

Kgg-NB/1A/11.00

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN, in the Chair.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 521. (Interruptions)

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति जी, मैंने एक नोटिस दिया था ... (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : आपका सवाल Zero Hour का है, It can be raised in the Zero Hour. (Interruptions)

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति जी, इस पर क्लेरिफिकेशन कब करेंगे, यह बता दीजिए ... (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : आपका सवाल Zero Hour का है, वह उस वक्त लिया जाएगा।

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Let the Minister give a statement on it, Sir.
(Interruptions)

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : सभापति जी, वैसे यह बड़े दुःख की बात है कि कल ही हमने कसमें खाई हैं और शपथ ली है कि हम Question Hour को disturb नहीं करेंगे, लेकिन उसके बाद भी हंगामा हो रहा है ... (व्यवधान)

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : उस राशि के बारे में बताइए, वह राशि
(व्यवधान)

श्री तारिक अनवर : गलत है, गलत है ... (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : आप लोग बैठ जाइए ... (व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : आप इतना धैर्य मत खोइए। उस दिन जब Aircel-Maxis वाले मामले में क्लेरिफिकेशन की बात उठाई गई थी, तो उसी दिन गृह मंत्री जी यहां क्लेरिफिकेशन के लिए आए थे, लेकिन कोई दूसरा मुद्दा आ गया और वह क्लेरिफिकेशन नहीं हो पाया। मैं उनसे फिर बात कर लूंगा और निश्चित रूप से यहां क्लेरिफिकेशन दिलवाऊंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. Now, Q.No. 521, Mr. Raja.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, I had given a notice for suspension of the Question Hour. (Interruptions)

श्री तारिक अनवर : आप उसे Zero Hour में उठाइए ... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: See, it is a Zero Hour matter; you may take it up in Zero Hour.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, do I have the permission to raise it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, thank you. Now, Mr. Raja.

Q. No. 521

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the answer given by the Minister is in three parts—one is a statement, the second one is annexure-I and the third one is annexure-II. Having made this comment, I would now come to the question.

The answer given by the Minister is not adequate and is not convincing. The Government must be honest enough to admit that it is a mismanagement of our policies, particularly on food and essential commodities. Sir, I need your support because price rise affects every householder of this country, particularly the poor and the salaried classes. The answer says, "Point-to-point rate of inflation for vegetables which was in negative zone for the month of November-December, 2011 has gone up to 30.57 per cent for the month of March, 2012." How is it possible? In three months, the inflation has gone up to 30.57 per cent! Moreover, the Government takes into account only the Wholesale Price Index. It does not take into account the Consumer Price Index, the Retail Price Index. Down below, the Government says, it is the problem of demand-supply mismatch. Actually, it is mismanagement because there is no growth in demand.

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The claim of growth in demand is meaningless. The food and vegetables are not imported. Even with regard to foodgrains 75 MT are rotting in the godowns whereas the Government has given permission to the private sector to export 6 MT of foodgrains of rice and wheat. All these are mismanagement of policies by the Government. So, my question is: What steps is the Government taking to prevent hoarding and black-marketing to control speculation and forward trading which push up the prices at retail trade level? The Government is not coming forward.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, you have asked your question.

SHRI D. RAJA: With regard to rise in prices, you must admit before Parliament and the people that it is the mismanagement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, Mr. Raja, you have asked your question. Let the answer be given.

(Followed by tdb/1b)

TDB/1B/11.05

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, in the case of foodgrains, the prices, both in the retail market and in the wholesale market, are almost steady, even though the MSP price has been increased double-fold. Sir, usually, we take the City of Delhi as example. Sir, two years back, the price of rice was Rs.22 per kilogram; and, today, as on 10.5.2012, the price is around Rs.25 per kilogram. By these years, we have doubled the MSP price, but still the Central Issue Price remains constant, and our food subsidy has risen from Rs.43,000 — Rs.45,000 crores now to Rs.88,000 crores. Sir, coming to wheat, two years back, it was Rs.13 per kilogram, and now, it is Rs.16 per kilogram. There is a slight increase. But looking at the increase in the MSP price, it is quite natural.

Sir, coming to vegetables and fruits, I do admit that there has been high volatility, depending on the production in the market, its distribution and supply. For example, in the case of potato, Sir, two years back, it was Rs.10 per kilogram; it has now gone up to Rs.17 per kilogram. But, Sir, about three months back, the price of potato

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came down, and, then, we had to intervene in the market. Sir, coming to onion, it was Rs.12 per kilogram, about two years back; it is now Rs.14 per kilogram. We have also seen the year 2010, when in December, the price of onion had gone up to Rs.80 – 90 per kilogram. Then, we had to intervene in the market. Similarly, Sir, tomato, it was Rs.14 per kilogram, two years back, now it is Rs.22 per kilogram. There is a fluctuation; I do admit that.

Sir, the only mechanism is, we should have effective chains of cold storages. Some changes have to be made in the APMC Act. We have suggested that the farmers should be given the facility for marketing their products directly in the major markets. For that, the APMC Act has to be amended, to which many of the States have agreed.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the present policy of the Government does not even help the farmers. Farmers continue to suffer, but the hon. Minister is replying something else. Sir, having said that, I must ask the second supplementary. Sir, I confine my supplementary to foodgrains, rice and wheat. Sir, 75 million tonnes of rice and wheat

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are rotting in godowns; the Government has allowed the private sector to export six million tonnes. Sir, 40 per cent of our people are malnourished. This is the sad situation in the country. Why don't you universalize the Public Distribution System? Why don't you guarantee the supply of foodgrains at affordable prices to our poor people, who die out of hunger? The people are semi-starved, starved, and you don't care for the people!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI D. RAJA: Only the retail traders continue to suffer. At the same time, the Wholesale Price Index is allowing the Government to support certain big business houses and traders, who are looting the country. I am asking...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't make statements; ask questions.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, this is a very sensitive issue. That is why I am asking the hon. Minister whether the Government will universalize the Public Distribution System. Why are the steps not taken to strengthen

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and streamline the Public Distribution System so that the poor people get foodgrains, at least, to survive in this great country?

(Followed by 1c-ks)

1c/11:10/ks-sc

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I wish to answer some of the pertinent questions asked by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please answer one question. A supplementary is one question.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: In the case of damage to foodgrains, it is always alleged that the foodgrains damaged run into lakhs and lakhs of tones. When we are handling about 60-62 million tonnes of foodgrains in the country, the damage is less than one lakh tonnes. Earlier also, I had given the data in Parliament, not only in terms of percentage but even quantity-wise and I have got it quantity-wise here. Percentage-wise, it 2.5 per cent about five years back. It has come down to 0.06 per cent. We should salute our FCI workers as also many State Governments who have been handling huge quantities of foodgrains. In Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, in

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this season, the States are managing the situation is a sort of a warlike situation. In 2002-03, the quantity of foodgrains damaged was 1.35 lakh tonnes; this year, it is 0.03 lakh tonnes. I had replied to this question in the last session.

SHRI D. RAJA: It is not a question of damage, Sir. It is a question of supply of foodgrains to the poor.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please. Is this a discussion or a question-answer session? Shri Prakash Javadekar.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति महोदय, मेरा एक स्पेसेफिक सवाल है। मंहगाई बढ़ने के तीन मुख्य कारण हैं। पहला, सरकार आपूर्ति ठीक तरह से नहीं करती, गोदामों में अनाज सड़ता है और सुप्रीम कोर्ट के कहने के बाद भी आप गरीबों को नहीं दे रहे हैं, इसकी चर्चा हो गयी है। इसके अलावा अनेक चीजों के दाम खुद ही बढ़ा देते हैं, वह भी एक मुद्दा है। तीसरा कारण है, speculation. Sir, I would like to know whether the Minister is aware of the recent UN Report which has suggested very clearly -- and this was discussed even in the UN General Assembly for four hours -- that the money is now into the speculation in foodgrains and, that is why, the world over, prices

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are increasing. To check this, I would like to know whether you are going to ban all kinds of speculation, at least, in food items.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, future trading in all items including food items is something that we have to discuss in depth because this is a policy matter which we have to discuss with the State Governments also. But in my short experience, I find that some of the items which were banned, when there is high volatility, even after banning and physical trade takes place, the prices are going up. So, we have to find out what is the real reason. I do agree with the hon. Member that we have to think seriously about the role of the future trading in deciding the prices of various commodities in the country. But that is a policy matter.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: You have put a ban and you are allowing hoarding. You are not implementing the ban. That is the simple reason. Admit it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. Shri Brajesh Pathak

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य डी.राजा का सवाल मंहगाई के संबंध में है। पूरे देश को पता है और सरकार भी इस बात से

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

अच्छी तरह से वाकिफ है कि मंहगाई पूरे देश में बहुत तेजी के साथ बढ़ी है। आज गरीब आदमी का, आम आदमी का जीना मुहाल हो गया है, लेकिन माननीय मंत्री जी ने पता नहीं कहा से ये आंकड़े इकट्ठा किए। इन्होंने बताया कि चीनी और दालों के भावों के सूचकांक में कमी आयी है। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से सीधा-सीधा सवाल है, जो चीनी के दामों के बारे में इन्होंने बताया है कि उनमें गिरावट आयी है, वह किस बाजार में आयी है? क्या ये आंकड़े हिन्दुस्तानी बाजार के हैं? दूसरा, इसी का “पार्ट बी” है कि चीनी के विदेश भेजे जाने पर रोक लगी थी और इसी सरकार ने, यूपीए 2 की सरकार ने चीनी को विदेश भेजे जाने की अनुमति प्रदान की यानी निर्यात के लाइसेंस की अनुमति दी है। क्या चीनी के भाव इस कारण से बढ़े हैं, मंत्री जी स्पष्ट जवाब देने का कष्ट करें?

(1डी-जीएस पर आगे)

KLS/GS/1D-11.15

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, our sugar production, if you look at the last two years, is going up. This year it is estimated that our sugar production will be around 260 to 265 lakh tonnes. What we need for our public distribution is around 200 to 220 lakh tonnes. Sir, there is a request from all the State Governments and cooperative sector handling sugar that some quantity has to be exported. Only after

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exporting some quantity, sugar millers are able to pay the sugarcane arrears. This is a request which I am getting from all the State Governments irrespective of the political parties which run the Governments. We monitor the entire process of exports. Last year, we exported about 30 lakh tonnes. This year around 40 lakh tonne is to be exported. Sir, this is a mechanism we are working out in discussion with the State Governments only.

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर ,मेरे प्रश्न का जबाव नहीं आया। सर ,मैंने पूछा था कि दाम कहां पर घटे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Where has he got this data from? ...(Interruptions)... Where is that market? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर 28 ,रुपये किलो से बढ़कर 32 रुपये किलो चीनी हो गई है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : पाठक जी ,प्लीज़।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : आप मुझे जबाव दीजिए कि किस मार्केट का आपने अध्ययन कराया है? ...(व्यवधान).... सर, दाम घटे कहां हैं। दाम तो बढ़े हैं। ..(व्यवधान)...

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान)... पाठक जी ,प्लीज़।
... (व्यवधान)...

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I made a general answer. Even after export, we are watching the sugar prices in the country. Sir, I have got the data with me regarding sugar. ... (Interruptions)... Sir, two years back, it was Rs.33 per kg. and it is now Rs.35. It is the retail price. So, this is the situation. There is no high fluctuation in its prices. ... (Interruptions)..

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर ,मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि 33 रुपये से 35 रुपये दाम हो गए हैं। ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : अगर क्वेश्चन का जबाव गलत है ,तो आप उसका अलग से जबाव मांगिए। ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The specific question is, where have the prices been reduced? ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We cannot have a discussion on it.
... (Interruptions)...

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU: He can pass on the information to the Chair. The Chair will tell the House where this market is so that all of us can go and buy. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, the position is very simple. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : आप मुझे जबाव दीजिए कि किस मार्केट का आपने अध्ययन कराया है? ...(व्यवधान)... सर, दाम घटे कहां हैं। दाम तो बढ़े हैं। ..(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point is very simple. If the answer is incorrect, then the Members have a right to raise that point that an incorrect answer was given. Shri Motilal Vora.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: But no answer has been given. ...(Interruptions).. In which market have the prices gone down? ...(Interruptions)...Kindly inform the House whether the prices have been reduced.

श्री सभापति : सतीश जी ,जरा बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: He may be right. ...(Interruptions).. If he can pass on the information, the entire country will be benefited. ...(Interruptions)..

श्री सभापति : वे आपको ऑफिशियल डाटा दे रहे हैं। श्री मोती लाल वोरा जी।

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर ,जबाव नहीं आया है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप दूसरों को भी सवाल पूछ लेने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : मंत्री जी, किस बाजार में दाम कम हुए हैं ?...(व्यवधान)...

डाटा किसने कलेक्ट किया है, यह माननीय मंत्री जी हमें भी बता दीजिए। इनके पास अपना नेटवर्क है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। प्लीज ,प्लीज। ...(व्यवधान)...

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I can pass on the entire information to the hon. Members. ...(Interruptions).. I am giving this data which I have got from the State Governments. ...(Interruptions).. I am giving data on the basis of the information received from the State Governments. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Are you giving the name of that market also? ...(Interruptions)..

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

श्री मोती लाल वोरा : माननीय सभापति महोदय ,माननीय मंत्री जी ने मूल प्रश्न के (b) में जानकारी दी है कि आवश्यक वस्तुएं करीब 22 हैं। देश के 49 सेंटर्स से हर दिन वे इस बात की जानकारी मंगाते हैं कि वहां पर क्या कीमतें हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो एनेक्सचर दिया है ,उसमें बताया है कि कालाबाजारी और hoardings की वजह से ऐसा होता है। अगर आप आंकड़ों को देखें ,तो तमिलनाडु में वर्ष 2011 में 198 लोगों को कालाबाजारी करते हुए पकड़ा गया और गुजरात में वर्ष 2000 में 64 और 2010 में 79 लोगों को कालाबाजारी करते हुए पकड़ा गया। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने गुजरात में और तमिलनाडु में कालाबाजारी करते हुए पकड़े गये लोगों के विरुद्ध कौन सी कार्यवाही की है ?

माननीय सभापति महोदय ,देश में अनाज की कहीं कमी नहीं है ,लेकिन जो hoardings होती है ,जो कालाबाजारी होती है ,उसमें राज्य सरकारों की पूरी जिम्मेदारी होती है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने जिस प्रकार से ये छापे डलवाये हैं ,उन छापों में मालूम पड़ा है कि ऐसा गुजरात और तमिलनाडु में हुआ है ,ये आंकड़े बोल रहे हैं।

(एएससी/1ई पर जारी)

USY/ASC/1E/11.20

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

श्री मोती लाल वोरा (क्रमागत) : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर आपने इन के विरुद्ध कौन सी कार्यवाही की है, जो छापे आपने डलवाए हैं? इन दो राज्यों के अलावा और भी राज्यों का नाम लिखा है, जैसे महाराष्ट्र है, छत्तीसगढ़ है और आन्ध्र प्रदेश है, वहां पर केवल एक-एक, दो-दो है, लेकिन सर्वाधिक तमिलनाडु और गुजरात में है, इनके विरुद्ध कौन सी कार्यवाही की है?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, these are the State Governments who take action on the basis of the prevention of black-marketing and maintenance of the substance of the Essential Commodities Act, 1980. All the States are taking action. Once the case is filed, after sixty days, they report to the Government. We also follow up the reports that we get from the States. As the hon. Member suggested, we are also in touch with the State Governments. The hon. Member has asked how many people have been convicted. The action is being taken. We are in touch with the State Governments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question No. 522. (Interruptions)

Q. No. 521 (contd.)

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, I remember, Shri Pranab Mukherjee had assured this House that action will be taken.
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. Please sit down. (Interruptions)

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: The Minister should give some answer. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Question No. 522.

(Ends)

Q. NO. 522

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Sir, the hon. Minister has given the history of the FCI, which I had not asked. I had asked whether there is any policy proposal to revamp the FCI. He has not replied to that. I request the hon. Minister to reply to that first. Secondly,...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, one question at a time. (Interruptions) No; no. Question has been put. Let the Minister answer that.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, the answer to the question put by the hon. Member is that there is no proposal to revamp the FCI. The FCI is an organization with all its merits and demerits. It is a public sector undertaking. It helps the farmers to get the minimum support price. It procures a large quantity of foodgrains and the public distribution system is, by and large, managed by the FCI by procuring, storage and transporting. So, the FCI is a major organization. I do admit that there are some problems regarding the management of the FCI. But still it is the only organization which would be ever able to provide the minimum support price to the farmers. And, it is the organization that supplies foodgrains to the States continuously.

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Sir, the FCI oversees the operations and maintains bufferstocks of foodgrains and ensures food security. But, at the same time, it is a 'white elephant' because of over-centralized bureaucratic structure. Corruption is rampant from top to bottom. There is aversion to use latest technology and apathy in preserving foodgrains, etc. So, there is no other way, but to decentralize it. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that there is a proposal before the Ministry to divide the FCI into six zones for effective control and functioning of the FCI. If yes, the details may please be provided.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: The FCI is already functioning in a decentralized structure. We have got Executive Directors at the zonal level.

(Contd. by 1f — PB)

PB/1f/11.25

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (CONTD.): We have got General Managers in the State level and we have got an effective mechanism to monitor the entire operation.

Sir, one of the questions which is often raised and is now being raised is related to the administrative cost of FCI. Very often, it is alleged that the administrative cost of FCI is very high. But that is not the truth. Sir, we are giving proper wages to all our workers. We are a public sector undertaking, and not a private sector undertaking. We have got about 50,000 workers with us in the loading and unloading sector and several other sectors; and we are giving proper wages.

Sir, coming to the administrative cost, in 2002-03, the administrative cost was 2.53 per cent. Now, it has come down to 1.77 per cent. Sir, it is the result of the good work which the FCI has done. The computerization is going on, modernization is going on, and all this is done within the financial limits that we have got. Sir, our staff strength which was around 50,000-52,000 has been stayed at

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

about 30,000. But, with that strength also, we are still trying to manage things.

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY: Mr. Chairman, through you, I have two specific questions for the hon. Minister. Both these issues have been discussed, talked about and recommended from time to time, and I would like the response of the hon. Minister to these two issues.

One is that in order to extend the competence and the ability of the FCI and in order to improve the storage and reduce the wastage that takes places due to outside storage during the season, had it been taken into consideration that the FCI's modernization efforts might be extended to include public-private partnership? And, have we also considered the fact to provide financial support to farmers in order to build mini-silos in grain-growing areas and intermediate storage spots so that they are not required to undertake distress sales and can use that as a source of credit and put it out in the market at the appropriate time?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, FCI procures foodgrains mainly through the State agencies. For example, in Punjab and Haryana, which

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

produce about two-third of the foodgrains in the country, the procurement is mainly done by the State agencies. It is from the State agencies that we take out the foodgrains and then distribute it. But in Andhra, the procurement is done by the millers, and the State Government of Andhra oversees whether the millers are giving the MSP. In Punjab and Haryana, it is the *adtis*, who procure it, and even though we suggested that the MSP price to the farmers be given through bank cheques, but still it is going through *adtis* and the Punjab and Haryana Governments still want that system to go on.

Sir, coming to private participation, in addition to our 63 million capacity, which we now have, we are adding 151 lakh tonnes of PEG Scheme (Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme) and this Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme is a guarantee for 10 years. Out of that, some quantity will be given to the State warehouses and the Central warehouses, but the majority is given to private entrepreneurs where a guarantee will be given by the State Government. I am happy to announce, Sir, that out of this 151 lakh tonnes, which has been allotted, we have already constructed about 3 million and another 3

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

million will be added by the end of this year; and, by 2013, we will have all the 151 under PEG Scheme.

(Contd. by 1g/SKC)

SKC-AKG/1G/11.30

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (CONTD.): Coming to the silos, we have decided to build silos with an additional two million tonnes' storage capacity, and they have already been allotted to the States. In consultation with the State Government, we would build silos with another two million tonnes' storage capacity under the PEG Scheme.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी अपने जवाब में यह कह रहे हैं कि हम स्टोरेज की capacity बढ़ाने जा रहे हैं और हमने पीपीपी का जो प्लान किया है, उससे हमारे पास भण्डारण क्षमता 150 लाख metric tons हो जाएगी। क्या यह आपकी नॉलेज में है कि आज भी करीब 12 metric tonnes अनाज खुले में पड़ा हुआ है? जब यह “फूड फॉर ऑल” बिल पास हो जाएगा, तो हमें करीब 100 metric tones अनाज अतिरिक्त खरीदना पड़ेगा, जिसे रखने के लिए हमारे पास जगह नहीं है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताएँगे कि पिछले दो सालों में पीपीपी के अन्तर्गत आपने कितने ऑफर्स माँगे, कितने आए और उनमें कितने क्रियान्वित हुए?

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, as replied earlier, the total capacity available under covered storage is 455.70 lakh tonnes while the capacity under CAP storage is 171.66 lakh tonnes. A total of 627.36 lakh tonnes of storage capacity has been provided with a further addition of ten. Then comes the PEG Scheme, under which, as I said, this year a storage capacity of three million tonnes has been added. There are other schemes that are with the State Governments, where the Government of India provides assistance. For example, we are giving grants to the States, and we have sanctioned storage space with about 0.732 metric tons capacity, out of which 0.16 have been completed. Under the Grameen Bhandar Yojana, the Ministry of Agriculture has sanctioned 310 lakh...(Interruptions)

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय सभापति जी, मैंने दूसरा क्वेश्चन पूछा था। ... (व्यवधान) ... मेरा प्रश्न यह है ही नहीं। माननीय मंत्री जी समझ ही नहीं पा रहे हैं कि मेरा प्रश्न क्या है। माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि आपने पीपीपी के लिए अनुबन्ध की एक योजना निकाली थी। दो साल पहले माननीय शरद

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

पवार जी ने यहाँ, इसी सदन में घोषणा की थी कि हम पीपीपी से देश में खाद्यान्न को रखने की जो समस्या है, उसे दूर करेंगे। एफसीआई ने दो साल पहले पीपीपी के तहत जो टेंडर निकाला था, उसमें कितने लोग पार्टिसिपेंट्स हुए और कितने टेंडर स्वीकृत हुए?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give this specific answer. (Interruptions)

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, these are the State-wise details. I could pass them on to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu. (Interruptions)

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह तो कोई जवाब नहीं हुआ।

श्री सभापति : उन्होंने कहा कि आपको डिटेल्स भेज देंगे।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : फिर तो सबको पहले ही कमरे में बुला कर बात कर लें। ... (व्यवधान) ... फिर तो मंत्री लोग एक जवाब दे दें कि हम माननीय सदस्य को कमरे में बुला कर बता देंगे। फिर यह सदन किसलिए है? यह सदन इसलिए है कि यहाँ जो जवाब दिया जाएगा, वह पूरे देश की जनता के सामने जाएगा।

श्री सभापति : अगर जवाब अवेलेबल नहीं है और वे यह एश्योरेंस दे रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : अगर जवाब अवेलेबल नहीं है, तो आप प्रश्न स्थगित कर दीजिए। यह तो आपका अधिकार है। अगर मंत्री जवाब नहीं दे सकते, तो आप प्रश्न स्थगित कर दीजिए। प्रश्न को दोबारा लगा दीजिए, जब मंत्री जवाब दे सकें। इस सदन का यूज़ क्या है? ...(व्यवधान) ...

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, what is the use of putting questions if the Minister is not...(Interruptions)... If these are not provided to the House, what is the use of putting supplementary questions? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It cannot be anybody's case that all the information in the world relating to a supplementary is necessarily available with any one individual. So, if the individual is giving an assurance that the information will be made available, that should suffice. (Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, the question he has asked is a part of the main question, and the hon. Minister must be prepared to reply. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: One person at a time, please. (interruptions)

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Sir, the Minister must be prepared to answer the questions put to him in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Sir, the Minister is bound to reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No one can be prepared for all possible questions.

(Interruptions)

(fd. on 1h/hk)

HK-SCH/1h/11.35

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: He must give the reply....(Interruptions)...

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: The Minister should give reply in the House. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: भाई, वे जवाब दे रहे हैं, सुन लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)।

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: I can give State-wise details. ...(Interruptions).... I have got the details. ...(Interruptions).... There is no problem. ...(Interruptions)...

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have the information, please make it available to all the Members. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Details are with me. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to rotate the question. ...(Interruptions)...

Go ahead please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, I would like to ask the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no computer programme which will make it possible for any Chair to select three supplementaries in the House of 245. We try to be as fair as possible by rotating questions. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, my State Andhra Pradesh comprising three regions -- Telangana, Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra -- is ready to face within a few more days the Kharif season. The Rabi yield is already on the roads, in the market yards, and in the open grounds just before the godowns of Food Corporation of India. There was always a regular problem in our State to await the arrival of

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

rail wagons so as to deliver the lying foodgrains in order to save farmers as well as millers. We were, time and again, ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask the question. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: We were, time and again, making a request to the Union Government, in particular to the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution to provide a linkage between the foodgrains procurement as well as the rail wagons movement. What is the arrangement so far made out? I would like to know from the Minister what is the arrangement made to provide rail wagon facility to save our foodgrains in our State.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, in Andhra Pradesh the procurement and milling is done by private millers. It is the State Government which oversees whether the millers are giving the MSP to farmers. After milling takes place, FCI takes over the rice as per agreement and then delivers it to States like Kerala, Karnataka and also to other States which need rice. So, there is a regular arrangement with the Railways so that wagons can move from Andhra Pradesh. But recently there

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

are problems. I admit that there are problems because there is a large production throughout the country. The entire operation of movement of foodgrains, starting from Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, UP to Andhra and other States, has been, more or less, managed in a satisfactory manner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No.523. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, सवाल यह है कि सरकार ने इस देश के अन्दर यह ...(व्यवधान) उत्तर प्रदेश में भी ...(व्यवधान) हम यहाँ पर किसलिए आए हैं? ..(व्यवधान) हम लोग इस सदन में किसलिए बैठे हैं?(व्यवधान) यह प्रश्न रोज हो रहा है ...(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vinayji, please look at the watch. ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute please. ...(Interruptions)... I want to clarify that position. A supplementary question to a main question, apart from the person who has asked the question, is something by way of a courtesy given to individuals. The Rule in this House, as far as the Rule Book is concerned, is two supplementaries. This Chair is giving you three supplementaries. The Chair tries to rotate the supplementaries around the House, party-wise, front

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

bench-wise, back bench-wise, etc. But you have to be patient about it. ...(Interruptions)...

(Followed by 1j/GSP)

GSP-VNK-1J-11.40

श्री विनय कटियार: सभापति जी, मैं आपकी व्यवस्था का उल्लंघन नहीं कर रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. (Interruptions)

श्री विनय कटियार: आप भी उत्तर प्रदेश से संबंध रखते हैं, वहां पर पूरा गेहूं खरीदा नहीं जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... सवाल यह उठता है ...(व्यवधान)... आप इस पर बहस करा दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप इस पर डिस्कशन मांगिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विनय कटियार: हम किसानों का मामला यहां पर उठा सकते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: See, there is a discussion listed. (Interruptions)
Please. (Interruptions)

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, माननीय मंत्री जी पूरे सदन को गुमराह कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)... कहीं भी गेहूं की खरीदी नहीं हो रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... सभी जगह किसान परेशान हैं, किसान मर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vinay ji, please. (Interruptions)

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, किसान मर रहे हैं, किसान आत्म हत्या कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I get the impression that we do not want to take up other Questions.

श्री शान्ता कुमार: सभापति महोदय, इसी सवाल पर आपने हमारे Short Duration Discussion को allow किया है।...(व्यवधान).... मेरा यह निवेदन है कि जब इस महत्वपूर्ण सवाल पर डिस्कशन हो, तो अधिक समय देकर ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI SABIR ALI: I did not get a single chance. (Interruptions)

श्री सभापति: देखिए, आज इस विषय पर Short Duration Discussion लिस्टेड है। आप कागज देखिए, आज के लिए यह लिस्टेड है। 'Discussion on the problem of foodgrains shortage in the country', it is there. (Interruptions)

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, इसमें मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है ... (व्यवधान).... लेकिन माननीय मंत्री जी को इस सदन में बयान तो देना चाहिए कि वे बोरे क्यों नहीं भेज रहे हैं? ... (व्यवधान).... राज्यों में बोरे क्यों नहीं मिल रहे हैं?

Q. No. 522 (contd.)

...(व्यवधान)... इस पर रोज चर्चा हो रही है, लेकिन किसी राज्य को बोरा नहीं भेजा जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: विनय जी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विनय कटियार: आप इस पर चर्चा करवा लीजिए।...(व्यवधान)... आप हमें संरक्षण दीजिए और माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछिए कि वे कब तक बोरे भेज रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... हम तो केवल बोरे की बात कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मसला है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. (Interruptions) Let him finish. (Interruptions) Yes, please. (Interruptions) Please. Let me take up other Questions. (Interruptions) Question No. 523. (Interruptions).

(Ends)

प्रश्न संख्या : 523

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान: सर, वज़ीरे मोसूफ़ ने मेरे सवाल के जवाब में काफी तफ़्सील से अपना नोट रखा। भारत की आबादी जैसे-जैसे दिन ब दिन बढ़ रही है, मरकज़ में पाँवर की पैदावार भी उसी हिसाब से तेजी से बढ़ रही है। घेरलू इस्तेमाल के लिए हो या पाँवर प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए हो या गैस प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए हो, मरकज़ी सरकार ठीक ढंग से पाँवर सप्लाई कर रही है। ... (व्यवधान)...

جناب محمد علی خان : سر، وزیر موصوف نے میرے سوال کے جواب میں کافی

تفصیل سے اپنا نوٹ رکھا۔ بھارت کی آبادی جیسے جیسے دن بہ دن بڑھ رہی ہے، مرکز میں پاور کی پیداوار بھی اسی حساب سے تیزی سے بڑھ رہی ہے۔ گھریلو استعمال کے لئے ہو یا پاور پروجیکٹس کے لئے ہو یا گیس پروجیکٹس کے لئے ہو، مرکزی سرکار ٹھیک ڈھنگ سے پاور سپلائی کر رہی ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल क्या है?

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान: सर, मरकज़ी सरकार द्वारा पाँवर की सप्लाई होने के बावजूद भी हिन्दुस्तान की कई रियासतों में बिजली की काफी चोरी हो रही है। मैं आपके माध्यम से वज़ीरे मोसूफ़ से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि गैर-कानूनी ढंग से पाँवर के इस्तेमाल को रोकने के लिए, इस पर कंट्रोल करने के लिए क्या कोई कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

جناب محمد علی خان : سر، مرکزی سرکار دوارا پاور کی سپلائی ہونے کے

باوجود بھی ہندوستان کی کئی ریاستوں میں بجلی کی کافی چوری ہو رہی ہے۔ میں

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

آپ کے مادھیم سے وزیر موصوف سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ غیر قانونی ڈھنگ سے پاور کے استعمال کو روکنے کے لئے، اس پر کنٹرول کرنے کے لئے کیا کوئی قدم اٹھائے جا رہے ہیں؟

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, the hon. Member quoted the figures in his question on the basis of Load Generation Balance Report (LGBR) which is prepared by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The LGBR is prepared by the CEA in the beginning of the year for assessing the demand, availability and shortage of power in the country. For the year 2011-12, the LGBR was prepared by the CEA in May, 2011, projecting a peak shortage of 12.9 per cent, and, energy shortage of 10.3 per cent.

Sir, through you, I would like to inform the august House that the actual power shortage in peak and energy area is somewhat less than the projected figures. Actual peak shortage is 10.6 per cent against the figure of 12.9 per cent, and, actual energy shortage is 8.5 per cent against the figure of 10.3 per cent. Now, I come to the specific question of the hon. Member about the pilferage and the action taken by the Central Government. (Contd. by SK-1K)

SK-MCM/1K/11.45

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (contd.): Distribution, generation and transmission things are done obviously by the State Governments. From Government of India's side, we are supplementing the effective steps of the State Governments. We are giving funds to the State Governments for R-APDRP for covering pilferage. Also, under the RGGVY, the State Governments have freedom to stop pilferage in projects.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान : सर, मेरा दूसरा सवाल है, मैं वज़ीरे मौसूफ़ से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मरकज़ी सरकार रियासती सरकार से बात करके 12वें पंचसाला मन्सूबे में, यानी 2017 तक भारत में पॉवर शॉर्टेज को खत्म करने के लिए कोई रोड मैप बना रही है और क्या कोई प्लान ऑफ़ एक्शन आपने बनाया है? अगर नहीं बनाया है तो आप कब तक बनाएंगे?

جناب محمد علی خان: سر، میرا دوسرا سوال ہے، میں وزیر موصوف سے یہ جاننا

چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا مرکزی سرکار ریاستی سرکار سے بات کر کے 12ویں پنچ سالہ

منصوبے میں یعنی 2017 تک بھارت میں پاور شارٹج کو ختم کرنے کے لئے

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

کوئی روڈمیپ بنا رہی ہے اور کیا کوئی پلان آف ایکشن آپ نے بنایا ہے؟ اگر نہیں بنایا ہے تو آپ کب تک بنائیں گے؟

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, as per the Electric Power Survey done by the CEA, in 2017, we will have energy requirement of 1354.87 billion units and the peak demand of 1,99,540 megawatts. For meeting this demand, we have already formulated a massive capacity addition programme for the Twelfth Plan. We are now in the process of adding a capacity of around 85,000 megawatts in the country for meeting this requirement.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, I thank the Minister for providing these figures which are quite encouraging. But the fact of the matter is that there is a huge deficit of power, and we must realise that. You would appreciate that no nation can progress without power. We started power generation around 65 years ago, but even today, there are States where we have 30 per cent peak deficiency in the power. If you go a little bit away from Delhi, you have 8 to 10 hours power shortage. I don't know from where you got this information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: The question is: What is the definite roadmap for improving power generation? Creating new power generation capacity takes 6 to 10 years, and that is not going to resolve the issue. The issue is how quick the power generation capacity can be increased.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, I fully appreciate the concern shown by the hon. Member regarding power shortage in the country. But from our side, from Government of India's side, we are formulating the projects for meeting this demand. I have already told that around 85,000 megawatts of projects are planned for the Twelfth Plan. Out of these 85,000 megawatts, projects for more than 75,000 megawatts are undertaken. We are sure that we will be in a position to meet this demand by the end of the Twelfth Plan.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, if you look at the reply given by the hon. Minister..(Interruptions)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. एक सवाल, वह एक हो गया है।

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, I must thank the Minister for, at least, giving a very honest reply in the entire datasheet which has been

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

produced here. I would request, specially the Members from Bihar who are present in the House, if you see, a small State like Himachal Pradesh has a power requirement of 8626 million units, which is very good and we all appreciate that. Your State, which has about 10 crore people, has a requirement of 1,26,000 million units. Andhra Pradesh, similarly, has about 88,000 million units which it is consuming. Sir, the State of Bihar, in your reply, which has a population of 10.34 crore people ..(Interruptions).. Please, Sir. ..(Interruptions).. These are the glaring facts which have been reflected. Have you seen the requirement of power which has been displayed in this chart? It is 13,000 million units for the State of Bihar. What is the basis? There is a deficiency. We understand that. All contemporary States have a very high level of power consumption and demand. What is there about Bihar? What is there that the State, having one of the largest population, has requirement of only 13,000 million units? My submission to you and my question to you is: What is the basis of calculating the requirement of a State? That formula must be told to the House. (Contd. by ysr-1L)

-SK/YSR-HMS/11.50/1L

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CONTD.): What is the formula for calculating the requirement of a State? Please tell us about that. This is a very simple question. What is the formula for calculating the requirement of a State, especially where eight crore people live? क्या फॉर्मूला है, बताइए तो सही। Tell us about the formula. What is the basis of that? And why has Bihar got less?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, this calculation is based on the requirement stated by the State Government. The Central Electricity Authority is doing ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Do you want to say that the people in Bihar don't want electricity? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: No. I am coming to the answer. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Tell us about the formula. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rudyji, please. ...(Interruptions)...

