

इस बात का आदेश देगी कि वह एक कमेटी या बोर्ड बनाए और उसको पैसे देकर गरीबों के मकान बनवा दे ? बाकी जो पैसे बैंक से लेने हैं या मैचिंग ग्रांट लेनी है वह बाद में सरकार माल-गुजारी की तरह वसूल कर ले ?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The hon. Member knows it very well that one cannot go beyond the plan ceilings. Well, all that is taken care of. What the hon. Member seeks to achieve in one year will take probably ten years. I am sure, the hon. Member and the House will have patience. We all want to build for the rural people. In this budget, we have given clear directions on more financing of the rural sector, and after the budget is passed here, I am sure, some extra fund would flow to the Gujarat like any other backward State of India.

श्री राम कंबार बेरवा : गुजरात ही नहीं, पूरे भारत वर्ष की यह समस्या है। गरीब लोगों विशेष कर अनुसूचित जाति के लोगों के लिए जो मकान बनाने की योजना सरकार ने बनाई है इस योजना के कारण उन लोगों में मकान बनाने की इच्छा जागृत हो गई है। उन्हें यह मालूम है कि सोसाइटी बनाने के बाद सरकार कुछ तो सब्सिडी देती है और कुछ पसा कर्ज के रूप में देती है, तो वे लोग काफी सोसाइटियां बना बैठते हैं और नए मकान की आशा में ये लोग अपने टूटे फूटे घरों को भी तोड़ देते हैं, तो क्या सरकार इनके लिए कोई ऐसा प्रबन्ध ताल्लुका या जिले के स्तर पर करेगी जिसमें इन्हें दफ्तरों और हम लोगों के घरों के चक्कर न काटने पड़ें ?

MR. SPEAKER: Please make note of the points he has raised.

ICAR

*308. **SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news which appeared in the *Times of India* dated the 5th May, 1977 under the caption "ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) bid to discredit N-Physicist's work"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India are aware of the news item published in the *Times of India* dated the 5th May, 1977.

(b) A statement containing the Government's reactions to the points raised in the new item is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Important points raised in the news-item which appeared in the Times of India on 5.5.1977 and comments thereon:

1. "In 1974, Dr. P. N. Tiwari, Senior Physicist, NRL, developed the pulsed NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance) technique for the rapid and non-destructive determination of oil in oil-seeds". He published a paper on this subject.

Comments:

(i) The International Atomic Energy Agency authorities in their letter dated 3.5.1974 stated as follows:

"In view of the nature of the problem under consideration, Dr. Tiwari's paper was referred to our technical staff for their comments and advice on the matter. Due to

the apparently inaccurate information given in the paper concerning the development of the NMR technique in relation to the oil crop breeding programme, the Agency feels that the use of project funds to meet the costs of the required 300 reprints cannot be justified".

(ii) Professor Lars Fredriksson, who was at that time Project Manager of the UNDP Project in the Nuclear Research Laboratory of the IARI, under which the research by Dr. Tiwari was carried out, stated that both he and Prof. Lars Ehrenberg "as responsible scientists under obligations as IAEA employees could not accept claims that the pulsed NMR technique had been developed under the project. This would be an unnecessary and totally unfair claim".

Since the controversy pertains to the International Atomic Energy Agency, it is proposed to refer the matter to the Department of Atomic Energy, which is the nodal department of Government in respect of IAEA.

2. "One foreign Scientist did, however, pass on to him a copy of a letter of doubtful authenticity which is "mischievously" vague when it talks counter his work. Dr. Tiwari was information" in the research paper produced by the Scientist. At no stage has the Physicist been confronted with the scientific evidence to counter his work. Dr. Tiwari was informed unofficially by Dr. Fredriksson that the letter was sent by Dr. L. Ehrenberg "at the instigation of Dr. Swaminathan".

Comments:

On being informed of this news report by the Swedish International Development Agency, Prof. Lars Fredriksson of the Agricultural College of Sweden, Upsala, has stated as follows:

"The statement that I should unofficially have informed Dr. Tiwari that a certain letter had been sent

by Dr. Ehrenberg at the instigation of Dr. Swaminathan is fully and totally false."

"Dr. Ehrenberg and myself had together informed Dr. Tiwari that in our opinion certain statements made in his paper about the NMR-work carried out under the project were misleading. I also stated that it was to be regretted that Dr. Tiwari had not consulted either me or Dr. Ehrenberg before the article was published as according to administrative rules no project produced results should be made public without the consent of the executing Agency. It was also my duty to inform the IAEA about the matter. The agency directed that in view of the circumstances project funds were not to be used for purchase of reprints. I got instructions accordingly through an official letter and naturally I gave Dr. Tiwari a copy for information. There was certainly no "foul play" made in this connection."

3. In April, 1975 a paper published in "Analytical Chemistry" contained the following:

"A pulsed NMR technique for rapid and non-destructive determination of oil in oilseeds was developed by Tiwari et al with a description of effects of various parameters on the analysis."

Dr. Tiwari brought out a book on "Fundamentals of Nuclear Science".

Comments:

The journal "Analytical Chemistry" is a reviewing and abstracting journal. The article referred to catalogued nearly 500 references with abstracts reproduced as provided by the author themselves without any comments.

With reference to Dr. Tiwari's book, the former Director of IARI (Dr. A. B. Joshi) drew attention to the following review which appeared in the Physics Bulletin Vol. 27; page

(February, 1976) published by the Institute of Physics, London:—

“This is a low level introduction to nuclear physics followed by a chapter on ‘Radiation protection’ and a chapter on ‘Applications of nuclear science in agriculture and biology’. In principle, the book looks an attractive proposition for an introductory course at technical college level; however a closer inspection brings to light a number of rather alarming statements for example ‘the size of the electron (10—8 cm) is much bigger than the nucleus (10—12 cm) the average binding energy in ^{160}O is 127.68/16—7.06. In talking about ‘applications’ of nuclear science the author appears on firmer ground; unfortunately the discussion is extremely qualitative and rather superficial.”

4. Souvenir published on the occasion of the International Symposium on “Improving Crop and Animal Productivity by Nuclear and Allied Techniques” organised by the Indian Society for Nuclear Techniques in Agriculture and Biology.

Comments

The Indian Society for Nuclear Techniques in Agriculture and Biology, which is a professional scientific Society, organised an International symposium on “Improving Crop and Animal Productivity by Nuclear and Allied Techniques” during which a souvenir was published. In an article in the recent issue of the journal of the Society, the Editor-in-chief of the journal has clarified the position as follows:—

“The Souvenir highlighted the major research findings of the project—Nuclear Research in Agriculture and the information was received for inclusion in the Souvenir from Nuclear Research Laboratory, IARI, Delhi, NDRI, Karnal and IVRI, Izatnagar. In this endeavour, emphasis was laid on the research contributes of the Laboratories as whole and no attempt

was made either to highlight or belittle any individual scientist’s contribution. The material received for inclusion in the Souvenir was edited to keep uniformity of presentation and the scientific contents were not modified by the Souvenir Committee.

The Society has no intention of belittling any scientist’s contribution and will continue to strictly adhere to this policy. Therefore, the Society has no hesitation in offering its apologies to any one who feels that his/her work has not been properly projected in any of the publications of the Society, irrespective of the fact whether such a feeling is justifiable or not.”

5. “Even Mr. C. Subramaniam, the then Agriculture Minister who spoke at the NRL function on July 20, 1974 was made to put a seal of disapproval on the work done by Dr. Tiwari without naming him.”

Comments:

At a function held to mark the taking over of the facilities under the UNDP Project on the application of Nuclear research in agriculture Shri C. Subramaniam expressed his disappointment at the Laboratory not having been able to develop high-yielding oilseed varieties inspite of having good equipment like the NMR spectrometer. He also did not find a sense of urgency in oilseeds improvement. It is not clear how this advice to agricultural scientists to intensify oilseed research could be considered as a seal of disapproval of the work done by Dr. Tiwari. Also he is not a plant breeder.

