

Planning Boards in States

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- *461. { **Shri Rishang Keishing:**
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
Shri Ramshekhar Prasad Singh:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed that every State and Union Territory in the country should form a Board or Committee for the purpose of planning; and

(b) if so, how many States and Union Territories have constituted the Planning Committees or Boards?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) The setting up of Planning Boards for States was recommended by the Planning Commission. The recommendation did not extend to Union Territories.

(b) Several States have had the proposal under consideration. Organisations described as State Planning Boards have been set up in three States—Orissa, Rajasthan and Punjab.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know the reasons why Union Territories have not been included in this?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: So far as the Union Territories are concerned, the Planning Commission itself deals with these matters.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether the States have given any reasons for the delay, and also by what time all the States are expected to have these planning boards?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: It is not a question of giving reasons. They are considering the various aspects, and we are getting replies gradually from one State after another. In

some cases, where the boards may have been formed, we are drawing the attention of the States to the imperfections that we have found in the formation.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : इन प्लानिंग बोर्डों का काम डिटेल्ड वर्क आउट करना होगा या वे बुनियादी बातों की तरफ भी ध्यान देंगे ?

योजना तथा धम और रोजगार मंत्री (श्री नन्दा) : दोनों ही चीजें इस में आ जाती हैं ।

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know whether the planning boards or committees proposed would begin to function before the end of the Third Plan, and what the main features of those boards or committees would be?

Shri Nanda: It is not that there is a vacuum there. The States have some machinery now. The Planning Commission's recommendation was that it may be strengthened and improved in certain directions. Some of the States have said that their existing machinery is quite adequate. Some others are considering the various suggestions that have been made.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how this planning work is being done at present and the agency which is at present resorted to in the States instead of these committees and boards?

Shri Nanda: The agency is a committee of the Cabinet in a number of cases with the Chief Minister at the head of it, and sometimes there are some officers concerned with planning and development associated in these committees.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether any model set-up has been recommended for these boards, and if so, the elements that are going to compose these boards?

Shri Nanda: This has been given in the document of the Third Five Year Plan.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी बताया है कि कुछ स्टेट्स में जो प्लानिंग का तरीका है, वह संतोषप्रद है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन स्टेट्स में वह संतोषप्रद है, क्या वहाँ प्लान के मुताबिक सभी प्रकार के उत्पादन में वृद्धि हुई है ?

श्री नन्दा : यह तो बहुत बड़ा सवाल है कि जहाँ जहाँ तरक्की हुई है वहाँ वहाँ प्लानिंग मशीनरी का क्या सम्बन्ध था। मैं फौरन इस का जवाब नहीं दे सकता हूँ।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: May I know whether there is any body apart from the State planning board to review the work of the progress of the planning from year to year?

Shri Nanda: Yes, that is being done through the annual plans. The Planning Commission sits with the representatives of the States and does that.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: To watch the progress in the State itself?

Shri Nanda: Yes.

Shri Daji: How are the planning boards in the States expected to be different from the existing machinery, if this difference was thought to be necessary? What is the Centre's reaction to the refusal of some of the States to set up separate planning boards?

Shri Nanda: It is a question of considering precisely what is happening in the particular State, and whether actually it is adequate or not. We have written to them. The difference is that we have asked for some kind of a permanent and continuing set-up which will look at the data, improve them and consider the long-term requirements and also have the association of non-official experts in that process. To some extent, it is being done.

Shri Ranga: Are any efforts being made to coordinate whatever work has been entrusted to these planning boards and planning committees with

the work that has to be developed now by the Defence Councils in the various States as well as at the Centre? May I also know whether any other effort is being made by these planning boards to see that the expenditure outside the planning, which has been complained about by the Estimates Committee, is minimised?

Shri Nanda: Certainly, the fact that defence imposes additional liabilities has to be kept in view in considering all programmes, so that utmost economies are effected, and certainly, this should be kept in view by all the States.

Shri Ranga: What about the expenditure outside the Plans?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it a fact that the Planning Commission having considered the existing machinery in the States to be inadequate recommended more than a year back the setting up of planning commissions of a permanent nature there instead of boards as such? If so, what are the reasons which are being given by the various States for not doing so?

Shri Nanda: Some States have said that their existing machinery is adequate, in their view. Some of them are not able to obtain enough of experts of the kind visualised by the Planning Commission. They are not available. There are various other things also.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Since we have worked without these State boards for these twelve years and since we are in an emergency, would not the Centre like to advise States not to bother about setting up new boards now?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Dr. Sarojini Mahishi: In the context of the emergency prevailing in the country, may I know whether any special instructions are being given to the planning boards or to any other organisation of this nature?

Shri Nanda: Yes. This idea was thrown up in the last meeting of the NDC that this should specially be kept in view.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Would any extra expenditure be involved if planning boards are to be set up in the States? Is that the main reason why State Governments are averse to the idea?

Shri Nanda: This question was raised from one State. But the answer is that no considerable expenditure should be incurred simply for that reason, because even otherwise adequate arrangements will have to be made for the purpose.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether there is any body at the State level to evaluate the progress of the plan?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: It has already been stated. Usually it is the Chief Minister with a few officials under him who try to evaluate it at present. But we find it inadequate in view of the complexities of the Fourth Plan and various other things, especially perspective planning.

Shri Tyagi: Have Government examined the feasibility of transferring some experts from the Planning Commission to various States? At present, there are, I understand, 229 officers, 376 ministerial staff and 246 peons in the Planning Commission.

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Nanda: In the Planning Commission, there is the messenger system. There is a certain number of messengers, of course. Considering the various aspects of the work of the plan and development in the whole country, I would like to give a fuller account to the House about what is being done. It may be that there may be some superfluous people. If so, they should not be there. But if all the functions are to be performed, there

may have to be even strengthening in some directions.

Shri Tyagi: It is difficult to believe that they are all busy.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: It is expansion of the Planning Commission.

Shri Tyagi: The House has also some intelligence.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Indians working in Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference Secretariat

*462. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians working in the Secretariat of Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference and for how long they have been there;

(b) whether the Government of India have, at any time, extended pecuniary support to any Indian delegate visiting the said Conference;

(c) whether there is any unit of this Conference functioning in India; and

(d) if so, the personnel thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the table of the House.

Statement

The unit of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation functioning in India is known as "Indian Association for Afro-Asian Solidarity". There is an Indian Secretary in the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation at Cairo, working there since 22nd April, 1961. Prior to the present incumbent, there had also been an Indian working in the Permanent Secretariat from 1958 to 1960.

2. Government have at no time extended monetary support to any Indian delegate attending the various Conferences held by the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organisation.