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, I am coming to the answer.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: What you want to tell us is that we don't want electricity. ...(Interruptions)... That is not the question. ...(Interruptions)... What is its basis? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The learned hon. Member asked a question. ...(Interruptions)... I am coming to the answer. ...(Interruptions)... I am telling you about the guidelines of the survey. As far as the demand of the State, in this case Bihar, is concerned, the Central Electricity Authority has a detailed discussion with the power utilities. They look at the demand of the State's industries and agriculture. They also look at the State's seasonal demand. The Central Electricity Authority looks into all these things and then gives the statistics. I am giving you the facts. The power demand of Bihar is 2,031 mw. They could meet 1,738 mw only. As per the record, it has a shortage of 293 mw. This practice is uniform. It discusses it with the State Governments. The hon. Member knows

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

it better than me that 'electricity' is in the Concurrent List. States also play a major role in this.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, my question is very clear.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. Rudy. ...(Interruptions)... Please, Mr. Rudy. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, मैं आम तौर पर बीच में नहीं बोलता हूँ, लेकिन बिहार को मंत्री जी discriminate करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)..

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, देश में बिजली की चोरी के बारे में भी मंत्री जी बताएं। ..(व्यवधान)... वहां सब से अधिक 40 परसेंट बिजली की चोरी हो रही है। ..(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए।

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Sir, power position in my State of Assam is worse. During the last 25 days, people had suffered a lot. Students are also suffering. It has created uproar in every part of the State. The Minister in his reply has given a statement about the Load Generation Balance Report. The heading 'Peak' shows '-126' mw. It is manageable. But the State has failed to manage this minimum

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

requirement. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will sit with the State Government and take action to give justice to the people who are suffering from power crisis in Assam.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, as per the LGBR, Assam has projected power shortage of 10.5 per cent, but actual power shortage of Assam during peak demand is 5.53 per cent. It means that the State Government of Assam is doing somewhat better in that area to cover the shortage. Sir, in the Twelfth Plan, a lot of projects are coming for Assam. Subansiri Project is also there. These will benefit the Government of Assam. We are sure that the Government of Assam will benefit from it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Sir, you don't know as to what is going on in Assam.

(Followed by VKK/1M)

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

-YSR/VKK-NB/1M/11.55

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, for the last several days, people are crying for power. Even the Capital cities are dark. (Interruptions) It is due to the shortage of power. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Baishya, please. (Interruptions)

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: There is the worst power crisis. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Baishya, please. (Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, yesterday, I have received information that in Assam, transmission lines from certain areas have collapsed and that is the reason that there has been some trouble in that area. But, it is a fact as my colleague, the Minister of State, has said that power from Subansiri and all will be given to Assam during the course of time. However, the Subansiri work has been stopped for the last two months. I have been requesting people and the Government to start it. But, the people are agitating unnecessarily. We are prepared to solve the problem by sitting together.

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, the Minister is misleading the House. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Baishya, please. (Interruptions)

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: The point is, we are not against the power generation. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Baishya, this is not the time to make a statement. (Interruptions) It's not your turn. (Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, they are diverting the question. I am replying properly that I have received information and we have already instructed the Power Grid. I talked to the officials of the Power Grid. Lines will be corrected and power shortage, which has occurred recently, will be corrected soon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No.524. (Interruptions)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, one minute please. It is very relevant to my State. (Interruptions)

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : सभापति जी, इधर वालों को आप बिठा देते हैं, अब उधर वालों को भी बिठा दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question is over. (Interruptions)

Q. No. 523 (contd.)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: This electricity problem is due to the breakdown in the transmission lines in Jalpaiguri. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has already said that. (Interruptions)
Please. (Interruptions)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, please give me half a minute.
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't have a question. (Interruptions) Question No.524. (Interruptions)

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : सर, मेरा सवाल ... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Three supplementaries are over. (Interruptions)

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सभापति जी, इसी से संबंधित मेरा भी एक सवाल है, मंत्री जी चाहें तो बाद में लिखित जवाब भिजवा दें ... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mayaji, please. (Interruptions) Let your colleague ask the question. (Interruptions) You cannot do this. (Interruptions)

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सभापति जी, इसी से संबंधित मेरा सवाल है कि तारापुर विद्युत संयंत्र से मध्य प्रदेश को मिलने वाली बिजली (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are supposed to assist the Chair in the conduct of the House. (Interruptions) (Ends)

प्रश्न संख्या 524

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : सभापति जी, मेरा एक छोटा सा प्रश्न है। बाँयो गैस के लिए cattle dung यानी गोबर की बड़ी आवश्यकता होती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि देश में बड़ी संख्या में गो-हत्या होती है। क्या मंत्री जी ऐसी कोई योजना बना रहे हैं, जिससे देश के प्रत्येक जिले में बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में गो-संरक्षण केन्द्र खोले जाएं और उनमें बड़ी मात्रा में बिजली के संयंत्र लगाए जाएं, ताकि बिजली के साथ-साथ हमको organic fertilizers भी मिल सके? क्या आप इस प्रकार का कोई प्रयास कर रहे हैं या करेंगे?

श्री पवन कुमार बंसल : सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य ने जो पहली टिप्पणी की है, उसका इस सवाल के साथ कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है और न ही हम उस विषय में कुछ कर सकते हैं, लेकिन बाँयो गैस बनाने के लिए देश भर में इस मंत्रालय की स्कीम्स चल रही हैं और उनके तहत, विशेषकर 3 स्कीम्स के तहत अच्छा काम हो रहा है। सबसे ज्यादा जोर household type biogas plants पर है और उनके बारे में मैंने जवाब भी दिया है। अभी समय की कमी के कारण मैं विस्तार से इनके बारे में नहीं बता सकता हूँ। इसके साथ-साथ दो स्कीम्स और भी हैं, जिनके तहत लोग बिजली बनाकर बेच सकते हैं। इसके अलावा हरियाणा ने हमें एक प्रस्ताव दिया था और हमने उसे मान लिया कि वहां के लोगों ने जो 4 गोशालाएं बनाई हुई हैं, उनके लिए इस स्कीम के तहत जितनी सब्सिडी बनती है, 50 परसेंट

Q. No. 524 (contd.)

पहले और 50 परसेंट बाद में, वह प्रोजेक्ट की शुरुआत के बाद उनको मिल सकती है।

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : मान्यवर, मैं पहले प्रश्न के उत्तर से ही संतुष्ट नहीं हूँ, परंतु मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताएंगे कि गोबर और bio-gas से देश की कुल कितनी क्यूबिक मीटर ऊर्जा उत्पादन की क्षमता है तथा इसका पूरा दोहन कब तक करेंगे? साथ ही, इसमें कुल कितने मिलियन यूनिट या मेगावाॉट बिजली पैदा करेंगे?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over, I am afraid. (Interruptions)... We will now take up Short Notice Question, Mr. Jesudasu Seelam. (Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU: Sir, before going to the Short Notice Question, I seek your indulgence. The question just now answered is directed to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. I suppose Dr. Farooq Abdullah is the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister concerned is hospitalised. There is information to that effect.

SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU: Agreed. I have no problem. If you have authorised the other Minister, the House must be informed.

Q. No. 524 (contd.)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: It does not go to the House, for the kind information of the hon. Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair has been informed about the ailment of the Minister.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We have informed the Chairman and the hon. Chairman has permitted the concerned Minister to be substituted by somebody else for the present.

(Ends)

MP-TMV/1N/12.00

S. N. Q. No.7

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, this is a very important question because under the WALTA ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now all questions are important. Just put your question.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: I agree with you, Sir. This is much more important because it deals with water, land and trees. That is why I said that special emphasis has to be laid on this question.

Sir, under the WALTA, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board has collected around Rs.20 crores to construct Rainwater Harvesting Structures between May 2005 and February, 2012, and spent only Rs.88 lakhs. But the answer given is that no funds were diverted and the question of giving the details does not arise. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the facts are. When a question about the collection and spending is being asked, how is this answer given without verifying the facts? I would like to know how much is the amount collected, how much is the amount spent and for what purpose it is spent.

S. N. Q. No.7 (Contd.)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, there is no denying the fact that the question is, indeed, a very important one. But the fact is, and I wonder how it has happened so, that the question has been directed to this Ministry. The question, in fact, relates to the Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad and also the Water Supply and Sewerage Board in Hyderabad. But, nevertheless, this question was admitted and, therefore, I will endeavour to answer this question. I have collected the information from the concerned two bodies. The facts that have come to my notice are that there are charges. The Municipal Corporation charges eight rupees per square metre for the plot area before sanctioning the building plan and thereafter insist on that. That amount is utilised elsewhere for constructing Rainwater Harvesting Structures in the city, in the parks and other places. They have been doing it reasonably well. There is a specific head, a separate account, for this and the money can't be diverted. That is what I want to ensure the hon. Member. The entire money may not have been spent. But we must not really be in haste to spend the amount because, then, we will end up wasting that amount. But as

S. N. Q. No.7 (Contd.)

far as the sewerage water and sewerage body is concerned, the hon. Member is right. A good bit of amount which was collected, I find, has not been spent. But it has not been diverted. There is a clear distinction between diversion and not being spent. The Sewerage and Water Board under the WALTA is supposed to be spending that amount in constructing Rainwater Harvesting Structures within the premises of the concerned persons. They engaged contractors for that purpose and execute that work. On my enquiry, I find that that has not been done. But I have been assured and I have the latest correspondence of today itself from the Managing Director of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board giving the details thereof. I will be further writing also to the hon. Chief Minister on this point. They have given me the break-up. The hon. Member is quite close to the figure. Around Rs.20 crores is still to be spent by them. But they are telling me that they are in the process of doing that work.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you have any other supplementary?

S. N. Q. No.7 (Contd.)

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: I have another supplementary. The hon. Minister has said that it is not 100 per cent related to his Ministry. But there is a supplementary question dealing with water resources also. The estimated cost for bringing 10 tmc of water from Godavari river to Hyderabad city is around Rs.3,500 crores. Similarly, to bring 5 tmc of water from Krishna river to the city to meet the drinking water needs is around Rs.1,500 crores.

(Contd. by 10/VK)

VK/10/12.05

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (CONTD): Sir, the Hyderabad Municipal Area, including the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Area covers around 650 sq. kilometres of area. The average rainfall is around 750 millimetres, which gives 15 TMC of water. Would the hon. Minister use all that money to augment construction of rain water harvesting structures? At least, one-thirds of the area would save 5 TMC of water. Would the hon. Minister be kind enough to elaborate on the plans he has for the Hyderabad Metropolitan City?

S. N. Q. No.7 (Contd.)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, besides the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme and other programmes, the primary function of the Ministry of Water Resources is to promote the concept of rain water harvesting and ground water recharge. That is where our mandate stops. I can assure the hon. Member that as far as this Ministry is concerned we would try to extend whatever possible support to the State Government under various programmes related to the Ministry of Water Resources. But, Sir, as far as the question which the hon. Member has raised is concerned, I would again give this information to him which has been supplied to me. The Hyderabad Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board is providing 340 million gallons of water per day of piped water supply from surface water resources. This corporation also has 10 adjoining municipalities, Osmania University, Secunderabad Cantonment and 10 enroute villages along the National Highways No. 9. This includes 180 million gallons of water per day from the Krishna river source located 145 kilometres away from the city. Apart from this, there is

S. N. Q. No.7 (Contd.)

another 340 MGD piped water supply from surface water. Sir, I shall pass on the details to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Short Notice Question is over. Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

(Ends)

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget, for the year 2012-13, in respect of the Ministry of Water Resources.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Fifty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.
- (ii) (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together

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with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.
- (iii) Two Hundred and Thirty-seventh Report of the Law Commission of India on Compounding of (IPC) Offences.
- (iv) Two Hundred and Thirty-eighth Report of the Law Commission of India on Amendment of Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and Allied Provisions.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I to lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the M/s i-land Informatics Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA: Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 22 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Notification No. S.O. 940 (E), dated the 28th April, 2012, publishing the Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2012.

SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL: Sir, I lay on the Table —

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I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Coal Notification No. S.O. 2920 (E), dated the 30th December, 2011, prescribing switch over from existing Useful Heat Value (UHV) based system of grading and pricing of non-coking coals produced in the country to fully variable Gross Calorific Value (GCV) based system, under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Coal) and the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, for the year 2012-13.

SHRI VILAS RAO DESHMUKH: Sir, on behalf of Shri Ashwani Kumar, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Twenty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Consultancy Development Centre (CDC), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, I lay on the Table —

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Power, under Section 179 of the Electricity Act, 2003:—

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- (1) No. L-1/18/2010-CERC, dated the 6th March, 2012, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
- (2) No. L-1(1)/2011-CERC, dated the 6th March, 2012, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled Interchange Charges and related matters) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
- (3) No. L-1/(3)/2009-CERC, dated the 22nd March, 2012, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grant of Connectivity, Long-term Access and Medium-term Open Access in inter-State Transmission and related matters) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
- (4) No. L-1(1)/2011-CERC-Pt., dated the 30th March, 2012, publishing Corrigendum to Notification No. L-(1)/2011-CERC, dated the 5th March, 2012.

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Power) and the SJVN Limited, for the year 2012-13.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements showing action taken by Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the Session shown against each:—

- 1 Statement No. Hundred and Sixty-sixth Session, 1993
XXXVII
2. Statement No. Hundred and Seventy-eighth Session, 1996

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XXVIII

3. Statement No. XXVI Hundred and Ninety-fourth Session, 2001
4. Statement No. Hundred and Ninety-seventh Session, 2002

XXVIII

5. Statement No. XXVI Two Hundred and Second Session, 2004
6. Statement No. XXVI Two Hundred and Fifth Session, 2005
7. Statement No. XXII Two Hundred and Seventh Session, 2006
8. Statement No. XXII Two Hundred and Eighth Session, 2006
9. Statement No. XVII Two Hundred and Ninth Session, 2006
10. Statement No. XVIII Two Hundred and Tenth Session, 2007
11. Statement No. XVII Two Hundred and Eleventh Session, 2007
12. Statement No. XVII Two Hundred and Twelfth Session, 2007
13. Statement No. XV Two Hundred and Thirteenth Session, 2008
14. Statement No. XI Two Hundred and Fifteenth Session, 2009
15. Statement No. X Two Hundred and Seventeenth Session,
2009
16. Statement No. IX Two Hundred and Eighteenth Session, 2009
17. Statement No. VIII Two Hundred and Nineteenth Session, 2010
18. Statement No. VI Two Hundred and Twentieth Session, 2010
19. Statement No. V Two Hundred and Twenty-first Session,
2010
20. Statement No. IV Two Hundred and Twenty-second Session,
2011
21. Statement No. III Two Hundred and Twenty-third Session,
2011
22. Statement No. II Two Hundred and Twenty-fourth Session,
2011
23. Statement No. I Two Hundred and Twenty-fifth Session,

2012

(Ends)

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

- (I) **The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2012.**
- (II) **The National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2012.**
- (III) **The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012.**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

(I)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2011 at its sitting held on the 30th April, 2012, were taken into consideration and agreed to by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11 May, 2012:-

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ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, *for the word "Sixty-second", the word "Sixty- third" be substituted.*

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, *for the figure "2011", the figure "2012" be substituted.*

(II)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2011 at its sitting held on the 30th April, 2012, were taken into consideration and agreed to by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11 May, 2012:-

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, *for the word "Sixty-second", the word "Sixty- third" be substituted*

CLAUSE 1

2. .That at page 1, line 4, *for the figure " 2011", the figure "2012" be substituted.*

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(III)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th May, 2012.”

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay a copy of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012 on the Table.

(Ends)

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI (NCT OF DELHI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Twentieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban Development (2011-12) on ‘The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2011’ of the Ministry of Urban Development.

(Ends)

(Followed by 1P)

RG/SC/12.10/1P

**STATEMENT RE. IMPLEMENTATION OF TENTH REPORT OF
DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES ON 'AUGMENTATION OF
DEPLETED GROUND WATER LEVEL, SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT, CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT, USE OF
GROUND WATER AND PREVENTION OF WATER POLLUTION**

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, I would like to make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources on 'Augmentation of Depleted Ground Water Level, Sustainable Development, Conservation, Management, Use of Ground Water and Prevention of Water Pollution'.

(Ends)

**STATEMENT RE. IMPLEMENTATION OF SEVENTEENTH REPORT
OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON COAL AND STEEL PERTAINING TO
MINISTRY OF MINES**

खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिग्गजा जे.पटेल) : महोदय, मैं खान मंत्रालय से संबंधित विभाग संबंधित कोयला और इस्पात संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के सत्रहवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

(समाप्त)

**CLARIFICATIONS ON STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTER OF STATE
FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS ON MAXIS-AIRCEL DEAL**

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, on 8th May, 2012, Shri Rajeev Shukla, the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, made a statement before this House with regard to the Maxis-Aircel Deal and the FIPB clearance which had been granted in that connection. At that stage, we stated that there were some queries and we wanted clarifications on them. I am extremely grateful to the Government that they have agreed to come forward with those clarifications today. Sir, I may clarify that my objective in seeking these clarifications is, essentially, to

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ensure that in the grant of this FIPB clearance, there has been absolute fairness, that there has been consideration of all relevant materials and that nothing extenuate has influenced the decision-making of the Government.

Sir, the Aircel-Maxis Deal has some other controversy with which today, in this House, I am not concerned. I would just briefly mention that the controversy relates to a subject-matter which is already under investigation by the CBI, that the original promoters were arm-twisted at the behest of a Minister in the Government to transfer the shareholding to a Singapore-based company called Maxis. I am not getting into all those facts. But there are three facts of that transaction which are relevant for the FIPB clearance. The first fact was that the FDI limit in the telecom sector was 74 per cent. Therefore, it was normally expected that the maximum sale that would take place would be 74 per cent. In this case, the sale takes place of almost 100 per cent of the FDI, that is, up to 99.3 per cent. The second factor is that the amount of money at which the whole transaction takes place is in the vicinity of about Rs.5,000 crores. Ordinarily, 26 per cent, which was transferred to an Indian

shareholder, should have been in the vicinity of about Rs.1,200 crores. It is transferred for an amount of Rs.34 crores! It is a disproportionately low amount. Thirdly, as far as Maxis is concerned, they had, contemporaneously, in 2006 informed through their merchant banker, the Singapore Stock Exchange, that they intended to acquire almost 100 per cent. In the face of these three facts, a legitimate doubt appears that the Indian nominee could only be a front, and that this was really an acquisition through a front of the entire 100 per cent. In view of this doubt, if the papers are placed before this House, the FIPB clearance had to clear all these facts. And it was highly doubtful whether such a permission could have been granted because *prima facie* the facts did indicate that the transfer was not of 74 per cent, but breaching the FDI guidelines, it was a transfer of 99.3 per cent or even more. That is a matter, which can be separately dealt with, whether the FIPB clearance was rightly or wrongly granted.

(Continued by 1Q)

SSS/1Q/12.15

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY (CONTD.): But what appears to have raised some doubts is, on the eve of the FIPB clearance, -- I do not know whether the hon. Minister is fully aware of this -- some transactions have taken place between the company transferring the shares and somebody connected to the hon. Minister. I will refrain from taking any names. The nature of that transaction is borne out by the Annual Reports of various companies, that there is a company by the name of Ausbridge Holdings and Investments Private Limited these facts have been mentioned in the media. The person connected owns, as of 2006, 18,000 out of the 19,000 shares in that Company. That is 94 per cent holding. This Company also has transactions with another company which is called Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited. Now on the eve of this transfer taking place, as being applied for and is being granted, you suddenly find from the balance sheet of 2006 of Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited, that there is a payment of a certain amount of Rs. 26,00,444, a calculated amount, not a broad amount, made to Aircel Televentures Limited. On the same balance sheet there are three other payments. These three other payments are made to Chess Management Service Private

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Limited, Chess Health Care Solutions Private Limited and Halidon Marketing Private Limited. These are all Companies concerned with the same gentleman whose name I am not taking. So, in 2006, this connectivity was established. Now the balance sheets available in the Annual Reports also indicate that Ausbridge owns 66.67 per cent shares of Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited. When this payment of Rs. 26 lakh odd is paid to Aircel, there is a corresponding increase of 1,80,000 shares in the share capital of Aircel; whether shares are eventually issued or not issued is a separate issue. Now, these are documents which have come into public domain. With regard to the connection of these two Companies, and the more I get the documents, the connection becomes all the more suspicious, in 2006, what was the connection between Ausbridge and Advantage? What is the Annual return of 2006-07 of Ausbridge? Their e-mail ID is also the same as the e-mail ID of Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited, and also the Shareholding connections, payment connections, e-mail ID connections. Now here is a case, and I am just placing the case in a nutshell, and my case is a little different from what appeared in some newspapers. Whether there is a delay or

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whether there is no delay, I am not going into it. There was a highly doubtful FIPB clearance which may or may not have been granted. Did somebody concerned with the hon. Minister have any financial transactions through a corporate mask with the Companies which were involved in this transaction? If that is so, it raises serious doubts, and if that is not so, this particular doubt in my mind really ought to be cleared. Thank you.

(Ends)

DR. V. MAITREYAN (TAMIL NADU): As the hon. Leader of the Opposition mentioned about the Aircel-Maxis Deal, the Malaysian stock exchange was informed about the 99 point odd shares whereas FIPB shows it is only 74 points. There is a dubious name called Deccan Digital Network. What is the connection? Were our Government and FIPB taken for a ride under the guise of some fictitious venture so that clearance is given here?

(Contd. by NBR/1R)

-SSS/NBR-ASC/1R/12.20.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (CONTD.): Whereas, 99.9 per cent is owned by Aircel-Maxis. There, they have very clearly said that this is only a

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'dummy' company and the entire money is put by us alone. That is the version that we are getting. This is number one.

The second one is, during the period when the proposal was being cleared by the FIPB, hon. Minister of Home Affairs was the Minister in-charge of the Ministry of Finance. At that time, on March 7, 2006, the Government said that the FIPB cleared the deal and they also said that the Airce-Maxis's Mauritius subsidiary called Global Communications Services took over. But the Agenda Item No. 7 shows the names of two companies -- one from the US and the other is from the Singapore. The US company is Centry Telephone and the Singapore company is Rington. I would like to know what the connection is between these dubious names that are appearing. And, during this period, as Mr. Jaitley said, when the then Finance Minister was taking charge of clearance process, his own family relative was directly and directly involved in this whole process. How this incongruence happened we would like to be explained?

(Ends)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (KARNATAKA): Sir, the concerned Minister is the Finance Minister, not the Home Minister. What is this

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surprise? He can make his personal explanation by giving a notice. The issue is the FIPB and is connected with the Finance Minister. I am surprised...(Interruptions)...No, no. The House follows some rules ...(Interruptions)...You guide us. We want to know that in what capacity the hon. Home Minister is giving reply. In what capacity the hon. Home Minister is giving reply?... (Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, after Mr. Pranab Mukherjee took over as the Finance Minister, he ordered for an enquiry by the FIPB into the whole process...(Interruptions)...We would like to know what is the outcome of that investigation...(Interruptions)...And, the all papers of the Airce-Maxis deal should be laid on the Table of the House ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, this is my point...(Interruptions)... My Point of Order is when an issue is raised in the House, the concerned Minister has to give reply...(Interruptions)...And, if a person is personally involved...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I will reply to that. You raised a Point of Order, you cannot give the decision.

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SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: One second, Sir. If you give decision without hearing me, I cannot raise my Point of Order. Please, just have some patience.

My point is, an issue has been raised in this House. An accusation also has been made that some relative of the hon. Minister is involved in that. If the hon. Home Minister is giving a personal clarification because his Ministry or his name has been taken, I have no problem. He can give a notice to the Chairman and give his personal explanation. Otherwise, the Finance Minister is the concerned Minister. He should give reply to this question. That is the system, that is the rule and such are the precedents in this House. Thank you.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the entire FIPB files and papers have to be placed on the Table of the House...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No. That is over ...(Interruptions)...You have made your point ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, can an exception be made in ...(Interruptions)...Can he be summoned to the House? ...(Interruptions)...

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SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, why mergers and acquisitions are permitted by the Government when they are not generating anything tangible? It is generating money to somebody else ...(Interruptions)..

Sir, they are given more relaxation in the current Finance Bill! I think, the hon. Finance Minister must clarify the issue...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, you kindly extend this courtesy so that other accused can be called here...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Let me give my ruling. Your own leader raised a Point of Order. You don't want me to give ruling on that...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, there may be an exception to the rules that the accused can be called and explain his position ...(Interruptions)...How Can you make such exception? ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Don't say all that...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: It is for the hon. Finance Minister to explain the position.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your own leader has raised a Point of Order...(Interruptions)...Now, please you take your seat...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, I am saying: will you accept the same technique for other people who are accused that they come to the House and explain their position? Can you make an exception, Sir? ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, please take your seat. Now, listen, in any case, hon. LoP has mentioned about the then Finance Minister and the then Finance Minister is here. So, he can explain and it is well within the rules for his explanation, because he has already mentioned...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I have no objection to that. You are right. The hon. Leader of the Opposition has raised certain issues, made a reference to the then Finance Minister. You have allowed the then Finance Minister to make as clarification. We have no problem. But, the issues raised by the hon. Leader of the Opposition and other

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hon. Members have to be answered by the Finance Minister at a subsequent date. (Ends)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That you can raise in proper form. I have no problem.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, the decision-making process and functioning of the Ministry is a continuous process ...(Interruptions)...The decision-making process can never be done in ignorance.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I agree. I am not ruling out. Mr. Maitreyan, I have given you time. I am not ruling out what Mr. Venkaiahji said. I said that the same can be raised in proper form as per rules.

(Followed By KS "1S")

1s/12:25/ks-sch

DR. V. MAITREYAN: No. We want a clarification. We want the Finance Minister to answer this. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No. You cannot ask for that.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Why? Will he act for the present Finance Minister?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I have given my ruling. (Interruptions) I have given my ruling. (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: The present Finance Minister should place the details of Aircel-Maxis deal on the Table.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Yes. About that, I gave the ruling. (Interruptions) I have given the ruling. (Interruptions) Maitreyanji, please take your seat. On a point of order raised by Shri Venkaiah Naiduji... (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: My question needs to be answered by the present Finance Minister. I have nothing to do with Venkaiahji.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. Your question is to be replied here. (Interruptions) Take your seat. (Interruptions) No. I said it may be brought in the form of a proper notice. (Interruptions)

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. You are not allowed. (Interruptions) Why? What do you want? You are all repeating it. Your leader has raised this issue. Let him reply to it.

Mr. V. P. Singhji, your own leader, the hon. LoP, has raised this point. Let him reply to that.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, हमें इन दोनों में से एक चीज बता दें।
(Interruptions)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : आप बैठिए..(व्यवधान).. I have given the ruling.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : इतना एश्योरेंस तो दीजिए..(व्यवधान)..

श्री वी.पी.सिंह बदनौर : यह तो बता दें..(व्यवधान)..

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Sir, the word 'accused' has been used. There is no accused here. (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: (Interruptions) We are * the then Finance Minister.
(Interruptions)

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: There is no accused.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. Please. You cannot accuse. (Interruptions) For making an accusation, you have to take prior permission. (Interruptions)

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SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, we request you that somebody should assure the House that the hon. Finance Minister will also come today and explain.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I have already given the ruling. You can raise it in the proper form as per the rules. (Interruptions) That is my ruling. (Interruptions) You cannot question my ruling, Dr. Maitreyan. (Interruptions) No, the hon. LoP

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

has mentioned about the then Finance Minister who is present here. He wants to... (Interruptions) No, no. He has every right to reply. (Interruptions) He has every right to clarify. Please take your seat. (Interruptions) Maitreyanji, what do you want?

Now, Mr. Chidambaram.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the Leader of the Opposition and some other hon. Members who have raised some questions. In fact, I

am happy that my friend of 22 years is raising this question. I have great respect for the manner in which he raised the question and I sincerely hope that I would be able to respond to that and clarify all the doubts.

The investee company is Aircel; the investor company was a subsidiary of Maxis. What comes to the FIPB is only matters that are required to come to the FIPB. Allegations have been made that the proposal of M/s Global Communication Services Holdings Limited, Mauritius, a wholly-owned subsidiary of M/s Maxis Communications, to acquire 73.99 per cent equity in M/s Aircel was delayed by the then Finance Minister in order to benefit certain persons. These are the two allegations, an allegation of delay and an allegation that the delay was to benefit certain persons.

The records of the FIPB have been perused. They reveal the following.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: When did you peruse them, Sir?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, please. No question.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We want to know. (Interruptions)

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): He is the Minister. He has the right. (Interruptions) Let him complete.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: On 6th of January, 2006, the applicant, M/s Global Communication Services Holding Limited acquired 26 per cent equity in M/s Aircel Limited through the automatic route. That does not come to the FIPB.

(cd. by 1t/kgg)

Kgg/1t/12.30

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (contd.): On 30th January, 2006, the applicant applied for enhancing its equity in M/s Aircel Limited from 26 per cent to 73.99 per cent. The application dated 30th January, 2006 was processed in the normal course. The Ministries/Departments were asked to offer their comments. The proposal was included in the agenda notes circulated on 17th February, 2006; that is, 18 days later the agenda was circulated. The meeting of the FIPB was on 7th March, 2006. The administrative Ministry concerned, namely, the DOT, conveyed its support to the proposal at the meeting. The FIPB recommended the proposal for approval on 7th March, 2006, that is, the date of the meeting; and, the file was moved by the Deputy

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Secretary on 10th March, 2006. the Deputy Secretary submits the file to superior officers. The matter was placed before the then Finance Minister on 13th March, 2006 and he approved the same immediately.

Therefore, the application of 30th January, 2006 was approved when it came to the Finance Minister on 13th March, 2006. The formal letter of approval was issued on 20th March, 2006. And, all these details are contained in the formal letter of approval. From the date of application to the date of issue of approval, the Government has taken 49 days. Ordinarily, FIPB applications take between 6 weeks to, sometimes, even 6 months if there are queries and clarifications. In this case, the FIPB recommended the proposal; that recommendation was part of the minutes of several cases and it was approved by the Finance Minister when the file reached him.

Subsequently, another application dated 1st September, 2006 was received for approval for downstream investment by M/s Global Communication Services Holdings through M/s Aircel Limited, the investee company, in M/s Dishnet Wireless Limited. This is for downstream investment. The FIPB, in its meeting held on 3rd October, 2006 recommended the proposal for approval. The minutes of the

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meeting were drawn up. The file was moved by the Deputy Secretary on 6th October, 2006. The minutes of the FIPB were placed before the then Finance Minister on 12th October, 2006 and he immediately approved the same.

Here, again, from the date of application, 1st September, 2006 to the date of approval, 12th October, 2006, the Government has taken 40 days. The formal letter of approval was issued by the Ministry of Finance on 20th October, 2006. This letter of approval refers to the earlier letter of approval dated 20th March, 2006.

So, there are two applications. One application was for enhancing equity from 26 per cent to 73.99 per cent. That was approved on 20th March, 2006. The other was for making downstream investment in M/s Dishnet Wireless Limited and that is approved on 20th October, 2006. In both the cases, there was, I submit, no delay whatsoever. No delay at any stage, Sir. In fact, these two cases are those where it was processed in the normal course and approved in about 40-49 days.

Some other names had appeared in the media. M/s Aircel Limited's earlier name was M/s Srinivas Telecom Limited. The original

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foreign investors in M/s Srinivas Telecom Limited were M/s Century Telephone Enterprises Incorporated of the U.S.A. and M/s Reddington Private Limited, Singapore. M/s Global Communication Services Holdings acquired the equity held by these companies, firstly, 26 per cent under the equity route and then, after the FIPB's permission, enhanced it to 73.99 per cent in M/s Aircel Limited. So, the names that had appeared trace the entire earlier names of the company and the earlier people who held equity in M/s Srinivas Telecom Limited, which was renamed as M/s Aircel Limited. That is how these names had appeared. And, the FIPB records clearly indicate the history of these companies and the change of names and the change of investors.

I submit, Sir, there is no scope for any misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the contents of the two letters of approval dated 20th March, 2006 and 20th October, 2006.

(Contd. by tdb/1u)

TDB/1U/12.35

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD.): In both the cases, there was no delay, whatsoever, in granting the approval.

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Now, Sir, some questions have been raised about some other companies, and whether any member of my family had an interest in these companies; whether any member of my family had any connection with these companies. Sir, the fact is, the company concerned, M/s. Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited, has categorically stated that it owns no equity in any telecom company, including Aircel, the investing company, or, M/s Global Communication-Maxis, the investor company. Likewise, the member of my family has made a categorical statement that neither he nor any member of his family, which is the same as, neither I nor any member of my family, own any share in any telecom company, at any time, indirectly or directly, not to say, we owned no share at any time, indirectly or directly, in Aircel or M/s. Global Communication or Maxis. We have no connection with any telecom company or own any share in any telecom company.

Now, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has referred to some transactions which appeared on the balance-sheets of certain companies. These were the subject-matter of the first news items. Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited has issued a legal

notice to the person who first made the allegation. The legal notice is so comprehensive and so explanatory that it does not require any explanation or embellishment or clarification. The legal notice speaks for itself. But I don't wish to read the legal notice. It is quite possible that they will eventually follow it up with litigation. But let me give you the gist of it, which, I think, should satisfy the hon. Member.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): May I speak for a minute?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Yes, yes.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: You have so far answered what I have not alleged.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: No, no. Delay part; it has been alleged.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: You have so far answered what I have not alleged. What I have alleged is, on the eve of such a controversial FIPB clearance, why was M/s. Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited, a company connected to persons connected with you, entering into financial transactions with the company which was the investing company?

