerative. That seems to be rather mysterious. Not only that Cotton textile has been made competitive in international market by giving several incentives as cash subsidies even for the import of cotton, subsidies or other financial arrangements through Indian Cotton Mills Federation, import entitlement and many others. Sir, in the Estimates Committee Report for the year 1972-73, in the Fortieth Report, it has been said that it was strange that cash subsidy to the extent of nearly 90 per cent of the FOB value was given for cotton textile even after devaluation. Devaluation was done with the expectation that our commodities will have a favourable market in international competition. But even after devaluation, subsidy was given to the extent of 90 per cent. That is on record. Here is the jute industry. We find that the Government is very much eager to take the share of the poor man's money by putting extra export duty. I do not mind if they realise it from the millowners or the jute barons. But what about proper prices for the jute growers? Why are they so hard hit? The other day when I was speaking on the Demands of the Commerce Ministry, I read one press report. The press people interviewed some educated jute growers and given their feelings. This appeared in the *Jugantar* dated 4th March, 1974. It is in Bengali:

“स्वाधीनता लाभेर आगेर बचा पाछे ।
नाराधन नजे एक मन पाट बिकी करे
निनामन धान केना जेतो । स्वाधीनता लाभेर
परेमो एक मन पाट बिकी करे—आहुई मन
धान पाइया मेछे । ए बछर शातनकुटि हाट
बुडो रहिम जेब दुमान पाट बिकी करेमो
एक मनधान सग्रह करते परेनी । . . .”

Before independence, it was known to us that by selling 1 maund of jute, we used to get 3 maunds of

paddy Even after independence we used to get 2½ maunds of paddy But this year, by selling 2 maunds of jute, a person like Rahim Sheikh, an old farmer of Sitalkuchi, could not purchase even one maund of paddy! It is a very pathetic picture This is what has been said by the jute growers to the pressmen I do not want to quote the rest in Bengali Old Rahim Sheikh and others further said, we understand that Government will not do anything for us We understand that the political leaders will not do anything for us The political leaders will only clamour for higher wages for those who are working in the factories Let us stop growing jute When the mills will be closed, the political leaders will come to realise their stand When we will not grow jute and when there will not be any surplus for export, the Government of India will come to its senses when we will lose Rs 300 crores of foreign exchange" This is their feeling

The spirit of the resolution is worth noting The poor people who grow these agricultural commodities have to purchase the essential commodities like pulses cloth edible oil, etc In the eastern region, jute is grown, but it is short in foodgrains edible oils, cotton, and other things All these things they have to purchase at fantastically high prices As a result, their miseries need no further explanation to the Government I would simply appeal to the Government that in view of this policy decision we have taken, as I quoted earlier from the Plan Document II don't allow these poor people to be exploited more Don't allow another famine in the eastern region where the jute-producing areas are Somewhere near famine conditions have started Because of these low prices, people have no money to purchase their essential needs In the coming months—Jure and July—what will be the condition, God only knows You must come to the help of these poor growers to come out of their miseries, whatever had been done in the past. If you go on calculating on a very rational basis, for the last 20 or 23 years, in West Bengal at the

time of partition, the jute-growing areas were to the extent of 27 lakh 16 hrs.

acres Now it is 12 lakh acres Of these 12 lakh acres extra 93 lakh acres or even roughly one million acres have been converted from paddy to jute What is the result? You are getting more foreign exchange But these people are getting less money Kindly consider this If you are not in a position to give them a fair price, then jute production will be completely stopped The total jute production in our country is to the extent of 80 lakh bales in the last year According to a forecast of the Jute Development Committee the production this year will be hardly 60 lakh bales In the future years it will go down in this way and ultimately we will lose the earning of foreign exchange now earned by this commodity Kindly consider the pangs and miseries of the jute growers and give them a remunerative price Justice was not done to them in the past During the last 20 to 23 years the jute growers have lost to the extent of Rs 1,500 to 2,000 crores for not getting a remunerative price for their produce in relation to the other essential commodities After fixing that remunerative price you supply them essential commodities like oil, rice kerosene and other daily requirements, maintaining the parity of prices of those essential commodities

With these words I would appeal to the hon Minister to take certain steps as urgently as possible to relieve the sufferings of the jute growers Otherwise a revolution will take place which I cannot say here very loudly But look to the writings on the wall Something is brewing from which there is no escape, if we fail to take corrective steps immediately

SHRI RANABHADUR SINGH (Sidhi) Mr Chairman, I am in full agreement with the intention of the Resolution, which is under discussion All the six or seven points mentioned here appear to be most necessary and the sooner these points are attempted to be brought about the better it

[Shri Ranabhadur Singh]

would be for the country. But I fail to understand as to how this whole exercise is to be attempted. The Resolution says:-

"the Government should re-cast its policy with regard to prices and agricultural production.."

