

श्री हुकम चन्व कृष्णाय : मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर तो दिलवा दें ।

Shri A. P. Sharma: Just now the hon Finance Minister has said that since people eat sugar and it is required by everybody, it is perhaps because of that, it is not going to be decontrolled and only those commodities which are not edible like cement, as has been said just now, are to be decontrolled. May I know why coal which is abundant in this country is partially controlled and partially decontrolled, and why it has not been fully decontrolled?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: If I may say so, I do not think that my hon. friend does Justice to himself when he says that. I said that because a thing was edible it was not being decontrolled. What I said was, there was a difference between cement and sugar. From that answer, it does not mean that wherever a thing is edible it should not be decontrolled or wherever it is inedible, it will be decontrolled. There are other considerations, and having regard to the considerations, requirements as per distribution and having regard to the amount produced, coal is partially controlled and partially decontrolled. In the case of food products also, the same policy is being followed.

Shri A. P. Sharma: I have said that coal is lying in the collieries; it is not being removed. People are not purchasing it. Thereby everybody is affected including the collieries and workers. So, why is it not being decontrolled, when it is in abundance?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: So far as coal is concerned, there may be difference of view between my hon. friend and myself as to whether or not there is a large quantity of coal which is not being lifted, that labour is suffering and so on. So far as the government is concerned, government feels that partial decontrol is necessary. If it is felt that complete decontrol is necessary, it will be done.

Shri Ranga: What sort of answer is this? How can there be difference of opinion whether the coal is being lifted or not? In regard to facts, there cannot be difference of opinion. If he has not got the information, he can ask for notice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may not agree with him.

Shri Ranga: Over facts, there cannot be any disagreement.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Ranga: Why do you say order, order. Please try to follow what I am saying. I am raising a question of order here as to how this question is answered. There can be difference of opinion in regard to what follows from a particular fact. But there cannot be a difference of opinion in regard to statement of facts. My hon. friend suggested that there is accumulation of coal. The minister says that there can be difference of opinion about accumulation of coal. If he has not got the information, let him say so and ask for notice.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: In view of the fact that fertilisers have been partially decontrolled and the partially decontrolled price is much less than the black market price now prevailing, will government consider the desirability of lifting the control on fertilisers altogether and make it freely available to the agriculturists?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: I am not aware that the black-market price of fertilisers is much higher than the decontrolled price. If that is so, the matter will be given consideration as to whether there should be complete decontrol of fertilisers or not.

Development Activities

*327. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to co-ordinate defence and development activities in different Min-

istries and to re-allocate priorities; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay a statement on the Table in this behalf?

The Minister of Planning (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). The Draft Outline which is under preparation and will be placed before the Parliament on completion, will take into account such adjustments as may be necessary in the Fourth Plan proposals to meet more fully the High priority requirements of defence and development.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I am afraid the answer is rather inadequate, if not altogether evasive. I would, however, like to ask a specific question in respect of border roads and the reports that the projected allocations for border roads have recently been reduced, particularly for Rajasthan. May I know if there is any truth in it and, if not, what kind of priority is being allotted to border roads?

Shri Asoka Mehta: The Planning Commission, in consultation with the Defence Ministry and Transport Ministry has drawn up the whole programme of border roads which will be incorporated in the fourth plan and it includes border roads in Rajasthan also.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: My question was whether projected allocations for border roads which had earlier been agreed to have recently been reduced and if so, what are the reasons?

Shri Asoka Mehta: All allocations made earlier were of a tentative character. In the light of recent developments, these allocations are being looked into. In many cases, these allocations are likely to be raised and not lowered. No final figure has emerged, because the various technical study groups are still working and their reports are awaited.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I suppose, Sir, the clear implication is that what I said was correct and there is truth in the report. I would like to ask, in spite of all the high priority given to agriculture, what is the stage at which the project for establishing the Desert Development Authority for reclaiming arid zones in the States of Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Rayalaseema in the south is and what kind of allocation is being made for these projects.

Shri Asoka Mehta: While I cannot give him the precise figure of allocation just now as far as the arid areas are concerned, I am sure the hon. Member is aware that a pilot project has already been launched which is under the direct supervision and guidance of a very well equipped institute on this subject in Jodhpur itself, and in the light of the experience gained there we have said we will have a ten-year programme for this development.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, as reported in the Press some three months ago, when the Minister was Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission . . .

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: He is still.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: When he was only Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, he said in one of his petulant speeches, which reflected the agony of his inner being that the Plan was floundering because the ministers and leaders of Government suffered from lack of economic commonsense; if so, are there reasons to believe that his entry into the Council of Ministers has made up that deficiency?

Shri Asoka Mehta: I do not know, Sir, how this arises out of this question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Sir, this is about the Plan, the whole outlay for the Fourth Plan. He said the Plan was floundering because the ministers

and leaders of Government suffered from lack of economic commonsense.

Shri Asoka Mehta: Sir, the question is about re-allocation for defence. If you rule that this is relevant to re-allocation for defence, I shall answer it.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Azad.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: No, no, Sir. This is a serious matter. Because the Minister objects you should not knuckle under.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a matter of opinion.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is not a matter of opinion. You have to give your ruling. I am very sorry, Sir, you are slurring over the issue. The question is about planning. The Minister, when he was only Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, is reported to have said—the Press reported it . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is about developmental activities.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He has referred in his answer if you have heard him aright, to the Fourth Plan the draft outline of which is under preparation. It is regarding the Fourth Plan. The Fourth Plan is part of planning. Do you agree with that or not? Now, Sir, the logical step is, he is reported to have said that the Plan was floundering . . .

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : यह तो पर्सनल और बाहर पूछने की बात है ।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: यह पर्सनल बात नहीं ।

the Plan was floundering because the leaders of Government and the ministers of Government suffered from lack of economic commonsense. If that be so, are there reasons to believe that his entry now has made up that deficiency? Sir, it is a plain and and simple question.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The question contains insinuations. Therefore, how can the Minister answer it?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This is a statement of fact.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a matter of opinion.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Let him answer the first part of the question. Did he say that or not?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Did the Minister say that?

Shri Asoka Mehta: Sir, unless the hon. Member is willing to produce the precise quotation and the source from which he has got the quotation, I am not called upon to answer hypothetical questions on this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Does he say that Press reports are incorrect? Then I am prepared to produce it.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Sir, may I know whether as a result of re-consideration and re-allocation of priority between defence and development there is any likelihood of change in the percentage in respect of these two important works of planning—defence and development?

Shri Asoka Mehta: Sir, it is obvious that we can strengthen our defence potential only by strengthening our development. What we are seeking to do is to find out to what extent the immediate requirements of defence and the long-term requirements of defence have already been taken into account by the Plan which has been drawn up. We are then trying to find out if there had been any lacunae, any shortfall, any desiderata; if so, how to make them good. We have set up, therefore, nine technical study groups to go into this question covering all these aspects of our economy where defence is intimately interested. We are awaiting the report and on the basis

of that certain changes will be made in the allocations as well as in the production capacity that has to be set up. It is also necessary to decide whether for certain things independent units should be set up or some kind of provision should be made in existing units for producing specialised needs or pilot plants set up by our national laboratories will do. These are the kind of detailed investigations that we have to make.

श्री मधु लिमये : पिछले सितम्बर के बाद विदेशी सहायता करीब करीब बन्द हो गई और विदेशी मुद्रा का घोर अभाव हो गया देश में। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बंगलौर में जो हवाई जहाज बनाने का कारखाना है और भावड़ी में जो टैंक बनाने का कारखाना है क्या उन के विकास पर भी इस का कुछ असर हुआ है। यदि हुआ है तो उन का विकास ठीक तरह से हो इस के लिये योजना मंत्री क्या कर रहे हैं।

श्री अशोक मेहता : जहाँ तक टैंक कारखाने का सवाल है उस की पूरी जिम्मेदारी डिफेंस मिनिस्ट्री के ऊपर है इसलिये इस का कोई जबाब मैं नहीं दे सकता हूँ। जहाँ तक एअरक्राफ्ट का सवाल है चूँकि उस में सिविलियन और डिफेंस के दोनों के इस्तेमाल के लिये एअरक्राफ्ट बनते हैं इसलिये एअरक्राफ्ट प्रोडक्शन के अन्दर डिफेंस की जो जरूरियात हैं उन को पूरा करने के लिये और जहाँ फारेन एक्स्चेन्ज की कमी की वजह से दिक्कतें और मुसीबतें हैं उन को दूर करने के लिये जिस विस्म का प्रोग्राम हमें बनाना पड़ेगा उस के बारे में पूरी तहकीकात करने के लिये जिन नौ टेक्निकल स्टडी ग्रुप्स का मैंने पहले जिक्र किया उन में से एक इस पर भी विचार कर रहा है।

श्री मधुये लिमये : मेरे प्रश्न का अधूरा उत्तर आया है। इस प्रश्न में कहा गया है..

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member is not satisfied with the answer, he can ask for a half an hour discussion.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पहली, दूसरी और तीसरी योजनाओं में आप ने ऐंभिकल्चर के लिये पूरी योजना का जितना प्रतिशत रखा था चौथी योजना में आप उस से ज्यादा रखने जा रहे हैं या कम रखने जा रहे हैं।

श्री अशोक मेहता : मैंने पहले भी बतलाया है कि ऐंभिकल्चर के ऊपर इस वक़्त सब से ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। डिफेंस के बराबर ध्यान यदि किसी और चीज पर दिया जा रहा है तो वह ऐंभिकल्चर के ऊपर दिया जा रहा है। इसलिये ऐंभिकल्चर पर जो ऐंलोकेशन्स होंगे वह पहले से ज्यादा प्रतिशत होंगे।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether any agency is going to be set up to pass on the results of development, both technical, mechanical and otherwise, that are being found out in defence works which can easily be used for civil works?

Shri Asoka Mehta: In the past the defence sector of production and the civilian sector of production used to work somewhat at a distance. Efforts are now being made to see that there is a much closer relationship and a much closer co-ordination and it is for that reason that a department of Defence Supplies has been set up. The various technical study groups that have been set up are also expected to look into this matter.

L.I.C. Premia

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- *328. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Shiv Charan Mathur:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study of death rate among the Life Insurance Cor-