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SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am answering that. That is precisely what I am answering.

So, unless some facts about this Company are stated, it will be difficult to answer that. I am not reading the Notice, but I am relying upon this Notice to state facts. Advantage Strategic Consulting Private Limited is a private limited company promoted in the year 2005 by two individuals, who have no connections with me, and I have never met them. Both are professionals. The Company is controlled and managed by the said two Directors from inception until today. No other person and no other shareholder has any control over the company or any role in the management of the Company. Now, this company is in the business of providing management consultancy services, which is a legitimate business. The Company has provided consultancy services to a number of reputed clients. One of the clients was M/s. Aircel Tele-ventures Limited, Chennai. We are talking about the year 2006, Sir.

(Contd. by 1w-kl)

KLS/1W-12.40

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD): The Company provided consultancy services in 2005-06 and was paid for its services. The consultancy services were provided to do a survey on consumer goods for cross promotion of telecom services between October 2005 and March 2006. An invoice was raised on 29th March, 2006 for an amount of Rs.25,00,000/-, plus Service Tax of Rs.2,55,000/- making it a total sum of Rs.27,55,000/-, not Rs.27 crores, not Rs.275 crores - for Rs.27,55,000/- an invoice was raised. On this the *pay Air company* will deduct TDS of Rs.1,54,556/-. The balance amount paid is Rs.26,00,444/-, the number the hon. Leader of the Opposition mentioned. So, after deducting TDS, the Company which commissioned the survey paid by cheque, the bill was dated 29th March, 2006, cheque was paid on 11th April, 2006. So, Advantage Consulting got a cheque 12 days after they raised the bill for 11th of April, 2006. The cheque was deposited on 12th of April, 2006, Service Tax of Rs.2,55,000 was paid to the Government on 12th of May, 2006. The income was shown in the Income Tax Returns for the Assessment Year 2006-07 and Income Tax has been paid. This is a company providing management consultancy services raises a bill on 29th of

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March; the Bill is paid on the 11th of April. All this is there in their correspondence. Therefore, the balance-sheet shows that there is an outstanding balance-sheet of this Company Advantage Consultancy, shows there is an outstanding Rs.26,00,444 on the 31st of March. When the bill is raised on 29th of March, there is a Chartered Account here, outstanding shown on 31st March is Rs.26,00,444/- net of TDS and the amount is received in the next financial year on the 11th of April. The point is since the allegations are made, fortunately, they were not made in this House, they were made outside, and somebody repeats in this House or alludes to it in this House, we have to gather these facts. In 2006, this Company, Advantage Consulting, also renders various consultancy services to other companies. That is how you find names of other companies for which bills are pending on 31st of March and bills are paid thereafter. For amounts which the hon. Leader of the Opposition did not read, small amounts of Rs.1,55,000, Rs.2,00,000, etc., etc. These are consulting companies. Each one does services for the other. One does a survey, one does an accounting audit service, one does some services. That are transactions which are legitimate transactions. Now, there is a

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reference to another company by name Ausbridge. I do not deny it. Ausbridge is a start-up company. Young men get together and start companies; the business sometimes takes off; the business sometimes does not take off. Ausbridge is a company promoted by two individuals. The Chief promoter is one Mr. Rajesh, the other shareholder was a member of my family. Ausbridge made a passive investment in March, 2011 in Advantage Consultancy...

(Contd. by 1x-usy)

USY/1X/12.45

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD.): Five years after the transaction that you are referring to! The Ausbridge had no holding in the Advantage Consulting in the year 2006 or 2007 or 2008 or 2009 or 2010. They made a passive investment of rupees five lakhs in the Advantage Consulting in March, 2011. This passive investment, made in March 2011, has, obviously no connection, and could have no connection, with the transactions that the Leader of the Opposition is talking about, between 29th March 2006 and 11th April 2006, when the Bill was raised and the cheque was paid. Five years later! The Ausbridge does not own the Advantage Consulting. The Advantage

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Consulting is owned by two promoters and their families. They are the sole directors of the company from the date of inception. They had issued shares to some other friends, five years later. People are entitled to invest in other companies; people are entitled to take investments from the companies. And, this is 2011, not 2006! Now, the next question is who owns the Ausbridge. Of course, the Ausbridge was promoted by two young men. I suppose the young men of this country are entitled to start business and do legitimate business. As I said, the Chief Promoter is one Mr. Rajesh and the other one is a member of my family, who is his friend and his classmate. He put in only one lakh and eighty thousand rupees, not one hundred and eighty crore rupees. Only rupees one lakh and eighty thousand were put in that company. That's all that the member of my family had put in there. Then, when the other young man, who is the chief promoter of the company, after some time, said, "Now, I have got more money and I am taking over your shares." And, my son had transferred his shares to the other promoter and to his wife. The Ausbridge is, now, owned by Mr. Rajesh and his wife. What is wrong if a young man puts rupees one lakh eighty thousand in a

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company of his friend to promote a company? And, that company makes a passive investment in the Advantage Consulting, five years later. The balance-sheet will show that. The records of the Registrar of Companies will show that.

There were other allegations in the media. Fortunately, even the Leader of the Opposition recognizes that those are wild and reckless allegations and he has not said anything about them. The Advantage Consulting has issued a legal notice to the person who has made the allegations and have categorically stated, "Our clients take strong objection to your allegation that so and so controlled the company in 2005-06. Our clients wish to state categorically that neither Shri so and so nor any of his associates had any equity, directly or indirectly, in the company in the year 2005. Neither Shri so and so nor any of his associates had or has any control over the company. Further, neither Shri so and so nor any of his associates had or has any control on the management of the company. The company is controlled and managed by its two principal directors, and no one else. The above facts would make it abundantly clear that during the year 2005-06 when the company, that is, the Advantage Consulting provided

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consultancy services to M/s. Aircel Televentures Ltd., raised a bill on 29th March, got paid on 11th April. Neither Shri so and so nor any of his associates had any equity or control or role in the management of the company. The attempt to link the name of Shri so and so with the company in the year 2005-06 is patently motivated, baseless and malicious." Therefore, I respectfully submit, as an eminent lawyer, I am sure, the hon. Leader of the Opposition recognizes the facts. The facts are that 'A' company provided consultancy services for which it was paid because the bill was raised on 29th March, the payment was made on 11th April. It is shown as an outstanding in the balancesheet. The Service Tax has been paid. The Income Tax Return has been filed. Five years later, another company, promoted by two young men, made a passive investment.

(Contd. by 1y – PB)

-USY/PK/1Y/12.50

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD.): The Company which made the investment is controlled by one Mr. Rajesh and his wife. A member of my family did put in Rs.1,80,000/- to help his friend. But since he transferred the shares, the Company belongs to him. I think those are

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the only questions asked. The only other question is, there is another Indian shareholder, 26 per cent value. This 26 per cent value should have been a certain amount, but it is only a smaller amount. That is a matter. If there is any irregularity in the other investor, of whom I am not aware, having acquired 26 per cent equity for an amount lower or higher than that, surely, I am sure, the law can be set in motion and the other investor will explain how that investment was made. The other question is; allegedly, Maxis has informed the Stock Exchange in another country that they control a 100 per cent of this Company. As far as the records of FIPB are concerned, and I have the authority of the Finance Minister to make the Statement, according to the records of the FIPB, they can hold and do hold only 74 per cent. A foreign shareholder can hold and do hold up to 74 per cent, 73.99 per cent in an Indian Company; there is another shareholder with 26 per cent. Now, what this Company allegedly reported to another in another jurisdiction, whether that report is, indeed, correct, or, whether such a report exists, or, whether that is a correct report or a false report -- if the matter is taken up, surely, the Finance Minister has said, "Yes, surely, he will ask the DoT or he

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will himself or the Ministry of Finance will look into the matter to see whether such a report is correct, whether such a report is factually correct. So, those are two matters in which the law can be set in motion. As far as I am concerned, I just want to say this. I don't wish to reveal private conversations, but I still maintain that it would be much simpler if somebody took a dagger and plunged it into my heart rather than question my integrity.

(Ends)

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, let me reiterate, because there are a lot of unanswered questions and a lot of additional questions which arise on the basis of what the hon. Minister has said. Our concern is not to really hold a dagger into somebody's heart; our interest only is that the purity and fairness of governance must be maintained. That is the limited objective. That limited object is, for the facts which I will not repeat, this was a highly doubtful FIPB clearance. On the eve of this FIPB clearance, any of the parties, the investee or the investor, should not directly or indirectly be indulged in a business relationship with anybody close to the Minister's family. That is all.

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SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please yield for a minute. I have made it clear that in 2006, Advantage Consulting alone promoted by two promoters had a commercial transaction for Rs.26,00,444/- plus TDS with Aircel Ltd. In 2006, Ausbridge had no connection, and they have issued a legal notice saying 'to allege that Ausbridge had a connection with Advantage Consulting is totally wrong.'
..(Interruptions).. They made a passive investment five years later in 2011. ..(Interruptions)..

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Let me straightaway tell you why I disbelieve that explanation.. (Interruptions)..

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: They paid equity by paying partly paid-up shares, not even fully paid-up shares.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, let me now straightaway inform the Minister why I find this as an inconvincing explanation. Companies are floated, friends are shareholders, you enter the Company on a later date. Six years later when we are re-investigating the facts, you have to look at the footprints that they have left behind. The Minister's case is, Ausbridge was, admittedly, a company in which his family members had 94 per cent shares. Ausbridge's connections

with Advantage Consulting started in 2011; therefore, cannot impinge on 2006 transactions.

(Contd. by 1Z/PB)

PB/1z/12.55

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY (CONTD.): That's the case. I hold in my hand, the Return of Ausbridge, the Annual Return to the RoC, for the year 2006-07. So, it was Ausbridge which didn't know of Advantage in 2006-07. In this Return, Ausbridge gives its address, and if you look at some of the 2G charge-sheets, this has been considered in some of them, as a clinching evidence to show connection between the two Companies. What is its own email address that Ausbridge gives in 2006? It is: 'advantageconsultants@gmail.com.' This is in 2006. In 2006, what is Advantage Strategic Consultants Pvt. Ltd.'s ID? I hold their letterhead of that period. It is 'www.advantageconsultants.com.' It is the same ID. So, these are Companies which have a connection with each other in 2006. They share the same address. Now, what is the connection of these Companies? In Ausbridge, admittedly, in 2006, you had the shareholding. In 2006, there are Advantage's other transactions by

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which Advantage paid Aircel. I do not accept *prima facie* this theory of consultancy for the simple common sense logic that if I give consultancy to somebody, he should be paying me; my balance-sheet should not disclose a loan and an advance to him. Please let me just show the balance-sheet. The contemporaneous balance-sheet of 2006 of Advantage shows loans and advances under the head, 'Loans and Advances.' So, in 2006, an advance has been given or a loan has been given. To whom? It is to Aircel Televentures Ltd. In 2006, a loan and an advance has been given. This is the balance-sheet file, and today we are being told that 'we gave consultancy to Aircel; Aircel has paid us.' Well, Aircel may have paid you for the consultancy. But your balance-sheet shows quite to the opposite that this was a loan and an advance from you to Aircel. And, which are the other companies to which Advantage is giving loans and advances in 2006? All these three Companies are controlled by the same person with which you are connected — Chess Management Services Pvt. Ltd., Chess Health Care Solutions Pvt. Ltd. and Halidon Marketing Pvt. Ltd.

My case, Sir, is: did, on the eve of this FIPB clearance, which is highly doubtful, the companies, with which the gentleman -- I am not naming -- was concerned, connected? Was this investee dealing with

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those? What was the nature of this financial transaction? And, if there was such a dealing, then this further vitiates this FIPB clearance, which has been granted, and it raises serious doubts which, I am afraid, have not been cleared. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No; please. ...(Interruptions)... Maitreyanji, please. ...(Interruptions)... Let him finish. ...(Interruptions)... Let him reply to that point. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the balance-sheets of companies(Interruptions)... Wait. Wait. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Why should they have the same email IDs? In 2G, this is considered conclusion (Interruptions)... in charge-sheets for the connectivity of the two companies. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Allow him to reply.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Nobody is saying that the promoters of Ausbridge and the promoters of Advantage Consulting do not know each other. They are all in Chennai. They do business. Nobody is saying that. ...(Interruptions)... Wait a minute. ...(Interruptions)... Nobody is saying that. ...(Interruptions)... The point is: what are these transactions in 2005-06? That is the issue. ...(Interruptions)... Those are the issues.

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Now, Advantage Consulting has said in a legal notice, 'we provided consultancy services to Aircel. We raised a bill. We got it etc., etc.' They have got the documents. If you want to look into it, please look into it. Am I standing in the way? Please look into those transactions. ... (Interruptions)... Just a moment. ... (Interruptions)... Wait a minute. Wait a minute. ... (Interruptions)... Please don't get excited. ... (Interruptions)...

(Followed by 2a/SKC)

2a/1.00/skc-hms

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Let somebody independently inquire into all these transactions. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Wait a minute. Please don't get excited. (Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: There is nothing in it, nothing that is good for us.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I agree with you. If you want to look into the books of accounts of M/s Advantage Consulting, and ask them to show whether they did provide consultancy, whether they raised a bill,

whether they got this amount during that period, please do so. I have no objection. Why should I stand in the way?

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir,... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, let me complete. Mr. Maitreyan should kindly resume his place.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Dr. Maitreyan, please let him finish.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am glad that he recognizes accused persons. I am glad he does that. (Interruptions) He used the word; I didn't.

Therefore, please look into the accounts. Please ask your Registrar of Companies to look into the books of accounts of...(Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: That should be done by the Finance Minister. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please listen. (Interruptions) All right, I will modify that. Please ask the Finance Minister...(Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: That is what we want to say. Ask the Finance Minister to come here. (Interruptions) Ask him to come here. (Interruptions)

श्री एम० वेंकैया नायडु : फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर को बुलाइए। (Interruptions)

डा० वी० मैत्रेयन : फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर को बुलाइए। (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Dr. Maitreyan, please... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, would you please ask him to resume his seat? (Interruptions) Will you please ask him to resume his place? (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Dr. Maitreyan, please. (Interruptions) Let the Minister finish his reply. (Interruptions) Allow him to reply. You wanted him to reply. Let him finish. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am not addressing him. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please allow him to reply. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, we are not making any allegations at all. He has made sufficient...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Thank you. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: He has clarified himself. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Just a moment; I have not completed. (Interruptions) Let me complete. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Let the Finance Minister come and answer our queries. (Interruptions) That is the issue here. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I have already given my ruling on that. (Interruptions) My ruling is already there. (Interruptions) Let him complete. (Interruptions) Allow the Minister to complete. (Interruptions) That is not fair. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, this is not fair. (Interruptions) This is not fair. They can't do this. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No; this is not fair. (Interruptions) You are not allowing him to complete. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You have had your say. I must be allowed to... (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This is not fair. (Interruptions) All of you may take your seats. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please ask them to sit down.
(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He is replying to the question raised by your leader. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This is not correct. Please ask them to sit down. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Please sit down. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please ask them to sit down.
(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please sit down. I will allow you... (Interruptions) This is not fair. You must allow him to reply... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am asking the Leader of the Opposition to ask them to sit down. (Interruptions) This is not fair. What they are doing is not correct. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please sit down. (Interruptions) He is replying to the question raised by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, by your own leader. Why don't you allow

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that? The question was put by the Leader of the Opposition and he is replying to that. (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, you should allow me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): After this? (Interruptions) You may ask. Now, let him complete. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, each one has got his own perception. I assume that the Leader of the Opposition's questions are bonafide questions, asked with a good and serious intent, and I am answering them with a good and serious intent. So, if you wish to examine the transactions between Messrs Advantage Consulting Ltd. and Aircel and those picayune transactions for a few lakhs of rupees or a few thousand rupees, with chest management, please, I will certainly convey it to the Finance Minister to look into everything about M/s Advantage Consulting. There is no difficulty at all. In fact, as Mr. Venkaiah Naidu rightly said, I should be the happiest person if you look into those books of accounts. Please look into it. Please ask anyone to look into it. I have no problem, whatsoever. But let me repeat once again, with utmost humility and sincerity, young people in this country are entitled to start businesses. (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Not dubious businesses. (Interruptions) Not questionable business. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, please... (Interruptions) No, no. (Interruptions)

Please. (Interruptions) Why don't you allow him to speak? (Interruptions) Please be silent. (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: All right. I would assume that according to a section of the Opposition parties, young people are not entitled to start business! (Interruptions) You are not allowing me to complete. (Interruptions) Please don't get excited.

This business, where a member of my family invested a lakh and eighty thousand rupees, where the capital of a company was Rs. 2 lakhs, gives the impression... (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Which minted crores... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Of course, it does. That is technically correct. At that point of time, he controlled 94 per cent of the company, but the investment was two lakhs of rupees; one boy put in Rs. 20,000, the other put in a lakh and eighty thousand. (Interruptions) Just a moment, please. This company, five years

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later... (Interruptions) Just a moment. (Interruptions) You may repeat the question, but I cannot repeat the answer. (Interruptions)

(contd. at 2b/hk)

HK/2b/1.05

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD.): This company, five-years later, makes a passive investment. When the other Chief Promoter brings the money to the company, then he makes a passive investment. They buy shares five-years later. ...(Interruptions)... Wait a minute. ...(Interruptions)... If they have the same website address, I am not aware. ...(Interruptions)... Even if they had a same website address in 2006, or, 2007, or, 2008, or, 2009, what is the relevance of that? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: The relevance is that it is an important footprint. ...(Interruptions)... Something was happening ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): We have to conclude it. ...(Interruptions)... We have to conclude it please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, please ask this gentleman to sit down.

...(Interruptions)... Please ask this gentleman to sit down.

...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: You are obliged to answer. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am not obliged to answer.

...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: You are obliged to answer the clarifications.

...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Dr. Maitreyan, don't do this. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: He cannot say that he is not obliged.

...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The Chair will ask him to answer. ...(Interruptions)... Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Please don't shout. ...(Interruptions)...

Please don't shout. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: You are obliged to the country.
...(Interruptions)... You are obliged to the country.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Only when the Chair allows you.
...(Interruptions)... Only when the Chair allows you.
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Maitreyan, what do you want? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Only when the Chair allows you to speak.
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Whatever Mr. Maitreyan is saying is not going on record. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: *

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Only when the Chair allows you to speak, you can speak, but not without the permission of the Chair.
...(Interruptions)... Please understand, when the Chair allows you to speak, you speak. ...(Interruptions)... If the Chair calls upon me, I will answer. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): If there is a new question, I will allow. ...(Interruptions)... If it is a new question ...(Interruptions)... No repetition. ...(Interruptions)...

* Not recorded.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Even assuming that they shared a website in 2006, or, 2007, or, 2008, or, 2009, if you examine the transactions of 2005-06, you will find that Advantage Consulting has rendered services, raised bills and collected the amount of Rs. 26,00,444. All these so-called footprints have no relevance whatsoever. So, all you need is to examine the books of accounts. Please examine the books of accounts. But let me categorically state that no member of my family or I has any equity, indirectly or directly, in any telecom company including Aircel or Maxis. ...(Interruptions)... (Ends)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, allow me to ask a question. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Is it a new question? No repetition. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Yes, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the Minister said that in Ausbridge Company his family members had only a few lakhs. I would like to remind this House that there was a company called Green House Promoters ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You ask the question. ... (Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: It started with only Rs.3 lakhs. ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Not allowed. ... (Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: I will ask one thing. ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This question is not allowed. ... (Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: The present Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, had ordered an investigation into this FIPB. ... (Interruptions) ... We want to have ... (Interruptions) ... What is the investigation report? ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned for lunch for one hour.

**The House then adjourned for lunch
at eight minutes past one of the clock.**

GSP-NB-2.05-2C

**The House reassembled after lunch at eight minutes
past two of the clock,**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Short Duration Discussion. Shri Shanta Kumar to start the Short Duration Discussion on the problem of food grains shortage in the country. (Interruptions)

SHRI V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the Finance Minister should come in the House. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, this is a very important matter. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): What happened? (Interruptions) Mr. Shanta Kumar, please speak. (Interruptions)

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI V. MAITREYAN: Sir, let me say one thing. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): One at a time.

(Interruptions) One of you should speak. If all of you speak, I won't be able to understand. (Interruptions) I can allow one of you. (Interruptions)

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर यह है कि यह मामला वित्त मंत्रालय से संबंधित है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. First, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, and, then, Mr. Maitreyan will speak. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, my point is very simple. (Interruptions)

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, जिस तरह से लोक सभा में वित्त मंत्री जी ने इस पर जवाब दिया, उसी प्रकार राज्य सभा में भी वित्त मंत्री आएँ ... (व्यवधान)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Others may please be seated. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, before lunch, the hon. Home Minister. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Others may please sit down. Mr. Prasad is speaking. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, before lunch, the hon. Home Minister said that he is ready for any enquiry. You also said so, if I could understand correctly. We are demanding, with folded hands, let there be a proper enquiry. Let the Finance Minister come in this House and say that they are going to hold an enquiry. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You give a proper notice. (Interruptions) Give a proper notice. (Interruptions) Please. There are rules. (Interruptions) Yes, Mr. Maitreyan, what do you want to say? (Interruptions)

(Followed by SK-2D)

SK-MP/2D/2.10

DR. V. MAITREYAN (TAMIL NADU): In the morning, the Leader of the Opposition raised a very pertinent question.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, and that was replied to.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, जवाब वित्त मंत्री जी के द्वारा आना चाहिए था ।
...(व्यवधान)..

DR. V. MAITREYAN: No, he sought clarification that the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Rajeev Shukla, said that the Government would respond. He doesn't want the response from an *. (Interruptions)..

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* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no, you won't say that. ..(Interruptions)..

DR. V. MAITREYAN: The Finance Minister should clarify ..(Interruptions)..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): There is no *. ..(Interruptions).. You cannot say that. ..(Interruptions).. That word is deleted. ..(Interruptions).. No Minister is *, that's why. ..(Interruptions).. No, no, that is deleted. ..(Interruptions)..

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We are * him. ..(Interruptions)..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Mr. Raja, please. ..(Interruptions).. I have called Mr. Raja. ..(Interruptions).. मैंने डी. राजा को बोलने के लिए टाइम दिया है। ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI D. RAJA (TAMIL NADU): Sir, we have no access to the papers referred to by the hon. LoP as well as the hon. Home Minister. We

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have no access to those papers. To the fairness, I urge upon you to direct the Government to place all the relevant papers with regard to

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* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

the Aircel and Maxis. This is number one demand. Secondly, the issues which were raised in the morning are very important and sensitive and they require the present Finance Minister's reply. So, the Finance Minister should come in the House and reply.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, you have made your demand.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (KERALA): Sir, the clarification was sought on the basis of the statement made by the Government, represented by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. The clarification was sought not on the basis of the statement made by Mr. Chidambaram. The clarification is required from the Government's side. Therefore, the Finance Minister should come to the House and give a clarification.

SHRI N.K. SINGH (BIHAR): Sir, we view the explanation given by the hon. Home Minister to the points made by the hon. Leader of the

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Opposition as a personal explanation to clear the air in respect of certain matters which relate to him personally. However, Sir, he himself conceded that in regard to matters which relate to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board, the process of approval, the matters and the due diligence which went into it, are matters which are entirely in the domain of the Ministry of Finance and he has no direct access to those records. We, therefore, must satisfy ourselves that after the Finance Minister has perused that, it is only he who is in a position to respond to all the three things.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, okay.

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Sir, just allow me for two minutes. First, a matter relating to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board, the records, the due diligence; second, the communication what was sent to the Singapore Stock Exchange which is also a matter that deals with the capital markets division of the Ministry of Finance; and third, in respect of the entire web of cross holding of these companies about which the LoP had given details. All these three things are matters completely only in the domain of the Finance Minister who is the only legitimate

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person to respond to the matters which relate to this. Personal explanation must not be confused with the fact that ..(Interruptions)..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, you have made the point. Hon. Members, the question is this. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Shukla ji, made a statement here. With regard to that statement, hon. LoP himself sought clarification. Not only the hon. LoP, but Dr. Maitreyan also sought clarification. Any Member who wanted to have clarification would have been allowed at that time. With regard to that statement, clarification has been sought and reply has been made. ..(Interruptions).. Let me finish. There are two reasons. Number one, the allegation was against the then Finance Minister. So, it is correct that the then Finance Minister who is also a Minister in the Cabinet, who even otherwise is competent to reply because of the collective responsibility of the Cabinet. So, with regard to the clarification on the basis of the statement of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, that is over.

(Contd. by 2E-ysr)

-SK/YSR-SC/2.15/2E

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) (CONTD.): I am not ruling out the issue raised by Dr. Maitreyan, Shri Raja, Mr. Singh and Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad. In the Rules, there are provisions under which you can raise it. You give a proper notice and the Chair will certainly take a decision on that. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: No, Sir. We want the Finance Minister to come here immediately. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is my ruling. ...(Interruptions).... I have given the ruling. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we respect your ruling, but you respect our sentiments. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You raised the point and I gave a ruling on that. ...(Interruptions).... I allowed you to raise the point. ...(Interruptions).... I have given the ruling. ...(Interruptions).... I allowed you to raise the issue. ...(Interruptions).... You raised it. Then I gave the ruling. ...(Interruptions)....

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we respect your ruling, but you respect our sentiments. ...(Interruptions)....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is why I asked you to give a proper notice. ...(Interruptions)....

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Pending enquiry, the Home Minister should resign. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, आपकी अनुमति से नेता प्रतिपक्ष ने कुछ मुद्दे उठाए। उनके ऊपर ..(व्यवधान)..

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला : सर, अगर साझा जिम्मेदारी की बात करते हैं तो अकेले राजा साहब जेल में क्यों हैं? ..(व्यवधान).. यदि आप साझा जिम्मेदारी की बात करते हैं तो एक मिनिस्टर ..(व्यवधान).. वे अकेले जिम्मेदार क्यों हैं? ..(व्यवधान)..क्या तब साझा जिम्मेदारी नहीं थी? ..(व्यवधान)..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० पी.जे.कुरियन) : रूपाला जी, बैठिए। ..(व्यवधान).. रूपाला जी, आप बैठिए। मैत्रेयन जी, आप भी बैठिए। ..(व्यवधान)..

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, the Finance Minister has replied in the Lok Sabha.

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला : सर, साझा जिम्मेदारी के बारे में भी बोलिए। ..(व्यवधान)..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let me say what I have to say. Some hon. Members wanted to raise certain questions on the very fact which we discussed at 12.00 noon. I allowed them to raise it.

Three-four Members wanted to ask questions. I allowed them. Then I gave my ruling. You raised the issue. I gave the ruling. After a ruling is given, what can the Chair do? The Chair can go according to the rule only. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : आपकी अनुमति से नेता प्रतिपक्ष ने जो मुद्दे उठाए ..(व्यवधान)..

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला : साझा जिम्मेदारी में एक-दो मंत्रियों को तो अंदर भेजना ही पड़ेगा। ..(व्यवधान)..

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, direct the Finance Minister to come here. You can do that. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I told you that for this another notice is required. ...(Interruptions)... You cannot raise it on the basis of these clarifications. ...(Interruptions)... Clarifications over the statement of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister are over. ...(Interruptions)... If you want to raise it, you give another notice. ...(Interruptions)... Why don't you give another notice? ...(Interruptions)... You give another notice. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: This is our notice.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This is not a notice; this is shouting. ...(Interruptions)... It is not a notice. ...(Interruptions)... The Parliamentary Affairs Minister wants to say something.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, I made a statement on behalf of the Government. There was a demand for clarifications from the Government. The Minister from the Government made clarifications. If hon. Members are still not satisfied, I will find out the convenience of the Finance Minister and come back to the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That's fine if you are satisfied. It's good. Thank you. Now we shall take up Short Duration Discussion on the problem of foodgrains storage in the country. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we don't accept it. ...(Interruptions)...The Finance Minister should come now. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, उन्हें आज ही बुलाया जाए। ..(व्यवधान).. आपकी अनुमति से नेता प्रतिपक्ष ने जो मुद्दे उठाए, वे सदन की सम्पत्ति हो गए और उनका उत्तर वित्त मंत्रालय से आना चाहिए। ..(व्यवधान)..

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned for 15 minutes.

The House then adjourned at twenty minutes past two of the clock.

VKK-GS/2f/2.35

**The House re-assembled at thirty-five minutes past two of the clock,
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.**

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the person involved in Maxis...(Interruptions)... He is supposed to be involved. (Interruptions) He is going scot-free. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Rajeev Shukla has already explained. (Interruptions)

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर इसका जबाव दें। ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We want Finance Minister to come. (Interruptions)

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी सदन में आकर जबाव दें।... (व्यवधान)... सर, वित्त मंत्री जी को हाउस में बुलवाइए। ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: They are making charges which they cannot substantiate. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You forgot what Shri Rajeev Shukla said. (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we want the Finance Minister to come here. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Hon. Members, you raised a point and the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister, as per your demand, informed the House that he will take convenience of the Finance Minister and the Finance Minister will come and explain. (Interruptions)

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, it is not a question of convenience. (Interruptions) वित्त मंत्री जी ने जबाव नहीं दिया है। ... (व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned up to 3.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned at thirty-eight minutes

past two of the clock.

-VKK-TMV-ASC/2G/3.00

**The House reassembled at three of the clock,
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) in the Chair.**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Would you like to say something, Mr. Minister?

**STATEMENT RE. ALLEGED DELAY IN APPROVING PROPOSAL OF
M/S. GLOBAL COMMUNICATION SERVICES HOLDINGS LIMITED
TO ACQUIRE EQUITY IN M/S. AIRCEL LIMITED.**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I made a statement on the floor of the Lok Sabha

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in regard to certain allegations about the delay in giving approval to M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Limited, Mauritius. Earlier my colleague, Shri Rajeev Shukla, gave some explanations on this issue. Thereafter, I wanted to make a statement on the floor of the Lok Sabha on 11th of May. But certain other issues came up, which attracted the attention of the hon. Members. Therefore, I could not make that statement. Today, I made a statement in the Lok Sabha and I am making the same statement in the Rajya Sabha as Parliamentary propriety demands that the Minister's statement should be made in both the Houses. Keeping that tradition in view I am making this statement.

Allegations have been made that the proposal of M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Ltd., Mauritius (a wholly owned subsidiary of M/s. Maxis Communications Berhad) to acquire 73.99 per cent equity in M/s. Aircel Ltd. was delayed by the then Finance Minister in order to benefit certain persons.

The records of the FIPB have been perused. They reveal the following:

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On 6.1.2006, the applicant, M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Ltd. acquired 26 per cent equity in M/s. Aircel Ltd. through the automatic route.

On 30.1.2006, the applicant applied for enhancing its equity in M/s. Aircel Ltd. from 26 per cent to 73.99 per cent.

The application was processed in the normal course and the Ministries and Departments concerned took the normal time of 4 to 6 weeks to offer their comments. The proposal was included in the agenda notes circulated on 17.2.2006.

On 7.3.2006, the matter was placed before the meeting of the FIPB. The DoT conveyed its support to the proposal at the meeting. The FIPB recommended the proposal for approval on 7.3.2006 and the file was moved by the Deputy Secretary on 10.3.2006.

The minutes of the FIPB meeting were placed before the then Finance Minister on 13.3.2006 and he approved the same.

The formal letter of approval was issued by the Ministry of Finance on 20.3.2006.

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Subsequently, another application dated 1.9.2006 was received for approval for downstream investment by M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Ltd. through M/s. Aircel Ltd. in Dishnet Wireless Ltd.

The FIPB in its meeting held on 3.10.2006 recommended the proposal for approval. The minutes of the meeting were drawn up and the file was moved by the Deputy Secretary on 6.10.2006.

The minutes of the **FIPB** meeting were placed before the then Finance Minister on 12.10.2006 and he approved the same.

The formal letter of approval was issued by the Ministry of Finance on 20.10.2006. This letter of approval referred to the earlier approval dated 20.3.2006.

M/s. Aircel Limited's earlier name was M/s. Srinivas Telecom Ltd. The original foreign investors in M/s. Srinivas Telecom Ltd. were M/s. Century Telephone Enterprises Inc., USA and M/s. Redington Pvt. Ltd., Singapore. M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Ltd. was the new foreign investor in M/s. Aircel Limited.

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There is no scope for any misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the contents of the two letters of approval dated 20.3.2006 and 20.10.2006. In both cases, there was no delay in granting the approval. Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. (Ends)

(Followed by 2H/VK)

VK-LP/2H/3.05

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): If any clarification is needed, we can fix a time for that.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): I have no difficulty in fixing a time. Whatever time is convenient to the hon. Finance Minister, may be fixed. This statement was read to us even in the morning by the hon. Home Minister. The queries are completely beyond the scope of the statement. Therefore, either we can make them today or the Finance Minister can go through the proceedings of today morning and whatever time is convenient to him, we can then put our queries. (Ends)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I will go through the proceedings of the House and thereafter we will fix up a day mutually convenient to us.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, that is over. (Interruptions). That is over.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, are we fixing it for 12 noon, on a day after tomorrow?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That has already been said. It will be discussed with the LoP.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We want some assurance from the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The Finance Minister has said that it would be discussed with the LoP and then a decision would be taken.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We are also part of it. We should also be there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That means all are included. You are also included in that. Both the sides are included, this side and that side. Why do you doubt it? You are very much included. Who is excluding you? Don't think that anybody is excluding you. Now, Short Duration Discussion. Shri Shanta Kumar.