All that I want to say in this respect is, it appears to me to be absolutely impossible. Whatever might be the recasting of the policy, if the executive machinery that would carry out the policies remains the same, these would be Utopian dreams.

As I look at it, the present situation that obtains in our country is a strange one. When we look towards agricultural production, the whole attitude of the Governments has not changed since the time of the British period when the commodity committees were formed. If you would recall, the commodity committees were formed merely with a view to increasing the production of those goods in this country which would feed the mills of Nottingham and Birmingham. With this object they were spending crores of rupees. If we set apart a vast amount from our plans and budgets to increase the production of grains in our country, the approach is the same. The approach is that the production must go up. It is not to be exported to any other country, but it has to be put into a buffer stock so as to be able to meet the needs of the urban part of our population.

I feel, herein this Resolution should have also taken into consideration the possibilities of changing this attitude. In this respect, I have a suggestion to make that whenever an attempt is made either to increase the production specially on the farm front or an attempt is made to have an equitable distribution of foodgrains or other allied commodities which are basically necessary to all the people, whether they are in urban or in rural areas, there should be a method evolved wherein the apathy of the civil

servants towards giving these basic services to the people who are least able to help themselves has to change.

This is a big task. It is not so easily done. It is because the whole attitude of the civil service today has been alienated from the mainstream of our country. There is a fixed cadre; there is a fixed pay; there is a fixed life which they keep before them. They have the least amount of necessity to see whether the job they are given is done in a proper spirit. I am sure that on paper, the job is done. It is this difference between the paper and the spirit that is causing this hardship. For this, the only possibility that appears in the context of things is that the people themselves should somehow be involved in the task that is purely in the field of civil servant. Unless this is attempted, unless some mechanism is evolved by which this is possible, all these big pious hopes are rather frivolous.

Then, if we take the exact number of the civil servants we have in this country and, on the other hand, if we have a look at the vast amount of population which they are supposed to deal with and serve, the ratio is tremendously great. Without blaming the people as such, the civil servants as such, it is physically impossible for one man the Collector of a district, to look to the needs of 7-8 lakhs of people in a district. The bureaucratic red tapes are involved in it. There is hardly any need to mention about that. Unless this country takes a fresh look at the whole affairs, unless this country is willing to move head of the present arrangement, all the efforts in the socialistic field are going to be absolutely nullified.

When this effort is thought about, when this exercise is attempted, one thing that must not be lost sight of is that even today, in our villages the people as such are not mentally ready or their genius is not suited to this method which is called democracy

by majority. Invariably, with your background in the rural areas, Sir, you know that since the inception of the gram panchayat laws in the rural countryside, since the time when 11 members of a gram panchayat were able to overrule 9 members, if there were 20 members in a gram panchayat, it is from that date that this law applies to the villages that we have the broken villages on our hand. If we look to the time when there were panchayats operating in all the villages, in our country, much before democracy might have been known in Europe, then we can see that the panchayats of the villages, at that time, were able to look after their needs. They were probably more socialistic in their approach than what we have today in the name of administrative set-up and that was possible because, at that time, the panchayats operated on a rule of consensus which we have lost. So, all that I seek to add to this Resolution is this. The objectives are good; they are perfect; but if they have to be achieved, it should be added on that the present administrative machinery should involve the people on the basis of consensus to carry out these needs.

