

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The matter has been investigated and we have found that since the area of development is going to be purely in Rajasthan, it is only the Rajasthan State Legislature that can legislate in the matter and not the centre.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : यह स्कीम कई साल से इस प्लान के ऊपर है और कागजात पर काफ़ी पैसा खर्च हुआ है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन लोगों को यह प्रावधान दिया गया था कि उन लोगों को इस योजना के मातहत बसाया जायेगा उस प्रावधान का क्या हुआ ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is not paper work; actually Rs. 49 crores have been spent on this project alone. It is true that there has been some delay in colonisation, but that is now going to be speeded up.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : सम्पन्न महोदय मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह नहर जो कि पंजाब के क्षेत्र में से हो कर निकल रही है तो राजस्थान से लगता हुआ जो पंजाब का क्षेत्र है जहाँ पर पानी की बड़ी कठिनाई है क्या सरकार उस क्षेत्र को भी पानी देगी यदि नहीं, तो क्यों नहीं और अगर देगी तो कितने क्षेत्रों को देगी ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: We are providing adequately for all the needs of Punjab through other canal projects.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether from this canal Punjab would get anything.

Dr. K. L. Rao: If the hon. member has any particular suggestion, I would like to consider that.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : भटिंडा का इलाका इस से लगता हुआ है ।

सम्पन्न महोदय : सब घाप बैठ जाइये, मैंने श्री आप की मदद की है ।

Shri Ranga: I am sure all sections of the House are in favour of the development of this canal which goes through that desert area which is to be developed. We want to know what doubt is still when the minister said that they have not taken any final decision, in view of the fact that the Finance Minister has already conveyed the Government of India's decision to Rajasthan Government and the Rajasthan Government is keen about it?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Only the details of the statutory body that has got to be set up under the Rajasthan State Legislature are to be worked out.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how, in the name of fairness and equal distribution of the benefits, this Rajasthan Canal, which was projected by the Punjab Government to begin with has been handed over lock, stock and barrel to the Rajasthan Government and in what way the interests of cultivators of Punjab who have given their land and the people of Punjab who want to colonise are going to be safeguarded?

Dr. K. L. Rao: From the very beginning, the project was intended to benefit the areas in Rajasthan State. With regard to colonisation, I am glad to state that we have arrived at a good solution which was agreed to both by the Rajasthan and Punjab Governments.

Foreign Exchange Requirements of Fourth Plan

*511. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of foreign exchange requirement for the Fourth Plan has been assessed;

(b) the present rate of flow of foreign exchange annually;

(c) the quantum of foreign exchange requirements which are likely to be met by exports during the Fourth Plan; and

(d) how much foreign aid has been promised so far?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Tentative estimates have been made; but nothing definite can be said at this stage.

(b) Foreign exchange receipts from exports, invisibles and aid averaged Rs. 1072 crores annually during the past four years.

(c) The target for exports is at present envisaged at Rs. 5100 crores during the Fourth Plan.

(d) No foreign aid for the Fourth Plan as such has so far been promised.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: After the Bell Mission, the Special Adviser to the World Bank President, Mr. D'Latre, came to this country. May I know whether he had any specific discussion about this programme of foreign aid and the way it is to be paid to the Government of India, and if so, with what results?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Apart from broad discussions about the general economic question whether he had any specific discussions about foreign aid for the fourth plan took place.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether any indication has been given by the World Bank authorities or the consortium that foreign aid in for the fourth plan will depend on the performance of Indian economy and if so, what is the attitude of the Government of India in regard to that matter?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The performance of the economy will solve many problems, including aid.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I do not want any generalisation; was there any specific proposal for aid?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I have said no specific proposal has been made.

श्री ब० रा० भगत : मंत्री महोदय ने अभी बतलाया कि फॉरेन एक्सचेंज के लिये कोई बायदा नहीं मिला है, चौबी योजना के लिए भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि

क्या सरकार इस दिशा में कुछ प्रयत्न कर रही है यदि हाँ, तो किस किस देश से फॉरेन फिटनी, फिटनी मात्रा में फॉरेन एक्सचेंज उपलब्ध होने की सरकार को प्राप्ता है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : पहले तो फॉरेन प्लान का पूरा पूरा खाका तैयार हो जाये उस के बाद बातचीत की जायेगी ।

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: If we receive foreign aid at the rate at which we received it during the third plan period, what is likely to be the gap between our receipts and our estimated requirements of the fourth plan period?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I have said that only tentative estimates have been made and no definite estimate has been made.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know, Sir. . . .

Mr. Speaker: No, madam. Shri Hem Barua.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: What are those tentative estimates?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The plan is coming into existence within a few months and the minister says no specific proposal has been made.

Mr. Speaker: Why did the hon. Member, Mr. Chaturvedi, put that question without my calling him? He has encouraged the lady member also to talk like that. Why did he do that when I was not allowing the lady member? Does he claim superiority over her? Shri Barua.

Shri Hem Barua: In spite of the fact that Pakistan has aggressed on us, the USA has held out a threat that she might stop giving not only arms aid, but also economic aid to India. This morning the VOA made a broadcast like that. In that context, may I know whether our government have given any consideration to the possible impact this US decision might have on

our finances and foreign exchange position and of our plans?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): We have had no official communication yet.

