

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, November 27, 1964/Agrahayana 6, 1886 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Mr. Speaker: Secretary may call out the name of the Member who has come to make and subscribe the oath or affirmation under the Constitution.

Secretary: Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit.

The Minister of Communications and Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I have great pleasure in introducing to you and through you to the House, Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit who has been returned to Lok Sabha from Phulpur constituency of Uttar Pradesh in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit (Phulpur).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of Cement

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*225. { Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri Bagri:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 135 on the 11th September, 1964 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the proposal to import cement to meet the acute shortage in the country; and

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(b) if so, how much cement will be imported and from which country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It has been decided not to import any cement.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : क्या यह सही है कि रूस हिन्दुस्तान को सीमेंट रूपोज की वल्यू में देना चाहता है ; अगर हां, तो चूँकि इस देश में बहुत सी योजनायें सीमेंट की कमी की वजह से स्थगित पड़ी हुई हैं, इसलिए क्या सरकार वहां से सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट करने के बारे में सोच रही है ?

Shri Bibudhendra Misra: It has been considered taking all aspects of the question into consideration as also the overall position in the country and the requirements. The main requirements of the Central sponsoring authorities, like, Defence, Railways, Water and Power Commission, any everything has been considered. In view of the shortage of foreign exchange the Government has come to the conclusion that it is not necessary to import any cement. The shortage is there but it is not to the extent of retarding the progress of any important sector.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद: अगर सरकार बाहर से सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट नहीं करना चाहती है, तो वह सीमेंट की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए कौन से कदम उठा रही है, क्योंकि इस की वजह से देश की जनता परेशान है और बहुत सी योजनायें स्थगित पड़ी हुई हैं ?

उद्योग तथा संभरण मंत्रालय में भारी इंजीनियरिंग तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री त्रि० ना० सिंह) : इस कमी को पूरा करने के लिए हम लोगों ने यह कोशिश की है कि इस वक्त जितने कारखाने हैं, उन में अगर थोड़े बहुत बॉलेंसिंग एक्विपमेंट से काम चल सके, तो उस का इन्तजाम कर दिया जाय। इसके साथ ही इस वक्त जो फैक्टरीज़ हैं, हम ने उन को इन्सेन्टिव दिया है, जिस से वे ज्यादा उत्पादन कर सकें। इस का नतीजा यह हुआ है कि आधा मिलियन टन पिछले साल ज्यादा पैदा हुआ और आशा है कि इस साल उस से भी ज्यादा पैदा होगा।

श्री बागड़ी : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में सीमेंट की जो कमी बाके हुई है, उस का कारण यह भी है कि सरकार ने सीमेंट बनाने के बारे में जो लाइसेंस दिये थे, उन को कॅन्सल, मन्सूख, किया गया और वे मन्सूख किये गए लाइसेंस दूसरों को अभी तक नहीं दिये गए। अगर यह सत्य है तो फिर सरकार दस लाख टन के लाइसेंस दौबारा कब दे रही है?

Shri Bibudhendra Misra: It is true that some licences have been cancelled because the parties did not go forward with their work; but a capacity of 4.6 million tonnes has been licensed recently. That would cover 22 schemes out of which 12 are completely new.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is it not a fact that in our country we have more than enough raw material for cement production and also the machinery for cement production is made indigenously? What is the reason that the Government have allowed this acute shortage of cement to grow in this country and why....

Mr. Speaker: This question is confined to import only. We are going into the broader questions as to why shortage has occurred, what the production is and other things.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: I am not asking about production; I am saying that the import has been necessitated because of the shortage.

Mr. Speaker: Now we have decided not to import.

Shri Kapur Singh: What is the approximate annual lag between our production and requirements of cement?

Shri Bibudhendra Misra: The production, at present, is 10.5 million tons and the requirement is short by about 2 to 2½ million tons.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: The hon. Deputy Minister has mentioned that they are not importing it because they will require more of foreign exchange. I would like to know what is the harm in importing it from the rupee payment countries like Russia and some other countries?

Mr. Speaker: They are not importing.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: In view of the fact that there is a large consumption of cement in public works and the general public has to suffer and wait for years together for having a few bags of cement, may I know whether the Government is considering to supply some cement to the general public?

Shri T. N. Singh: We are very anxious that the shortage of cement should be made good as soon as possible. As a matter of fact, in our allocations, every effort has been made to accommodate as much of the private demand as possible keeping in view, no doubt the importance of the various public sector projects which are to be implemented, specially the demand for minor irrigation projects which is being met. We are attempting to meet that demand and that creates some shortage in other sectors.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : जिन देशों से सीमेंट आयात किया जाता है, उनको बदले

में विदेशी मुद्रा दी जाती है। क्या वे देश उस के बदले में कोई ऐसी चीज नहीं मंगते हैं, जो हम उन को दे सकें, ताकि विदेशी मुद्रा की बचत हो जाये ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि वह सीमेंट मंगायेगे ही नहीं।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को कोई निर्देश दिया है कि खेती के काम के लिए सीमेंट का अमुक परसेंटेज किसानों को दिया जाये, ताकि खेती का उत्पादन बढ़ सके ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह सवाल दिल्कल अलग है।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। किसानों को सीमेंट नहीं मिलता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह सवाल सिर्फ़ इतना है कि आया सरकार और सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट करेगी।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : वह इंडस्ट्री और सपाई के मिनिस्टर भी तो हैं ?

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know at what price we are importing the cement?

Shri T. N. Singh: We are not importing cement.

Mr. Speaker: He has said that they are not importing.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know whether any comparative study has been made of the foreign exchange that will be required to import machinery for the units for which licences have been granted and the foreign exchange, or rupee exchange in this case, that would be required to meet the import demands for a temporary period? May I know whether that aspect of the question has been taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Again, that is not relevant. Next Question.

Syllabus of Mining Engineering

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*226. { **Shri R. G. Dubey:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a board has been set up for reviewing the syllabus of the courses and standards to be followed by each institute imparting training in mining engineering; and

(b) if so, the composition of the board and the terms of its reference?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the composition and functions of the Joint Board on Mining Engineering Education and Training is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3479/64].

Shri R. G. Dubey: May I know whether the Board has submitted any interim report and made any recommendations?

Shri Thimmaiah: Yes, Sir. The Board had made certain recommendations in their meeting held in October, 1964. The recommendations are that a scheme of fellowships should be introduced in Mining Engineering, the National Register Unit of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research should assess the position with regard to the employment of various categories of mining engineers and that a scheme of graduate apprentices should be introduced in the mining industry.

Shri R. G. Dubey: May I know what steps are being taken to implement these recommendations?

Shri Thimmaiah: Out of these three recommendations, for the implementation of the first two recommendations, we have asked the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to