श्री सतपाल कपूर (पटियाला)
 चेयरमैन साहब, मैं इस रेजोल्यूशन का जो पर्पज है उस को मर्पाट करता हूँ। इस की जो बनियादी स्पिरिट है उस में मुझे इन्फ्लायन्स नहीं है। आज हम देखते हैं कि एग्रीकल्चर में जो छोटे किसान और बड़े किसान हैं, इस मामले में हमारा इन्फ्लायन्स नहीं है। इस मामले में भी मेरा इन्फ्लायन्स है कि हम में लैंड रिफार्म की बात कही, लेकिन उस पर अमल नहीं किया गया, क्यों अमल नहीं किया गया इस का हमें कोई प्रापर एक्सप्लेनेशन अभी तक नहीं मिल पाया है। हाऊ हाटेंट है कि हम ने लैंड रिफार्म की बात को मान लिया। छोटे

किसानों के लिये, माजिनल फार्मर्स के लिये हम ने सारे मुल्क में एग्रीकल्चर बनाई, लेकिन वे बहुत इफेक्टिव ढंग में काम नहीं करती। सिर्फ एग्रीकल्चर ही नहीं है—पंजाब का, जहाँ माजिनल फार्मर्स की कोऑपरेटिव एग्रीकल्चर नाम कर रही है। लेकिन आज बैसिक ईशू यह है कि आप एग्रीकल्चर को किस ढंग में डील करना चाहते हैं, एग्रीकल्चर के निरालमले में आप की एप्रोच क्या है ?

पिछले माल ट्रम लोगों ने यहाँ पर जोर डाला—1972 में आप ने व्हीट प्राइमेज को कम करने की कोशिश की, तब हमें यह नहीं समझाया गया कि व्हीट प्राइमेज को कम करने के लिये आप किस वेम पर बात करने हैं किम बैसिज पर आप कास्ट को अमेम करते हैं ? उस वक्त हमें यह नहीं समझाया गया कि इस का आधार क्या है ? हम लोगों ने कहा कि जब कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन बढ़ गई है तो इन प्राइमेज पर आपका टेकओवर आफ फुडप्रेन्स कामयाब नहीं होगा, हम ने यह भी कहा था कि इस को कामयाब बनाने के लिये आप व्हीट की प्राइमेज को बढ़ाइये, लेकिन तब हमारी बात नहीं सुनी गई। उस के बाद श्री टी० ए० पाई साहब ने बोनस स्कीम चालू की—इस को भी बहुत देर तक से शुरू किया गया—अगर पिछले माल शुरू में ही आप यह बोनस दे देते और पांच रुपये के बजाय 7 या 8 रुपये का देते तो आज जो हम इस बात पर आये हैं कि हमारा स्टेट टेकओवर फेल हुआ है, हम को यह जिल्लत न उठानी पड़ती। लेकिन उस वक्त हमारी बात नहीं मानी गई। आज तक हम यह नहीं समझ पाये कि प्लानिंग कमीशन और मिनिस्ट्री आफ एग्रीकल्चर, की एग्रीकल्चर, के बारे में बैसिक पालिसी क्या है, आप किस बैसिक पालिसी को

[श्री सतपाल कपूर]

अपनाना चाहते हैं, किम बेसिज पर आप एग्रीकल्चर को डील करना चाहते हैं।

मैं तद्विपरीत करना चाहूंगा कि प्लानिंग कमीशन एवं बेसिक पैटर्न को मान ले और वह बेसिक पैटर्न यह होना चाहिये कि आप इन्पुट्स की प्राइम को लिब-अप कर दीजिये प्रोडक्शन के साथ। डीजल की प्राइम, बिजली की प्राइम मशीनरी की प्राइम फर्टिलाइजर की प्राइम और किसानों के काम में आने वाली दूसरी चीजों की प्राइम को आप प्रोडक्शन के साथ लिब अप कर के उस को न्ये कीजिये। कोई कहत है कि 30 परसेन्ट प्राइम बढ गई है, कोई कहते हैं 40 परसेन्ट प्राइम बढ गई है, आप ने 105 प्ये गन्दुम के दाम मुकर्रि किये है, अब हमारे कुछ भाई कहते हैं कि यह कीमन भी कम है। लेकिन किसानों को जिन बात का मब मे ज्यादा दुख है वह यह है कि आप का कोई साइन्टिफिक और प्रापर मिस्टम प्राइम फिन्स करने का नहीं है। आप ने किसानों को खुला छाडा हुआ है—होलसेलर आइडिया के मामन, मिल-ग्रोनर्स के सामने। काटन के मामले में, मूसफली के मामले में जो प्राइम ये लॉग फिन्स करते है उस पर ही आप काटन खरीद करते हैं। आप मपोटे प्राइम फिन्स करते है, लेकिन क्या होता है—पिछले दिनों आप ने मपोटे प्राइम मुकर्रि की, लेकिन पता नहीं कि किस के इशारे पर या कौन सी बीमारी आई जब पजाब और हरियाणा का काटन मडिया में आया, आप के काटन कारपोरेशन ने काटन खरीदना बन्द कर दिया। हम डोस भागे भागे काटन कारपोरेशन के पास गये, एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री के पास गये, क्लमर्स मिनिस्ट्री के पास गये।