Shri Hem Barua: He says there is no official communication. I just wanted to know. . . .

Mr. Speaker: That would become hypothetical. They have not received it.

Shri Basappa: May I know the extent of foreign exchange required for payment of our debts and interests? May I also know whether any headway has been made in the matter of import substitution; if so, to what extent that will cover our foreign exchange requirements?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is the hon. Member asking about debt service payments during the Fourth Plan?

Shri Basappa: Yes, certainly.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It may be of the order of Rs. 1350 crores, or it may be a little more than that. As I said, all these figures are tentative and they may have to be changed.

Shri Basappa: What about our import substitution?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That we have not estimated.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: According to the tentative estimate—I know it is tentative and there is no use repeating that every time—what are our own requirements of foreign aid during the next Plan; are they estimated to be greater or less than during the Third Plan?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Fourth Plan is of a very large dimension and, naturally, they will be more.

श्री मधु सिन्घे : वर्तमान घटनाओं से साफ हो चुका है कि विदेशी सहायता पर निर्भर रहने का मतलब होगा हमारी विदेश नीति में और सरकार नीति में विदेशी ताकतों

का हस्तक्षेप। इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना का अंतिम प्रारूप तैयार करते समय इस बात को मद्देनजर रखा जायेगा और विदेशी मुद्रा पर हमारी जो निर्भरता है उसको कम करके योजना तैयार की जाएगी ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : इस बात का खयाल किया जाएगा।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: In view of the fact that our Finance Minister proposes to visit some of these foreign capitals in order to pursue the matter of our knowing what we will be getting in the form of assistance, may I know what are the expectations of our Government of the assistance that we are likely to get from the World Bank and also from these foreign countries?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Finance Minister has postponed his visit. It is difficult for me to say about our expectations. How can he assess without going there as to what is the amount of aid?

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: In view of the fact that Rs. 1400 crores are likely to be taken away out of the total availability of foreign exchange for the Fourth Plan, does the Government not think that the available foreign exchange will be far short of what our requirements would be, indeed shorter than what we had in the Third Five Year Plan; if so, may I know what plans the Government has to solve this problem?

Mr. Speaker: Why do hon. Members want the Government to suppose at this time that the foreign exchange would be short?

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: It is obvious from the calculations.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The only solution would be that we must increase our exports, there should be greater import substitution and there should be self-reliance in some of the basic sectors of the economy.

Mr. Speaker: What do we gain now? This will be the usual answer.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: We gain by the knowledge that the Government is trying to be more self-reliant and is trying to build up more exports; otherwise the picture is one of despondency.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether Government is aware that even after their announcement the business people and others who are conserving foreign exchange in foreign banks and other countries gave very little declaration; if so, in view of the present foreign exchange crisis in our country, I want to know what further steps are going to be taken to see that those who are conserving foreign exchange by under-invoicing and other means declare their assets so that that may be used in our country?

Mr. Speaker: Declaration of assets would be quite a different thing. Indirectly or remotely it may have its effect, but not directly to this answer.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, in this House it was declared, I think last year—you may know it better than me—that some people did declare their assets and a particular date was fixed for such declarations. I want to know whether any concession will be given by this Government for such declarations or they will issue general orders to the Reserve Bank that they should declare such assets. . . .

Mr. Speaker: I entirely agree with the hon. Member, but my only point is that it is not relevant here.

श्री डा० ना० तिबारी : एक्सपोर्ट का टारगेट 5100 करोड़ रुपये का रखा गया है। घाम तौर पर देखा गया है कि वे टारगेट्स धनीव नहीं होते हैं। यह टारगेट भी कुछ एम्बीशस भालूम होता है। क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि कौन सी स्पेशल एफर्ट्स की जा रही हैं ताकि वह टारगेट पूरा हो जाए और इसके पूरा न होने पर हम दूसरी डिफिकल्टीज में न फंस जायें ?

श्री डा० रा० भगत : एक्सपोर्ट के टारगेट के मामले में पालिसी बनाई जा रही है और उसको हाउस के सामने लाया जाएगा। माननीय सदस्य का यह कहना ठीक है कि काफी हम एक्सपोर्ट के मामले में पीछे रह गये हैं। हमें हर कोशिश करनी चाहिये कि एक्सपोर्ट के टारगेट को हम पूरा करें।

Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities

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- *512. { **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**
Shri D. N. Tiwary:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Daji:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri M. L. Jadhav:
Shri Jedhe:
Shri Tan Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the further steps taken by Government recently to check the rise in prices of essential commodities other than foodgrains and the result achieved thereby; and

(b) the possible extent to which the prices of consumer goods can be brought down particularly in the present circumstances?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). A statement giving this information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4798/65].

श्री विश्वनाथ बांधेय : जो विधान सभा पटल पर रखा गया है उस में बताया गया है कि आवश्यक वस्तुओं की कीमतों को बढ़ने से रोकने के लिए हान ही के महीनों में सरकार ने कुछ और कदम उठाये हैं। लेकिन देखने में यह ध्राया है कि वनस्पति धी तथा धम्य धावश्यक वस्तुओं की कीमतें दो महीनों के भन्दर बीस प्रतिशत से अधिक बढ़ गई हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसका