

let the question be postponed, particularly on this particular issue. I addressed two letters to the Prime Minister and got an answer that those letters had been circulated to all the ministries.

Mr. Speaker: Does the Minister of Finance want to answer it?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Let somebody answer it. I would request you, Sir, to postpone this question to be answered at 3.00 or 4.00 in the evening. This is a very vital matter affecting the economy of the country.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): I certainly recognise the vital nature of the question that the hon. Member, Shri Mathur, has put. But this is not quite related to the main question before the House. Before I make an answer I will go into the matter and I will write a letter to him on that.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I have received a letter from the Prime Minister. I do not raise any question until and unless I am satisfied that it is necessary and until and unless I find that it is in the great interest of the country. Therefore, I raised this point. I am not satisfied with any letter from anybody on such a vital matter in the interest of the nation.

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: Very well, so far as that is concerned, certain points have been raised in Shri Mathur's letter to the Prime Minister of which a copy has come to me. I will look into each one of those points and when making a reply see that each one of those points is answered. If Shri Mathur wants postponement of the question, let it be postponed, I do not mind.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: The little narration which has been given of facts by Shri Mathur has raised a very important issue. We have been seeing and noting for the last fifteen years effort after effort being made by Government on paper to reduce the expenditure. But that has remained

on paper. The net result has always been that there has been an increase in the expenditure of the Government from time to time. Right from the beginning, if you look at the budget records from 1952 onwards up-to-date, it has gone on increasing. The administrative expenditure, expenditure on all heads of the Government, has been increasing. One day, when discussing this matter with the ex-Finance Minister, Shri Krishnamachari, he agreed with me and said that he has impressed upon every department that this expenditure must be brought down to the level of 15 per cent. That has been an old story. Now, nearly after nine or ten months this matter has again cropped up. I would like to know whether really efforts are being made or still something is on paper only?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: The answer is this. So far as Shri Trivedi is concerned, while I do not...

Shri Basappa: Why should it be for Shri Trivedi and Shri Mathur only the whole House is interested.

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: Let me finish my sentence. What I say is, so far as Shri Trivedi is concerned, he has made certain statements which I cannot say have been made by other Members of this House and that is why I said that Shri Trivedi has made a statement. I am not in a position to challenge or otherwise contradict what he has said, and I am not doing that. Therefore, granting that there has been an increase to the tune as suggested by him in government expenditure over the last fifteen years, Government revenues have also increased. Therefore, a proportion has got to be considered. The activities of Government have increased and different departments had to be started. So far as the narrower question is concerned, every effort is made to try and contain the expenditure in every ministry of government. So far as my ministry is concerned it is making that effort and I will be in a position, as I said,

श्री ब० रा० भगत : प्रश्न के पहले भाग का उत्तर है हाँ। उदाहरण के लिये मैं यह भी बतलाऊँ कि 1964 में 7½ हजार दरखास्तें भ्राई थीं और 22 करोड़ ६० की स्वीकृति दी गई थी। 1965 में 11 हजार 700 के लगभग दरखास्तें भ्राई थीं और 42 करोड़ से ज्यादा कर्ज की सुविधायें दी गई हैं। कुछ और मामलों में, जैसे कितना मार्जिन हो, या और भी क्या शर्तें हो गारन्टी के लिये, इन सब मामलों में उदारतापूर्वक विचार किया जा रहा है।

श्री शिव नारायण : हमें फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर यह बतलायें कि रुपया मिलने की वह सुविधायें क्या हैं और जो 7 हजार दरखास्तें बतलाई, उन सब को रुपया मिला या नहीं।

श्री ब० रा० भगत : बैंक कर्ज जो देते हैं उस में सब से बड़ी सुविधा यह है कि छोटे रोजगार वाले हैं यदि उन में रुपये को वापस करने की शक्ति न हो, जिस से कि बैंक को दिक्कत होती है, उन के लिये हम ने रिजर्व बैंक की तरफ से रिस्क की गारन्टी की है। यह सब से बड़ी सुविधा है जो कि बड़े उद्योगों के लिये नहीं है, सिर्फ छोटे उद्योगों के लिये है।

Public Sector Undertakings

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- *213. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 787 on the 1st September, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered and examined all the recommendations made by the Heads of Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, how many recommendations have been accepted and implemented and in what manner?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). The points discussed at the conference convened by the Prime Minister have been examined and the decisions are expected to be taken shortly.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: One of the main recommendations of this conference was that the Government should immediately carry out a review with a view to finding out as to how many of the existing heads of Public undertakings and then directors were actually competent and fit enough to hold their jobs. May we know whether that review has been carried out and, if so, what has been the outcome of that, and whether any of the executive heads have actually been removed from their present positions?

Shri L. N. Mishra: So far as the appointment or removal of individual heads is concerned, I cannot give information without notice. But all the points raised in the conference have been thoroughly examined and comments of the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the Department of Co-ordination have been obtained and the paper is being prepared for placing before the Cabinet. I think concrete decisions on these recommendations will be taken very shortly.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Is it a fact that not very long ago the C.S.I.R. carried out a survey which revealed that nearly 25 per cent of the technicians and junior engineers in our public sector undertakings, particularly, in our steel plants, are actually under-employed? If that is correct, may I know what steps are being taken to rectify that defect in our managerial system?

Shri L. N. Mishra: I am not aware of this C.S.I.R. review. But it is a fact that the personnel policy and also the question of requirement of manpower, etc. were examined and some decisions are being taken on that point also.