

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Government propose to amend the concerned Acts in order to avoid the difficulty?

Shri K. C. Reddy: So far as I know, there is no such proposal before the Government.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether even today there are many Government buildings which are under unauthorised occupation since 1947?

Shri K. C. Reddy: There may be some such cases. The history of this, I suppose, is well known to the House. In 1947, when the Partition took place, boards of people came to Delhi and they occupied such of the buildings as were readily available for them. Since then, we have been trying our best, to use an unpleasant word, to evict them and at the same time, trying to rehabilitate them. In some places, they have gone to courts of law. It is not as if we can evict them even though we are prepared to evict them. There are all these complications. But, by and large, we have been able to take possession of these buildings and also rehabilitate them. There may be some cases here and there still where further action is called for.

Second Five Year Plan

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Shri Morarka:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shrimati Da Palchoudhuri:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
*1010-A Shrimati Tarkeshwari
Sinha:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri K. S. Lal:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Narasimhan:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second Five Year Plan is being considered by the Planning Commission for rephrasing and fixing priorities in view of the foreign exchange position;

(b) whether the State Governments have been informed to this effect;

(c) whether the broad outlines of such rephrasing are available;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission's Panel of Economists have emphasised that the cost of achieving present targets will be up to Rs. 6000 crores; and

(e) if so, by how much the total outlay will be reduced in the near future?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) Yes. A preliminary review has been completed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In making allotments of foreign exchange for the implementation of the Plan priority is to be given to projects from within the following categories:

(1) Steel plants, coal, railways, ports and specified power projects,

(2) Projects in an advanced stage of completion in which the bulk of the foreign exchange expenditure has already been incurred, and

(3) Projects which will earn or save foreign exchange within a short period of time and are covered by suitable deferred credit terms.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether a committee of officials was recently appointed under the guidance of the Prime Minister to advise the Planning Commission about the expenditure under the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Yes, Sir. A committee is functioning

in this connection to consider the position regarding foreign exchange and on the lines on which we have to carry on in the future.

Shri Morarka: What are the main recommendations of this Committee and how are they being implemented?

Shri Nanda: It is a group working departmentally in order to assemble data and to collect materials for consideration in the Planning Commission.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: When the original estimate for the Second Plan was made, it came to Rs. 4800 crores and then it came to Rs. 5200 crores. In view of the fact that the prices of goods imported from foreign countries have increased to a very great extent and the internal price level is also high, may I know how the Planning Commission thinks that the target originally provided for in Rs. 5200 crores is now the real target? Because, in answer to part (d) of the question, the hon. Parliamentary Secretary has replied that there is no increase of the target of the Plan. May I know how it is compatible with the price levels?

Shri Nanda: When the Plan was formulated and presented, it was stated very clearly that it is a flexible position and as conditions change, there may have to be adjustments and re-phasing. The Planning Commission is, at the moment, engaged in the process of re-examination in view of the various factors which have been mentioned.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the hon. Minister please tell us if there was any truth in the report made in a section of the press regarding an alleged confidential document of a rather defeatist nature from the Economic Division of the Planning Commission to the Prime Minister in early June, and whether the Government intend having intensive consultations with Members of Parliament as was done in early 1956, to be followed up by a

debate in the House to prevent a pruning of the Plan of the sort which the private sector is crying for?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The hon. Member has referred to some document which is supposed to have come to me. I do not quite know which one he is referring to. Both as Chairman of the Planning Commission and as Prime Minister, I receive numerous appreciations and documents. Naturally, since we have been greatly concerned about it, I am in constant touch. I have no recollection of what may be called a defeatist document. I have been analysing the situation and pointing out various aspects of it, some good, some bad. Anyhow, so far as the Government are concerned, there is basically no element of defeatism in their outlook. They are facing the position I should like to make it perfectly clear. Obviously, there are difficulties. Those difficulties are not hidden. Everybody knows them. I have no doubt that basically the economy of India is a very sound economy, and we shall, as always in such matters, one has to, face the difficulties that come in the way. As for consultations with Members of Parliament, we are always very happy to have such consultation I do not know, I shall try to evolve a method during this session so that we may have talks on the situation

श्री विभूति मिश्र मैं यह जानना चाहना हूँ कि कृषि और व्यापार की दृष्टि से जो योजना है और जिसमें सरकार कौं लाभ होता है, उस योजना को सरकार हममें लेगी या नहीं ?

श्री नन्दा: जहां तक एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोडक्शन का सवाल है, खाद्यपदार्थों का सवाल है, उसमें किसी तरह से भी कमी न हो इसके लिए पूरे तौर पर कोशिश की जायेगी।

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Is it that the question of pruning the Plan does not arise at present?

Shri Nanda: Every year, annual plans are made and we consider where we can modify and in what directions in view of the changed circumstances. As I said, we are actively engaged in that process.

Shri Narasimhaq: As revision of targets and recasting seems to be envisaged, will that come before the House for debate and approval?

Shri Nanda: The intention is, we shall have talks with the Consultative Committees for Finance and Planning, we shall have very intimate discussions with them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if annual targets have been drawn for the various years of the Plan period?

Shri Nanda: That is a process which is carried out from year to year.

Shri Morarka: May I know the main schemes and projects which are likely to be postponed or delayed due to difficulties of foreign exchange?

Shri Nanda: In case the position regarding foreign exchange is not altogether as favourable as we expect it to be, some schemes may be delayed. That, I said, I may not be able to say now. This is exactly what we are now examining.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Hem Barua: I was not given a chance, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Every one cannot have a chance. I look this side and that. Hon. Members must get up.

Shri Hem Barua: I was on my legs seven times. My name is here.

Mr. Speaker: I do see your name here. But, I am satisfied that there has been sufficient discussion. Next question.

Imports and Exports

*1011. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present gap between our imports and exports; and

(b) whether a statement showing the specific steps taken or proposed to be taken in the near future to bridge this gap will be laid on the Table of the Sabha?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) During the period January-May, 1957 (5 months) our imports were valued at Rs 405 crores and exports at Rs. 262 crores leaving a gap of Rs. 143 crores.

(b) A statement showing the steps being taken to promote our exports and to bridge the gap is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 51]

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of what the hon. Minister just now said, may I know how much of that import came under private account and how much of that import came under Government account?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the figures here. But these figures are available from the trade account.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know how many import licences were issued for the last two years, the value of goods came through the issuing of these import licences and how many of them are still outstanding i.e. the commitments already made on which the Government will have to pay foreign exchange?

Shri Kanungo: We issue licences in thousands and the list itself runs into hundreds of pages. I am sorry I can't give that information offhand.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know at least the total number of licences....