The ICAR has a system of according recognition to scientific work through awards and promotions in accordance with well-defined procedures. These are open to all scientists including Dr. Tiwari. There is absolutely no truth in the statement that any attempt was made to discredit his work. It is for other Nu-

clear Physicists and scientific academies to assess the significance and importance of his discoveries.

SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA: In the statement it is stated that some unauthorised comments were made in some scientific papers. No one was ready to take the responsibility for publication. I want to know how the unauthorised comments were published against a research worker.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: No unauthorised comments were printed in the paper.

SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA: Is there any government machinery to help develop scientific discussion throughout the country wherever it is possible and also outside and to see that no departmental head hinders publication of research work done? Then only, the research work can go on successfully and no unauthorised comments will be made in scientific papers against any real research work done.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: The suggestions given by my hon. friend are correct. Research work is always carried on under the guidance of some experts, some persons who have experience in that line; and research work is given only to those persons who are authorised to do research in that field.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the NMR instrument was damaged thrice costing lakhs of rupees due to the mishandling of the same by Dr. P. N. Tiwari, senior physicist, and whether it is also true that the Yugoslavian expert who came in April, 1976, to repair the NMR instrument submitted a report to the Director, IARI, that the instrument was mishandled by Dr. Tiwari and recommended that the instrument should be entrusted to a

more capable person. Also, is it a fact that Dr. Tiwari took eight years to get Ph.D. after M.Sc. and not a single person received Ph.D. under his guidance in his entire academic career?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: For these questions, I will require a separate notice; they do not arise out of his.

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNAN DUTT: Has the Minister considered that, after this article was published in the *Times of India* on the 5th May, in the same paper on the 12th May, a very eminent scientist, Dr. R. S. Chaugule of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research published a long letter to the editor where he had explained that the claim of Dr. P. N. Tiwari that he was being discredited was not correct and that he was trying to exaggerate his own contribution to the research....

MR. SPEAKER: I think, it has gone off the rails now.

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNA DUTT: Has the Government also considered that, by this article published on the 5th May, which has been referred to in the question, an attempt has been made to discredit not this scientist but the Director-General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and if so, what steps are Government taking to protect the reputation of this very eminent Indian scientist?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: The title of the article was "ICAR bid to discredit N-Physicist's work". It was meant only to discredit probably Dr. P. N. Tiwari and not the Director-General.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: This state of affairs in the ICAR has been going on for some time: a continuous bid is being made

by certain individuals to make some allegations in public. This seems to be one of such bids. The whole thing is centring round Dr. Tiwari about whom various other points have also been raised. I would like to know what action Government is going to take in order to protect genuine scientists who are there in the ICAR and prevent this kind of thing happening, and to have some probe into the matter. Or, we may have a discussion on this because this Dr. Tiwari had come up earlier also as one who had brought pressure through Sanjay Gandhi etc. Now we have something else happening. So, I have got my serious apprehensions in this matter and I would request that we may have a full discussion on this subject.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister cannot decide that issue.

श्री जनेवर मिश्र : भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् की डा० शाह की आत्महत्या के बाद से देश के राजनीतिक वातावरण में समय समय पर चर्चा होती रही है। क्या उनकी आत्महत्या के बाद पूरी अनुसंधान परिषद् की जांच के लिए एक आयोग का गठन किया गया था, गजेन्द्र गडकर आयोग का और उसने जो वहां के सर्वोच्च अधिकारी हैं उन के खिलाफ भी कार्रवाई करने की सिफारिश की थी? उन सिफारिशों पर अभी तक कोई कार्रवाई की गई है। क्या मंत्री महोदय साफ साफ उत्तर देंगे कि उन सिफारिशों पर क्या कार्रवाई की गई है? अगर कोई कार्यवाई नहीं की गई है तो क्यों नहीं की गई है?

