

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I believe all of them bar two had. I would not like to commit myself to any statement. If the hon. Member puts down a question, I shall answer.

Shri Nagi Reddy: In view of the fact that quite a number of millionnaires are dying having become paupers through gifts, would the Finance Minister consider very seriously the bringing in of a gifts tax too?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a suggestion for action.

Public Undertakings

*835. { **Shri Mahanty:**
Shri Mohamad Imam:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial and commercial undertakings in the public sector, have been declaring profits;

(b) the total amount invested in such undertakings upto the 31st March, 1957; and

(c) the percentage of contribution from these sources to general revenue?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): The information has to be collected from the Ministries of the Government of India. The information so far received, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 1]. A further statement will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible.

Shri Mahanty: From the statement it appears that the investment contribution ratio is practically nil even though a huge sum of Rs. 97.31 crores have been invested up to 31-3-1957. May I know if the Government have evolved any machinery to investigate into this aspect of the question?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): If the hon. Member would also go into the details given

in the statement, he will observe that quite a number of concerns which bear a high capital cost are in the stage of construction. One cannot, therefore, draw a conclusion that because the total amount involved is Rs. 97 crores and the return is not considerable, it is a matter for investigation. I would expect that within the next two years, the amount will be considerably augmented and still we will not be getting any return. It is unlikely that we would get any return on the investment until 1960-61.

Shri Mahanty: I have got two or three questions to ask. With all humility, I contest what the hon. Minister has just now stated about the statement because only two or three projects are under construction, the Iron and Steel projects. Otherwise, the rest are completed. My point in asking this question is, in countries where Governments are engaged in substantial commercial and industrial undertakings, a percentage from the profits from these undertakings goes to augment the public revenue to a substantial extent. The point at issue is, why concerns like the Hindustan Cables (Private) Ltd., or the Indian Airlines Corporation or the Eastern Shipping Corporation (Private) Ltd., Bombay, should not declare any profit.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will see— I do not know how many have seen—the list of undertakings. There are 23 or 25. It is not as if because one undertaking is profitable and declares a profit, another undertaking also, merely because it goes by the same English name undertaking, it must declare a profit. Am I to allow the Question Hour to be utilised for the purpose of going into the administration report of each undertaking? I merely gave an opportunity to this House to know this. If any hon. Member, thereafter, is interested in any particular undertaking, let him go into that undertaking. The hon. Minister will be ready if questions are then put in. Even then, the

Question Hour ought not to be used for discussing whether there ought to be a profit or not. There are other methods and if possible, we can spare time. I am not going to allow all the three questions.

Shri Mahanty: These are not the questions. I am coming to the question.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member has not been able to come to his question, I am not going to allow them.

Shri Mahanty: You must listen to me with patience.

Mr. Speaker: I have heard.

Shri Mahanty: I will walk out.

Mr. Speaker: Oh yes. Do so.

Shri Mahanty: I protest against this kind of....

Mr. Speaker: Next question. I have already said (*Interruption from Shri Mahanty*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member cannot interrupt the proceedings of the House like that. Twenty-five undertakings have been given, from a hotel right up to Electronics. Not one category: all kinds of undertakings. Does he expect that the hon. Minister must answer about Ashoka Hotels and then go to Electronics in Bangalore? Then, there is the Nangal Fertiliser project. Is it humanly possible for the hon. Minister to say how each undertaking is working, why one undertaking is working profitably and the other is not? The Question Hour is not the occasion for that. He has elicited this information. He must take up individual undertakings and even then only for the purpose of eliciting information. If he wants to discuss, if he wants to give opinion and criticise the Government for not working properly, he must have other opportunities. There is no good protesting and trying to walk out.

Shri Mahanty: But, the point is you do not permit me even to offer an explanation at least. You anticipate my question. How can you anticipate my questions?

Mr. Speaker: There ought to be no preamble to questions. Each question must be clear, must refer to a single matter and should be as short and concise as possible. These I do not find in the question put by the hon. Member. What am I to do? I shall proceed to the next question.

(*At this stage, Shri Mahanty left the House.*)

मन्त्री-विरोधी सप्ताह

*८३६. श्री भवन दर्शन : क्या प्रति-रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले कुछ सालों से भारत की सभी छावनियों में मन्त्री-विरोधी व मच्छर-विरोधी सप्ताह मनाये जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे सप्ताह मनाने के उद्देश्य में कहां तक सफलता मिली है ; और

(ग) सप्ताह मनाने पर प्रत्येक छावनी में प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय व छावनी बोर्ड द्वारा कितनी धन राशि व्यय की गई ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री फेरुहांसिहराव गायकवाड़) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) इस सप्ताह का मनाना बहुत लाभदायक हुआ है क्योंकि यह सैन्यदल, उनके कुटुम्बों और उस क्षेत्र में रहने वाले असैनिकों को मक्खियों और मच्छरों से जनित बीमारियों में निरोधक पग उठाने का अवसर प्रदान करता है ।

(ग) प्रतिरक्षा विभाग (स्टेशन हाइ-जीन. आर्गोनाइजेशन) ने १९५५-५७ में १०८०.६८ रु० व्यय किया । कुछ छाव-