हम ने उन को बतलाया कि पिछले माल भी यही हुआ था और इस साल भी यही हो रहा है। किसानों को दुख यह है कि जब हमारा माल मार्केट में आता है, उस वक्त आप सपोर्ट प्राइस तो मुकर्रि करते हैं लेकिन उस पर माल खरीदा नहीं जाता। इस बात पर किसानों को मुस्सा या नाराजगी है। हमारा जो मखम्मल करने का तरीका है उस से हम उस को मैटिफाई नहीं कर सकते। हम बातें कर सकते हैं लेकिन हमारी बातों में वजन नहीं होता, आखिर किम बेसिज पर हम उन से बात करे। अब आपने काटन की प्राइस मुकर्रि की तो काटन कारपोरेशन पिछले 20 दिनों में मार्केट में गायब क्यों नहीं रहा, ताकि बड़े-बड़े मिनि-मालिक काटन की प्राइम मार्केट में उभ कर दे और किसान को, जो माल मर्डी में ले आया है, बेचना पड़े। इस बेसिज पर अगर अगर आप काम करेये तो इस मुस्के में एग्रीकल्चर कभी भी डेबेलप नहीं हो सकेगा। आप का एडीक्यूड एग्रीकल्चर के बारे में बहुत गलत है, इस को सुधारने की जरूरत है।

इसी तरह से मूगफनी के बारे में ग्रान-बेजिटेबिलि के बारे में, आनू के बारे में, आप का कोई साइन्टिफिक फार्मूला नहीं है। मैं तद्विपरीत करना चाहूंगा कि प्लानिंग कमीशन और एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री उन तमाम चीजों के बारे में एक साइन्टिफिक तरीका निकाले कि इस मीजन में इस इन्पुट्स के साथ यह प्राइम हम इन चीजों की मुकर्रि करते हैं और इसके लिये अगर आप को अपने यहाँ कोई मशीनरी बनानी पड़े तो बनाइये, ताकि किसानों का होलसेलर्स बड़े बिजनेसमैनो और बड़े बड़े मिल मालिकों की लूट खसोट से बचाया जा सके। मैं एक बात समझ नहीं पाता—आप इन्ड-स्ट्रीयल लोन साइडे 4 परसेन्ट पर देते हैं,

लेकिन एबीकल्चर लोन 9 परसेन्ट पर देते हैं—ऐसा क्यों ? (श्रवणशाम)

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मैं यह समझता हूँ कि आप ने बैंक के मामले में जो होलमेलर्स को एलाऊ किया है, यह गलत काम है । पहले आप ने होलमेलर्स को निकाला, लेकिन अपना प्रापर इन्तज़ाम नहीं किया, जिस पर आप को अफसोस है, अब आपने फिर उसको शामिल कर लिया है । मैं आज आप को वार्निंग देना चाहता हूँ कि कल आप को फिर अफसोस होगा कि आप ने होलमेलर्स को क्यों एलाऊ किया ।

मैं उस एरिये में आता हूँ जिसे एरिये से 22 लाख टन गन्दुम मिलने वाला है लेकिन आज हमारी हालत क्या है ? आप ने उस किमान के साथ और उस सरकार के साथ जो आप की पालिसी को कामयाब करना चाहती है, उस के साथ क्या मुलूक किया । सारे हिन्दुस्तान में सिर्फ पंजाब एक सूबा ऐसा है जिस ने आप के स्टेट ट्रेडिंग को कामयाब कर के दिखाया । अगर बगान वालों ने काम नहीं किया या बहार वालों ने काम नहीं किया, वहाँ पूरा प्रांक्वोरमेन्ट नहीं हुआ तो उस की सजा आप पंजाब के लोगों को क्यों दे रहे हैं ? मुझे आप की बात बिलकुल किमी भी तरह समझ में नहीं आती है—आप ने 105 रुपये का मत मुकर्रर की है और होल सेलर को कहा है कि तुम जाकर प्रोक्वोर करो । मार्केट में जब होलसेलर आयेगा और गवर्नमेन्ट जो रट फिक्स करेगी, मान लीजिए 107 और 109 के दरमियान हम अपनी बोली मुकर्रर करते हैं और होलसेलर आकर कहता है कि 110 रुपये के हम साल उठाते हैं तो फिर गवर्नमेन्ट ने स्टूल पूल में वह साल नहीं आयेगा । फिर किसान हमारे कहते हैं कि रात दिन