(Ends)

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION ON PROBLEM OF FOOD GRAINS STORAGE IN THE COUNTRY

श्री शान्ता कुमार (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी-अभी बड़े-बड़े लोगों की, बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनियों की, बड़ी-बड़ी बातों के बारे में बहुत गरम बहस हुई है। मैं इस देश के छोटे और गरीब आम व्यक्ति की एक समस्या सरकार के ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अनाज भंडारण की समस्या गंभीर समस्या होती जा रही है। उसका प्रबंधन बिल्कुल नहीं हो रहा है। एक तरफ किसान खून-पसीना लगाकर अनाज पैदा कर रहा है, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ सरकार उसको सम्भाल नहीं पा रही है। लाखों-करोड़ों रुपये का अनाज खराब हो रहा है। दुनिया में सब्जी, फल पैदा करने में भारत दूसरे स्थान पर है, लेकिन यह इस देश का दुर्भाग्य है कि लगभग 40, 50 हजार करोड़ रुपये की सब्जियाँ, फल आदि नष्ट हो जाते हैं, 80 हजार करोड़ रुपये का अनाज खराब हो जाता है। यह एक विचित्र और दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण परिस्थिति है।

दूसरी तरफ एक और दृश्य है। अभी-अभी सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अपनी एक चर्चा में कुछ शब्द कहे हैं, वे शब्द मैं सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ, “The Supreme Court has expressed its concern over unabated starvation deaths in the country and asked the Union and State Governemtns to ensure that no one should die due to hunger.” फिर कहा है, “You can’t have two Indians. What is this stark contradiction in our whole approach in eradication of malnutrition? You say you are a powerful

country, but at the same time starvation deaths are taking place in various parts of the country.” सुप्रीम कोर्ट को यह कहना पड़ा। अखबारों में और भी खबरें रोज आ रही हैं कि कहीं पर कोई एक महिला अपने बच्चे को केवल एक हजार रुपये में बेचने पर मजबूर हो गई, कहीं पर कोई महिला, पदमा बेहरा केवल 7 हजार रुपये में अपने बच्चे को बेचने पर मजबूर हो जाती है।

(2j/akg पर जारी)

AKG-RG/2J/3.10

श्री शान्ता कुमार (क्रमागत) : यह अत्यंत दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण स्थिति है, इसकी ओर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, स्थिति यह है कि आज देश के भण्डारों में 640 लाख टन अनाज है और इस साल 170 लाख टन और आने की सम्भावना है। कुल 810 लाख टन अनाज हो जाएगा और भण्डारण क्षमता केवल 460 लाख टन है। इसका मतलब कि 300 से लेकर 400 लाख टन अनाज बाहर रखा है, जो खराब होता है, बर्बाद होता है। यह स्थिति है। केवल अनाज रखने पर इस सरकार का 484 रुपए प्रति वर्ष प्रति क्विंटल खर्च आता है। यह सारी परिस्थिति जो आज है, जिसको बार-बार देखने की हमारी मजबूरी होती है, टीवी पर जब अन्न के भण्डार बर्बाद होते दिखाई देते हैं और जब

अखबार में कहीं पर भुखमरी का समाचार आता है, तो किसी भी देशभक्त का सर शर्म से झुक जाता है। यह सवाल बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण है।

मैं दो सुझाव सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ और सरकार को बताना चाहता हूँ। आप एकदम 400 लाख टन अनाज रखने के लिए गोदाम नहीं बना सकते, इसके लिए बहुत पहले योजना बननी चाहिए थी, लेकिन आप तीन काम कर सकते हैं। मेरा पहला सुझाव है कि हम एक महीने का राशन करोड़ों लोगों को देते हैं, हम उन्हें ऑप्शन दें और उनको एक महीने की बजाय 6 महीने का अनाज देने की कोशिश करें। इसके लिए हम उन्हें एक इंसेंटिव दें, ताकि वे 6 महीने का राशन इकट्ठा कर लें। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, केवल इससे सरकार की भण्डारण क्षमता 175 लाख टन और बढ़ जाएगी। मैं ऐसा इसलिए कह रहा हूँ, क्योंकि 60 हजार करोड़ रुपए का अनाज बर्बाद होता है। मैं योजना आयोग की एक रिपोर्ट के कुछ शब्द पढ़ना चाहूँगा। ‘Report of Performance and Evaluation of PDS, March, 2005’. “Taken into account all the inefficiencies in the PDS, it is found that the Government of India spends Rs.3.65 through Budgetary food subsidy to transfer Re.1 to the poor.” गरीब आदमी को एक रुपया पहुँचाने के लिए यह सरकार 3 रुपए 65 पैसे खर्च कर रही है। जो भण्डारण किया जाता है, उसका खर्च 480 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल आता है। इकोनॉमिक कॉस्ट अलग है। लेने में, ले जाने में, गोदाम तक पहुँचाने का खर्च अलग है। केवल गोदाम में रखने का खर्च 480 रुपए प्रति

क्विंटल आता है। इसलिए मैं सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप 6 महीने का राशन इकट्ठा देंगे, तो 6 महीने राशन रखने का आपका खर्च बच जाएगा। 6 महीने एक किलो राशन रखने पर आपका खर्च 2 रुपए 40 पैसे आता है। जब लोग 6 महीने के लिए अनाज ले जाएँगे, तो आपके 2 रुपए 40 पैसे बचेंगे। 40 पैसे सरकार अपने पास रखे और अनाज 2 रुपए किलो सस्ता कर दे। आज की कमरतोड़ महँगाई के जमाने में उन करोड़ों लोगों को अगर आप अनाज 2 रुपए किलो सस्ता देंगे, तो 6 महीने का अनाज उठ जाएगा। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करता हूँ कि अभी कल हमने संसद के 60 साल पूरे होने का जश्न मनाया, सरकार यह घोषणा करे कि हम उसी उपलक्ष्य में देश के करोड़ों लोगों को अब सारा का सारा राशन 2 रुपए किलो सस्ता दे रहे हैं। आपकी जेब से एक भी पैसा नहीं निकल रहा, 6 महीने रखने पर आपका जो खर्च आता, 2 रुपए 40 पैसे, उसमें से 40 पैसे आप अपने पास रखिए और उपभोक्ता को 2 रुपए ट्रांसफर कर दीजिए, तो गरीबों को अनाज सस्ता भी मिल जाएगा और 175 लाख टन की भण्डारण क्षमता आपके डिस्पोजल पर हो जाएगी। यह गरीब के लिए एक बहुत बड़ी राहत होगी।

(2के/वीएनके पर जारी)

-AKG/VNK-SSS/2k/3:15

श्री शान्ता कुमार (क्रमागत): महोदय, मैं एक और बात की ओर आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि जमाखोरी अपराध है, होर्डिंग बहुत बढ़ा

क्राइम है, लेकिन आज हिन्दुस्तान में सबसे बड़ा होल्डर अगर कोई है, तो वह भारत सरकार है। सरकार ने नॉर्म तय किए हैं कि किस समय कितना अनाज सरकारी गोदामों में चाहिए। उसके मुताबिक जनवरी में 200 लाख टन, अप्रैल में 212 लाख टन, जुलाई में 319 लाख टन, अक्टूबर में 212 लाख टन अनाज सरकारी गोदामों में चाहिए और इसमें 50 लाख टन strategic reserve भी शामिल है। यह बफर स्टॉक हर समय देश में रहना चाहिए, लेकिन फिर आप 700-800 लाख टन क्यों रख रहे हैं? लगभग 400 लाख टन अनाज अधिक हम अपने स्टॉक में रख रहे हैं, यानी होल्डिंग कर रहे हैं और होल्डिंग कर रहे हैं, तो इससे महंगाई बढ़ रही है। देश में महंगाई बढ़ाने के लिए सबसे ज्यादा जिम्मेदार अगर कोई है, तो वह भारत सरकार है। अगर सबसे बड़ा होल्डर कोई है, तो वह भारत सरकार है।

महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी-अभी सब कमेटी, कॉमर्स में चावल के एक्सपोर्ट के सवाल को लिया गया। अधिकारियों से पूछा गया कि जब चावल बहुत अधिक है, तो आप उसको एक्सपोर्ट क्यों नहीं करते हैं? तीनों विभागों के तीनों सचिव आए और बोले कि हम चाहते हैं कि एक्सपोर्ट हो जाए। इस पर कमेटी ने पूछा कि फिर एक्सपोर्ट क्यों नहीं हो रहा है, तो बताया गया कि ग्रुप ऑफ मिनिस्टर्स के पास मामला है और उस पर फैसला नहीं हुआ है। इसके बाद कमेटी के चेयरमैन के तौर पर मैंने प्रधान मंत्री जी को पत्र लिखा, उनसे बात की, तब एक्सपोर्ट शुरू हुआ और इस समय तक 42 लाख टन चावल

एक्सपोर्ट हो गया। आपने चावल क्यों रोका और समय पर एक्सपोर्ट क्यों नहीं किया?

महोदय, दुनिया के बाजार में भारत के चावल और भारत के गेहूं का स्थान है और लोग उसको खरीदना चाहते हैं, लेकिन आप उसको इकट्ठा करके रखे हुए हैं, समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि आप यह सारा कुछ क्या कर रहे हैं?

महोदय, मैं एक और सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ, हमारी कमेटी ने इस सुझाव की चंडीगढ़ जाने पर मुख्य मंत्री प्रकाश सिंह बादल जी से भी चर्चा की थी। हरियाणा के मुख्य मंत्री भी पास बैठे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि एक नया काम कीजिए, जब आप procure कर रहे हैं, तब अगर कोई किसान दस टन लेकर आता है, तो उसको कहिए कि तेरा दस टन हमने ले लिया, उसका 50 फीसदी मूल्य तुमको दे दिया, लेकिन अगर तुम चाहो, तो यह अनाज अपने पास रखो, जब हमें जरूरत होगी, तब हम तुम्हारे गोदाम से उठा लेंगे, लेकिन जब हम उठाएंगे, तब हम उसको अतिरिक्त पैसा देंगे। कितना देंगे? एक क्विंटल एक साल गोदाम में रखने का हमारा खर्चा 484 रुपए है, अगर इसको हम नहीं रखते हैं और किसान इसको अपने पास रख रहा है, तो आपके 484 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल बच रहे हैं, इसलिए हम किसान से यह कहें कि जब तुम से अनाज उठाएंगे, तब 484 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल तुमको ज्यादा दे देंगे। प्रकाश सिंह बादल कहने लगे कि इससे हमारी समस्या हल हो जाएगी। गोदाम, भंडारण का विकेन्द्रीकरण हो जाएगा।

60 वर्ष पूरे होने के बाद मैं समझता हूँ कि इन बातों पर सरकार को विचार करना चाहिए।

महोदय, मैंने संक्षेप में अपनी बात रखी है, लेकिन भंडारण न होने के कारण, अनाज सड़ने के कारण एक तरफ भुखमरी से लोग मर रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ 60 हजार करोड़ रुपए का अनाज नष्ट होता है, 50 हजार करोड़ रुपए की सब्जियां और फल नष्ट होते हैं। शर्म आती है, पूरा का पूरा देश उस पर चिंता व्यक्त कर रहा है।

महोदय, मैं बड़ी गंभीरता के साथ सरकार के सामने यह बात रखना चाहता हूँ। गवर्नेंस की हालत तो यह है कि आज बोरियां नहीं मिल रही हैं, पूरा देश इसके लिए चिल्ला रहा है। देश का किसान खून-पसीना एक करके उत्पादन कर रहा है और उत्पादन नहीं संभाला जा रहा है, इससे बड़ी inefficiency सरकार की क्या हो सकती है? एक दम कुछ नहीं हो सकता है, इसलिए फौरी तौर पर ये दो सुझाव मैं देना चाहता हूँ और तीसरा सुझाव एक्सपोर्ट का है। एक्सपोर्ट के बारे में हमारी कमेटी ने कहा और बाद में एक्सपोर्ट हुआ। ये तीन सुझाव मैं सरकार के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। 6 महीने का इकट्ठा राशन दीजिए, दो रुपए प्रति किलो सस्ता दीजिए, इससे पूरा राशन उठेगा और 175 लाख टन भंडारण की क्षमता आपके पास और हो जाएगी। एक भी दाना खुले में रखने की जरूरत नहीं होगी। एक्सपोर्ट करना शुरू कीजिए और किसानों को कहिए कि जो किसान अपना अनाज अपने पास कुछ समय रख सकता है, तो

वह रखे, उसको 484 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के हिसाब से अधिक मिलेगा। इससे लोग खुश होंगे, उनकी कमाई होगी और हमारा खर्चा कम होगा।

अंत में, मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह शर्मनाक स्थिति, यह लज्जाजनक स्थिति, जो बार-बार देखने को मिल रही है, यह समाप्त होनी चाहिए। इस सुझाव पर सरकार विचार करे और इसे तुरंत लागू करे। अगर यह ऐलान कल कर दिया जाए कि 60 साल पूरे होने की खुशी में हिन्दुस्तान के करोड़ों गरीबों को अब अनाज दो रुपए प्रति किलो सस्ता मिलेगा, तो हम इस समस्या का समाधान कर सकते हैं। धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

(21/DS पर आगे)

-VNK/DS-NBR/3.20/21

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): धन्यवाद सर। इस सदन में माननीय सदस्य अनाज का भंडारण करने के विषय में एक महत्वपूर्ण चर्चा लेकर आए हैं। यह एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, जिसका बहुत शीघ्र समाधान किया जाना किसानों और आम जनता के हित में बहुत आवश्यक है।

सर, इस यूपीए सरकार ने, जिसका लक्ष्य ग्रामीण विकास, यानी गाँवों का विकास और किसानों की तरक्की है, उसने इस एजेंडा को लेकर, इन प्राथमिकताओं को लेकर कई नीतियाँ और कार्यक्रम बनाए हैं। किसानों को किस तरह से लाभ मिले, इसके लिए यूपीए सरकार कई विधेयक लायी है, जैसे, अभी

भूमि अधिग्रहण संबंधी विधेयक भी आने वाला है ताकि किसानों से उनकी जमीन जबरन न ली जा सके और किसानों को उनकी फसल की मिनिमम उचित कीमत मिल सके। इन सब चीजों पर सरकार का ध्यान है। किसानों को कई मौकों पर कर्जा माफी भी दी गयी है और उनके लिए कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण प्रदान करने की सुविधा भी है।

सर, इस देश को कृषि प्रधान देश कहा जाता है और जहाँ ज्यादातर लोगों की आजीविका, उसके पूरे परिवार की आजीविका, शादी- ब्याह आदि सब कुछ अनाज पर ही निर्भर करता है, फसल पर ही निर्भर करता है और कृषि पर ही निर्भर करता है, वहाँ आज किसान के सामने बड़ी विषम स्थितियाँ हैं। जिसे हम इस देश का अन्नदाता कह सकते हैं, उसके सामने इतनी कड़ी मेहनत करने के बाद भी इतनी चुनौतियाँ हैं कि कभी अगर बरसात पूरी न हो तब उसकी फसल नष्ट हो जाती है, अगर बरसात ज्यादा हो जाए तब उसकी फसल नष्ट हो जाती है, यदि कीड़े लग जाएँ तब उसकी फसल नष्ट हो जाती है और कभी सर्दी में जब ज्यादा पाला पड़ जाए तब उसकी फसल नष्ट हो जाती है। इन कठिनाइयों और चुनौतियों में भी किसान और उसका पूरा परिवार रात-दिन जाग कर फसल की रखवाली करता है और खेतों में रात-रात भर जाग कर कभी चिड़ियाँ उड़ाता है और कभी जानवर भगाता है। इतनी मेहनत के बाद अनाज उत्पन्न हो जाता है, लेकिन फिर वह बारिश के कारण सड़ जाता है या खराब हो जाता है, क्योंकि किसान के पास उसके भण्डारण की कोई जगह नहीं है और वह अनाज खुले में

रखा हुआ है, तो यह किसान के सपनों पर, उसके अरमानों पर, उसकी मेहनत पर पाला पड़ने वाली बात हो जाती है। इस तरह से उसकी मेहनत पर बिजली गिर जाती है और उसकी सारी मेहनत बर्बाद हो जाती है।

किसानों के हजारों-हजार टन अनाज के इस तरह बर्बाद होने की, सड़ने की और उसके भण्डारण की समस्या काफी वर्षों से बड़े प्रखर रूप में सामने आ रही है। एक तरफ जहाँ लोगों को खाने की परेशानी है, भोजन की परेशानी है और उनके सामने अन्न को खरीदने की परेशानी है कि इतनी कीमत में वे अनाज कैसे खरीदें, वहीं दूसरी तरफ अगर करोड़ों रुपये का अनाज इस तरह से बर्बाद हो जाए, तो इसका कोई न कोई ठोस उपाय होना चाहिए और इसके लिए सरकार उपाय कर भी रही है।

(2एम/एमसीएम पर जारी)

-DS/MCM-KGG/2M/3-25

डा० प्रभा ठाकुर (क्रमागत) : उसके लिए सरकार ने कई जगह अनाज के भंडारण के लिए गोदाम बनाने की शुरुआत की है। कई, अनेक राज्यों में गोदाम बनाने के लिए कुछ प्रतिशत राज्य सरकारों को दिया है तथा खुद केन्द्र सरकार भी बना रही है। महोदय, जो मुझे जानकारी हुई है उसके अनुसार अनाज के भण्डारण के लिए जो ये गोदाम बनाए जाएंगे, उनका किराया कुछ इस तरह से तय किया है कि गोदाम में कितने टन अनाज आएगा। यहां मैं एक सुझाव यह देना चाहती हूं कि गोदाम की कितनी लम्बाई, ऊंचाई और चौड़ाई है, उसी आधार पर किराया निश्चित होना चाहिए। किराए में टन वाले हिसाब से इसमें

पारदर्शिता नहीं रहेगी और भ्रष्टाचार को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा। गोदाम की लम्बाई, चौड़ाई और ऊंचाई के हिसाब से ही उसका किराया निश्चित होना चाहिए, ताकि पारदर्शिता रहे। मेरी यह एक बात है।

दूसरी बात है, कई जिलों में अभी भी यह आवश्यक नहीं समझा गया है, जैसे मैंने राजस्थान की सूची दी है, अजमेर जिले में अनाज के भण्डारण के लिए एक भी भंडार गृह नहीं खोला जा रहा है, जबकि अजमेर जिले में बहुत बड़ा ग्रामीण क्षेत्र है। जयपुर जिले में भी काफी ग्रामीण क्षेत्र है। वहां भी इसकी आवश्यकता महसूस नहीं की गई है। इसका मैंने कारण जानना चाहा तो पता चला कि वहां इतनी केपेसिटी है अनाज के भण्डारण के लिए, जिसके कारण अतिरिक्त भण्डार गृह बनाने की जरूरत नहीं है। सर, मेरे तो यह बात गले नहीं उतरी। इन जिलों में जहां यह जरूरी नहीं समझा गया, तो अगर बारिश में वहां अनाज खराब होता है तो उसकी जिम्मेदारी फिर सरकार के ही इसी रिसर्च और निर्णय पर आएगी। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहती हूं कि वे इसको अच्छी तरह से देखें। यह भी सही नहीं है कि कोई बड़ी कम्पनी ने टेंडर दे दिए और उस आधार पर वे भण्डार गृह बनवा रहे हैं। इसके बजाए, अगर जिस प्रदेश के जो लोग हैं, जिस जिले में जो लोग हैं, अगर वे खेती वगैरह से संबंधित हैं, पहले प्राथमिकता उन्हें ही क्यों न दी जाए कि वे ऐसे भण्डार गृह बनाएं, जिससे उनको उसका किराया भी मिलेगा तथा इससे उनकी आजीविका भी चलेगी। इस तरह भण्डार गृह बनाने की सुविधा उस गांव के लोगों को, उस

जिले के लोगों को ही मिलनी चाहिए, बजाए किसी बड़ी-बड़ी प्राइवेट कम्पिनयों को ठेका दिया जाए। जहां तक गुणवत्ता की बात है, सरकार यह कह सकती है कि निश्चित गाइड-लाइंस के अनुसार अमुक-अमुक एजेंसी के माध्यम से बनना चाहिए। इस तरह से निश्चित किया जाएगा तो उसी जिले के लोगों की अपनी जिम्मेदारी भी रहेगी और इससे उनको लाभ भी होगा। इसके अलावा अगर कभी अनाज की कमी है या उनकी फसल बर्बाद हो भी गई, तो उनको इस प्रकार से एक लाभ मिल सकेगा।

सर, किसान को इससे एक लाभ यह भी होगा कि भण्डार गृह में उसे औने-पौने दाम में अपनी फसल बिचौलियों को नहीं बेचनी पड़ेगी। मार्केट में जो बिचौलिए हैं, उन्हें लगता है कि किसान कहां जाएगा, क्योंकि इस बार भी अनाज की बम्पर फसल हुई है पूरे देश में। हर जगह बिचौलिए, दलाल हैं, जिनका जमाखोरों से और किसानों से सम्पर्क रहता है। अब उन किसानों को अपना अनाज मजबूरी में सस्ते दामों में बिचौलियों को इस कारण देना पड़ता है कि कल को बारिश होने की वजह से उनका अनाज खराब न हो जाए। अगर उसको भण्डारण की सुविधा मिलती है तो वह अपनी फसल को चार-छः महीने रोकने के बाद बेचेगा तो उसको पूरा मुनाफा कमाने का मौका मिलेगा। इस तरह से भण्डारण की सुविधा होने से किसानों को फायदा मिलेगा।

(2N/HMS पर जारी)

डा० प्रभा ठाकुर (क्रमागत) : महोदय, बोरियों की कमी होना बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है। अभी भंडारण की बात हुई और अब बोरियों की कमी हो गयी। अगर किसान के पास बोरियां नहीं होंगी तो वह अपना अनाज किस में भरेंगे? महोदय, कई गांवों में यह एक पुरानी परम्परा रही है कि किसान जब अपने घरों में अनाज का भंडारण करता है, तो अनाज खराब न हो और उसमें कीड़े न लग जाएं, इस के लिए वह उसमें पारे की गोलियां डाल देता है। यह इंसान के स्वास्थ्य के लिए बहुत ही खतरनाक चीज होती है। किसान पारे की गोलियों को छोटी-छोटी पोटलियों में बांधकर अनाज में डाल देता है ताकि अनाज सुरक्षित रहे, लेकिन अगर पारे की एक भी गोली अनाज के साथ चली गयी और पिस गयी तो वह इंसान के जीवन के लिए बहुत खतरनाक हो सकती है। इसके लिए भी गांवों के किसानों में जाग्रति लायी जानी चाहिए कि वे इसका प्रयोग न करें। महोदय, किसानों के लिए भंडारण की अच्छी व्यवस्था होने के बाद किसान पारे की गोलियों की प्रक्रिया को नहीं अपनाएंगे।

महोदय, आखिर बोरियों की एकदम shortage कैसे आ गयी? हमने अनाज की shortage के बारे में तो सुना है, लेकिन अब बोरियों की shortage भी होने लगी। यह बड़े आश्चर्य की बात है और इसमें देखना यह भी होगा कि shortage वाकयी हुई है या की गयी है? यह एक अचरज की बात है। इस पर सरकार गंभीरता से ध्यान दे क्योंकि अनाज के व्यवसाय से जुड़े सटोरिए और बिचौलिये भी मिलकर किसान को नुकसान पहुंचाने के लिए, अपने हित में इस

तरह के करतब करते हैं। यह ध्यान में रखते हुए न केवल केन्द्र सरकार बल्कि सभी राज्य सरकारों को भी कड़ी कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए। महोदय, यह केवल केन्द्र सरकार का ही नहीं बल्कि सभी राज्य सरकारों का कर्तव्य है कि वे किसान को उसके अनाज के भंडारण की पूरी सुविधा प्रदान करें ताकि हमारा किसान जो अनाज पैदा करे, वह बर्बाद न हो, वह उसे समय पर बेच सके और उसे फसल के पूरे पैसे मिलें। अभी शान्ता कुमार जी ने अनाज के एक्सपोर्ट की बात कही। महोदय, हमारी यू०पी०ए० सरकार जल्द ही फूड सिक्युरिटी बिल संसद में पेश करने जा रही है। यह हमारी सरकार की एक बहुत महात्वाकांक्षी योजना है और इसमें यू०पी०ए० अध्यक्ष सोनिया जी की बड़ी रुचि है ताकि आम आदमी को दो रुपए किलो गेहूं और तीन रुपए किलो चावल उपलब्ध हो सके। महोदय, जब सरकार के पास इतना अनाज है तो लोगों को सड़ा अनाज देने की क्या आवश्यकता है? लोगों को अच्छा राशन मिले क्योंकि सड़े हुए अनाज को फेंकने से अच्छा है कि लोगों को अच्छा अनाज मिले क्योंकि उसके सड़ जाने पर तो उसे जानवर भी नहीं खा सकेगा।

महोदय, इन सब बातों को सरकार के ध्यान में लाते हुए मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि भंडारण की अच्छी सुविधा किसानों को दें। साथ ही सरकार ऐसी प्रक्रिया अपनाए कि उसी स्टेट व जिले के लोगों को भंडार गृह बनाने की सुविधा प्रदान करे। आप खाली एक ही एजेंसी को भंडार गृह बनाने का काम न दें ताकि स्थानीय लोगों को उसका लाभ मिल सके क्योंकि बारिश व ओले गिरने के बाद

यदि फसल की सुरक्षा भी की जाती है तो उसमें किसान का नुकसान ही होगा। हमारे यहां कहावत भी है कि जानवरों के फसल चरने के बाद यदि बाड़ लगायी भी गयी तो उसका क्या फायदा है? इसलिए समय रहते सरकार, जिसकी नीति किसानों के हित की रही है, गरीबों के हितों को प्राथमिकता देने की रही है, इस बारे में त्वरित कार्यवाही करे कि वर्षा से पहले भंडारण की ऐसी स्थिति बन जाए कि कहीं भी गोदामों में अनाज न सड़े। चाहे आप अनाज एक्सपोर्ट करें या सस्ते दामों पर आम लोगों को मुहैया कराएं, इसके लिए जो भी व्यवस्था में कमी है, उसे दूर किया जाए ताकि किसान और आम जनता को अनाज के मामले में पूरी सुविधा मिले।

(समाप्त)

(2 ओ/केएलजी पर आगे)

20/KLG-KLS/3.35

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश में खाद्यान्न भंडारण की समस्या के संबंध में हो रही चर्चा में शामिल होने का आपने जो मुझे मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका बहुत धन्यवाद करता हूँ। निश्चित तौर से खाद्यान्न भंडारण की समस्या देश की एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। यह इसलिए बड़ी समस्या है, क्योंकि हमारे देश में बहुतायत संख्या में किसान गेहूं, धान, दलहन, तिलहन की खेती करते हैं, लेकिन किसानों की उपज का भंडारण सही न होने की वजह से सरकारों के नियंत्रण में गेहूं और दूसरी उपज का रख-रखाव ठीक से नहीं हो पाता है।

महोदय, हमारे देश में जो उत्पादन की क्षमता है, उसे किसानों ने अपनी कर्मठता और मेहनत से लगातार बढ़ाने की कोशिश की है। वर्ष 2011-2012 में किसानों ने अपनी क्षमता से धान के उत्पादन में वृद्धि की है और इस तरह धान का उत्पादन करीब दस करोड़ टन हुआ है। गेहूं का उत्पादन भी बढ़ा है, करीब नौ करोड़ टन गेहूं का उत्पादन हुआ है। इसके अलावा मोटे अनाजों और दालों का उत्पादन भी बढ़ा है। हमारे देश के लिए यह अच्छी बात है, लेकिन केन्द्र की सरकार देश की जरूरत के हिसाब से अनाजों के भंडारण की व्यवस्था करने में कहीं न कहीं अभी तक नाकाफी नजर आई है।

(उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री शान्ता कुमार) पीठासीन हुए)

महोदय, जब भी बरसात का मौसम होता है, तो बहुत से भंडारण में इस तरह की घटनाएं हुई हैं कि गेहूं के भंडारण में बरसात का पानी आ जाता है और गेहूं खराब हो जाता है और बहुत से भंडारण में चूहे घुस कर गेहूं को कुतर कर बर्बाद कर देते हैं। इस तरह कई तरीके से हमारे देश के किसानों द्वारा उपजाया हुआ गेहूं, अनाज और दूसरी फसलों का नाश भंडारण की कमी की वजह से होता रहता है और जो सही आदमी, गरीब आदमी है, जो रोजी-रोटी के लिए मोहताज है, उसको हम खाना भी नहीं दे पाते। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश से आता हूँ। मैंने ऐसी बहुत सारी चीजें साल 2011 में भी देखी हैं, जैसे हमारे जनपद गाजियाबाद

के हापुड़ शहर में बड़े पैमाने पर हजारों टन गेहूं बरसात की अधिकता और भंडारण की व्यवस्था बेहतर न होने की वजह से सड़ गया। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी कहा कि अगर सरकार के पास गेहूं के भंडारण की व्यवस्था बेहतर नहीं है, किसान की उपज को सही से रखने की व्यवस्था नहीं है, तो कम से कम उस अनाज को गरीबों में मुफ्त में बांट दिया जाए। इस तरह देश की सर्वोच्च न्यायालय सरकार के इस खाद्यान्न प्रबंधन पर शायद प्रश्न-चिह्न लगा रही है। हमें चेतना होगा, सरकार को चेतना होगा।

(2पी/एनबी पर जारी)

NB/2P/3.40

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (क्रमागत) : इसलिए मैंने इस मुद्दे पर पहले भी कई बार अपनी पार्टी की ओर से विचार रखा है कि जिस प्रकार से सरकार ने अलग से रेल बजट बनाकर रेल विभाग को बेहतर करने की दिशा में प्रयास किया, उसी प्रकार की व्यवस्था कृषि के लिए भी होनी चाहिए। मैंने अनेकों बार सदन के माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित कराने की कोशिश की कि चूंकि हमारा देश एक कृषि प्रधान देश है, अतः कृषि विभाग को भी अलग से बजटीय व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत रख लिया जाए, खाद्यान्न व्यवस्था के लिए समुचित धन की व्यवस्था कर ली जाए और खाद्यान्न के रख-रखाव के लिए वेयरहाउसेज की

स्थापना कर दी जाए। यदि ऐसा हो जाए, तो हमारे देश में जो खाद्यान्न के सड़ने और खराब होने की शिकायतें आती हैं, सरकार इनसे निजात पा सकती है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी हमारे कई माननीय सदस्यों ने बहुत बेहतरीन और उपयोगी विचार सदन के सामने रखकर गेहूं और दूसरी उपजों के रख-रखाव के बारे में अपनी राय व्यक्त की है। चूंकि हम लोग खेत-खलिहानों से जुड़े हुए लोग हैं, इसलिए मैं सरकार को अपनी पार्टी की ओर से और अपनी ओर से कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूं। यह बात सही है कि वेयरहाउसेज की कमी है, अब वह बजट की कमी की वजह से है या इच्छा शक्ति की कमी की वजह से है, यह हम नहीं जानते, लेकिन यह बात सत्य है कि गेहूं और दूसरे अनाज कहीं न कहीं व्यर्थ हो रहे हैं, चाहे बरसात के पानी के कारण, चाहे चूहों के कारण या अन्य कारणों की वजह से। हम लोगों ने गांवों में भी यह सब देखा है। गांवों में पंचायत लेवल पर भी पंचायत वेयरहाउसेज बने होते हैं। चार-चार या पांच-पांच गांवों की एक पंचायत होती है, जिसे न्याय पंचायत कहा जाता है और पांच-पांच या छह-छह न्याय पंचायतों का एक ब्लॉक होता है और कई-कई ब्लॉकों की एक तहसील होती है। यदि माननीय मंत्री जी और सरकार के नुमाइंदा मेरी बात पर ध्यान देंगे, तो मैं यह सुझाव दे सकता हूं कि सरकार न्याय पंचायत स्तर पर, न्याय पंचायत के अंतर्गत आने वाले किसानों के समूह को संगठित करके, उनकी कमेटी या समिति बनाकर, सरकार की ओर से सब्सिडी देकर, उनको इस बात का अधिकार दे दे कि वे अपने गेहूं के भंडारण के लिए आपस में coordination

करके, सरकार की सब्सिडी और अपने प्रबंध से न्याय पंचायत स्तर पर गेहूं और फसलों के भंडारण की व्यवस्था के लिए कुछ वेयरहाउसेज का निर्माण करें। यदि यह पहल सरकार करती है, तो निस्संदेह गेहूं के भंडारण की समस्या में कुछ न कुछ कमी जरूर होगी।

मैं समझ सकता हूँ कि देश बड़ा है और सरकार के सामने बहुत सी मुश्किलें, जिम्मेदारियां और प्राथमिकताएं हो सकती हैं, लेकिन विपक्ष और तमाम दलों के लोग हमेशा इस बात की चिंता करते हैं कि देश का जो भी उत्पादन है, किसानों को उस उत्पादन का सही दाम मिले और जो उत्पाद हमारे देश में पैदा हुआ, वह सही रूप से लोगों के घरों तक पहुंचे। इसलिए हम सरकार से कहेंगे कि इसके लिए थोड़े निचले स्तर पर जाकर आप सोचें, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के अफसरों की मदद लें, डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल के अफसरों की मदद लें, पंचायत लेवल पर या ब्लॉक लेवल पर आप कोई कमेटी बनाकर या किसानों के समूह को संगठित करके, आप उन्हें इसके लिए authorize करें कि वे कुछ फंड सब्सिडी के जरिए और अपने पास से कुछ फंड लगाकर पंचायत लेवल पर स्वयं ही ऐसे भंडारणगृहों का निर्माण करें, जिनके जरिए उनकी उपज को सही तरीके से रखने की व्यवस्था हो सके।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, खाद्यान्न के भंडारण के साथ-साथ हमारे देश में एक मुश्किल और आती है कि हमारे यहां डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम अच्छा नहीं है। हालांकि यह बात विषय से हटकर है, लेकिन फिर भी मैं इस बारे में इसलिए

कहूंगा, क्योंकि यह खाद्यान्न से जुड़ा हुआ मामला है। आज देश के बहुत सारे प्रदर्शों में जो सस्ते राशन की दुकानें हैं, उन पर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन की व्यवस्था अच्छी नहीं है। जो गेहूं और चावल गरीब लोगों में, BPL श्रेणी के लोगों में बंटना चाहिए, वह नहीं बंट पाता है। एक तरफ हमारा अनाज भंडारणगृहों में सड़ रहा है, बरसात की वजह से खराब हो रहा है, उसे चूहे खा रहे हैं और दूसरी ओर हमारे देश में आज भी करोड़ों लोग ऐसे हैं, जिनको दो वक्त की रोटी तक नहीं मिल पा रही है।

(2Q/MP पर जारी)

MP-PK/2Q/3.45

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (क्रमागत) : सरकार को इस समस्या पर भी ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है कि अपने उस अनाज को बरसात से खराब कराने के बजाय, उस अनाज को चूहे और दूसरे पक्षियों को खिलाने के बजाय अगर सरकार distribution व्यवस्था को बेहतर करके देश के गरीब लोगों में बांटने की व्यवस्था करती है, तो शायद देश के गरीब लोगों को भुखमरी से निकलने का मौका मिल सकता है।

महोदय, लम्बा ज़माना हो गया, हमारे देश में बी.पी.एल. सूची का रिव्यू नहीं हुआ है। आज मैं यक़ीन के साथ और सच्चाई के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि

उत्तर प्रदेश आबादी की दृष्टि से देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रदेश है, जिसमें करोड़ों लोग बी.पी.एल. श्रेणी की सूची में आते हैं, लेकिन सरकार उस सूची का रिव्यू नहीं कराती है। जो बहुत से गरीब लोग हैं, उनको बी.पी.एल. श्रेणी का लाभ नहीं मिलता और जो उस श्रेणी में नहीं आते हैं, वे उसका लाभ ले रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं सरकार को दूसरा सुझाव यह भी देना चाहता हूँ कि जहां हमें खाद्यान्न सुरक्षा, खाद्यान्न भंडारण की व्यवस्था पर ध्यान देना होगा, वहीं यह खाद्यान्न गरीबों के घरों में जा सके, इसके लिए distribution व्यवस्था पर भी हमें कोई न कोई कारगर नीति बनाकर गरीबों तक उस अनाज को पहुंचाना होगा।

महोदय, हमारे सदन में बोरियां कम होने का मामला कई माननीय सदस्यों द्वारा उठाया गया। सत्ताधारी पार्टी की माननीय सांसद महोदया ने भी उस पर चिन्ता व्यक्त की है। अब चिन्ता व्यक्त करना तो अच्छी बात है, लेकिन सरकार के हाथ कहां बंधे हैं? बोरियों के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने से सरकार को किसने रोका है? भंडारण बनाने की व्यवस्था करने से सरकार को किसने रोका है? गेहूं की उपज को बचाने में सरकार के सामने मुश्किल कहां है? इसलिए मैं कहूंगा कि सरकार को इस बात पर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए कि देश और समाज के लोग भरोसा नहीं करेंगे। जब हम बोरियां नहीं दे पा रहे हैं, तो warehousing कैसे देंगे? लोग हम पर कैसे भरोसा करेंगे? इसलिए इस पर भी चिन्ता करने की आवश्यकता है।

महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह मुद्दा बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है और देश के किसान, मजदूर, और कमजोर तबके के लोगों से जुड़ा है। मैं सरकार के लोगों से अपील करूंगा कि वे भी इसको गंभीरता से लें। बहुत लम्बा समय गुज़र गया यह कहते-कहते कि हम यह करेंगे, हम वह करेंगे, लेकिन हर साल बरसात होती है, फिर अनाज खराब होता है और गरीब लोग भूख से तड़पते हैं, इसलिए इस व्यवस्था को खत्म करने की कोशिश करें, ताकि गेहूँ का भंडारण भी बेहतर हो सके और जो अनाज हमारे देश में पैदा हो रहा है, वह सही घर और सही मुंह तक पहुंच सके। ...(समय की घंटी)... देश के लोग, जो जीने का अधिकार हमारे बाबा साहेब डा. अम्बेडकर द्वारा लिखे गए संविधान के ज़रिए मांगते हैं, उनके जीने के अधिकार को हासिल करने के लिए कम से कम दो वक्त की रोटी उनको मयस्सर हो सके, इसका तो कम से कम आप प्रबंध कीजिए। महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

(समाप्त)

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (WEST BENGAL): Sir, actually, the main issue is why the people, at large, in our country are not getting foodgrains at an affordable price. Why has the country been witnessing deaths due to hunger? Why have there been deaths due to heavy quantum of debt on their heads? Sir, when I was a school student -- I still remember that --Jawahar Lal Nehru once said,

“.....blackmarketeers will find themselves hanging from the lamp post.” I was very much inspired. But, now, after 60 years, we are witnessing in States the poor farmers hanging themselves in their homes. Sir, many say, this situation has arisen because agriculture depends on weather conditions.

