

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY :** The demand was made to the Government of India ; they took such a long time...

**MR. SPEAKER :** Not now. You can do it at some other time. Shri R.S. Pandey. Next question.

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY :** By what date ?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** If you give notice I will find out.

**Report of Commission appointed to study working of Sugar Industry**

\*316. **SHRI R. S. PANDEY :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the progress of work of the Commission appointed by the Government to study the working of sugar industry ;

(b) whether the Commission has made any interim recommendations for the nationalisation of the sugar industry and if so, the main points thereof ; and

(c) when the Commission is likely to complete its work and submit its report ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) :** (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

*Statement*

(a) The work done by the Commission is briefly as follows :

(i) Views of the sugar producing States, representative organisations of the sugar industry, cane growers, labour etc. in respect of the various aspects of the sugar industry have been obtained and studied.

(ii) About 2000 balance sheets of 210 sugar factories (out of 218) have been received and analysed.

(iii) A Questionnaire was issued to all sugar factories seeking information in respect of their financial position, technical performance and the condition of their plant and machinery. This information from 142 out of 218 factories has been received. The same is being studied and assessment reports on the working of individual factories are being prepared.

(iv) A questionnaire dealing with the more important aspects of sugar industry was issued to all the sugar producing State Governments, concerned Central Ministries/Departments, representative organisations of sugar industry, cane growers, labour, gur and khand-sari manufacturers, distillers, paper industry, etc. and Sugarcane Research Institutes, and the replies as and when received are being studied and consolidated.

(v) The Commission has sent, for on-the-spot studies, technical teams to some sugar factories. With the start of crushing operations, this work is being intensified.

(vi) The Commission has taken evidences from the Directors of certain Sugar and Sugarcane Institutes.

(vii) The Commission has so far held 14 sittings.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Commission is as at present required to submit its report by the 29 h February, 1972.

**श्री राम सहाय पांडे :** स्टेटमेंट में कुछ भी नहीं है। इसमें लिखा हुआ है कि कमिशन एम्बॉइड हुआ। उसने प्रश्नावली तैयार की जो मिलों को भेज दी गई। 218 में से 142 ने रिपोर्ट दी, 76 ने रिपोर्ट नहीं दी। कितनी

होखियारी से उत्तर दिया गया है । मैंने पूछा था :

When is the Commission likely to complete its work and submit its report? He said: The Commission is as at present required to submit its report by 29-2-72. May I know what is the progress of the work so far? I have got my own apprehensions about it, whether the report will come before them. I am very doubtful about this whole Commission business. This is just escapism. In the statement we find the phrase 'required to submit its report'. I want to know whether the commission will complete its work by that time and submit its report.

PROF. SHER SINGH: I have already said in reply to part (c) of the question that the report is expected by the 29th February, 1972.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: I want to know whether the work will be completed by that time or not.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has given the date also. So, the hon. Member should be satisfied with the answer now.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: There is a difference, Sir, the Ministry has asked the commission to submit its report by the 29th February, 1972. I want to know whether the work will be completed by that time, and what the indication given by the commission is, and when they are going to complete the work, taking into consideration the scarcity of sugar, the question of rising prices and so on.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED): I understand the anxiety of the hon. Member for an early report. But I would like to point out that so far as the Government are concerned, we can only fix a date by which the report might be submitted by the committee, and that is the date that we have fixed and we hope that the work will be completed and the report will be available by that time.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The report of the commission is not forthcoming because there are certain powerful persons in the pivotal posts and in leading positions in the

legislature and also outside influencing the Government to scuttle the principle of nationalisation. It is because of their scuttling at every stage that the report is not forthcoming. May I know whether Government would give a categorical assurance that they will not give in to such power-mongering tactics of such industrialists in the factories?

PROF. SHER SINGH: Hon. Member should have no doubt...

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: There are people even within the agricultural forum in Parliament and they are scuttling it. That is why I am asking this question specifically.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is asking the question and giving the reasons also.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: So far as the question of pressure is concerned, I can assure the hon. Member that we shall not be pressurised from any quarter.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: May I know whether any commission was set up before nationalisation of the Imperial Bank, the LIC, the banks or general insurance? What has nationalisation of the sugar industry to do with commissions? This is the declared policy of our party and of Government. So, I would like to know the excuse or the reason for further postponing the issue of nationalisation of the sugar industry.

PROF. SHER SINGH: The commission was appointed with a view to study comprehensively all the problems relating to the sugar industry.

SHRI A.K.M. ISHAQUE: In other cases, a commission was not considered necessary. Why has a commission been found to be necessary only in this case? Is it a device to avoid the issue?

PROF. SHER SINGH: This was done because we wanted to formulate an all-India policy in regard to the nationalisation of the sugar mills and also make a comprehensive study of the working of the sugar mills in various part of the country. It was with a view to have a comprehensive view of the whole problem that we appointed the commission.