मेहनत हमने की और उस के बाद हमें 105 रुपये देना चाहते हैं जिसके मुकाबले में जो होलसेलर आइतिया आप इन्ट्री-इयूस कर रहे हैं जिसे जो पंजाब में हमने खत्म नहीं किया बल्कि आपने उसको खत्म किया, पिछले साल 72 के लोक सभा के एलेक्शन के बाद वहाँ जो सरकार थी उस ने खत्म किया और फिर आप उस को बहाल कर रहे हैं—इस बात को हमारे किमान बहुत गिजन्ट करने है कि आप होलसेलर्स के सिस्टम को क्यों इन्ट्री-इयूस कर रहे हैं । उसको सब ने ज्यादा गुम्ना यह है कि आप मुझ से 105 रुपये प्रोक्वोर करना चाहते हैं फिर होल सेलर को 43, 44 या 45 रुपये प्राफिट किस बात का देते हैं । आप जो प्राफिट होलसेलर को देना चाहते हैं उसके बजाय अगर प्लानिंग कमीशन और एबीकल्चर मिनस्ट्रा में बैठे हुए हुए लोग थोड़ा सा माइन्ड एप्लाई करे ता वह प्राफिट किमान को भी दिया जा सकता है । हमारे टार्गेट्स जो हैं, पंजाब वालों ने जो मुकर्रर किया था वह 22 लाख टन का था । लेकिन जिस ढंग में आप काम लेना चाहते हैं उस ढंग से शायद सेन्ट्रल पूल में वह कोटा पूरा न हो सके । इसलिए आपका पर्यञ्च क्या है वह मैं नहीं समझता । आपका पर्यञ्च तो यही होगा कि कि सेन्ट्रल पूल में गन्दुम इकट्ठा किया जाये । यह बात समझ में आती है । उस में पंजाब की मार्केट, कोआपरेटिव सोसायटीज, फूड कॉर्पोरेशन अगर पिछले साल नाकामयाब रहा है तो उसको रिप्लेस कर दीजिए लेकिन आप कहते हैं कि वह कामयाब रहे है । इसके अलावा पंजाब में इन्फ्लास्ट्रक्चर है । आपकी मार्केट में बताया जाता है कि 600 के करीब रेगुलर मडिया है, 116 हमारे यहाँ रेगुलर मडिया है, प्रीस्चर मडी के नीचे 4-5 प्रोक्वोरमेन्ट सेन्टर्स हैं और हर प्रोक्वोर

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सेक्टर में हमारी कोऑपरेटिव की ग्रौर फूड कांफरिशन की डूकान है। हमारे यहाँ कच्चा आडतिया है जिस को किसी कीमत पर हमने पिछले साल एलाउ किया है कि तुम अपने पास सौ क्वीटल से ज्यादा नहीं रख सकते। जितना तुम्हारे पास गेहूँ है, आप हमारे बिहाफ पर प्रोक्योर करे और शाम को जितना इकट्ठा होता है उस को एफ० सी० आई० के गोदाम में पहुँचा दे। लेकिन जो आने वाला सिस्टम है उसने कन्फ्यूजन पैदा कर दिया है और उसका कोई हल नहीं निकला है। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ सेक्टर की सरकार, प्लानिंग कमिशन, एग््री-कल्चर मिनिस्ट्री इस बात पर दोबारा गौर करेगी। आप से हमारी सिर्फ इतनी मांग है कि आप पंजाब और हरयाणा को अगर हरयाणा वाले नहीं चाहते हैं तो उन को भी न रखिए लेकिन आप कम से कम पंजाब को इस नये खूबसूरत नये जाल से भाग कर दे। होलसेल को डालना है तो बाकी सूबा में आप डालें लेकिन पंजाब में उसी पालिसी को लागू करें जिससे वहाँ पर प्रोक्योरमेंट ज्यादा हो सकेगा।