(Contd. by 2R/PB)

PB/2r/3.50

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (CONTD.): Then, another argument was placed. However, now it is not there in that voice that everywhere the prices are rising -- it is a world phenomenon; every country is facing this problem.

Sir, I remember, in this particular House, a data — published by an economist -- was placed, giving information as to how many important countries, particularly, the neighbouring countries, are dealing with this problem of price rise, including the rise in diesel and petrol prices. Looking at those pictures, we have found that our country is in a very bad situation. Now, Sir, during the last five years, a huge quantity of foodgrain has been damaged. This situation has been there for the last few years. Previously, we did not have this

situation. At least, it was not there so much, previously, in the agenda of the Government, and, therefore, the Supreme Court had to intervene. During the above period, we have experienced a steep rise in the prices of essential commodities. Sir, how many times have we discussed this issue here in one form or the other? We have discussed here Arjun Sengupta's report — 'Rupees 20 per head per day.' If you recall, Sir, even today, the Minister placed some figures here as to what is the picture regarding the essential food commodities. I also have some information which I got from the Monthly Average Retail Price of about 42 food articles. The Mustard Oil price which was Rs. 76.56 last year has now gone up Rs. 100. This figure has been quoted by the Government. Same is the case regarding many other food items. They are listed here. Potato is there; tomato is there; onion is there. So, this is the picture. Sir, how will the people survive in just twenty rupees? It is amazing. In Delhi, how will the people afford monthly rent? Transport expenses are there; education, medical, and clothing expenses are there. Anyone of us can experience it. Sir, can one survive in just twenty rupees? It has been published that 60 per cent of our population have

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no water connection, have no access to sanitation facility. If somebody goes to 'Pay and Use Toilet', how much one has to pay for its usage, for taking bath? So, how will the people survive? If, roughly, Rs. 5 is charged for it, then Rs. 10 (Rs.5x2) is spent there. This is the actual situation there in the whole country.

Sir, we have a good monsoon. The country experienced a very good monsoon. But the prices have not been reduced. So, all these theories are bogus theories, that this phenomenon is there in the entire world, that it depends on the weather conditions, etc. Even today, in reply to an Unstarred Question, it is said that 'We have a plenty of stock -- Rs. 750 lakh tonnes as on 1st June, 2012 against the last year's stock of Rs. 654.73 lakh tonnes.' But still we are experiencing steep rise in the prices of essential commodities. Why is it there, Sir? A huge stock is there, but still the people are suffering; the poor people are suffering.

(Contd. by 2s/SKC)

2s/3.55/skc

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (CONTD.): Sir, we had demanded a ban on forward trade. I remember, once the Finance Minister had

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said here that they would try to do that for one or two items. But nothing has happened. The other side has rejected our demand for having a universal PDS at an affordable price. They have rejected the demand. They were to tell us about how to tackle this problem. Now, today, in the reply given to an unstarred question, it was said that 'foodgrain godowns in the country are not in a poor condition. However, some quantity of foodgrains get damaged due to rains, floods and other natural calamities.' This was the reply given!

Now, what about the irrigation system in our country? So much money has been spent there. What is the quantum of coverage there? Even after 60 years of Independence, people depend on *Allah*!

Sir, unless the Government changes its mind, unless there is a shift in policy towards the people, especially the poor people, things will not change. I would like the present-day Government to ponder over these issues and consider the demands raised by us.

Thank you, Sir.

(Ends)

SHRI N.K. SINGH (BIHAR): Mr. Vice-Chairman, as we look at the analysis and statistics in relation to the Public Distribution System, we

are really reminded of what the *Bourbons* had once said — ‘learning nothing and forgetting nothing’. If you look at the history of famines in India, it is evident that the major famines in India have not been caused by shortage of foodgrains, but they have been caused by the distortions in the Public Distribution System. In 1943, writing about the famous famine of Bengal, Prof. Amartya Sen said that three million people died in that famine, not because foodgrains were in awesome short supply, but because of the artificial distortion with which the entire Public Distribution System was confronted. Many years down history, Government does not seem to have learnt any lesson, and that is why I said, almost like the *Bourbons* — ‘forgetting nothing and learning nothing’.

Now, what are the facts, Sir? Broad facts remain that the total storage capacity in the FCI godowns is 300 lakh tonnes. If you add a 154 lakh tonnes, as far as the States are concerned, the total storage capacity is 454 lakh tonnes, against a figure of 654 lakh tonnes, as was the entire stock available on the 6th of June, 2011, a shortage, clearly, of 200 lakh tonnes, accepted by the Government itself. For instance, look at the implications of this. The Nandi Survey

conducted in only 112 districts in India suggests that 42 per cent children under the age of five are underweight, and 59 per cent of the children are stunted; half of them are below the age of two years. The Supreme Court was, naturally, therefore, prompted in 2010. And, what did they say? What they said is rather pathetic and telling, and I quote from the judgement of the Supreme Court. They said, “Give it to the hungry poor instead of the grains going down the drain.” That is what Justice Bhandari and Justice Verma had said. And the Court directed the Government to establish adequate godowns so that the foodgrains which were rotting could be given easily to the poor.

(contd. at 2t/hk)

HK/2t/4.00

SHRI N.K. SINGH (CONTD.): Very little action has taken place after the Court judgment. In fact, 26 million tonnes are required to maintain a buffer stock. What we have stocked is more than what is required. According to the Agriculture Minister, the FCI is losing almost Rs.27 crore a day. According to the admission made by the Minister himself, Rs.28,000 crore has been lost to Government, which is adequate to feed two crore people in one year in the last decade on

account of the distortion in the foodgrains. The distribution loss, which is 30 per cent of the grain supplied, plagues the entire distribution system. It doesn't reach the Government. Government has acknowledged that Rs.58,000 crore worth of foodgrains every year is really destroyed due to the storage shortage. In fact, Mr. Thomas, you yourself had admitted it in the recent statement, and also in the written reply. I quote from your speech in which you say, "There is a wastage of food, starting from the point of harvest, procurement, storage, distribution, transportation and even at social functions like marriages." I think, you are very correct. But it is for you to come up with a game-plan. Look at the astonishing figures. Only two per cent of the fruits and vegetables in this country, Sir, is processed. This is in contrast to 30 per cent in Thailand, 70 per cent in Brazil, 78 per cent in Philippines, and 80 per cent in Malaysia. Between 15 and 20 per cent of the cooked food on special occasions is really wasted. And 30 per cent of the country's fruits and vegetables are perished due to absence of adequate cold-storages. In the light of all these very grim but very telling statistics, Mr. Minister, you must look for out-of-the-box solution. You must look for some

innovative answers. I have for your consideration seven suggestions today. My first suggestion is, abolish the inter-State food sales which takes away the distortions of India as a free market. We have one large common market. But your restrictions on movement of foodgrains from one zone to another, or, from one State to another is something quite mind-boggling. When will India have one free common agriculture market to really prevent these kinds of distortions? Think about it. It is time we should do so. Second, do not force the FCI to buy the entire amount that the farmers sell. This is the policy which is fraught with danger. You have shortage of 200 lakh tonnes of storage capacity. You cannot have a magic wand forcing the FCI into courses of action, which are non-commercial and non-remunerative. It is something which we should think of. Third, technology permits you to be able to track down the country's gross consumption figures and for storage what you require in that particular zone. Fourth, have an on-line tracking system in which you are able to track down the rotting foodgrains and improper storage and to also know where these areas of shortage and deficiency lie. Have a system where technology can enable you more expeditious and more

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efficacious use of the food material you have. Fifth, Sir, right back in 1979, you had agreed as part of the 'Save Grain Campaign' to have one good storage capacity in every sub-division and even in large panchayats, certainly in districts. Have modern silos; have Public-Private Partnership; and incentivize it in a manner far more than you have been able to succeed. What you have done so far has been inadequate to get Public-Private Partnership going, particularly at the local levels of administration. Sixth, get rid of this peculiar distortion. Bihar, for instance, has little or no procurement of foodgrains. Almost every district in Bihar does not have the capacity to be able to store foodgrains. Get rid of this obvious large distortion between areas which are endemically consumption, production and storage deficits. Finally, Sir, you are going to have the Food Security Bill and the Food Security Act, which is on the anvil. That will, Mr. Minister, compound your problems.

(Contd. by 2u/GSP)

GSP-LT-2U-4.05

SHRI N.K. SINGH (contd.): Sir, the Finance Minister in his Budget speech was audacious enough to suggest that we should look to new

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experiments. Look at the ability in which you can give perhaps food coupons or make direct cash transfers, make use of the kind of Unique Identification Number, which the Nilekani Committee has given you. Look to solutions, which do not cast a disproportionate burden on your over-frayed and over-exerted bureaucracy. Look to solutions which are innovative. Let not India have the disrepute of being seventh in the global index of hunger and also a country vulnerable to famine and endemic food shortages. Wake up, think afresh. Thank you very much, Sir.

(Ends)

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (WEST BENGAL): Sir, today, we are discussing the great Indian paradox — ‘shortage in the midst of plenty’. We have plenty of foodgrains. From 1950, we have quadrupled our food production. We have increased it from 50 million tonnes to 100 million tonnes; from 100 million tonnes to 150 million tonnes, and, from 150 million tonnes to 200 million tonnes, and, now we are crossing 250 million tonnes. This is how we are progressing. It is true but, as also said by hon. N.K. Singh ji, we are 7th or 8th in the hunger index in the world. Why is it so? This is the paradox we must

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understand, and, we must try to solve, and, through you, Sir, I would like to request the Minister to understand it and do something.

Sir, the point is that we have reached, I won't say, the Chinese level of 500 million tonnes, but our production is sufficient at our own level to feed our own people, yet we are unable to do so. The causes are very well known. It is not shortage of food. It is the inability to access the food. We do not have the ability to access the food because we do not have the purchasing power, because we are poor, and, we cannot do that. I would not like to go very deep into this dissertation, but I would like to make two, three short and practical points for the consideration of the hon. Minister.

First of all, we succeeded fairly well in the late seventies with the Food-for-Work programme. It was a very good success. It did two things. The hungry people got food directly and the supply of food into the market was directly through the workers, resulting in stability in prices in the food market, in the grain market, deep in the villages. I would humbly suggest to the Government to consider paying wages in half cash and half food in the MGNREGA scheme where you pay wages in cash. In this way, you can push foodgrains directly into the

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deep interiors of the country, and, thereby, stabilize the food prices which go up and down all the time. This is my first suggestion, which I would like to make for consideration by the hon. Minister.

Secondly, it is true that we cannot give doles directly in the way we should do it but the point is that since the Famine Code of late nineteenth century, which followed the Deccan riots, frequent riots caused by death famine, we have a system of free distribution of foodgrains to the utterly poor people. We have now the BPL list, and, we also have stratified list of people who are at the lowest rung of the BPL. Why should we not give food directly to such targeted families instead of paying them cash?

(Contd. by SK-2W)

SK-AKG/2W/4.10

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (contd.): It is a limited amount, but it goes. Two things happen. Food goes in; there is no demand and the wealth of the nation goes up.

Then, Sir, we have already heard that 55 per cent of our children are malnourished or underweight. Why? Because they don't get food; their parents don't get food. So, it is time that we pack our Mid

Day Meal programme in such a way that it becomes slightly more nutritious and a little more in quantity. Sir, in many places, Mid Day Meal is really the only meal that is given to the children. After that, many children don't get any other meal. So, Mid Day Meal should be much more in quantity and much more nutritious.

Then, Sir, we are really talking about two things. In the morning, we had a discussion on FCI. In fact, the question on FCI was the leading question. The answer was almost inherent in the question that it is a white elephant. FCI is one major institution that was created by the then Government to protect India's food sovereignty, and to protect India's food sovereignty, Sir, is to protect Indian political sovereignty. Therefore, under no circumstances, we should do anything which dismantles the FCI or reduces its efficiency. Yes, there is scope for development; there is scope for improvement; there is scope to increase the efficiency hundred times. I have nothing to question about that. But, never question the need of FCI which protects the food sovereignty and, therefore, the political sovereignty of our country.

Lastly, Sir, make sure that all the foodgrains that are there are kept in a way that they don't rot. I understand the problem. You have a capacity of four-and-a-half million tons. You have to keep a buffer of 6.5 million tons. Your ration procurement is going up to 7 million tons; and you don't have the place to store. It is true. But, give it back to the farmer. In fact, it is your own suggestion that give it back to the farmer. Let him keep it for the time being and withdraw it from him when you require. Therefore, the movement of foodgrains would be lesser. With these few suggestions, Sir, I thank you.

(Ends)

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष जी। माननीय मंत्री जी, हमारे प्रदेश में कानपुर में एक दुकान है, वहाँ एक बोर्ड लगा है – “ऐसा कोई सगा नहीं, जिसको मैंने ठगा नहीं”। नीचे लिखा है – “ठगू के लड्डू”। यह बिल्कुल सही है, मैं बता रहा हूँ कि ऐसी एक दुकान है और उसकी सबसे ज्यादा बिक्री भी होती है। मेरे ख्याल में वह बोर्ड आपकी सरकार ने अपने आप लगा लिया है कि “कोई ऐसा सगा नहीं, जिसको हम ठगेंगे नहीं”। सरकार क्यों सुप्तावस्था में चली गई? आप क्यों नहीं सोच पा रहे हैं कि समस्याओं का समाधान कैसे करें? मुझे उस दिन हँसी आई, जब माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी सदन में जवाब दे रहे थे। किसानों की समस्या के लिए जो कमेटी बनाई गई, उसमें

माननीय मुकेश अंबानी, माननीय आदि गोदरेज, मैं पूरा नाम नहीं जानता, ये लोग शामिल हैं। अब टाटा, बिरला और इनफोसिस वाले, जो रह गए हैं, उनको भी आप कमेटी में रख दीजिए, तो शायद वे किसानों के लिए बहुत अच्छी राय देंगे। मैं गलत नहीं कह रहा हूँ, यह जवाब सदन में दिया गया है। किसानों के लिए जो कमेटी बनाई गई है, जिसने किसानों की उन्नति के लिए राय दी, माननीय कृषि मंत्री, शरद पवार जी पिछले हफ्ते इस सदन में क्वेश्चन का जवाब दे रहे थे, उन्होंने इसके सदस्य के जो नाम बताए, श्रीमन्, सुन कर शर्म आई कि इस देश के किसानों के साथ मजाक हो रहा है। आप दो मजाक कर रहे हैं। अगर आपने कमेटी में एडवाइज़ के लिए किसानों को लिया होता, तो शायद वे सही एडवाइज़ करते। दूसरा, किसानों की उपज का दाम तय करने के लिए जो एग्रीकल्चरल प्राइसेज़ कमीशन है, उस कमीशन में भी आपने सब आईएस बिठा दिए हैं। जिन्हें गेहूँ, जौ की बाली का पता न हो, वे स्क्वायर फीट में जोड़ देते हैं कि उसमें कितना बीज पड़ा, कितनी खाद पड़ी और आप किसान की उपज का दाम तय कर रहे हैं?

(2एक्स/वीएनके पर जारी)

-AKG/VNK-YSR/2x/4:15

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (क्रमागत): जब आप इस तरीके के निर्णय ले रहे हैं, तब यह स्थिति आपके सामने आ रही है।

श्रीमन्, यह वही देश है, हमने भी देखा कि लाल गेहूं इस देश में अमेरिका से आता था और इस देश के लोग लाइन लगा कर उस लाल गेहूं को, जिसकी बीयर अंग्रेज लोग पी लेते थे और उसके बाद उस गेहूं को हिन्दुस्तान में बेचते थे, लेते थे। हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों ने उसी गेहूं को खा-खा कर, हरित क्रांति लाकर, अपने खेत से उत्पादन बढ़ाया और इस देश को आत्मनिर्भर किया। लेकिन, जिस किसान ने देश को आत्मनिर्भर किया, उस किसान के लिए आपने क्या किया? हम बजट में कहते हैं कि हमारा बजट गांव की ओर का बजट है और 70 प्रतिशत गांव में रहने वाली जनता को हम बजट से लाभ दे रहे हैं, अगर लाभ दे रहे हैं, तो आज किसानों के सामने समस्या क्यों है?

श्रीमन्, आज विश्व के अधिकांश देशों में किसान को जो सब्सिडी दी जाती है, वह डायरेक्ट दी जाती है, किसान के उत्पादन की मार्केटिंग की जिम्मेदारी सरकार की होती है, लेकिन आपने क्या दिया? आप बीज महंगा दे रहे हैं, खाद महंगी दे रहे हैं, पानी महंगा दे रहे हैं और लेबर महंगी दे रहे हैं। आप किसान को सब कुछ महंगा दे रहे हैं, लेकिन किसान का उत्पादन आप सस्ते में ले रहे हैं। हमारा कहना यह है कि जब तब आप गेहूं 1500 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल नहीं करेंगे, तब तक इस देश का किसान सम्पन्न नहीं हो सकता है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहूंगा कि जब वे जवाब दें, तो वे APC के मेम्बर्स के नाम पढ़ें और मैंने एडवाइजरी कमेटी के दो सदस्यों का नाम लिया और तीसरे अपने डॉक्टर साहब, जो यहां मेम्बर हैं, वे उसके मेम्बर थे, बाकी और लोग थे। मैंने जो नाम

लिया, जब आप जवाब दीजिएगा, तब आप बता दीजिए कि मैंने गलत तो नहीं कहा। अगर मैं सही कह रहा हूँ, तो इसमें सुधार लाने की जरूरत है या नहीं है? आप इस पर विचार कीजिए।

आप पंजाब में सौ प्रतिशत गेहूं खरीदेंगे, हरियाणा में सौ प्रतिशत गेहूं FCI खरीदेगी, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में सौ प्रतिशत गेहूं FCI खरीदेगी, लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में कुल उत्पादन का 40 प्रतिशत ही FCI खरीदती है। हमारे प्रदेश के साथ ऐसा भेदभाव क्यों हो रहा है? अगर मैं गलत कह रहा हूँ, तो वह भी आप जवाब में कह दीजिएगा। हम सिर्फ उत्तर प्रदेश से इतना गेहूं उत्पादित कर सकते हैं, जिससे हम पूरे देश को खिला सकते हैं, बाकी तो सरप्लस गेहूं जाएगा।

श्रीमन्, यही चावल का हाल है। उत्तर प्रदेश में FCI ने लेवी चावल लेना बंद कर दिया, जिसके कारण चावल गोदामों में पड़ा हुआ है, लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में चावल खरीदने वाला कोई नहीं है। आप कौन-सी पॉलिसी बना रहे हैं? इस कंट्री को हम एग्रीकल्चर बेस्ड कंट्री कहें, इस कंट्री की economy, इस कंट्री का बजट हम एग्रीकल्चर बेस्ड बनाएं, हम कहें कि हम गांव में रहने वालों के हित का बजट बनाएंगे और हमारी जो आर्थिक उन्नति है, वह गांव से होगी, एक तरफ तो हम यह नारा दें, दूसरी तरफ अगर उनके उत्पादन को हम ठीक से नहीं रखेंगे, तो क्या स्थिति होगी? आज भी, माननीय मंत्री जी, कितने परसेंट लोग भूख से मर रहे हैं, जब कि अपना कितना अनाज सड़ रहा है?

श्रीमन्, जब आप अपनी सीट पर बैठे थे, तब आपने खुद quote किया था। माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने आपसे क्या कहा? मैं न्यायालय के कहे पर नहीं जाता हूँ। मैं तो practical आदमी हूँ और practical बात करता हूँ, लेकिन जब तक आप सत्यता को नहीं देखेंगे, तब तक काम नहीं चलेगा। आज भी “दैनिक जागरण” ने निकाला है कि अगर Food for All देश में लागू कर दिया गया, तो हमारे पास स्टोरेज की जगह नहीं होगी, तब हम अनाज कहां पर रखेंगे? आज भी आप जितना खरीद करते हैं, उनमें से करीब 12 लाख मीट्रिक टन अनाज बाहर पड़ा हुआ है।

हमने सवेरे आपसे प्रश्न किया था, तो आपने कहा था कि हमने PPP मॉडल पर स्टोरेज capacity बढ़ाने की प्रक्रिया शुरू की है। श्रीमन्, आप जरा उसकी कंडीशन्स पढ़ लीजिए। मैंने बहुत लोगों से बात की, हमने अपने यहां भी लोगों से बात की कि मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि आप गोदाम बना लीजिए, हम उस पर आपको किराया देंगे। लोगों ने जवाब दिया कि जमीन की कीमत और उसके निर्माण की कीमत जितनी है, वह economically viable नहीं है, इसलिए FCI का यह proposal हम लोग स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे। अगर मैं गलत कह रहा हूँ, तो आप हमारी बात का जवाब दे दीजिएगा। मैंने इसी लिए सवेरे आपसे पूछा था कि आपने जो प्रस्ताव भेजे, आपको प्रस्ताव दिए हुए दो साल हो गए, दो साल में कितने लोगों ने उस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार किया और कितने लाख मीट्रिक टन अनाज के स्टोरेज के लिए आपकी PPP मॉडल पर गोदाम की व्यवस्था हो गई?

यदि नहीं स्वीकार किया, तो आप उस पॉलिसी में बदलाव क्यों नहीं लाते हैं? (समय की घंटी)। जब तक प्रस्ताव economically viable नहीं होगा, तब तक निजी क्षेत्र का आदमी उस पर धन खर्च नहीं करेगा, जैसा कि हमारे और लोगों ने सजेशनस दिया।

श्रीमन्, जब आप बोल रहे थे, तब आपने कहा कि आपने पंजाब के चीफ मिनिस्टर को सजेशन दिया कि 50 परसेंट किसान को एडवांस दे दीजिए और स्टोरेज उसको करने दीजिए।

(2y/DS पर जारी)

-VNK/DS-VKK/4.20/2y

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (क्रमागत): सर, आपने तो 485 रुपये कहा, लेकिन हम कहते हैं कि अगर आप किसान से कह दें कि आप स्टोरेज के लिए ढाई सौ रुपये बाद में दे देंगे, तो किसान वही गेहूँ और वही अनाज 50 परसेंट कम पर सम्भाल कर रख लेगा। आपने तो 485 रुपये कहा, लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि आप किसान को ढाई सौ रुपये प्रति बोरा एक्स्ट्रा दे दीजिए, तो वही किसान अपने गाँव में उसी अन्न को सम्भाल कर रखेगा और फिर न उसे चूहे खाएँगे, न उसे कीड़े खाएँगे, न वह सड़ेगा और हमारे देश का जो अनाज है, वह सही तरीके से रहेगा। मंत्री जी, हम कह रहे हैं कि आप कम से कम कुछ हिम्मत तो कीजिए। हम उत्तर भारत वाले चौबीस घंटे राजनीति करते हैं, हम हिम्मत करते हैं, हम निर्णय लेने की हिम्मत करते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के लोगों में क्षमता है, पता नहीं, वह क्षमता आप

लोग क्यों नहीं लेते? आप वह क्षमता पैदा कीजिए और निर्णय लीजिए। हमारे पुराने डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब हँस रहे हैं। मैं बड़ी-बड़ी बातों को कड़वा तो कह रहा हूँ, लेकिन सत्य भी कह रहा हूँ। मैंने हरदम यह कहा कि लीडरशिप उत्तर प्रदेश से ही निकलती है। लीडरशिप भारत के किसी और कोने से नहीं निकलती है, बल्कि हमारे यहाँ से निकलती है। यह निर्णय लेने की क्षमता ही है कि आज सरकार अनिर्णय की स्थिति में खड़ी है, सरकार कोई निर्णय नहीं ले पा रही है। ऐसा लग रहा है कि जहाँ दर्द देखो, वहाँ पर सुन्न कर दो, वहाँ पर ऑपरेशन न करो, यानी वहाँ खाली सुई दे दो, जिससे दर्द बन्द हो जाए। इन सब चीज़ों से कभी समाधान नहीं होता है।

माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं एक बात और कहूँगा कि आपके एफसीआई के अधिकारियों की यह पॉलिसी है कि अगर उत्तर प्रदेश में जनता को गेहूँ की जरूरत पड़ेगी, तो उसे पंजाब से भेजा जाएगा और अगर पंजाब में जरूरत पड़ेगी, तो उत्तर प्रदेश से भेजा जाएगा, जबकि उसी जिले में गेहूँ और चावल मौजूद हैं, लेकिन उन्हें एक जिले से दूसरे जिले को नहीं दिया जाएगा। आप इस पॉलिसी को नोट कर लीजिए कि आपने ऐसी कौन-सी पॉलिसी बनायी है। अगर मेरे हरदोई में चावल और गेहूँ पीडीएस को चाहिए, तो उसकी अलॉटमेंट हरियाणा से मिलेगी। वह हरियाणा से हरदोई आएगा, लेकिन हरदोई के गोडाउन में जो रखा है, वह हरदोई को नहीं मिलेगा। आपके एफसीआई के अधिकारियों ने जो यह एक बहुत बड़े गबन और घपले की पॉलिसी कर रखी है,

उस पर आपको विचार करना चाहिए। मैं तो सिर्फ इतना ही कहूँगा कि अगर आप किसान के लिए चिन्ता कर लेंगे, तो शायद 2014 में आप उम्मीद कर लेना, लेकिन अगर आप चिन्ता नहीं कर रहे हैं, आप जहाज को डुबोना ही चाहते हैं, यदि आप सब लोगों ने तय कर लिया है कि जहाज को डुबोना है, तो फिर यह होता है कि डूबते को सहारा नहीं दिया जाता, बल्कि राजनीति में डूबते को और डूबो दिया जाता है। हम उत्तर प्रदेश में आपको डुबोने के लिए तैयार हैं। अगर आप सुधार करेंगे, तो हम सहयोग देंगे और अगर सुधार नहीं करेंगे, तो हम असहयोग देंगे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN (NOMINATED): Thank you very much, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I think, starting with you, a large number of very valuable suggestions have been made both to handle this problem in the short-term and also in the longer term. I have been here in this House for the last five years. Almost every year, in the month of April-May, we have this discussion on foodgrains storage, foodgrains spoilage in Punjab and so on. This is but natural because only the magnitude of the problem is increasing year by year.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, when we became independent in 1947, the country was producing six million tonnes of wheat. This year,

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Punjab alone has over 17 million tonnes and Madhya Pradesh has 8-10 million tonnes. Procurement in Punjab alone is about 12.5 million tonnes. I said that the whole country was producing only six million tonnes in 1947. Now, Punjab alone provides double for the Public Distribution System.

Therefore, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we need enduring solutions, not merely *ad hoc* and temporary solutions. They are very important. Right now, we need many steps as you suggested. But, I think, we should now find a more enduring solution to the problem.

Sir, other countries have similar problems like Canada, Australia, etc. which are major wheat exporters. They have the Canadian Wheat Board and the Australian Wheat Board. They do two things. One is, there is a high degree of coordinated action. There is also anticipatory action. There is coordination among various Departments and anticipatory proactive action, not the post-mortem action. So, we need a structure today if we want to see that this kind of problem is not continuing to plague us.

(Contd. by TMV/2z)

PROF. M. S. SWAMINATHAN (CONTD.): I would like to suggest for the consideration of the Government and the Minister that we need a National Foodgrains Management Board which should consist of all the players. It relates to only post-harvest management, not production side at all. Once the grain is harvested, the processing, storage, marketing and distribution, PDS and so on will be managed by this Board. It includes post-harvest handling, storage, movement, marketing and distribution. I would like to suggest that this kind of board, namely, National Foodgrains Management Board, may confine itself to the commodities which are included in the National Food Security Bill, namely, the nutrient millet, bajra, jowar, makka and so on, and wheat and rice, the only grains which are included in the National Food Security Bill. It can also be a virtual Board. It can be a 21st century organisation. It is not necessary to have a huge building, a huge number of staff and so on. But it should consist of all the major players starting with the FCI, Jute Board, Railway Board, Surface Transport Ministry, Warehousing Corporation and the private sector which is also becoming very important. I have seen it in Punjab where I am going the day after tomorrow. Every year I go there to

study the storage problem in Punjab and Haryana. It is an exhilarating sight what I call ecstasy and agony. 'Ecstasy' in the sense what our farmers are doing, that is, the grains coming like gold, and, at the same time, how we are storing them gives you the agony. It is important that we involve private sector, the Grain Storage Institute and scientific institutions like the CFTRI and so on. It must be a coordinated and proactive planning and action programme. I think, this kind of a coordinating body is required. Since the FCI is mentioned -- I have gone through the process -- in the 1960s, I can say, there would not have been any Green Revolution had the FCI not existed. Because for the farmer, ultimately, it is procurement at remunerative prices which is the greatest incentive. They are producing more because the Government is also procuring at a fairly reasonable price, though not at the price recommended by the Farmers' Commission. But it is going up to that level. Therefore, we should develop this particular Board and a national strategy starting with what you have suggested about storage at the farmers' level, incentives for the farm level storage, farm level silos and rural godowns which already exist. Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, when he was

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Minister, he took interest in the Rural Godowns Scheme. Then a National Grid of ultra modern grain storage should be there in all parts of the country so that grains can be moved at a very short notice.

Sir, I may conclude by saying that we are discussing it every year and we are all feeling sorry that the grains are rotting. Every day I get a call from the media requesting me to talk about the grain storage problem, the losses and so on. We must, as a nation, find a more enduring and permanent solution. The solution is to have a structure. You look at it in a proactive way. You look at the problem. They wouldn't think of the gunny bags in the month of April. They think of the gunny bags in the month of October-November when the crop is sown. Now, we need a body which can do it. Thank you very much.

(Ends)

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM (TAMIL NADU): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. It is with a deep concern about the food situation of the country in the coming years, I participate in the Short Duration Discussion on the wastage of foodgrains in the country due to non-availability of adequate storage houses. We all know that still our country is experiencing food insecurity and this is not only just related

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to economic barriers to access food but also social barriers. Our country had earlier witnessed large-scale famines which we had overcome after struggling for several months or years. Those famines were mainly because of low level of agricultural production that was inordinately dependent on changing monsoon and extremely unequal distribution of land and food. With some land reforms, implementation of Green Revolution, improved irrigation facilities which, in turn, enhanced foodgrain production and improved distribution through the Public Distribution System, we achieved self-sufficiency to some extent in agricultural production and the danger of famine in the post-independent India has been averted. But still today, when we achieved substantial production in agriculture, the number of people who got to bed hungry has not been reduced.

(Contd. by 3A/VK)

VK/3A/4.30

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (CONTD): The gloomy situation presently existing in the country might not be because of low agricultural production or failure of monsoon, but because of failure of post-harvest infrastructure, like shortage of cold storage chains,

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transportation and management of stored grains, as stated by my hon. colleague, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan. It was warned two years back when 61,000 tonnes of foodgrain had rotted in the year 2010, and an assurance was given by the Government that the storage capacity would be increased in the coming years, but the story of wastage of agricultural production continues unabatedly. The hon. Minister had also informed last year that the storage capacity would be increased to 15 million tonnes through public-private partnership and silos with a capacity of two million tonnes. Through the public-private partnership, the scheme of construction of warehouses had been implemented by the Government in 2008. Under this scheme, it was proposed to build godowns under the Seven Year Guarantee Scheme. The FCI also sent a proposal to the Government for fund allocation for creation of about 45 lakh metric tonnes capacity. Therefore, I urge the Government to give more importance to construction of warehouses in sufficient number, at least one in each district and further the open storage system should be abolished. If needed, it should be only on temporary basis covered with waterproof tarpaulin and the time for open storage of certain food grains like

paddy and wheat should not exceed one month. The Government should also introduce a separate budget system for agriculture and animal husbandry on the line of the Railway Budget and the General Budget. Nearly 70 per cent of country's population is engaged, directly or indirectly, in agriculture and therefore importance should be given for enhancing post-harvest infrastructure facilities. The absence of scientific and modern technology in storage management in the Food Corporation of India's godowns is another major reason for wastage of food items. Besides building additional storage capacity, steps should be taken for upgradation of the existing State-owned warehouses. Since most of the warehouses owned by the State agencies are over 15-20 years old, hence they need upgradation to contain the wastage level. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to concentrate more on the development of storage houses in the country. In Tamil Nadu, when our leader was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, he introduced hundreds of 'Ulavar Santhai', that is, farmer's santhai, where each santhai has a cold storage to store vegetables. Such a scheme can be introduced in the whole nation.

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This scheme should be introduced by the Central Government with full funding. Thank you. (Ends)

SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA (ODISHA): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to take part in the discussion on the problem of food grains storage in the country. I thank my leader, Shri Mangala Kisan, for giving me this opportunity to speak on this subject. When India is self-reliant in food grains and when we are discussing the problem of food storage in the country, the BPL families are starving. They are not getting a square meal a day. I really feel sorry for them. What is the reason behind it?

(Contd. By 3B)

RG/4.35/3B

SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA (contd.): We are not able to take a correct policy on demand and supply for proper planning and for proper distribution of foodgrains, even after 65 years of our independence. It comes to my mind that being a welfare State, we have not provided food security to the people of India even after 65 years of our independence. Now, where does the problem lie? What is the reason that people are starving? We should find out that first.

And what are the causes for poverty in the ‘*gramo*’, that is, the villages? What are the reasons for poverty because of which terrorism, Naxalism and Maoism are growing day by day? And this has become a stress to the nation. Sir, we should remember the words of the Father of our Nation, late Shri Mahatma Gandhi. The Father of the Nation told about *Gram Swarajya*. We observed the Sixtieth Anniversary of this august House yesterday. I think 94 or 95 Amendments have been made so far, but we are not touching the *gramo* and find out what the root-cause of poverty in villages is. Planning should come out of that. Sir, I started my career from the Gram Panchayat level. I was, first, the Sarpanch and then became the President of the Zilla Parishad. And I say, with regret, that our planning has not touched the villages. We have to analyse what the proper reason for poverty there is. Sir, the FCI created 69.07 lakh tonnes storage capacity under Seven Year Guarantee Scheme in 2008. The CAG had serious objections as some capacity in Andhra Pradesh remained unutilized.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.)

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The Report of the Working Group on Foodgrains, Balancing Demand and Supply during Twelfth Five Year Plan, has observed that the storage capacity being created under the Guarantee Scheme may not be fully utilized during the entire period. Sir, private entrepreneurs are not willing to lease out their warehouses to the FCI because they do not vacate the same after the period of the Lease Agreement and various other reasons. As a result, due to lack of godowns, grains are rotting. The rains may come in June which would destroy the stocks.

(Continued by 3C)

SSS/3C/4.40

SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA (CONTD.): Sir, damaged paddy is selling at Rs. 620 for branded alcohol. Sir, I would say in this context, my hon. Leader, Shri Naveen Patnaik declared that BPL families will get rice for Rs. 2. They are getting it. And APL families in KBK districts are also getting rice for Rs. 2. (Time-bell) Sir, I am concluding. Sir, will the Government distribute grains among the poor before the damage of foodgrains which are stored for more than two years? Sir, I want to know, through you, how many types of authorities concerned are verifying FCI godowns in a year. I propose

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that Government should have FCI godowns in each district of the State. Sir, one pertinent point is there. (Time-bell) Sir, I am going to conclude.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): All right, please sit down. You have already taken more time.

SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, it is a pertinent point and I want to know from the Minister. Organisation of agricultural farmers should be organised from Gram Sabha level to Block level, District level, State level, under the umbrella of a Central level organisation. Thank you.

(Ends)

SHRI N. BALAGANGA (TAMIL NADU): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to present my comments on the on-going discussion on the problems of food storage system. I appreciate the hon. Members who have brought this matter for discussion in this august House. Till recently, food storage system of India has been under attack, not only by the political parties and social organisations, but by the courts also, and even by the Apex Courts. The Supreme Court of India has passed strictures against the

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Government policy of storage system, and it went to the extent of saying that the wastage of grains due to paucity of space may be distributed freely to the poor who go to sleep with hunger. Sir, besides this, -- as also in a reply to this august House, even today -- nearly 16,386 tons of grains and -- in a written reply in the same august House, not today -- 77,000 tons of wheat has been rendered unsuitable for human consumption during the last three years due to pest attack, leakages in godowns, spillage and waste during handling and exposure to rain. Sir, I would like to know from the Ministry, what steps have been taken to contain this precarious situation. Sir, the food stocks are expected to hit the 75 million tonne mark. The storage facility of FCI is 63 million tonnes, which is 12 million tonnes less than the expected stock. Sir, the present off-take for the PDS is about 53-55 million tonnes and the level of distribution will not clear the stocks fast enough to accommodate the fresh arrival or the fresh procurement.

(Contd. by NBR/3D)

-SSS/NBR-MP/3D/4.45.

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SHRI N. BALAGANGA (CONTD.): Sir, Punjab and Haryana contribute 70 per cent of the nation's foodgrain basket. There also, due to lack of proper storage facility, there may be precious loss of foodgrains. Nearly 84 metric tons of grains will be wasted or damaged. Sir, the Planning Commission has recommended construction of silos on PPP mode. I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten us the response of your Ministry towards this recommendation. Sir, FCI has agreed to construct silos in 10 States. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the work has been started. Sir, I understand that some States are asking the Central Government to export foodgrains. I would like to know what the Government's stand on this. Thank you.

(Ends)

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important subject.

There is no doubt that management of foodgrains storage by FCI is a big failure in the country. Foodgrains estimated to peak at nearly 750 lakh metric tonnes by end of this month and record production of 252 lakh tones of production and nobody knows how

FCI is going to manage this huge stock. As per one estimate, nearly 25% of grains go waste in the absence of proper foodgrain storage facilities.

The first point I wish to make is, the Government has initiated to build modern storage infrastructure with the help of the private sector. One recent project, arranged by the World Bank's International Finance Corporation, recently added 50,000 tons of modern silo storage capacity in Punjab. The facility was built and will be operated by a private company and the Government set storage price for a decade, guaranteeing the company a return on its capital. So, why cannot such PPP models taken up for construction of modern silos? I would like to know the number of such proposals from my own State Andhra Pradesh and the capacity addition that they are going to add. Even the experts say that the public-private partnership model to build silos is economically viable if storage losses exceed 2.1 per cent annually which is far below current loss estimates. So, it is better to have silos on PPP mode.

The second point I wish to make is the problem of shortage of bags that FCI is facing to keep foodgrain storage. Sir, earlier Government permitted to use plastic bags for storage of foodgrains. This year it banned plastic bags saying they are not environmental-friendly. But, there is a severe shortage of jute bags. So, I would like to know how the Ministry is planning to supply jute bags for storing foodgrains.

Thirdly, Supreme Court had directed the Government to release about 25 lakh tons of grains to feed the country's poor population. The government is citing high transportation costs. So, I would like to know whether any consultations have been held with State to share, at least, 50% of costs to which they readily agree for supply of foodgrains to poor, so that twin objectives can be achieved i.e., providing food to poor and reducing pressure on FCI with regard to storage of foodgrains.

Fourthly, Sir, the Government had earlier sanctioned construction of a capacity of 150 lakh ton storage sites, but only a

meagre 0.1 per cent of the project has come into existence. I would like to know the reasons behind this pathetic performance.

Sir, FCI is failing very badly in coordinating with the Railways to get rakes for transportation of foodgrains during the peak Kharif procurement in March, April and May and Rabi procurement in September and October. Bulk procurements are coming from Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Tamil Nadu. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister how is he going to improve the coordination between FCI and Railways not only for procurement of foodgrains but also distribution of the same to other respective areas through PDS. And, what plans Ministry have to develop modern facilities in FCI such as temperature control mechanism for storage of foodgrain, tracking transport movement of foodgrains online, putting storage areas under CCTV surveillance, etc. And, how much Budget Ministry has earmarked for modernisation of FCI during the current year and also in the 12th Plan.

The next point I wish to make is, there is lack of commitment in the officials to store foodgrains. The corrupt FCI depot operators sell

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a portion of stored grains in the black market and then intentionally allow a portion to rot and cover up the illicit sale by over reporting the wastage. If there is lack of commitment on the part of officials, whatever you do, it goes into drain. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister how is he going to address this serious problem which is coming from within.

Finally, I would like to know whether the Ministry has ever thought of a decentralized model of food storage for the country to reduce the cost of transporting food grains and the need for storing them for long by spreading food cultivation uniformly all over the country. Through this, the Government will not only save a substantial amount of money that goes into warehousing and reduce the time required for distribution but it can also ensure that the grains are actually reaching the beneficiaries. If so, the details may be given. If not, the reasons for not giving impetus to this issue.

(The hon. Member spoke in Telugu)

Thank you.

(Ends)

(FOLLOWED BY KGG "3E")

Kgg/3e/4.50

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, that is the best part of your speech. Thank you. (Interruptions) Smt. Renukaji wants to go early; she can speak now.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I have an appointment and, hence, I would like to speak early. Sir, I am really grateful that I have been given this opportunity to speak and I want to thank all my respected colleagues here for indulging me and letting me to speak on this vital issue.

Sir, all of us have been addressing these issues repeatedly over the years. As Mr. Swaminathan has rightly pointed out, it is time for us to look at issues and think out of the box and in the traditional ways. Firstly, the priority should be given to crop planning. We do not do crop planning. A lot of farmers do what is known as 'copy cat farming', as a result of which we have surplus grains. I do not think we should complain about the problems of plenty, because today we can afford to feed our nation across the board. For us, even if the hectares of land have not increased, it is because of the availability of

better quality seeds, and because of more awareness on using technologies, that we are able to produce so much of foodgrains.

The States like Assam, which we considered as sleeping giants, after putting in one lakh tube wells have come in a very big way into production of rice. Yes, I agree with Mr. N.K. Singh when he did say that inter-State barriers should be lifted for the movement of foodgrains so that it facilitates each State, which will be much more economically viable.

As for thinking as to what we can do to solve the storage problems, we really have to invent newer ways. You have to take into confidence the Gram Panchayats so that they can lease the land from 30 to 50 years, or even 99 years, and ensure that under NREGS we construct assets in the form of storage facilities. Agencies like NABARD always predict in the annual reports how much storage is required, whether cold storage or dry storage. Newer technologies, such as irradiation, should be used. It is completely indigenous. Countries like Israel have been using irradiation over the years, which is a value addition. This removes micro-organisms which causes the

rotting of grains. This prevents that. It does not alter the taste and does not hamper reproduction in terms of seed value.

(Contd. by tdb/3f)

TDB-GS/3F/4.55

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (CONTD.): Now, this is something you can think of using. The Centre is giving huge subsidies and direct grants. Because of lack of awareness of what irradiation is, farmers are not using it. Fruits, meat, poultry, pisciculture, eggs and everything can be irradiated whereby the shelf-life of the product increases. I think, each Member of the Parliament should also talk to your lead banks, in your respective districts, that you have adopted in this august House, and the lead banks must be made to come forward to build storage in which the farmers' grains can be stored; against which, credit can be given to the farmer to facilitate him to purchase the seeds and also to meet with his private requirements of whether it is getting girls married or whatever it is.

Sir, along with that, there should be investment in post-harvest technologies. Every one is talking about hunger, and not understanding that lack of nutrition and anemia starts *in utero*.

कुपोषण को ख में शुरू होता है और इसकी awareness is not about giving Mid-day Meals or something like that. कितने लोग हैं इस हाउस में जिन्होंने पिछले पांच साल में तीन साल के बच्चे को खाना खिलाया, यह मुझे आप सुनाइये। कोई भी तीन साल का बच्चा या पांच साल का बच्चा 200 ग्राम या 100 ग्राम एक टाइम पर बैठकर खाता नहीं है। There has to be the three 'As' — availability, affordability and accessibility of nutrition, which means, you have to fortify the five things in this country, namely, sugar, oil, rice, wheat and salt. All these five products should be fortified, so that what little goes in, gives them supplementary nutrition. It should be accessible to children who want to access food several times over a period of the day. They can't sit for one meal; sit there and eat it because they are human beings. Children's behaviour pattern is that of distraction, game and fun. They keep eating and coming back and wanting more. So, you have to look at that realistically.

Sir, someone was objecting to the FCI's purchasing grains. Please do not stop that. It is just the lifeline that we, as farmers, depend on. When we give you a bumper crop, bad enough, we lose everything when the rains are not there, when there is excess rain. Every other factor in environment hurts us. When we produce good

grains, even then we cannot wipe out our debts because we don't get a remunerative price. That is the market economics. Someone was asking about raising the Minimum Support Price. आप जितनी मिनीमम सपोर्ट प्राइज बढ़ाते जायेंगे, उतनी copycat farming होती जायेगी। We have to now do crop planning, where you identify sectors which will be able to grow pulses, which will grow oilseeds, which will grow rice and paddy, and make sure that the remuneration is given to those farmers, that our storage facilities and our export policies are able to have a swift response system whereby we can do that. (Time-bell)

Sir, thank you so much for indulging me and giving me this opportunity. This is merely the tip of the iceberg. Food processing is an industry that has not taken off in India as it should have. And if we encourage food processing, right from the micro-finance women's units, at the district level, to the macro-level industry, it will help our farmers. Food processing is not a bad word. There should be fortification of food, clear labelling and identification of micro-nutrients. Not just for children, India has a huge growing population. All of us are going to be elders, and we need to have micro-nutrient supplements, which have to be used by all of us in India. So far, that

has not been done. There is very little vitamin D; there is no clear labelling of food, what is safe for children and what is safe for elders. There is a lot of commercial exploitation that is taking place. If this is monitored, it will help. If the Panchayats can give land on lease, the land asset remains with the Panchayat; if, under the Corporate Social Responsibility, we can invoke industry to come forward, which would get advantages of investing in backward areas, if all this, we dovetail and use, we can find solutions. I think, it is time for this House to rise to the occasion and come forward together, not on political lines, but as people who care for this nation. Thank you very much, Sir.

(Ends)

(Followed by 3g-asc)

ASC-KLS/3G/5.00

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज हम देश में खाद्यान्न की समस्या के भंडारण पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। आज निश्चित रूप से यह समस्या बहुत बड़ी समस्या हो गई है। देश को इसके कारण भारी नुकसान हो रहा है और किसानों को भी नुकसान हो रहा है। इस देश में कृषि उत्पादन वृद्धि में इसके कारण बाधा आ रही है। मैं बहुत ज्यादा समय तो नहीं लूंगा। मेरे पूर्व आदरणीय सदस्य श्री शान्ता कुमार जी ने इसकी शुरुआत की है और अन्य

माननीय सदस्यों ने जो बातें कहीं हैं, उनसे अपनी सहमति व्यक्त करते हुए मैं यहां कुछ बातें कहना चाहूंगा। दुनिया में अनेक ऐसे देश हैं, जो हम से कृषि उत्पादन की दृष्टि से बहुत आगे हैं और वे हमसे चार गुना ज्यादा उत्पादन करते हैं। वहां पर रख-रखाव और मार्केटिंग की कोई ज्यादा कठिनाई नहीं है, परन्तु हमारे देश में यह विकट समस्या बन गई है। आज हमारे देश में सरकार ने हरित-क्रांति के माध्यम से या किसानों को भिन्न-भिन्न प्रकार की सुविधाएं देकर, एक वातावरण बनाने का प्रयास किया है। उसके कारण कृषि उत्पादन में विशेषकर गेहूं, चावल आदि में वृद्धि हो रही है। एक समय था और आज भी है कि हिन्दुस्तान में सबसे ज्यादा गेहूं का उत्पादन पंजाब में होता है, दूसरे नम्बर पर हरियाणा में होता है, पहले मध्य प्रदेश कहीं पीछे हुआ करता था, लेकिन इस दौर में मध्य प्रदेश का तीसरा स्थान है। पंजाब, हरियाणा के बाद मध्य प्रदेश में गेहूं का सर्वाधिक उत्पादन होता है।

मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने इस बार किसानों को प्रभावित करने के लिए बहुत सी योजनाएं लागू की हैं। कृषि उपज के लिए ऋण सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई हैं, पूंजी निवेश करने वालों को ब्याज की दरों में छूट दी है और जो किसान गेहूं का उत्पादन करके सरकार को देगा, उसको सौ रुपए प्रति क्विंटल बोनस देने की भी व्यवस्था की है। इससे प्रभावित होकर किसान अत्यधिक मात्रा में गेहूं सरकार को बेच रहा है। मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने बहुत अच्छा सिस्टम लागू किया है। जिन-जिन किसानों ने गेहूं बोया, उनका पंजीयन किया गया और

पंजीयन करने के बाद उनके मोबाइल नम्बर नोट किए गए। किस किसान को किस दिन गेहूं बेचने के लिए आना है, इस व्यवस्था से सबको SMS किए गए। यह व्यवस्था लागू करने के बाद मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने फरवरी, 2012 से ही केन्द्र सरकार के साथ सम्पर्क किया, बल्कि जनवरी से ही किया था। उनको अनुमान बताया था कि इस बार मध्य प्रदेश में इतना गेहूं पैदा होगा और हम आपको इतना गेहूं देंगे। आप उस गेहूं को समय पर उठाएंगे और उसको रखने के लिए हमें बोरिया की व्यवस्था भी करवाएंगे। केन्द्र सरकार ने इसकी सहमति भी दी और यह तय हुआ था कि केन्द्र सरकार मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को नवम्बर माह में 1,44,170 गठानें बोरियों की उपलब्ध कराएगी। उसके अनुसार फरवरी माह में 75,010 की बात हुई। पहले तीन फरवरी को और फिर पन्द्रह फरवरी को 50,050 की बात हुई, कुल मिलाकर हमें 2,69,230 गठानें चाहिए थीं। केन्द्र सरकार की सहमति के अनुसार हमने 478.75 करोड़ रुपए केन्द्र सरकार के खजाने में जमा कर दिए। उसके बाद यह तय हुआ कि केन्द्र सरकार मध्य प्रदेश का गेहूं खरीदकर, उसको रखने की दृष्टि से अप्रैल माह के अंत तक 88,000 बोरियों की गठानें उपलब्ध कराएगी।

(3h/LT पर जारी)

LP/USY/5.05/3h

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत (क्रमागत) : ..परन्तु दुख के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि केवल 17,000 बंडल ही उपलब्ध कराए गए। मध्य प्रदेश के....(व्यवधान)..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : थावर जी, आपकी पार्टी से बोलने वाले और तीन स्पीकर्स हैं, इसलिए पाँच मिनट में समाप्त कीजिए।

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सर, यह मध्य प्रदेश का बहुत इम्पोर्टेन्ट और गंभीर मामला है, इसे उठाने दीजिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : बाकी लोगों को भी टाइम देना है, take two minutes more.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, मैंने इसीलिए बहुत सारी इधर-उधर की बातें बताई ही नहीं हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : ठीक है, आपको दो मिनट ज्यादा देते हैं।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : ठीक है। केंद्र की सरकार ने मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से जो वादा किया, उसको निभाया नहीं है। केंद्र की सरकार ने यह वादा किया था कि वे एफ.सी.आई के माध्यम से प्रति सप्ताह 1 लाख मीट्रिक टन गेहूं उठाएंगे, परन्तु उसको भी नहीं उठाया है। मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री को बाध्य होकर, केंद्र की सरकार के पास एक बार नहीं, बल्कि तीन-तीन, चार-चार बार आना पड़ा, आग्रह करना पड़ा, लेकिन आग्रह करने के बाद भी कोई नतीजा नहीं निकला। हमने कहा कि आपने जूट की बोरियों में गेहूं रखने का बंधन डाल रखा है, हमको उसमें छूट दे दो, हम प्लास्टिक की बोरियाँ अरेंज करके उसमें भर देंगे, परन्तु यह सब भी नहीं किया है। पिछले तीन, चार वर्षों से आप और हम सब यह देख रहे हैं कि कुल मिलाकर मध्य प्रदेश के साथ यह सौतेला व्यवहार हो रहा है।

सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी निर्णय दिया कि गेहूं को सड़ाने की बजाय गरीबों में बांट दो, लेकिन वह भी नहीं बांटा जा रहा है। देश में चारों तरफ से टी.वी., दूरदर्शन और समाचार-पत्रों के माध्यम से हमें जानकारी मिलती है कि 58,000 करोड़ रुपये का गेहूं सड़ गया। यह सब हो रहा है, लेकिन सरकार कह रही है कि हम योजना बना रहे हैं। मेरा यह निवेदन है कि जो दीर्घकालीन योजना बन रही है, वह तो बन रही है, परन्तु यदि कोई कार्यवाही तत्काल की जा सकती है तो वह यह हो सकती है..(व्यवधान)..सर, हमारा टाइम है, मेरा आपसे निवेदन है..(व्यवधान)..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : मैं क्या करूं, आपकी पार्टी ने तीन नाम और दिए हैं।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : हमारे मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री जी ने केंद्र की सरकार से यह मांग की, यह अनुरोध किया कि हमारे यहाँ गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन करने वाले परिवारों को हम जो गेहूं बांटते हैं, वह केंद्र से, एफ.सी. आई. के माध्यम से और कहीं से आता है, इसलिए हमारे पास यह जो खुले में स्टॉक पड़ा है, इसको कंट्रोल डीलरों को देने की अनुमति दे दी जाए। यदि हम उनको तीन-तीन, चार-चार, पाँच-पाँच महीने का इकट्ठा गेहूं दे देंगे, तो यह जो भंडारण की समस्या है, इसमें कुछ राहत मिलेगी और गेहूं सड़ने से भी बच जाएगा, परन्तु केंद्र की सरकार इसकी भी अनुमति नहीं दे रही है..(समय की घंटी)..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : पाँच मिनट की जगह आपके आठ मिनट हो गए हैं। मैं क्या करूँ? You have to adjust your speech accordingly. आपकी पार्टी के तीन स्पीकर्स और हैं। आप क्या कर रहे हैं, आपके आठ मिनट हो गए हैं, आप इसको खत्म कीजिए।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, मैं दो मिनट में खत्म कर रहा हूँ। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली में जो गेहूँ बाहर से आता है, वह बाहर से भेजने की बजाय, उनके लिए उसी राज्य से देने की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए, इससे लाने, ले जाने का जो खर्चा है, वह बच जाएगा और सरकार का एफ.सी.आई. गोदाम में इसको रखने का जो खर्चा होता है, वह भी बच जाएगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस अवसर पर यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मार्किटिंग की जो समस्या है, उसके समाधान के लिए यह किया जाए कि जो किसान उत्पादन करता है, आप उस किसान को ऋण अनुदान दे दें। वह स्वयं अपने खेत पर वेयरहाउस बनाएगा, उसको रखेगा और उसके बाद सरकार उनसे यह गेहूँ सुविधानुसार लेने की व्यवस्था कर लेगी। ऐसा करने से सब ठीक होगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरे पास कहने के लिए बहुत कुछ है, परंतु समय का अभाव है, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से केंद्र की सरकार से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार, मुख्य मंत्री ने केंद्र की सरकार से जो मांग की है और केंद्र की सरकार ने जो सहमति दी है, जो वादा किया है, उसको

शीघ्रातिशीघ्र पूरा करें, गेहूं सड़ने से बचाएं, किसानों को लाभ पहुंचाने में सहयोग करें और गरीबों को संरक्षण देने का काम करें। धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्य ने आपके माध्यम से मध्य प्रदेश की स्थिति का जो वर्णन किया है, हम सभी मध्य प्रदेश वासी स्वयं को इससे सम्बद्ध करते हैं।

(समाप्त)

डा. नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, दूसरे सदस्य भी स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करते हैं।

(समाप्त)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन) : सभी सदस्य स्वयं को इससे सम्बद्ध करते हैं,

I also support.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Thank you, Sir.

(3j/PK आगे)

-USY/PK/5.10/3J

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (ANDHRA PRADESH):

Respected Vice-Chairman, Sir, this is an important discussion on storage of essential commodities, that is, foodgrains. Prof.

Swaminathan was mentioning about the customary debate of April-

May on this issue. For me, I appreciate the gesture which will be

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much MORE useful for making out a countdown for the food procurement, storage and foodgrain movement. I come from a State which is, otherwise, well known as *Annapurna*. Now, in my State, by our State Government, *Rythu chaitanya sadassulu*, the farmers' promotion conventions are going on. Kharif season is going to start. One month from now, we will be seeing long queues of farmers for seeds. After one-and-a-half month, we will, again, be seeing long queues for fertilizers and pesticides. By the end of August or from the beginning of September, the tensions of procurement and selling necessities of the farmers of their yield will be coming up. Then, by November-December, we will be hearing about and facing the suicide by farmers. This is the calendar going on, Sir. Based on this backdrop, Sir, I earnestly submit a few points for the consideration of the Minister of Food Procurement and Public Distribution. Prof. Thomasji is much famous in my State. He has understood the exact problem for the last three years. My State '*Annapurna*' and also several other States, including Maharashtra and Karnataka, have been regularly facing the problem of storage of foodgrains. From the inputs available from the concerned Ministry, there is a brief mention about

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the Food Corporation of India. To rationalise, in 2010, the staff strength of the Food Corporation of India was reduced from 55,000 to 36,000. I am told, even I have read through, and I have seen at certain places the systematic utilisation of technological facilities and modern computerised technology by this Ministry. The tracking and proper storage recording is enabled. But the claim of hon. Minister is that the requirement of foodgrains to implement the National Food Security Bill is not likely to be substantially higher than the current allocation of foodgrains, under various welfare schemes. The scale of operation of the Food Corporation of India is, therefore, not required to expand at all significantly. I dispute with my humble understanding, and it is also mentioned that even under the Scheme, well known as PEG, the process is just at finalising the contracts, and for the coming season, it will not be useful. Okay.

(Contd. by 3K/PB)

PB/3k/5.15

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (CONTD.): But, with all these things, what is to be done? There is every necessity to ensure, to work out the yield, the harvest plan. Based on the *kharif*-produce

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plan, you have to plan for the storage capacities and arrangement of rail wagons for the mobility and movement of foodgrains.

As a second point, there is every necessity to properly plan the warehousing of the foodgrains, and the destinations for the foodgrain movement should be very shorter, i.e., within 300 kilometres.

Besides that, as mentioned in PEG Scheme, as you are going to give the entrepreneurs the assurance of 10 years' hiring, there is every necessity to encourage the individual farmers. Those were the days when they used to have their own seeds, used to have their own backyard manure and used to have their own cow dung-pasted godowns at houses.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Now, those were not visible and the procurement and foodgrain storage has become a very important heart-rending thing. For that, there is every necessity to coordinate with all the Departments, including the NREGS, to have godowns at each and every major *Gram Panchayat* and cold storage facility for, at least, 100 villages. This is a must to ensure proper storage of

foodgrains, to ensure proper utilization of the Food Security Act.

Thank you very much.

(Ends)

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (KERALA): Sir, we are in a very paradox situation. We have got a record production of foodgrains on the one side, and, on the other side, the *per capita* availability of foodgrains is declining. According to a reply given in this House in December, 2011, ‘the *per capita* availability in 2006 was 445.3 grams, but, in 2010, it was reduced to 438.6 grams.’

For the last 20 years, since we embarked on the New Economic Policy, the production is increasing but the *per capita* availability of foodgrains is reducing. The Government says that ‘we have got enough foodgrains in the godowns, there is enough buffer stock.’ But, at the same time, they are reducing the quota of foodgrain allotment to States like Kerala. In Kerala -- the Minister knows it very well -- the APL quota was reduced by 85 per cent, and, till now, the Government is not ready to restore it and ensure the food security in Kerala.

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I think, there is a concerted effort on the part of the Government to weaken the FCI, to weaken the Public Distribution System in tune with the Neoliberal Economic Policy. The hon. Minister, Prof. K.V. Thomas, is honest enough to concede today, as the previous speaker was mentioning, that there is no necessity to strengthen and expand the working of FCI. I think, it is for the first time in this House, in Parliament, that a Food Minister is saying that there is no necessity of expanding the FCI. What does it show? We have to see the statement in the background. The hon. Member, Shri Naresh Agrawal, mentioned about the Committee constituted by the Government with industrialists like Mr. Mukesh Ambani and Mr. Godrej to study and formulate a proposal regarding processing and procurement of foodgrains.

(Contd. by 3I/SKC)

3L/5.20/SKC-DS

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (CONTD.): I feel that this Government is going in for more and more privatization in this sector. They are going to entrust the procurement and distribution of foodgrains to the private sector. Now, there is a proposal emanating from many quarters that

there must be direct cash transfer instead of providing foodgrains through ration shops. Now, what would introducing direct cash transfer mean? It would mean that we need not have a Public Distribution System, and we need not have ration shops; and you just give money to the needy. Then, the needy and the poor living Below the Poverty Line would buy foodgrains from the open market. Now, about ten years back, we used to read that big traders were the hoarders, that they were hoarding the foodgrains. Now, big corporate houses are into retail trade in India. They are procuring foodgrains directly from the *mandis* and hoarding them. Not only that, this Government is contemplating bringing in even multi-national companies to bring foodgrains into retail trade.

Therefore, if we look at the issue in hand in the background of all these aspects, the move of the Government is not to strengthen FCI, not to procure foodgrains directly from the farmers, but to give it to the corporates and the private players. If that happens, that would be the most harmful thing for this Government to do. It will endanger food security and endanger the very existence of this country. So, we must not go in for that. We must change the policy. We must go back to

the policy of strengthening the FCI and procuring foodgrains from the farmers to help the farmers as well as the consumers.

Thank you, Sir.

(Ends)

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): धन्यवाद, वाइस चेयरमैन सर। मैं मंत्री जी से सिर्फ एक निवेदन करूँगा कि इसके ऊपर लम्बा-चौड़ा भाषण देने की बजाय अगर कोई concrete बात सदन में रखी जाए, तो बेहतर होगा। माननीय शान्ता जी ने जब अपनी बात शुरू की, तो बहुत ही अच्छे सुझाव उन्होंने यहाँ सदन में रखे। उनमें से कम से कम एक-दो सुझाव को मान कर, उनके ऊपर सरकार कोई नीति बनाये, तो हम देश के अनाज को खराब होने से बचा सकते हैं।

मुझे मंत्री जी की बैकग्राउंड नहीं पता, लेकिन उनका संबंध अगर किसानियत से थोड़ा-सा भी है, तो कणक का वह दाना किसान के बीज बोने से लेकर इंसान के पेट में जाने तक कितनी प्रक्रियाओं से गुजरता है, यह हम सब जानते हैं। लेकिन, जब उसकी मेहनत से पैदा हुआ अनाज, जो किसी के पेट में जाना है, वह सड़ जाए, तो उसका सबसे ज्यादा दुःख उस किसान को होता है और वह सोचता है कि मैंने यह अनाज सर्दियों में रात को जाग कर और पानी के बीच में रह कर देश के लोगों के लिए पैदा किया, पर सरकार की नीतियों के कारण यह सड़ रहा है।

वैसे, अगर मैं आपको न्यूज़पेपर्स दिखाऊँ, तो इनमें कई हेडिंग्स इस संबंध में छपे हैं, जैसे- “गोदामों में सड़ रहा है अनाज” और “भण्डारण की आधुनिक तकनीक के अभाव से अनाज की दुर्दशा।” इन समाचारपत्रों ने जो आँकड़े दिए हैं, वे भी हैरान करने वाले हैं और सरकार को ध्यान से उन पर विचार करना चाहिए। इनमें लिखा है कि आँकड़ों के मुताबिक गोदामों में रखा पचास लाख टन से ज्यादा अनाज तीन बरस से ज्यादा पुराना है और आँकड़े यह कहते हैं कि तीन साल बाद खाने वाले अनाज की गुणवत्ता खत्म होनी शुरू हो जाती है। अगर यह अनाज तीन-तीन साल और साढ़े तीन-चार साल गोदामों में पड़ा रहेगा और उसको सड़ने के लिए छोड़ देंगे, तो हम किसान और अपने देश के लोगों के साथ अन्याय कर रहे हैं। एक और हेडिंग जो छपी है, वह भी बड़ी इंटरेस्टिंग और हैरान करने वाली है कि “पुराना सड़ा, नया सड़ाने की तैयारी।” मैंने इसी सत्र में एक क्वेश्चन दिया था। मैं मंत्री जी से निवेदन करता हूँ कि इस चक्कर को छोड़ कर कि इसकी जिम्मेवारी किसकी है, केन्द्र सरकार की या राज्य सरकार की, किसान के साथ खिलवाड़ करना हम बन्द करें। चाहे वह केन्द्र सरकार हो या राज्य सरकार, हमारा एक ही aim होना चाहिए कि हम इस अनाज को कैसे बचा पाएँ और इसको गरीब के पेट में कैसे पहुँचा पाएँ।

(3एम/एमसीएम पर जारी)

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (क्रमागत) : हम इस सदन में इतने लोग हैं जिनको प्रेक्टिकल एक्सपीरिअंस है, आपको अधिकारियों का सहयोग मिलता है। अगर 60 साल से हम देश में यह व्यवस्था ही नहीं कर पाए कि अनाज को न सड़ने दें, तो शायद और कितने वर्ष इस किसान को इंतजार करना पड़ेगा कि उसके अनाज का एक-एक दाना गरीब के पेट में जाए। वैसे एक कहावत भी है, कहते हैं कि अगर सारा माल लुट रहा हो तो आधा तो बांट देना चाहिए, जिससे खराब होने से कम से कम आधा तो बच जाएगा। अगर इस थ्योरी को ही आप सोच लो तो जितना अनाज सड़ने के कगार पर है उस अनाज को गरीबों में बांट देते हो तो कम से कम अपने देश के गरीब गर्व से कह सकते हैं कि मेरे देश का कोई व्यक्ति भी रात को बिना खाए नहीं सोता। अगर यह कमिटमेंट सरकार कर ले तो मेरा ख्याल है कि पैसे के आंकड़ों को छोड़कर, अनाज की बर्बादी को हम बचा सकते हैं। लेकिन उसके लिए शान्ता कुमार जी ने जो उदाहरण दिया है और आपको एक सुझाव भी दिया है, अगर आप उसको भी मान लें तो हम अनाज को बचा सकते हैं। आप एक-एक महीने का अनाज देते हैं, अगर उसको साल में दो बार कर देते हैं तो इससे आपका ट्रॉन्सपोर्टेशन का, स्टोरेज का कितना खर्चा बचेगा, उसका भी उन्होंने पूरा हिसाब आपको बता दिया है।

सर, मैं एक छोटी सी बात आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ। इस चिंता को देखते हुए कि देश का अनाज सड़ रहा है, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी आपको एक सजेशन दिया था कि अनाज को गरीबों में बांट दिया जाए। लेकिन पता नहीं, जो

