SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU: Whether the Minister is aware that sugar is being sold in open market at Rs. 425 a quintal and if so, what steps he proposes to take to stop this and fix the prices?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: I have got today's newspaper before me. It says 'Sugar bearish' and the price quoted here is decline from Rs. 400 to Rs. 420 to Rs. 390 to 400. I have got another newspaper which also confirms the same. So, there has been a tendency of decline in prices.

श्री ग्रोम प्रकाश त्यागी: यह प्रण्न बहुत हीं महत्वपूर्ण है। सरकार ने बड़ी उदारता के साथ बहुत सारी चीनी फी मार्केट में निकाली है तो क्या सरकार के ध्यान में यह चीज है कि भारतवर्ष में इस प्रकार के शूगर मेगनेट्स ग्रीर शूगर के बड़े व्यापारी हैं जो फी सेल शूगर को खरीद कर उस का थोक व्यापार करते हैं ग्रीर देश में ग्राटी-फिशियल स्केयरसिटी पैदा करते हैं? इस प्रकार के जो शूगर मेगनेट्स हैं वे तमाम चीनो को खरीद करके ग्रपने यहां रख लेते के सैं श्रीर बाजार में स्केयरसिटी पैदा कर के मनमाने ढंग से प्राइस चार्ज करते हैं। क्या सरकार उन को कंट्रोल करने के बारे में कुछ सोच रही हैं?

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह : श्रीमान् ऐसी कोई सूचना नहीं है । वास्तव में प्राइसेज गिर रही हैं । अगर इस प्रकार के कुछ शूगर मेगनेट्स हैं भी तो वे ऐसी परिस्थिति में जो भ्राज देश में हैं चीनी को खरीद कर होड नहीं करेंगे । श्री रामघारी शास्त्री: जब सरकार यह बात स्वीकार करती है कि इस देश में चीनी का भंडार बहुत श्रिष्ठिक पड़ा हुआ है और दूसरी बात वह यह भी स्वीकार करती है कि चीनी का अपने देश में कन्जम्पशन बढ़ना चाहिए तो क्या मंत्री जी से मैं यह जान सकता हूं कि चीनी का डी-कन्ट्रोल करने में उन को क्या कठिनाई है ताकि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग चीनी खरीद सकें ?

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह: दो कठिनाइयाँ हैं। पहली तो यह है कि इस देश में काफ़ी वड़ी संख्या में लोग इस बात के आदी हो चुके हैं कि उन को 2 रु 15 पैसे प्रति किलोग्राम पर लेवी शूंगर मिलती रहें अगर चीनी को को कर दिया जाएगा तो करी त्र उपये प्रति किलोग्राम वह मिलेगी यानी 85 पैसे प्रति किलोग्राम वह मिलेगी यानी 85 पैसे प्रति किलोग्राम ज्यादा देना पड़ेगा। इससे उपभोक्ताओं के एक बड़े वर्ग में असंतोष होता है। इसरे अगर कीमतें तीन रुपये के लगभग तक गिर जाने दी गयीं तो इससे बाण्डसारी उद्योग को धक्का लगेगा। इससे इस उद्योग को इसे कुटोर उद्योग कहिये या कुछ और कहिये—काफी हानि होगी और वह कामन हीं कर सकेगा। (व्यवधान)

Success of Food for Work Programme'

*266. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the success of the 'Food for Work Programme' in different States during the current year; and
- (b) whether Government consider it necessary in the light of the experience gained so far to recast the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Though the

scheme 'Food For Work' was introduced from 1st April, 1977 it contained too many restrictive clauses that made it difficult to implement. Many of these restrictions have been removed and the scheme substantially modified in the light of difficulties experienced by the State Governments. This has, however, been done only towards the end of the last month. It is, therefore, too early to assess the success of scheme.