चेयरमैन साहब, आज सारे मुल्क में महंगाई की बड़ी चर्चा है और हम से कोई इन्कार भी नहीं कर सकता है कि महंगाई बढ़ रही है। महंगाई को रोकने के लिए जितने तरीके हमने अपनाये हैं वह अभी तक पूरे कामयाब नहीं हो पाये हैं। बल्कि ऐसा नजर आता है कि हमारे तरीके फेल हो रहे हैं। मैं नज-वीड करना चाहता हूँ कि हम एक नया तरीका अपना सकते हैं। वह अभी तक डिसकस नहीं हुआ है। उम्मीद है कि मधु लिमये जी भी उस पर अपना माइन्ड एप्लाई करेंगे और घर साहब भी उस पर ध्यान देंगे। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस मुल्क में व्हीट, कोर्स ग्रेन्स और राइस की प्रोक्योरमेंट प्राइस और इश्यु

प्राइस एक कर दें। जो आप सन्सीडी और हैंडलिंग चार्ज देते हैं वह आप नेट्रल पूल में डाल दें। इनके अलावा जो भी सरकारी मुलाजिमों को, रेलवे को, पब्लिक सेक्टर के मुलाजिमों को एलाउन्स बढ़ाते हैं वह मत बढ़ाइये। अभी मेरे पास यह पूरे आकड़े वह आये हैं लेकिन वह अन्दाजा लगाया गया है, मैं एथारिटी के साथ तो नहीं कह सकता हूँ लेकिन आप माफ़े चार सौ करोड़ रूपया इस में सन्सीडी देते हैं ग्राल फूड-ग्रेन्स पर और 600 करोड़ रूपये का डी० ए० बिल बनता है, कुछ और पैसा भी आपको खर्चा करना पड़े तब भी आप फूड ग्रेनम और कोर्स क्लाय की प्राइस फ्रीज कर दें, प्रोक्योरमेंट और इश्यु प्राइस एक कर दें तो इस मुल्क में महंगाई बढ़ने का जो ट्रेंड है उसको रोका जा सकता है। हमारे यहाँ यह कहा गया है कि प्राइम इडेक्स में 21 परसेन्ट सिर्फ फूड ग्रेन्स में—व्हीट, राइस एंड अदर ग्रेन्स में दाम बढ़े हैं। तो आप मानते हैं कि महंगाई की बात है लेकिन अगर आप प्राइस को फ्रीज कर दें, प्रोक्योरमेंट और इश्यु प्राइस एक कर दें तो उससे किसान का और हमारे लोगों का होसला बढ़ेगा और इस मामले में आपको कामयाबी मिल सकती है। इस में एक नया रिस्क लेने की बात है नयी नयी कोशिश करने की बात है इस तरफ प्लानिंग कमिशन को ध्यान देने की बात है इस लिए मैं घर साहब को और धारिया साहब से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस मामले को वे दोबारा इन्जायिन करे।

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say a few words in support of the Resolution moved by my hon friend, Shri Madhu Limaye. Though there may be some scope to improve this Resolution here and there, by and large, the same has brought out three main points—the remunerative prices

for the agriculturists, availability of essential commodities and thirdly, the people should get the essential commodities cheaply. These are the three main ideas that are present in this Resolution.

Now, in the first instance, Government has no price policy. This has been proved. Since Independence, Government had no price policy because the Government had no control over production or distribution. Here, the Government which cannot control production or distribution cannot, obviously control the prices. Today, anybody can get away with any prices that he likes to charge on a customer. Take for example Delhi, or the village side or take the case of Calcutta. Kerosene, coal, cigarettes, birds or anything is available for any price. Even in Delhi, from one area to another the prices differ. Therefore what I say is that Government has no price policy. It had no price policy also and there is no price policy also now. There is an organisation known as Bureau of Pricing and Costing. I do not know what is the function of this Bureau. We are told that in regard to medicines the Bureau has published a report in which the price on costing of certain medicines has been found. But, has that report been made available to Members of Parliament? No, Sir, Has the Government acted on the basis of that report? No, Sir, Reports pile up in the offices. Therefore, all these organisations like the Bureau of Costing and Pricing are of no use. Take for example the Agricultural Prices Commission. It has spoken about wheat, rice and other things. But what about jute? Sir, you come from Bihar, I come from Bengal. There are Members who hail from Assam and Orissa. These are the four States which produce jute. This year the jute-growers have been completely massacred at the altar of the Government. Price policy and the greed of the jute mill magnate. In our parts in Calcutta, the name of the Planning Commission has become a

commission of Dhar-dhara. They have joined Dhar and Dhara and called it the Dhar-dhara commission. This is the Joke going around in certain areas in Calcutta.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI D P DHAR). He can add Sen to it