सरकार एक नारा देकर सत्ता में आई थी, —“कांग्रेस का हाथ, आम आदमी के साथ” आज वह हाथ कहां गया? कम से कम सुप्रीम कोर्ट की डायरेक्शन मानकर वह अनाज गरीबों में बांट सकते हैं। मैं अपने स्टेट पंजाब का एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। वहां एक गोदाम के पास तहसील ऑफिस और एक स्कूल है। उस गोदाम में इतना अनाज सड़ चुका है कि वहां से सुरसुरी, जो अनाज को खराब कर रही है, वह सुरसुरी तहसील में भी फैल गई है और स्कूल में भी चली गई है। इस कारण तहसील में न तहसीलदार बैठता है और न उस स्कूल में बच्चे ही पढ़ने के लिए जाते हैं। इन सुरसुरियों से इतना आतंक फैल रहा है कि वहां का अनाज सड़ रहा है। सर, मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि जो स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई है, उसके कुछ सुझाव जो आपको अच्छे लगते हैं, उनको कम से कम एक बार अपनाकर तो देखो। जिन देशों में अनाज कम होता है, हम इसको एक्सपोर्ट करके भी उन देशों में अपने देश का नाम कमा सकते हैं। सर, इस अनाज को सड़ने मत दीजिए, इस अनाज को संभालिए, किसान की इज्जत कीजिए और किसान का दर्द समझने की कोशिश कीजिए।

सर, लास्टली मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जो किसान है, वह दो “G” के ऊपर निर्भर है, एक God और एक Government. न कभी God खुश होता है, न Government खुश होती है। हम लोग यहां चुनकर आए हैं, इस सम्बन्ध में जो सजेशन आए हैं, कम से कम उस किसान की वेदना को समझते

हुए, ध्यान रखते हुए जब अपना रिप्लाई दें, तो इन बातों को उसमें जरूर शामिल कीजिए। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति (हरियाणा) : धन्यवाद, सर, आपने मुझे बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का मौका दिया। हमारे देश में अनाज भण्डारण की बहुत गंभीर समस्या है। देश के अंदर अनाज भण्डारण की समुचित व्यवस्था नहीं होने के कारण इसकी बहुत सी मात्रा सड़ जाती है, जबकि देश के अंदर लाखों लोग भूखे सोते हैं, उनको खाना भी नसीब नहीं होता। अभी जैसे पहले भी चर्चा हुई, इस बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी सुझाव दिया कि अनाज को सड़ने के बजाए गरीबों में बांट दिया जाए। हमे अखबारों के अंदर भी पढ़ने को मिलता है कि गोदामों के अंदर अनाज सड़ रहा है या जो बीपीएल कार्डधारक हैं, उनको या जो मिड-डे मीलस के अंदर अनाज आता है, वह सड़ा हुआ अनाज होता है।

मैं हरियाणा से आता हूं, वहां बिजली की कमी है, पानी की कमी है, पानी की तो विशेषरूप से कमी है, उस कमी के लिए मौजूदा सरकार भी जिम्मेदार है, क्योंकि हरियाणा में जो पिछली सरकार थी, उसने एसवाईएल पर पैरवी करके सुप्रीम कोर्ट से फैसला अपने हक में करवाने का काम किया था।

(3n/HMS पर जारी)

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति (क्रमागत) : लेकिन न वहां की मौजूदा सरकार ने और न ही सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने वह फैसला लागू किया और हरियाणा को एस0वाय0एल0 का पानी नहीं मिल पाया। महोदय, वहां पानी की कमी है, वहां के किसान यूरिया, डीएपी ब्लैक में लेते हैं, बीज भी उन्हें ब्लैक में लेना पड़ता है। इस सब के बावजूद वहां के किसानों ने अनाज का रिकॉर्ड उत्पादन किया है, लेकिन आज हरियाणा में रिकॉर्ड उत्पादन के बावजूद, हालत यह है कि वहां ट्रैक्टर, ट्रॉलियों की लम्बी-लम्बी लाइनें लगी मिलेंगी क्योंकि किसानों को अपना अनाज उतारने की जगह नहीं मिलती। उनका गेहूं सड़क के ऊपर रखा हुआ है। वहां एफसीआई और हरियाणा का Food Supply Department, उनके अनाज का उठा नहीं पा रहा है क्योंकि उनके पास रखने की जगह नहीं है। इसी तरह से जब पिछले सालों में आलू का रिकॉर्ड उत्पादन हुआ तो किसानों को अपना आलू रोड के ऊपर फेंकना पड़ा था क्योंकि उनके पास उसे रखने की समुचित व्यवस्था नहीं थी। इसलिए सरकार को चाहिए कि किसानों के भंडारण की समुचित व्यवस्था करे।

महोदय, दूसरे हरियाणा में "SEZ" के नाम पर किसानों की जमीन acquire की जा रही है और उन पर Reliance जैसी कंपनियों के बड़े-बड़े मॉल बनाए जा रहे हैं जिससे छोटे दुकानदारों का कारोबार बंद होने के कगार पर है। दूसरी ओर किसान को पूरी सहूलियत न मिलने के कारण और उन्हें अपनी फसल का उचित मूल्य न मिलने के कारण वे बर्बादी के कगार पर पहुंच गए हैं।

महोदय, आज कृषि वैज्ञानिकों का भी यह मानना है कि किसानों को उनकी फसल का 1285 रुपए क्विंटल के हिसाब से जो मूल्य मिल रहा है, वह उनकी लागत मूल्य से भी कम है। आज उसका लागत मूल्य ज्यादा बैठता है। इस कारण किसान निरंतर कर्ज के बोझ के तले दबता जा रहा है। इसलिए जहां हम उनके लिए अन्न भंडारण की समुचित व्यवस्था करें, वहीं सरकार यह भी तय करे कि किसान को उसकी फसल का पूरा मूल्य मिले अन्यथा छोटे किसान और छोटे व्यापारी बर्बादी के कगार पर आ जाएंगे जिसके परिणाम बहुत भयंकर होते हैं।

आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० पी०जे० कुरियन) : श्री तरुण विजय। कृपया पांच मिनट में समाप्त करें।

श्री तरुण विजय (उत्तराखंड) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अनाज के भंडारण का मामला भारत के सत्ता संचालकों, धनी अफसरों और उनकी विश्व दृष्टि का एक कुपरिणाम है। महोदय, यह वह देश है जहां मोटर कम्पनियों को गाड़ियों के रखने के लिए कभी जगह की कमी नहीं होती, यह वह देश है जहां पर करोड़ों बोतल शराब के भंडारण के लिए कभी समस्या नहीं आई, कभी जगह की कमी नहीं हुई और कभी पैसे की कमी नहीं हुई। महोदय, यह वह देश है जहां पर 30 लाख लोग देश में अनाज होते हुए भी अंग्रेजों द्वारा निर्मित कृत्रिम भुखमरी का शिकार हुए थे और यह वह देश है जहां मार्च, 2012 में असम प्रदेश में वहां के

समाचार पत्र इस शीर्षक के साथ भूख से मर रहे बागीचों के कार्यकर्ताओं की खबर छापते हैं, 'The Valley of Death' 'The Plight of Tea Labourers in Assam's Bhuvan Valley'. महोदय, यह उस देश की कथा है, जहां अनाज की कमी नहीं है, लेकिन अनाज को वितरित करने की व्यवस्था भ्रष्ट और अमीर, सामंती दृष्टि वाले लोगों के हाथों में है, जो शराब बनाने के लिए लाखों टन अनाज को नष्ट कर देना ज्यादा उचित समझते हैं। महोदय, यह खंडवा की कथा है, जहां 10 फरवरी, 2012 को फूड कॉर्पोरेशन ने 1100 क्विंटल अनाज राशन की दुकानों पर बांटने के लिए भेजा, लेकिन वहां से एक पूरा-का-पूरा वैगन गायब हो गया।

(3 ओ/केएलजी पर जारी)

30/KLG-SK/5.35

श्री तरुण विजय (क्रमागत): अनाज के सैकड़ों वैगन ऐसे गायब किए जाते हैं और जब तीन महीने बाद अनाज मिलता है तो सारा अनाज सड़ चुका होता है या जान-बूझ कर सड़ा दिया गया होता है।

महोदय, मैं उत्तराखंड से हूँ। उत्तराखंड के मुख्य मंत्री ने कल केन्द्रीय मंत्री को पत्र लिख कर कहा है कि आप हमारे यहां जितना अनाज भेज रहे हैं, उससे लोगों का पेट नहीं भर रहा है। आप 767 मीट्रिक टन गेहूं और 13,496 मीट्रिक टन चावल कम भेज रहे हैं। इतनी बड़ी कम मात्रा में आप उत्तराखंड के गरीब लोगों को, जो गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे हैं, उनको चावल और गेहूं भेज रहे

हैं। वहां पर कांग्रेस की ही सरकार है और कांग्रेस के ही मुख्य मंत्री यह चिट्ठी थॉमस साहब को लिख रहे हैं और उनसे कह रहे हैं कि गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के लोगों को 22,570 मीट्रिक टन गेहूं और 16,928 मीट्रिक टन चावल भेजने की तुरन्त व्यवस्था करिए, लेकिन सरकार कहती है कि हम यह सड़ा देने के लिए तैयार हैं, हम नष्ट कर देने के लिए तैयार हैं। इधर आप देखिए, गरीब लोग दिल्ली के स्टेशन पर और सराय रोहिल्ला से मुर्शिदाबाद और गुवाहटी के स्टेशनों पर जूठन बटोर कर पेट भरते हैं। अभी कोई चले और दिल्ली के फुटपाथों पर देखे कि लाखों लोग किस प्रकार फुटपाथ पर रहते हुए पटरियों के किनारे गिरा हुआ भोजन बटोरते हैं और उसे खाते हैं। यह वह देश है, जो चन्द्रमा पर अपना उपग्रह भेजने की तैयारी कर रहा है, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के आंकड़ों में दुनिया का सबसे भूखा देश माना गया है। यह वह देश है, जहां पर सबसे ज्यादा 46 प्रतिशत कुपोषित बच्चे रहते हैं। वह वह देश है, जहां पर लगभग 7 प्रतिशत लोग भुखमरी और गरीबी का शिकार होकर जीने पर मजबूर होते हैं। उस देश में 2012 में आज यह संसद चर्चा कर रही है कि अनाज को नष्ट होने से बचाने के लिए बोरियां लाई जायं। जब धनी लोगों का या शांति निकेतन और फ्रेंड्स कॉलोनी में कोई काम होता है, तो उनकी सीमेंट की बोरियां बचाने के लिए कभी कोई भंडार की कमी महसूस नहीं होती, उनके लिए सीमेंट मिलता है, लोहा मिलता है, उनके लिए शराब मिलती है, उनके लिए हजारों गाड़ियां पार्क करने की जगह बनाई जाती है करोड़ों रुपए खर्च करने के बाद, लेकिन जैसा

स्वामीनाथन जी कह रहे थे कि अप्रैल में अनाज नष्ट हो रहा है और बोरियां लाने के बावजूद आप उसको बचा नहीं सकते, तो यह चर्चा अप्रैल में क्यों होती है, यह सरकार पूरे एक साल तक क्यों सोती रहती है?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude it now.

श्री तरुण विजय : क्या उसे पता नहीं होता कि इस समय पंजाब में सोना उगलने वाली धरती का अनाज आएगा, जिसको इकट्ठा करने के लिए भंडारण की आवश्यकता होगी? यह भारत के गरीबों के साथ * करने वाली सरकार है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष(प्रो० पी.जे.कुरियन): तरुण जी, कन्क्ल्यूड करो।

श्री तरुण विजय: यह भारत के दीन-हीन और भूख के शिकार लोगों के साथ * है, जो भूख के साथ खिलवाड़ करती है।

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

महोदय, व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए कि भंडारण की व्यवस्था पूरे एक साल पहले से शुरू हो और जो अनाज नष्ट करे, जिसके बारे में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने भी कहा है कि नष्ट न करके गरीबों में मुफ्त बांट दिया जाए, उन अधिकारियों की एकाउंटिबिलिटी निश्चित की जाए और देखा जाए कि उसके बाद एक भी व्यक्ति भूख का शिकार न हो। धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० पी. जे. कुरियन): श्री राम कृपाल यादव, सिर्फ पांच मिनट। सबके लिए पांच मिनट का समय है, आपके लिए भी पांच मिनट है।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार): सर, आपका प्यार मेरे ऊपर बहुत ज्यादा रहता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० पी. जे. कुरियन): प्यार ज्यादा, लेकिन टाइम पांच मिनट ही है।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, इसी तरह से अपनी निगाह मेरे ऊपर रखिए, काम चलेगा।

सर, यह बहुत गंभीर चर्चा हो रही है, जो देश के सामने एक विकट समस्या पैदा हो गई है। यह जो 2011-12 का आंकड़ा है, इसके अनुसार देश में अनाज का 25 करोड़ टन रिकॉर्ड उत्पादन हुआ है, लेकिन उपलब्ध भंडार में जो भंडारण की क्षमता है वह 10.87 करोड़ टन की है, यानी मात्र इतना अनाज रखने की क्षमता है। यह चिंता का विषय है। खाद्य मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में कहा है कि पिछले वर्ष पंजाब में, सिर्फ पंजाब में 70 हजार टन गेहूं उचित रख-रखाव के अभाव में खत्म हो गया, बर्बाद हो गया।

(3पी/एनबी पर जारी)

NB/3P/5.40

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (क्रमागत) : विडंबना यह है कि एक तरफ अनाज सड़ रहा है और दूसरी तरफ लोग भूख से मर रहे हैं। इस देश में करीब 35 परसेंट आबादी

ऐसी है, जो भुखमरी और गरीबी से जूझने वाली आबादी है तथा लोग भूखे सो जाने पर बाध्य हैं। सरकार को ऐसे लोगों की चिंता करनी चाहिए। Markfed द्वारा खरीदे गए गेहूं की करीब 2 लाख बोरियां खुले आसमान के नीचे रखने के कारण वह गेहूं सड़कर खराब हो गया। एक ज़माना था जब अनाज के मामले में हमारी आत्मनिर्भरता कम थी। इस देश के किसानों ने मेहनत करके, मजदूरी करके और अपना खून-पसीना लगाकर देश की उत्पादन क्षमता बढ़ाई, लेकिन उनको उनके उत्पादन का उचित मूल्य नहीं मिल रहा है, उनको निराशा हो रही है तथा उनके द्वारा उपजाया गया अनाज सड़ रहा है। इसलिए सरकार को इन किसानों की चिंता करने की जरूरत है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हमारे देश में कुल भंडारण की क्षमता मात्र 76 प्रतिशत है और बाकी 24 प्रतिशत अनाज भंडारण के अभाव के कारण सड़ जाता है। हमारे देश में गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रहने वालों की संख्या का आकलन लगभग 25 प्रतिशत है। अगर प्रबंधन ठीक हो, तो इस आबादी को यह अनाज पहुंचाया जा सकता है और इससे गरीबों को बड़ी राहत मिल सकती है, लेकिन हम लोग इस ओर ध्यान नहीं दे रहे हैं, जिसके कारण एक ओर अनाज सड़ रहा है और दूसरी ओर गरीब लोग परेशानी की हालत में हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि आज हमारे देश में तीन तरह की संस्थाएं हैं, जिनके माध्यम से हम अनाज को स्टोर करते हैं - FCI, Central Warehousing Corporation & State Warehousing Corporations

के माध्यम से, लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि ये नाकाफी हैं। इसलिए केन्द्रीय सरकार को कोई ऐसी पालिसी बनानी चाहिए, ताकि ब्लॉक लेवल पर गोदाम बनाकर खाद्यान्न भंडारण की व्यवस्था हो सके। केवल गेहूँ और चावल ही नहीं, बड़े पैमाने पर साग-सब्जी का जो उत्पादन होता है, वह भी बरबाद हो जाता है और बिचौलियों के माध्यम से उनका शोषण होता है, क्योंकि भंडारण की उचित व्यवस्था नहीं है, जिसके कारण औने-पौने दामों पर बिचौलिए लोग किसानों से कम मूल्य पर अनाज लेते हैं और उसे अधिक मूल्य पर बेच देते हैं। इस तरह से किसानों का शोषण हो रहा है। इसलिए माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि निश्चित तौर पर आप ब्लॉक स्तर पर कोल्ड स्टोरेज बनाने की व्यवस्था कीजिए, ताकि किसानों को लाभ मिल सके और जो किसान आज आत्महत्या करने पर मजबूर हैं, निश्चित तौर पर वे उससे बाहर निकल सकें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा, चूंकि टाइम हो रहा है और आप मुझे कहेंगे कि बैठ जाइए, तो एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल की ओर मैं उनका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। आज पूरे देश में बोरियों का अभाव है, जबकि वास्तव में बोरियों का अभाव नहीं है। किसी न किसी तरीके से यह कृत्रिम अभाव पैदा किया गया है, क्योंकि जो दुकानदार या व्यापारी हैं, वे तो कह रहे हैं कि हमारे पास बोरियां हैं। इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि किन-किन राज्यों से कितनी-कितनी बोरियों की मांग की गई है और किन-किन राज्यों में आपने

कितनी-कितनी बोरियां उपलब्ध कराई हैं? जब आप जवाब दें, तो अपने जवाब में यह जरूर बताएं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, तरुण विजय जी ने बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात बताई कि यह एक साजिश की जा रही है। हमारा जो अनाज सड़ रहा है, वह अधिकारियों के माध्यम से, व्यवसायियों के माध्यम से सड़ाया जा रहा है। जो शराब व्यवसायी हैं, उनकी यह मिलीभगत है क्योंकि जो सड़ा हुआ अनाज है, उसकी कम कीमत में बिक्री हो जाती है और मैं समझता हूँ कि शराब माफियाओं को फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए यह एक बड़ी साजिश की जा रही है। तो कहीं न कहीं एफ.सी.आई. और जो अधिकारी वर्ग है, उस पर निश्चित तौर पर सरकार को निगाह रखनी चाहिए और अपने जवाब में आपको यह जरूर बताना चाहिए।

अंत में मैं यही निवेदन करूंगा कि भारत का जो किसान है, आज बदहाली और फटेहाली में गुज़र कर रहा है, उसकी ज़िंदगी खराब हो रही है। किसानों के प्रति जो सकारात्मक भावना है, उसमें कमी आ रही है, इसलिए माननीय मंत्री जी, इन सब चीज़ों पर आप ध्यान दें। जब तक उचित भंडारण उपलब्ध नहीं होगा, किसान खुशहाल नहीं हो सकता है। मुझे भरोसा है, आपने निर्णय लिया है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी आपको आदेश दिया है कि जो अनाज सड़ रहा है, उसे आप गरीबों में बांट दें, पर आप वह भी नहीं कर पाए। इसलिए आप एक कारगर कदम उठाइए। मुझे जानकारी है कि आपने पांच हजार करोड़ रुपए की राशि warehousing को देने के लिए या एफ.सी.आई. के और गोदाम बनाने के लिए

उपलब्ध कराई है, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि निश्चित तौर पर आप इस पर ध्यान देंगे, ताकि खाद्य भंडारण की सही व्यवस्था हो सके और किसानों को राहत मिल सके, धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

(3Q/VKK पर आगे)

-NB/VKK-MP/3q/5.45

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Hon. Members, I have 3-4 more names which have been received after the discussion started. However, I am allowing them on the condition that they will speak only for two minutes. Each will speak for two minutes. Now, Mr. Baishya.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (ASSAM): Sir, today, we are discussing a very important topic which is directly related to the problem faced by the poor farmers of our country. Sir, lack of storage facilities is one of the worst problems faced by farmers of our country. In our country, storage facilities are looked after by several Government agencies, for example, Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation, State Warehousing Corporations.

To a certain extent, Agricultural Marketing Board also plays a role for the storage facilities in our country.

Sir, production of crops, marketing of crops and storage facilities of crops are inter-related issues. Without marketing, farmers will not get a just price and without storage, it will not be possible for the farmers to get the market. Sir, due to lack of marketing facilities, our farmers are facing lots of problems. Farmers produce crops and middlemen are looting the money. Secondly, Sir, they are not getting the proper marketing facilities. Sir, what is the problem? What is the ground reality? We have to take that into consideration.

Sir, the Food Corporation of India looks after storage facilities in our country. But, the storage policy of the Food Corporation of India is very narrow. Sir, the Government must have some ambitious plans. The Government should take it seriously. Then, Sir, the State Warehousing Corporations also play an important role in the storage facilities of our country but, due to lack of funds and lack of budgetary provisions, the State Warehousing Corporations are facing a serious problem.

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Sir, in winter season, our farmers produce bumper production of vegetables, for example, tomatoes, potatoes, gobhi, etc. But, farmers are not getting the market and there are no storage facilities also. So, they have no option. Under compulsion, they are destroying their production because they are not getting the minimum price. They are not even getting the cost of production. So, under compulsion, farmers destroy their produce. The destruction of foodgrains also is a crime and the Central Government is equally involved in this *.

Sir, it is the duty of the Government of India to kindly look into this problem faced by our farmers. Otherwise, farmers will not get any benefit from our side. Sir, first, the Government of India must have an ambitious plan. There should be storage facilities from the Panchayat level, from the Block level, from the District level to the State level. (Time-bell) Sir, I am concluding.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Sir, cold-storage facility is the call of the hour. Due to shortage of cold-storage facility, our farmers destroy their produce, particularly

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potatoes, tomatoes and ghobi. Sir, the Government of India should have some ambitious plan for this. Sir, Mr. Tarun Vijay has made an important reference to my State where due to shortage of foodgrains, people are dying. Problems of Assam are known to everybody. Every year, due to floods, hectares of cultivated land are totally destroyed in our country and due to lack of storage facilities, lakhs of tonnes of produce is lost. (Time-bell) So, I would request the Government to kindly look into this. Our State is backward. We are already facing the flood problem. Sir, therefore, there should be sufficient storage facilities in our State also. Mr. Minister, kindly look after this problem, otherwise, farmers will not get justice. (Followed by TMV/3r)

-VKK-TMV-SC/3R/5.50

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): All right. Shri Upendra Yadav. Take three minutes.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Production of crops, marketing of the crops and storage facilities for the crops are also equally important. I think, the hon. Minister will lay emphasis on this issue. Thank you. (Ends)

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अनाज के भंडारण की इस समय जो समस्या है, उसमें मैं विशेष रूप से राजस्थान की समस्या की ओर ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा। इस साल राजस्थान में जो फसल बोयी गयी, वह 26.77 लाख हेक्टेयर में बोई गयी। कृषि विभाग का यह अनुमान है कि राजस्थान में 133 लाख मीट्रिक टन का उत्पादन हुआ। आपने हरियाणा में 60 लाख मीट्रिक टन खरीदना तय किया, आपने मध्य प्रदेश में 70 लाख मीट्रिक टन खरीदना तय किया, लेकिन राजस्थान में केवल 20 लाख मीट्रिक टन खरीदना ही तय किया गया। उसमें से भी अभी तक केवल दस लाख मीट्रिक टन खरीदा गया है। राजस्थान में जो खरीद केन्द्र बनाए गए, वे 317 बनाए गए, लेकिन इन 317 खरीद केन्द्रों पर जो अव्यवस्था की स्थिति थी, जो बारदाने का अभाव था, जो जूट का अभाव था, उसके कारण किसानों को आंदोलन करने पर मजबूर होना पड़ा। पूरे कोटा और हाड़ोती में, जहां पर यह उत्पादन होना था, वहां आज तक आधे से ज्यादा किसान भी खरीद नहीं कर पाए। आपने जो समर्थन मूल्य 1385 रुपए रखा था, किसानों को मजबूर होकर, क्योंकि आठ-दस दिन उन लोगों को इंतजार करना पड़ा, 1050 रुपए के मूल्य पर अपना अनाज बेचने पर विवश होना पड़ा। राजस्थान में यह जो स्थिति है, इस स्थिति के कारण आज किसान बड़ा बेचैन है। कई बार तो मुझे यह लगता है कि किसान को मजबूर होकर यह कहना पड़ रहा है कि हमने कोई गुनाह तो नहीं कर दिया है? जब आपको पता था कि इस बार जो मौसम है, वह अच्छा है, इस बार फसल ज्यादा

अच्छी आने वाली है तो इस सरकार ने ऐसी परिस्थिति क्यों उत्पन्न की कि वह सही समय पर बारदाना उपलब्ध नहीं करा पायी। यह इस सरकार की अक्षमता है। यह केवल सरकार की अक्षमता नहीं है, पिछले सालों में जो गेहूं सड़ा है, वह कम उत्पादन होने के बाद भी सड़ा है। महोदय, माननीय राम कृपाल यादव जी ठीक कह रहे थे कि गेहूं के सड़ने का कारण केवल अव्यवस्था नहीं है, गेहूं के सड़ने का बहुत बड़ा कारण शराब माफिया का होना भी है। आज गेहूं को जान-बूझकर सड़ाया जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि भंडारण की जो विकराल समस्या है, इसका समाधान इस सरकार के पास नहीं है। स्वयं कृषि मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि पिछले दस सालों में एफसीआई कोई ऐसी सुसंगत योजना नहीं बना पायी है, जिस योजना के कारण भंडारण की क्षमता का किसी भी प्रकार से कोई समाधान निकाला जाए। इसीलिए किसानों को लाभकारी मूल्य नहीं मिल रहे हैं। विशेष रूप से राजस्थान में कोटा में पिछले दिनों में लगभग दो सौ करोड़ रुपए का किसानों का बकाया है, वह अभी तक नहीं मिला है। इसी प्रकार हनुमानगढ़, गंगानगर के क्षेत्र का डेढ़ सौ करोड़ रुपए का बकाया भी इस समय किसानों को नहीं मिला है। इसलिए जो सरकार की प्राथमिकताएं हैं, वे मूल रूप से उसकी गलत नीतियों के कारण हैं।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, भंडारण की समस्या के बारे में अभी स्वामीनाथन जी कह रहे थे कि पिछले पांच सालों से लगातार चर्चा चल रही है, लेकिन मैं यह पूछना चाहूंगा कि इतनी चर्चा चलने के बाद सरकार क्या कोई

सुसंगत नीति लेकर आयी है? क्या सरकार इस प्रकार की नीति को लाने में सक्षम हुई है कि वह भंडारण क्षमता का कोई निस्तारण कर सके? आप लोगों ने सब्सिडी की बात की, एफसीआई के गोदाम बनाने की बात की, लेकिन चर्चा में से यह ध्यान में आया कि एफसीआई के जो गोदाम बनाने की बात है, उसको आप अमली-जामा नहीं पहना पाए हैं, क्योंकि सरकार के पास कोई ऐसी व्यावहारिक नीति नहीं है जो इस सारी समस्या का समाधान कर सके। ..(समय की घंटी).. महोदय, मैंने राजस्थान का जो विषय उठाया है, वह इसलिए उठाया है कि बीस लाख मीट्रिक टन का जो आपका लक्ष्य है, वह कम है। उसमें से भी दस लाख टन मीट्रिक टन लेकर आपने राजस्थान में किसानों के साथ अन्याय किया है। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Shri Batra. He is not there. Shri Munabbar Saleem. He is not there. Shri Anil Desai.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (MAHARASHTRA): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman for allowing me to speak on grain drain. As the House knows, following the media exposure of foodgrain rotting in open storage, in 2010, the Supreme Court ordered the Central Government to hand it out free to the poor than let it go waste. In spite of this instruction, the Central Government has been unable to improve the

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situation, particularly in two States, Punjab and Haryana, where most of the grain is stored and damaged, and in other areas too. As per the information, last year, 20-22 lakh tonnes of wheat in Punjab were stored unscientifically; and this year, it is likely to be more than 30 lakh tonnes. It is estimated that in Haryana too 50 lakh tonnes will be wasted and it will be going down the drain.

(Contd. by 3S/VK)

VK/3S/5.55

SHRI ANIL DESAI (CONTD): Even the storage capacity that is considered regular, half of it is actually on plinths in the open. Recently, after the media reports that the gunny bags were in acute shortage, things started to move in the Government. They were trying to save their skin. But if the things go on like this, the situation will be very grim all over the country. Hon. Member, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, had stated in his speech that it was just like an annual schedule programme of the Government to discuss such kinds of things in the months of April and May. Every hon. Member has expressed his concern in regard to the agriculture produce and food grains going waste. Wherefrom would the investment come? It has

to come from the Centre which obtains most of the grain produced in the States. I appreciate that the Centre has taken steps such as increasing the budget for storage and giving loans and subsidies for private investment in this sector, but the results are not encouraging. While shortage of space is one of the reasons for the crisis, another reason is poor management of logistics of foodgrain movement. Rail rakes are often not available in required numbers and accurate estimates of requirement in different parts of the country are not made in advance. In fact, if the country could devise a way of predicting area-wise demand, some of the grain could be stored in consumption States, rather than in producer States. Totally covered storage for all food grain is likely to remain a dream for, at least, a few more years. Food managers would have to innovate till then. One of the deterrents for private storage investment in Punjab is low rents offered, compared to the high land cost. To overcome that, farmers could be encouraged to hold their produce for a few months by offering increased payment for delayed sale. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has predicted that demand for foodgrain could

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outstrip supply by around 30 per cent by 2020. Letting our foodgrain rot is definitely not an option.

I would like to mention one more thing. The Minister of Agriculture hails from Maharashtra. A lot of idealistic speeches have been made by the Treasury Benches, but if you happen to see the plight of the farmers of Maharashtra, the situation is very gloomy. The things which are being produced in Maharashtra, are not getting markets. There are many shortcomings and these shortcomings are there because of lack of proper approach from the Government side. If you take the case of onion producing farmers of Maharashtra....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude.

SHRI ANIL DESAI:no impetus or encouragement is being given for exports. There is no formal or regular policy on exports. These are the things which should be looked into. We should have a pro-active plan, rather than going in for a postmortem or holding such kinds of discussions every year. The Food Security Bill is on the anvil. That should be looked into. Shri Naresh Agrarwal was absolutely right in pointing out that the Committee which was being formed with the big names of industrialists like Ambanis and Tatas, should consist of

some agriculturists like Prof. Swaminathan and even farmers, who really toil to produce something for the country. In this way, the produce will be in our hands and it will be feeding India and the poor people of India. Thank you.

(Ends)

* Pp 770 onwards will be issued as supplement.

VK/3S/5.55

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair)

**SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION ON PROBLEM OF FOOD GRAINS
STORAGE IN THE COUNTRY – Contd.**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC
DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):** Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir,
today's discussion was on the problem of food grains storage and
management in the country. Shri Shanta Kumar has started this
discussion and 23 other hon. Members participated in the discussion.
Shri Shanta Kumar has also handled this Department. Many of the
hon. Members, including Prof. M.S. Swaminathan and Shri N.K.
Singh, who have participated in the discussion, have also made their
contribution in the agricultural sector in this country.

(Contd. By 3T)

RG/6.00/3T

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (contd.): Sir, I wish to start from the production scenario of the country. In 2009-10, our total production of rice and wheat was to the tune of 160.89 million tonnes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Just a minute, please. Hon. Members, after the Minister's reply, Special Mentions will be allowed to be read out.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, in 2009-10, our production of rice and wheat was to the tune of 160.89 million tonnes, which, this year, has reached the record production level of 193.64 million tonnes. As an Indian, I am very proud because this nation, within a period of 65 years, could produce foodgrains not only sufficient for the people of our country, which total up to 120 crores, but we could also export. This year, 40-44 lakh tonnes of rice have been exported under OGL, and about 8 lakh tonnes of wheat have been exported under OGL. We should remember that 65 years back, when we got independence, -- I am coming from a small fisherman's village — we had to wait for rice for the ships to come from Burma. We had to wait for the PL-480

American wheat. From those periods, we have come to a stage where we have got plenty. I know there is a problem of plenty. Sir, we have to find ways and means as to how this problem of plenty has to be tackled. One is the issue of procurement. Shri N.K. Singh and Shri Swaminathan referred to procurement. If you look at the earlier estimates, the FCI was procuring 20-25 per cent of what we produced. From that stage, this year, our procurement is to the tune of 34-35 per cent. It is a huge procurement. In physical terms, for our Public Distribution System, we need 55-60 million tonnes. And even if the Food Security Bill, which is going to be implemented, comes into effect, it will be around 63 million tonnes. That is what I said in the case of FCI management. We didn't say that the FCI would not be modernised. But I said that there need not be any special mechanism for FCI. The FCI is getting modernized. Sir, Mackenzie has been entrusted with the modernization process of the FCI. About five years back, our strength of 55,000 was brought down to 30,000. And we have been managing with this decreased strength. But the Finance Ministry has agreed, and we have started recruitment. To this strength of 30,000, we are adding another 10,000. Step-by-step, we

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are going to strengthen the FCI. It has got modernized. Almost all our godowns are computerized. Sir, very often, we have been criticized for the damage of foodgrains. Still, I want to stress the point that I cannot agree with all these news reports that lakhs and lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains are getting damaged.

(Continued by 3U)

SSS/3U/6.05

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (CONTD.): I have stated in the House that in 2002-03 the quantity of damaged foodgrains was 1.35 lakh tonnes. It has come down to 0.03 lakh. I request the hon. Members to please verify your FCI godowns in your respective States. Please verify. We have constituted a Consultative Committee with one of the MPs as the Chairman and hon. citizens, including the media persons as members, in every State, we are going to strengthen the FCI Consultative Committee. Let the system be transparent. I don't thrust upon my data, but this is the data I have got, and I am not blaming any media. I don't criticize the media, but many of the pictures which they are projecting now are taken about five years or four years before. So, ..

SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Sir, I seek your protection because hon. Minister has said that we have enough grains but then, the pictures published in the media are of the latest dates. They are taken one day or two days before. So, how can he say that no grain is being destroyed and if we have enough grains, why....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Are you yielding, Mr. Minister?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: No, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Vijay, he is not yielding.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, I am giving this information from my experience and my knowledge. If I am wrong, I am prepared to rectify that. But, with my experience, my knowledge, my information I am giving this information. I told you, I am not against the media. So, our procurement is to the tune of thirty-four percentage of what we are producing. So, what is the reason? Sir, within the last five years, MSP has been doubled. Many States are giving bonus and as a result, the farmers are now coming to FCI or to the State agencies. Take for example, Punjab and Haryana, it is State agencies which are

procuring either wheat or rice. From these agencies we have to take it. So, a large quantity of foodgrains, earlier which have been traded by the private traders, are now coming to the State agencies. It is a question which Mr. N. K. Singh has asked: what should be the procurement policy of the Government?

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति : यूरिया का कितना रेट बढ़ गया है ..(व्यवधान)..

आप उसके बारे में बताएं..(व्यवधान)..