(b) The scheme has already been recast making it more acceptable to the State Governments and easier to operate.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It is apparent from the reply given by the hon. Minister that this programme has been actually launched properly. far as my information goes, only five States have shown interest in this particular programme, namely, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. But the situation is such that there is mass hunger in the entire country. I do not see that other States which have not taken interest in the programme have not got the problem of rural unemployment and that they do not require the programme. The hon. Minister has mentioned certain restrictive clauses. May I know from the hon. Minister what are those restrictive clauses which have been modified, in what manner they have been modified and whether. in course of modification, the Governments were consulted.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: Formerly, foodgrains could be utilised for payment of part or all wages of workers relating to maintenance public works in the rural areas. Secondly, the work project could be executed during the lean period of four months only and the project could be executed only in areas where expenditure on the maintenance of public works was to be incurred. All the restrictions have been removed. grains could be utilised for payment of part or all the wages for work relating to on-going Plan and non-Plan schemes, new items of capital works, maintenance of public works

works relating to floods. The project can be executed throughout the year. It can be formulated areas experiencing acute unemployment and under-employment. Foodgrains made available under the scheme can be utilised for payment of wages in kind to labourers engaged under the contractors provided it is ensured that the contractors maintain proper accounts and do not mis-utifoodgrains to be distributed to labourers. The State Governments may at their discretion execute the work project through voluntary organisations or good standing. All these modifications have been made as a result of which the State Governments have shown considerable interest. It is not a fact that only four or five States have shown interest in this programme. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala. Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal are some of the States which have shown interest in this program-

These are the States which have come with their proposals and we have already issued instructions for the issue of wheat to Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

MR. SPEAKER: What are the changes made in consultation with the State Governments?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: In fact, we ourselves realised some of the difficulties in the implementation of the earlier scheme and made modifications which have been welcomed by the State Governments. As a result of those modifications, the scheme is now becoming very popular.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: We have got 20 million tonnes of foodgrains as food reserve. It is quite welcome. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government considers the desirability of launching a scheme guaranteeing employment for the rural population in view of all this food-

grains available in our country? Whether the Government proposes to launch a scheme for guaranteeing employment for the rural people on a massive scale on a national basis.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: That question is under the consideration of the Government; it is a wider question; it has nothing to do with this immediate scheme of foodgrains.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He says this question is not related to the question which he himself examined. I say 20 million tonnes of foodgrains are now lying with the Government in the buffer stock. I put this question in this way. Whether the Government proposes to take it (a) as a national programme guaranteeing employment for the rural people on the basis of available foodgrains.

MR. SPEAKER: He says the matter is under consideration with the Government; your suggestion is under consideration of Government.

श्री ज़ज भूषण तिवारी: उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने कितने रुपये का गेह मांगा था ग्रीर कितने रुपये का उस को दिया गया है ग्रीर क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने ग्रपनी स्कीमें केन्द्रीय सरकार को भेज दी हैं?

श्री भान प्रताप सिंह: उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने अपनी स्कींमें भेजी हैं और उन्होंने 1 लाख 66 हजार टन गेहूं की मांग की है जिस में से 22 हजार टन उनको रिलीज किया जा चुका है। इससे थोड़ा काम हो जाने के बाद सेकिंड और थर्ड इस्टालमेंट उनको दी जाएगी।

SHRI DARUR PULLAIAH: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this scheme is extended to wells digging programme.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: This can be used for major, medium and minor irrigation works. The digging of wells comes under minor irrigation. So, there is no difficulty.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HAL-DER: MR. Speaker, Sir, I want to know the total amount of foodgrains allotted to different States State-wise. I also want to know the total number of unemployed covered by the "Food for Work Scheme" in the rural areas.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: I will give State-wise allocation, etc. But I want to remove one misunderstanding. This scheme has not been taken up just to reduce our stock. The situation is not as if we have something to throw away. Secondly, this has not only to provide employment, but somehow, this scheme has been launched with a view to providing additional resources to the States for development works. This is the clarification which I wanted to give. Now I will read out the quantity requested for and the quantity already allocated: It is like this: "Andhra Pradesh-1,000 tonnes. There been no allocation so far; Assam has allocation asked for 30,000 tonnes, made 7500 tonnes; Bihar-1 lakh tonnes, allocation-10,000 tonnes; Gujarat has asked for mile which we do not have. So, there has been no allocation; Haryana-11,000 tonnes it has no allocation so far; Karnataka -4571 tonnes, allocation-1,000 tonnes; Kerala-3,000 tonnes, but there has been no allocation so far; Maharashtra -4,800, allocation-1,200 tonnes; Himachal Pradesh-2,758 tonnes, allocation -940 tonnes; Orissa -78,625 tonnes, allocation -10,000 tonnes; Rajasthan -11,894 tonnes, but there has been no allocation so far; Uttar Pradesh-1.66 lakh tonnes, allocation-22,000 tonnes and the West Bengal -78,227 tonnes, allocation-21,002 tonnes."