DR RANEN SEN: Let him take it as a joke. There is no malice in it. What I am saying is that at present anybody can charge any price and get away because Government have no price policy and have no control over production. The bulk of the essential commodities is produced in the industrial sector today, but certain people care two hoots for this Government or their decrees or dictate. When the cotton textile mills were asked to produce 25 per cent standard cloth, they said that they were not going to produce it. But what did the Government do? Ultimately, Government increased the price so much that now the poor will have to pay 30 plus 20 per cent more or a total of 50 per cent more.

In regard to essential commodities, it is said that there is a scarcity in the market and there is scarcity in the country. But is it really so? Is there any real scarcity in the country or in the market? If I can pay Rs. 20 I can get a kg of Dalda. So there is no absolute scarcity, but there is only relative scarcity. The same is true of many other things also. But what is the policy of Government in this regard?

For instance, the Hindustan Levers produce Dalda. Mr. Dhar should know that in the Kanpur unit they started preparing margarine which could be easily mixed with butter. The price of margarine was Rs 13 per kg and that of Dalda was 9. So, they stopped producing Dalda and switched over to the production of margarine. But what did Government do? They did nothing. Ultimately, the workers struck work in Kanpur

[Dr Ranen Sen]

and said that they must produce Dalda and not margarine. Ultimately, the UP Government was forced to compel the firm to start producing Dalda instead of margarine. The workers went to the manager's office and said after banging his table 'Would you agree to produce Dalda or not' and ultimately, the firm was forced to produce it.

Again, Government have developed a gap for exporting certain essential commodities of which the country is starving. The poor people and especially the village people are the worst sufferers in this regard. I might mention here that there is a movement only to export rice and wheat and other things, which one can understand, but even to export drugs out of the country. Even the urban people do not get the essential drugs. What to talk of the poor people in the villages. But Government have got a fad and they want to permit certain firms, mostly foreign firms to produce drugs in India and export them outside. They get only Rs 15 or 20 crores this way per year whereas the drugs could have been made available cheap to the people in India for our poor and middle class people in particular. What I would like to stress is that Government have got no price policy and no control policy. So that the big industrialists are able to go on doing whatever they like, and Governments decrees or dictate are never listened to by them with the result that Government are absolutely incapable of controlling the prices.

Therefore, this Resolution which says that essential articles of consumption should sell at $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the cost of production, including transport charges, taxes and profits is very timely.

Lastly, since you have rung bell, I am reminded of the speech made by Shri Daschowdhury in which he related the condition of the jute growers. It is known to everybody that this year the jute growers have learnt the object lesson of their life. There

is a movement in Bengal, everywhere, in which all sections of people from Congress to all other political parties have come to the conclusion that it is not worth growing jute. Already propaganda is going round among the peasants, 'Do not grow jute, rather grow paddy. At least we will be able to eat something'.

Therefore, it is high time the Planning Minister reviewed the pricing and control policy. Let him think again not only in regard to taking over certain basic industries that produce essential commodities but also the distribution of certain essential commodities and articles. Otherwise, the whole country is going to rums.

The last word I want to say is this. The railway strike is coming, it is definitely coming. One of their basic demands is cheap shops wherein grain and all other essential commodities, four or five items have to be supplied. If this is not done, the railway workers followed by other workers are going to strike and the whole country will be in a chaotic condition for which the Government of India should thank only themselves and nobody else.

16 37 hrs

MOTION RE CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE

MR CHAIRMAN The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move a Motion

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAMAIAH) Before I move the Motion, I would like to state the facts

जी शचु लिखने (बाका): मभापति महोदय मेरा पोट्ट भाफ झारंड है। झारंड पेपर पर पहने प्रस्ताव को लाये जिससे हमे मालूम हो कि किस विषय पर है।