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I am not against that. I am not against increasing the MSP. I am coming back to the factual point, whereby FCI has to procure more than what it needs for the PDS system. I said for the PDS system, even if the Food Security Bill is going to be implemented, it will not be more than 60-62 million tonnes. We have already procured 75 million tonnes. I agree that farmers should get a better MSP. I agree that the States should announce the bonus, but, can FCI procure the entire foodgrains of the country? Have we got the mechanism? What is the burden? My present subsidy is to the tune of Rs. 88,000 crores, and if the Food Security Bill has to be implemented, apart from the investment in agriculture, every year, we have to invest a large amount in agriculture so that agricultural

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production sustains. But apart from that, my food subsidy, Sir, will be to the tune of Rs. 1,09,000 crores to Rs. 1,20,000 crores. A few days back, the hon. Finance Minister said in the other House that all of us should sit together and decide what should be the mechanism of procurement. Here, it was raised that jute bags are not available. Sir, I don't want to question the management capacity of any State.

(Contd. by NBR/3W)

-SSS/NBR-AKG/3W/6.10.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (CONTD.): But, there are certain facts which we have to accept. Every year, in the month of November-December, we, as the coordinating agency -- our Ministry is only the coordinating agency -- sit with the DGST of the Commerce Ministry, Jute Commission and all major procuring States. We take a calculation from the States as to how many jute bags each State requires. This year also an assessment was made. The representatives of the major wheat-procuring States -- Punjab, Haryana, MP, UP -- were there and the assessment was made. What was their stand? Sir, an assessment was made on 22-11-2011. What was the assessment? Sir, the Government of Madhya Pradesh gave an assessment that it is

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going to procure 65 lakh tones of wheat. These are all facts and figures. It needed around 2.88 lakh jute bales. Each bale contains 500 bags. In that meeting, the representative of Madhya Pradesh told us that out of 2.88 lakh bales, it will procure 50 per cent through private sources. It was agreed. But, after a few months, the Government of Madhya Pradesh says, 'We could not procure 50 per cent i.e., 1.44 lakh bales. So, please make arrangement for the entire quantity of 2.88 lakh bales.' There was a problem. This has to be distributed. Order has to be placed. We agreed. But, in April, the officials from Madhya Pradesh came. Later, I also talked to the hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. They said that from 65 lakh tonnes proposed to procure earlier, it has gone up to 80 lakh tonnes. I don't blame them. And, they asked for another 50,000 bales. Sir, we have already made arrangement for distribution of bales in Punjab, Haryana, UP and MP.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: What about Rajasthan?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: I come to Rajasthan later.

Sir, in Rajasthan and Bihar, arrangement is made through the FCI. We will take care of that responsibility. I will send my officers to

Rajasthan as well as Bihar and talk to them. We are finding out a mechanism. It is our responsibility i.e., FCI. We are taking care of that. But the quantities from Rajasthan and Bihar are small when compared to Punjab and Haryana. I will come back to that. We have discussed it with the Government. Our senior officers are there. We have chalked out a plan.

I come back to Madhya Pradesh. I met the hon. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, sat with the officers and a plan has been chalked out. Our officers are in Kolkata. The officers from the Government of Madhya Pradesh are there. Sir, UP has a problem. All this has happened because in November, 2011, the States could not properly target what they needed. Don't blame us. But, still, I have instructions from the hon. Prime Minister and hon. Minister of Finance relating to foodgrains. It is not the time to blame anybody. So, we are doing our best and I am very confident that we will be able to manage.

Apart from jute, usually, we do not allow anything else. But, we allowed 20 per cent of the production in the country can use the high density plastic bags. We agreed; we are supplying. We usually don't

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agree that the used bags of one year or two years to be used. We also agreed to this as a special case. So, we are trying to manage the situation. Here, there are no politics, because there is a huge production of foodgrains.

In the last two-and-a-half-years, we have been in constant touch with every new emerging States. I congratulate these States -- Madhya Pradesh, UP -- for the steps they have taken.

(CONTD. BY KGG "3X")

Kgg/3x/6.15

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (contd.): Because of the 'look east' policy of the Government, a lot of changes have taken place in agriculture. Productivity has gone up. We have been telling all the new emerging States to start the management of procurement.

Then, I come to the question whether we have enough storage mechanism with us. Sir, we need more. I do not say that we have got enough. Why? Sir, if it is the usual TPDS system, what I need is around 55-60 MT capacity. I have already got 63 MT with me, both capped and covered; and, under 151 lakh tonnes scheme, this March, we have got another 3 MT capacity addition. Sir, we also have had

creation of smaller godowns, done by the State Governments; we sanctioned grants to 0.7 lakh MT capacity building and, recently, they have completed about 0.2 lakh MT.

Under the Gram Bhandar Yojana, 310 lakh tonnes capacity building has been allocated and 96 lakh tonnes capacity has been constructed. Under RIDF Funds through NABARD, 90 lakh tonnes capacity building has been approved. We have been telling the State Governments, "We will make use of some financial assistance either through NABARD or through RIDF, let there be smaller and medium-sized godowns with the State Governments." There is one problem in Kerala. Kerala is one of the best States in the implementation of PDS. Chhattisgarh is another State. But, in Kerala, we do not have intermediate godowns. Sir, in Kerala, straight from the FCI godowns, the foodgrains are taken to the PDS store. It is a major problem we face. To every Government there, whether LDF or UDF, we have been pointing out, "We will give assistance, but please have medium-sized godowns." We have been telling this fact to every State Government, "We give assistance, please construct medium-sized godowns." This is the situation. We have to construct more godowns.

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With regard to the pet scheme of creating 151 lakh tonne capacity, it has been planned and the construction is going on as per our plan. We will complete all the constructions under this by 2013. This is the position.

Sir, there is another question raised about restriction in the movement of foodgrains. Sir, there is no restriction. There had been some problem in Andhra Pradesh. I discussed with the hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Now, there is no restriction in the movement of foodgrains. Foodgrains can be moved throughout the country.

Sir, coming to the PDS, I am not claiming that PDS is foolproof. But, as I said in the Question Hour, have we got any other option to feed the 120 crores of people other than strengthening the FCI and the PDS in the country? Sir, I have got a letter from a very eminent person, Prof. Gilchrist, which has been sent to the hon. Prime Minister. He had criticised the PDS sometime back. They had a survey. This survey points to an impressive revival of the PDS across the country. "In all the sample-States, with a notable exception of Bihar, there have been major initiatives in the recent past to improve

the PDS and these efforts are showing results. Most of the sample households were getting the bulk, if not all of their foodgrains entitlement under the PDS, up to 35 kgs. per month at a nominal price. The days when up to half of the PDS grain was diverted to the open market are gone." About 35 professors had been criticising us; we accepted the criticism in a healthy manner. They have recently written to the hon. Prime Minister.

(Contd. by tdb/3y)

TDB-DS/3Y/6.20

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (CONTD.) So, why? I give the credit to the State Governments. Sir, look at the modernisation taking place in our States. In Chhattisgarh, the movement of foodgrains is monitored through the satellites. The Aadhar system is being implemented; computerisation is being implemented. Sir, we have got 20 crores ration cards in the country. Out of that, recently, it has been found out that two crores are bogus ration cards. It has been deleted. Still we have to do lot of things in the modernisation of the PDS.

Sir, my good friend, comrade Achuthan, said that we are for cash cards. We are not for cash cards. Some of the States, like Bihar,

have suggested that there can be cash cards. It has to be decided by the States. Primarily, running the PDS is the responsibility of the State Governments.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, you said that the Bihar Government has suggested that there should be an alternative arrangement. But I request you that the PDS is the best system. Don't go by the advice of the State Government.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, what I suggest is, these are the issues which we have to discuss with the State Governments. Every State has autonomy and liberty.

Sir, coming to allocations, in the case of normal PDS, the off-take is around 85 to 90 per cent. As directed by the Supreme Court, we have been asked to make special allocations, and we are making special allocations. But on special allocations, the off-take is very, very small. The Supreme Court has directed to allocate 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains under the BPL rate. Sir, we accepted the direction of the Supreme Court. But, till today, just below two lakh tonnes has gone out. It is under complete supervision of the State Governments. Sir, some of the State Governments have requested for additional

allocations, and we are trying to help these States. Whichever State is coming to us, we discuss with the State Government, and we are making the additional allocations.

Sir, the last point is the point of nutrition. Sir, in the proposed Food Security Bill, it becomes the right of a person. It is not what Government gives, it becomes a right. What we have suggested for the pregnant woman is so much calories of prepared food should be given. For children, from the age of three months till they go to eighth standard, how much calories of prepared food has to be given; all these things are being given in the proposed Food Securities Bill, which gives them a right. Sir, our thrust is on the nutrition. And, more than that, the important point is that the mother is the head of the family. This is the important change made in this Bill. So, we are trying our best to see that this is done. Sir, a record production is taking place. I know there are problems; I don't claim that there is no problem. But we will discuss them with the State Governments. We are in constant touch with the State Governments. We will find out solutions. Sir, I am thankful to all the Members who have participated in the debate. With these words, I conclude. (Ends)

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। मंत्री जी ने यह कहा है कि रिकॉर्ड उत्पादन हुआ है और हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि उपभोक्ताओं को उसका लाभ मिले। लेकिन, उसका लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को तो तब मिलेगा जब अनाज सुरक्षित रह पाएगा? भण्डारण की व्यवस्था नहीं है, जबकि मंत्री जी उससे अलग हट कर बात कह रहे हैं। इसी प्रकार, राज्य की सरकारें केन्द्रीय पूल में जिस अनाज की खरीद कर रही हैं, उसको आप उठा नहीं पा रहे हैं। मंत्री जी को इन बातों का जवाब देना चाहिए, लेकिन ये कुपोषित बच्चों के बारे में और दूसरी चीज़ों के बारे में कह रहे हैं।

(समाप्त)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri Shanta Kumar.

श्री शान्ता कुमार (हिमाचल प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने जो जवाब दिया है, हम उससे बिल्कुल संतुष्ट नहीं हैं। मुख्य सवाल यह है कि भण्डारण, आपकी कपैसिटी से दो सौ-ढाई सौ लाख टन ज्यादा हो रहा है। सवाल यह है कि आप यह ढाई सौ-तीन सौ लाख टन कहाँ रखेंगे? अगर आप इसे बाहर रखेंगे, तो चूहे खाएँगे। आपको चूहे और भारत के गरीब में से किसी एक को चुनना है कि भारत के चूहे को यह अनाज खाने देना है या भारत के गरीब के घर तक इस अनाज को पहुँचाना है। ..(व्यवधान).. मैं एक और बात कहना चाहता हूँ।..(व्यवधान)..

(3z/KLS-MCM पर आगे)

-DS/MCM-KLS/3Z/6-25

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It cannot be another discussion. ...(Interruptions)... You are the initiator, you can ask, others cannot. ...(Interruptions)... No, no...(Interruptions)... Those who did not speak cannot ask. ...(Interruptions)... Those who took part in the debate only can ask their questions. ...(Interruptions)... Let him complete. ...(Interruptions)... I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)... He is asking for you also. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शान्ता कुमार : सर, मैं दूसरी बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि अनाज कितना खराब होता है, हम गलत हो सकते हैं, सुप्रीम कोर्ट तो गलत नहीं हो सकता। एक बार नहीं सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कई बार कहा है, सरकार को फटकारा है। यह कहा है कि अनाज खराब हो रहा है इसको मुफ्त बांट दीजिए। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने वाधवा कमेटी बनाई थी। वाधवा कमेटी ने यह कहा है कि लगभग 40 प्रतिशत अनाज खराब होता है और चोरी होता है।

मैं एक और बात पूछना चाहता हूँ कि योजना आयोग की एक रिपोर्ट मैंने पेश की है। उस रिपोर्ट में कहा है कि एक रुपए का अनाज कंज्यूमर तक पहुंचाने में यह सरकार तीन रुपए पैंसठ पैसे खर्च करती है। इन सारी बातों का ध्यान रखकर जो मैंने सुझाव दिया है कि आप दो रुपए सस्ता दीजिए और 175 लाख टन केपेसिटी खाली करवाइए, इसमें आपको क्या ऐतराज है? अनाज खराब

करने के बजाए, चूहों को खिलाने के बजाए सस्ता देकर गरीब आदमी को देने में क्या ऐतराज है, यह हम जानना चाहते हैं?

(समाप्त)

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, बस, एक क्वेश्चन। मैंने आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन किया था, जिसका जवाब नहीं आ सका। प्रत्येक राज्य में जो बोरों का अभाव है, उसको आप कैसे पूरा कर रहे हैं? इसके अलावा खास तौर पर मैंने यह भी पूछा था कि बिहार में कितने बोरों की डिमांड की गई और अभी तक आपने इस संबंध में क्या स्टेप्स उठाए हैं? सर, इन पर मंत्री जी का क्लिअर जवाब नहीं आया है।

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: I have only a short question. The point is that there is a problem of crisis of jute bags in Kolkata. The Indian Jute Mills Association has alleged that the price of jute is not being changed. The formula is of 2001 which is not being changed. That is causing a problem.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, in our nation, till now, 33 per cent of women are suffering from malnutrition. In this regard, what steps are being taken? This I want to know from the Minister.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTAN: Prof. Swmaminathan has suggested an institutional mechanism for procurement. What is the response of the hon. Minister on that?

श्री थावर चन्द गहलौत : सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार के साथ जो बातचीत की थी तथा बोरियों की गठान देने का वायदा किया था, उसमें से अब तक कितनी दीं और बाकी कब तक दे देंगे? क्या विदिन लिमिट दे देंगे?

श्री तरुण विजय : इस सम्बन्ध में सुप्रीम कोर्ट के हुए फैसले से क्या मंत्री महोदय सहमत हैं? सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने तीन बार वह बात कही जो मंत्री महोदय के कथन से उलट है। तो क्या इस बारे में मंत्री महोदय, स्पष्ट करेंगे?

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : सर, मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इतने बड़े डिस्कशन में मंत्री महोदय ने एक भी बात का जवाब नहीं दिया, जबकि यहां इतने सजेशन दिए गए हैं। क्या आप इस सदन को एश्यॉर करेंगे कि सारे देश में अनाज का एक भी दाना नहीं सड़ेगा?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Whatever you can reply, you reply, otherwise, you can write to them. ... (Interruptions)...

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PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, some of the points I will answer. Shri Shanta Kumar has raised the issue of storage capacity. Sir, it is true that the covered capacity of our State agencies is 455 lakh tonnes.

(Contd by 4A/PK)

-KLS/PK-HMS/4A/6.30

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (CONTD.): But there is a CAP. CAP is also a scientific coverage. All over the world, not only in India; I have gone to China; there also, a large quantity of foodgrains has been stored. This is also CAP. So, it is more covered. And CAP. We have got now 627.36 lakh tonnes to which we have added another 30 lakh tonnes. That is what I said. We are going to add more. What we have been suggesting to the States, which procure wheat specially, is that please have scientific CAP coverage. This is the instruction we are giving to the States. Sir, again, there was a question about the jute bags, which I have explained. Sir, after discussing with the Leader of the Opposition, we have formulated a programme of supply of jute bags to every State. Sir, I have got the scheme. In Madhya Pradesh, the opening stock was 30,000; indent placed was 2,69,000; inspected — 2,48,000; backlog -21,000; dispatched till date —

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2,24,000; inspection awaiting — another 24,000; balance quantity to be dispatched — 44,000, and by 18th of May, our plan is that the entire quantity will be given to Madhya Pradesh. This is the plan; that we have worked out. Similarly, Sir, in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Bihar, all these things are being worked out. We have worked out a scheme. The State Governments cannot blame us, because in November, 2011, they should have projected their demands. They could not do it. But, still, we are trying to help them.

(Ends)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay.

..(Interruptions).. Now, Special Mentions admitted for today.

..(Interruptions)..

**(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN)
in the Chair)**

श्री शान्ता कुमार : आपको 6 महीने का अनाज देने पर क्या एतराज है? आपने इस प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया। यह हम बार-बार पूछ रहे हैं, इसका जवाब दीजिए। ..(व्यवधान).. सर, भारत सरकार के करप्ट ऑर्गनाइजेशंस में एक फूड कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया है। आप उसके आंकड़ों पर पूरा भरोसा मत कीजिए।

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सर, मंत्री जी आश्वासन दें कि..(व्यवधान).. चूंकि जूट बैग्स, उस अनुपात में उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, तो क्या पॉलीथीन के बैग्स हैं ..(व्यवधान).. आप उनमें अनाज रखे जाने की इजाजत देंगे?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Now, Special Mentions. ..(Interruptions).. Hon. Minister, do you want to reply now? ..(Interruptions)..

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I have answered almost all the questions. But whatever other suggestions are there, I cannot give an immediate answer to them. So, with regard to the other questions which are relevant, which can be practical, I will look into them and answer them.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Okay. Thank you. Now, Special Mentions.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : सर, यह तय किया गया था कि सदन साढ़े 5 बजे तक चलेगा ...(व्यवधान)..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

It was only with your consensus. This is because the individual Members like to read it.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : हम मना नहीं कर रहे हैं, पर रिकॉर्ड में है कि साढ़े 5 बजे तक कार्यवाही चलेगी और अब साढ़े 6 बज गए हैं। इसलिए हाउस की permission ली जाए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Whether the House feels that we should complete the Special Mentions.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Yes, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Okay. Till the last Special Mention is over, we will continue.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

DEMAND FOR MAKING STRICT LAWS TO MAINTAIN PERMITTED QUANTITY OF SALTS, ETC. IN JUNK FOOD BY VARIOUS FOOD COMPANIES IN THE COUNTRY

डा० राम प्रकाश (हरियाणा) : महोदय, आज महानगरों के व्यस्त जीवन ने जंक फूड को हमारे जीवन का अहम हिस्सा बना दिया है। हम इसके माध्यम से, अपने आपको आधुनिक दिखाने के चक्कर में, ऐसी आदतों का शिकार हो रहे हैं, जो अंततः हमारे स्वास्थ्य के लिए घातक साबित हो रही हैं। इसमें टेलीविजन तथा अन्य संचार माध्यम भी जंक फूड को छोटे-छोटे शहरों में घर-घर तक पहुंचा रहे

हैं, जिससे यहां के बच्चों में भी जंक फूड की ललक पैदा हो रही है। माता-पिता भी समय को बचाने हेतु इस जंक फूड को अपने बच्चों को देने में परहेज नहीं करते, मगर वे शायद यह नहीं जानते कि जिस जंक फूड को वे अपने प्यारे-प्यारे बच्चों को खिला रहे हैं या स्वयं खा रहे हैं, उसमें लवण आदि की मात्रा सेहत के लिए घातक है। महोदय, जो मात्रा पैकिंग पर लिखी जाती है, उससे कई गुना ज्यादा इसमें उपलब्ध होती है। कमजोर कानून के कारण ये जंक फूड बनाने वाली कम्पनियां कानूनी कार्यवाही से बच जाती हैं।

अतः मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूं कि वह जंक फूड पर पैकिंग पर लिखी मात्रा से अधिक लवण आदि की मात्रा पाए जाने पर इन कम्पनियों के विरुद्ध सख्त कार्रवाई हेतु कानून बनाए।

(समाप्त)

(4 बी/केएलजी पर आगे)

PB-KLG/4b/6.35

**NEED TO CHECK CRIMES AGAINST MENTALLY-ILL WOMEN AND
TAKE STEPS FOR THEIR REHABILITATION**

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (TAMIL NADU): Sir, my Special Mention is about the crimes against mentally-challenged women.

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Sir, I would like to use this opportunity to bring to the notice of this august House the very grave matter about human rights violation. Crimes against mentally-ill women are on the rise, not only in India but globally also. We must ensure that those responsible for such abusive behaviour are brought to book.

The UN Declaration on the 'Elimination of Violence against Women' states in its article 4(b) that States should itself 'refrain from engaging in violence against women.'" In this case, the State must actively ensure that violence against vulnerable women should not take place and punish those who have violated the law.

Even if one person's right is violated, it is up to the State to ensure action against those responsible. In this case, an extremely vulnerable section is being tortured.

I urge both the Central and the State Governments to spread awareness and take necessary steps to safeguard the interests of these women. It is especially necessary, considering the fact that they are more vulnerable than the common citizen. Investigations should be carried out and the accused must pay a price for their unacceptable behaviour. Their physical and psychological peace of

mind must be guaranteed. What is required is the spreading of awareness and protection and rehabilitation of such victims. Thank you, Sir. (Ends)

NEED TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS FOR TEACHING OF URDU LANGUAGE IN KENDRIYA VIDYALAYAS

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार): हमारा भारतवर्ष विश्व में विविधता की एक मिसाल है, जिसमें हर धर्म, हर जाति और हर वर्ग के लोग एक समान अधिकार से रहते हैं। हमारे इसी भारत में मुस्लिम भाइयों की जनसंख्या 13.8 करोड़ है, जो मुसलमानों की जनसंख्या के संदर्भ में विश्व का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा देश है। इनकी साक्षरता दर 59 परसेंट है, जो पुरुषों के लिए 67.6 परसेंट और महिलाओं के लिए 50.1 परसेंट है। यद्यपि सरकार साक्षरता अभियान के तहत हर संभव प्रयास कर रही है, परन्तु खेदजनक बात है कि देश के केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में उसका यह प्रयास सार्थक नहीं दिख पा रहा है। देश के कुल 1087 केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में उर्दू की पढ़ाई नहीं होती है। इन सभी विद्यालयों में उर्दू भाषा की पढ़ाई शुरू किए जाने से न सिर्फ पढ़ने वाले छात्रों को ही लाभ मिलेगा, बल्कि वहां उर्दू के शिक्षकों को भी रोजगार मिलेगा और मुस्लिम समुदाय के बच्चों में शिक्षा के प्रति एक नई भावना पैदा करेगा। चूंकि केन्द्रीय सेवाओं और रक्षा सेवाओं में मुस्लिम समुदाय के व्यक्ति भी नौकरी करते हैं, इनका अकसर स्थानान्तरण होता रहता है तथा इनके बच्चे केन्द्रीय विद्यालय में ही शिक्षा ग्रहण करते हैं, यह पहल वैसे व्यक्तियों के

लिए काफी सहायक होगी। अतः सरकार से मेरी पुरजोर मांग है कि इस संबंध में यथाशीघ्र कदम उठाये। (समाप्त)

(4सी/एनबी पर आगे)

4c/6.40/nb-sk

**DEMAND FOR PAYING OLD-AGE PENSION TO MEN AND WOMEN
AGED 55 YEARS AND 50 YEARS, RESPECTIVELY, AND
INCREASING AMOUNT OF PENSION**

श्री राम विलास पासवान (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से देश के बुजुर्गों की समस्याओं की ओर इस सदन का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। देश की जनसंख्या का 8.2 प्रतिशत बुजुर्ग हैं, जिनकी संख्या 10 करोड़ है। आज गरीब लोग काम की खोज में गांवों से पलायन कर रहे हैं। ऐसे में उस परिवार के बुजुर्गों की देखभाल करने वाला और आर्थिक मदद करने वाला कोई नहीं होता। इन लोगों का राष्ट्र निर्माण में सबसे ज्यादा योगदान है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य है कि जो जूता बनाता है, उसके बेटे के पैर में हवाई चप्पल नहीं है, जो कपड़ा बनाता है, उसके शरीर पर वस्त्र नहीं है, जो सबकी गंदगी साफ करता है, वह सबसे गंदी बस्ती में रहने के लिए मजबूर है, जो सबको अनाज खिलाता है, उसका बेटा भूखे पेट सो जाता है, जो महल बनाता है, उसके रहने के लिए झोंपड़ी नहीं है। जब तक यह कुव्यवस्था जारी रहेगी, तब तक असंतोष भी जारी रहेगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, 7 मई से बुजुर्गों के लिए पेंशन एवं अन्य मांगों को लेकर जन्तर-मन्तर पर समाजसेवी अरुणा राय, श्री भंवर मेघवंशी, डा. सुनिलम, डा. बाबा आढव एवं रामजी सिंह जैसे समाजसेवी के नेतृत्व में आंदोलन जारी है। हमारे बहुत से माननीय सदस्य भी वहां गए थे, श्री बंदोपाध्याय जी भी वहां गए थे।

मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि प्रत्येक वृद्ध बुजुर्ग पुरुष, जिसकी आयु 55 साल और बुजुर्ग महिला, जिसकी आयु 50 साल से अधिक हो, उसे कम से कम 2,000 रुपए की मासिक पेंशन तत्काल दी जाए। समय-समय पर महंगाई के साथ इस पेंशन में भी वृद्धि की जाए। यदि कोई मजदूर मकान बनाता है, तो हर पांचवीं मंजिल के बाद एक मंजिल का खर्च वहां काम करने वाले मजदूरों के खाते में जमा किया जाए। इसके लिए सरकार एक व्यापक विधेयक संसद में लाए।

(समाप्त)

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार): मैं अपने को इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (WEST BENGAL): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

(Ends)

**NEED FOR TAKING STEPS TO PROTECT
GIRL CHILD IN THE COUNTRY**

SHRI ANIL DESAI (MAHARASHTRA): Sir, dismal sex ratio is not enough proof that daughters in son-crazed India remain unwanted; there is yet another chilling reminder that Indian girls continue to get a raw deal. Recently, in Bangalore, Afreen, a three month old baby girl, was allegedly beaten and bitten by her own father. This speaks volumes about the medieval mindset that refuses to change. The obsession for sons often acquires mentally ill dimensions. In Punjab, a father had snuffed out the life of his four-day old daughter. Recently, the case of baby Falak and her horrible death also proved that as a society, we have developed a thick skin, especially with regard to child abuse. The law can only undo the damage to a limited extent. It requires a societal movement to change the mentally ill mindset that continues to value sons over daughters. The recent data predicts turnaround in attitudes towards girls in middle-class India. For the sake of battered Afreen and millions of daughters who go missing in India, this change can turn into a momentum, provided the society, NGOs, the media and the Government work in tandem. “Cherish the girl child” should become a household slogan across the country.

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I want the Government to take the benefit of this change and protect the girl child in an earnest manner. Thank you.

(Ends)

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (WEST BENGAL): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT (MAHARASHTRA): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

(Ends)

**DEMAND FOR INITIATING DETAILED CBI INQUIRY INTO
INCIDENTS OF REPEATED FIRE ACCIDENTS AT
METTUR THERMAL POWER STATION IN TAMIL NADU**

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I wish to place before the House a very important issue -- to initiate a detailed CBI inquiry

into the repeated fire accidents at the Mettur Thermal Power Station in Tamil Nadu.

Sir, I rise to bring to the notice of the Government the frequent fire accidents at the Mettur Power Station in Tamil Nadu. Even though it comes under the administrative control of the State Government, the frequent fire accidents and the loss of imported coal have initiated the need for intervention of the Central Government. We should not forget the recent fire accidents also in which huge quantities of coal have been wasted. Now, it was told by the State Government authorities that the major fire that broke out at the Mettur Power Station had affected the functioning of all its four generating units of 210MW capacity. It is also being said that the fire could have been caused either by friction in the rollers under the conveyor system, or an electrical short circuit and the entire conveyor systems could have crashed. Just prior to the accident, the Plant had been producing power to its fullest capacity of 210 MW with its huge coal stock. It was also being said that now, after the accident, it would take, at least, a month to make the Plant operational. Such repeated accidents have

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really raised doubts among the general public that it might be to invoke global tenders for importing coal for this Plant.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to order a detailed CBI inquiry into the functioning of this Plant, into the tenders for importing coal, the extent of damage of coal and the cause for the repeated fire accidents in this Plant, and instruct the State Government to ensure that such accidents do not happen in future.

(Ends)

DR. V. MAITREYAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, the relevant facts on the subject must be taken note of before it goes on record.

(Ends)

(fd. on 4d/hk)

HK/4d/6.45

**DEMAND FOR TAKING STEPS TO CHECK ILL-TREATMENT AND
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN COUNTRY**

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (TAMIL NADU): Sir, in India, where almost half of the population is women, they always are ill-treated and deprived of their right to life and personal liberty as provided under our Constitution. Women have been considered as physically and

emotionally weaker whereas now they are proving themselves in almost every field of life affirming that they are no less than men. Women being tortured, beaten and killed, is happening invariably. It is crossing all social classes, racial lines and age groups. More saddening is it becoming a legacy. Offences against women reflect the pathetic reality that women are not safe and secure anywhere. According to a latest report of India's National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a crime is recorded against women in every three minutes in India. Every 60 minutes, two women are raped in this country. Every six hours, a young married woman is beaten to death, burnt or driven to suicide.

The statistics of women subjected to violence attacks, that is, foeticide, infanticide, medical neglect, child marriages, bride burning, forced marriages, rapes, prostitution and sexual harassment, are shocking.

In recent days, several rapes have been reported in the NCR region. The lack of responsibility, both moral and administrative on the part of the police, has resulted in the common occurrence of such a horrendous crime frequently and this is a matter of national shame.

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The Government must seriously consider of enforcing some immediate steps like ensuring patrolling of police at night, establishing more women police stations on this issue to tackle this serious menace.

(Ends)

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH (MADHYA PRADESH): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (WEST BENGAL): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member. (Ends)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):
Shri Nandi Yellaiah, not present; Shri Tapan Kumar Sen, not present.
Shri Ambeth Rajan.

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**DEMAND TO BRING A LEGISLATION FOR PROPER
IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL COMPONENT PLAN FOR SCs
AND TRIBAL SUB-PLAN FOR STs**

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (UTTAR PRADESH): Sir, it is shocking to find that the Central Government, even after 33 years of the policy, has not implemented fully the policy of 'Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan.

In spite of Government's repeated promises, over the years, utilization of SCP and TSP funds, to the extent of 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent from the budgeted allocation, is not taking place. This is upsetting the millions of SCs and STs today.

Now, it is reported that of about 75 Departments in around 54 Ministries, only 25 Ministries are implementing these two Plans. Maybe other Departments are not having heart to implement these.

In the 11th Five Year Plan from 2007-2008 to 2011-2012, the Central Government should have allocated only Rs.1,92,307.8 crore for this scheme. But Government has allocated only Rs.96,071.1 crore, remaining Rs.96,236.7 crore is denied to SCs/STs. Out of the partially allocated amount, more than half of the amount, that is,

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Rs.46,000 crore is spent on building bridges, flyovers, stadiums, roads, jails, airports, organizing game events and Metro Rail networks, which should be spent on SC/ST funds.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government: (i) to bring a Central Legislation on Special Component Plan for SCs and Tribal Sub-Plan for STs; (ii) to constitute a Monitoring Group, consisting of all SC/ST MPs, Central/State Secretaries of Ministries/Departments for implementation of SCSP and TSP Plans and proper utilization of allocated funds; and (iii) to consider and create a separate Ministry only to monitor implementation of these SCSP/TSP Plans.

(Ends)

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member. (Ends)

(Followed by 4e/GSP)

GSP-SC-4E-6.50

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**DEMAND TO WITHDRAW THE CENTRAL ORDER TO REDUCE
QUOTA OF KEROSENE OIL FOR ANDHRA PRADESH**

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, kerosene is called 'poor man's fuel' and it is the bounden duty of Government in power to ensure supply of sufficient kerosene to poor and downtrodden. But, Sir, the supply of kerosene to poor in Andhra Pradesh by the Government of India has come down by leaps and bounds.

The Andhra Pradesh State Government is demanding to increase kerosene quota but the Ministry of Petroleum, instead of increasing it, has brought down supplies by 43 lakh litres from April, 2012. We were getting 5.53 crore litres of kerosene between 2005 and 2010. In April, 2010, the Ministry reduced it by 57 lakh litres. In May, 2011, it reduced it again by 65 lakh litres, and, now, the Ministry has reduced it once again by 43 lakh litres. The poor are praying for increase in quota but the Government of India is reducing it.

I charge that it is all part of Government's larger plan to ultimately stop supply of subsidized kerosene to poor in Andhra Pradesh. Why? It is because the Government is planning to transfer

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money directly to beneficiaries in next one year with the objective of stopping kerosene diversion. It is a welcome step but in the name of this, how far it is justified to reduce kerosene supply to poor. Secondly, by the time the Government introduces money transfer to beneficiaries, there would not be any supply of subsidized kerosene to Andhra Pradesh. So, this is a larger scheme of Government to deny kerosene to poor.

Hence, I demand to immediately de-notify the order meant to reduce 43 lakh litres from April, 2012 and I also request for restoration of 5.53 crore litres quota of April, 2010.

(Ends)

DEMAND FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SC SUB-PLAN

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, the Government has stipulated allocations for the sub-Plans for the SCs and STs, and, it is thereby violating its own decisions. Even in this Budget, it has allocated just 07 per cent against the mandated 16.5 per cent.

The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions headed by the hon. Prime Minister himself has said that the Government's success rate in filling the backlog posts for SC, ST and

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OBCs has been less than 30 per cent. Of a total backlog of 76,137 vacancies in various ministries, departments and public sector enterprises, the Government could fill up just 26,472 vacancies. There is Government's apathy in filling up the vacancies.

Dalits are denied access to police stations and they face immense difficulties to lodge FIRs. The conviction rate for the cases of atrocities on SCs and STs is between 3 to 8 per cent, while pendency of such cases in the courts is 80 to 90 per cent. The concerned Minister, Shri Mukul Wasnik, himself made this statement in the immediate background of the recent judgement on the Bathani Tola Massacre, where 21 dalits were killed and the convicts were freed.

Credit disbursement to dalit entrepreneurs had dropped by 33.8 per cent in 2011-12, according to data released by the RBI. The discussion in the Parliament on the atrocities on dalits, and, also in the conference of the Home Minister and the Ministers of Social Justice of all the States and Union Territories, merely stated the status of the dalits in the country. It is strangely silent on what it had done to remedy such a situation.

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Sir, following are some indicators in percentage terms between SCs and other social groups. Literacy rate is 63.5 per cent among SCs while it is 72 per cent in other groups. Malnutrition among women is 41.2 per cent in SCs while it is 33 per cent in all other groups. If we see underweight children, it is 47.9 per cent in SCs while it is 39.1 per cent in all other groups. As far as pucca housing is concerned, it is 38.3 per cent in SCs while it is 66.1 per cent in all other groups. With regard to 'No Toilet Facility', it is 65 per cent in SCs while it is 49 per cent in all other Groups. If you see incidence of poverty in rural areas, it is 20.6 per cent in SCs while it is 14.9 per cent in all other Groups, and, if you see incidence of poverty in urban areas, it is 25.3 per cent in SCs while it is 14.5 per cent in other Groups.

Sir, the Government should consider the above-mentioned facts and fully implement the SC Sub-Plan. Thank you.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention. (Ends)

(Followed by SK-4F)

SK/4F/6.55

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on 15th May, 2012.

**The House then adjourned at fifty-six minutes past
six of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Tuesday, the 15th May 2012.**