श्री फिरंगी प्रसाद विशारद: श्रध्यक्ष महोदय मैं श्रापके माध्यम से जानना चाहता हू कि जैसा कि जनता पार्टी ने श्रपने घोषणा-पत म भी कहा है कि देहातों में कृषि सम्बन्धी

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े विकास के लिये हर प्रोग्राम चलाया जायगा तो मैं विशेष रूप से उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में जानना चाहता ह कि जहां कृषि मंडी समि-तियां हैं उनके विकास के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने क्या इस जात के लिये केन्द्र से कोई स्रतिरिक्त गेहं भडार मांगा है या 1 लाख 66 हजार टन में ही सन्भिलित है ?

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह: मंडियों के विकास का तो प्रश्न नहीं है परन्तु फिर भी मैं यह बतलाना चाहता हं कि यह जो मडियां हैं उनके विकास के लिये उनके पास कुछ धन उपलब्ध है । सड़कों को बनाने के लिये कुछ नकद रुपये की जरूरत पड़ती है तो नकदी वाला हिस्सा कृषि मडियां दे रही हैं उत्तर प्रदेश में, और बाकी जो गल्ले का खर्चा है वह सेव किया जायगा । दोनों स्कीमों को मिलाकर 3,000 किलोमीटर पुख्ता सङ्क बनाने का उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रस्ताव है।

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN: The hon. Minister, in his reply, has mentioned about 12 States, but he has not said anything about Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. I want to know from the hon, Minister whether Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry will be included and what steps have been taken to implement the programme? What are the reasons for leaving out Tamil Nadu Pondicherry and what is the quantity they are going to supply to them?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: We have written to the Chief Ministers informing them about this scheme and inviting requests from them. We have made allocations only in respect of those States from which requests have already been certainly welreceived. We will

come any scheme from Tamil Nadu. but, so far, none has been received.

दिल्ली में तारा-घर की स्थापना

* 267. श्री स्रोम प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण श्रीर संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (क) क्या सरकार का विचार दिल्ली तथा पडौसी राज्यों के छात्रों एवं लोगों को ज्योतिष तथा खगोल विज्ञान से अवगत कराने के लिए दिल्ली में तारा-घर बनाने का है;
- (ख) यदि हां तो यह तार-घर कब तक स्थापित किये जाने का विचार है; ब्रौर
- (ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्री (डा० प्रताप चन्द्र चन्द्र): शिक्षा ∕तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में ऐसा कोई भी प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

(ख) ग्रौर (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

श्री ग्रोम प्रकाश त्यागी: जहां तक मैं मंत्री महोदय का उत्तर सुन सका हूं, उन्होंने कहा है कि ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है, क्या यह ठीक है ?

डा० प्रताप चन्द्र चन्द्र : जी हां, कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

श्री श्रोम प्रकाश त्यागी: ग्रध्यक्ष महोदय, विद्यार्थियों को ज्योतिष ग्रीर खगोल विद्या जानने के लिये इस प्रकार का तारा-घर परमावश्यक है । कलकत्ता ग्रौर बम्बई से यह सिद्ध हो गया है कि वहां पर करीबन विद्यार्थियों को ही इससे लाभ नहीं हुआ है, बिल क