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : उस रिपोर्ट के बाद सारे मामले पर कैबिनेट सब कमेटी ने विचार किया। इस में चार कैबिनेट मंत्री बैठे थे। उनके विचार कबनेट के सामने गए और फैसले लिए जा चुके हैं।

श्री जनेवर मिश्र : यह बहुत गम्भीर बात है। क्या फैसला लिया गया? कांग्रेस पार्टी की सरकार में चार मंत्री बैठ कर फैसला लेते हैं? मैं आपकी प्रोटेक्शन चाहता हूँ। क्या फैसला लिया गया यह तो मंत्री जी बता ही सकते हैं (इंटरप्राइज) कृषि अनुसंधान को बहुत नुकसान हो रहा है।

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: The decision was quite a lengthy one because decisions were taken regarding all the recommendations separately. It runs into four or five pages; if required I will read it.

श्री उग्रसेन : एक सवाल हमें भी करने दिया जाये। बहुत जरूरी है। हम पढ़ कर आए हैं। टेक्नीकल सवाल है सदन का और देश का भी भला होगा।

MR. SPEAKER: If everyone wants to get up every time it becomes difficult for me. It is not fair and it is not proper. (Interruptions). I know what it is and what it is not; you need not teach me. I, too, know something about it. You cannot get up for every question. Other Members are also getting up and I should give them also a chance.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: Is it not a fact that on the Governing Body of the ICAR Dr. Sethna and his alternate Dr. Ramanna are also sitting and participating, and Dr. M. S. Swaminathan is held in the highest esteem by these two people? Is it true or not?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: This does not arise out of this question at all.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Is it a fact that this gentleman P. N. Tiwari, from whose statement this question arises, sometimes levelled the charge that Dr. Swaminathan got

the prize after producing false statistics and false results?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: It has not come to my notice that this charge was made by Dr. Tiwari in particular, but some such charges have been made.

SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR: The Minister has said that what my friend wanted to know is not related to the question. This is not so because we have read reports that this Tiwari had mishandled a machine and caused loss to the Government and, because of that, the experts who have come from Yugoslavia have stated that this man should not be entrusted with some particular matter. I find that the reply given and the information we have gathered through reports are contradictory to each other. I would like to know which is correct.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: There may be some contradiction in the two. We are examining which of them is correct. (*Interruptions*)

श्री जगदादी प्रसाद यादव : मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् की स्थितियों पर कुछ न कुछ चार्जित्र लैविल किए जाने हैं और राजेन्द्र-गडकर आयोग को सिफारिश आने के बाद और 4 मंत्रियों की बैठक के बाद वातावरण उन्मुक्त नहीं हो सका जिस के कारण जो आशंकार्ये प्रगट की जा रही हैं वह ठीक ठीक लोगों को मालूम हों। इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी से आशा करूंगा कि पार्लियामेंट के कुछ सदस्यों को कुछ विशेषज्ञों के साथ बिठाकर इस संस्था का मूल्यांकन करेंगे जिससे सब को पता लगे कि जो हमारी परिषद् है वह सही सही अच्छा काम कर रही है और वहां पार्टिजन वे में काम नहीं होता।

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : मैं तो कहूंगा कि इस मामले में जहां तक ऐग्री-कल्चर साइंटिफिकरिसर्च का सवाल है इसमें पौलिटिक्स नहीं आनी चाहिये थी। लेकिन इस में कुछ पौलिटिक्स आयी है। इस सारे मामले को पौलिटिक्स से दूर रखना चाहिये क्योंकि हम चाहते हैं कि देश में उपज ज्यादा हो सके।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : सवाल यह है कि डा० शाह को लेकर गजेन्द्रगडकर आयोग बैठा, फिर कॅबिनेट की बैठक हुई, लेकिन आज तक इस वातावरण को साफ नहीं कर सके कि भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् में क्या कार्य चल रहा है, उस से देश को क्या लाभ हुआ है इसलिये कि देश में वातावरण साफ हो कि अपने साइंटिस्ट अच्छा कार्य कर रहे, हैं मैं चाहता हूँ कि कृषि मंत्री जी पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों के विशेषज्ञों के साथ कमेटी बनायें।

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): The suggestion made by the hon. Member will make matters worse.

MR. SPEAKER: We will go to the next Question now.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: This is a very important question. We are not getting a chance to ask any question on this. Kindly allow us to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection if we spend the rest of the Question Hour on this Question, but other Members may consider other Questions important. I have to deal with 540 Members, not two or three Members.

Next Question.