

missioner and he has sent it to the Chief Secretary for a report.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : यह कोई जवाब नहीं है। मैंने सवाल पूछा था कि जो लाखों रुपया प्राइम मिनिस्टर के ऊपर खर्च हुआ है, जिसमें सिक्योरिटी का खर्च शामिल नहीं है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह खर्च कांस्टीचूशनली ठीक हुआ है या नहीं, उसकी सैंशन गवर्नर को किसने दी थी, उस खर्च का पेमेंट कौन करेगा ? अगर पेमेंट नहीं हुआ तो क्या गवर्नर के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जाएगी अथवा श्री महोदय, ये मेरे सवालों को इन्ड करना चाहते हैं।

SHRI GOVINDA MENON : With great respect to the Chair and to the House I may say that I am not evading the question. I must get the facts. The allegation has been made and we have asked for a report. Unless I get the report the allegation cannot be accepted or the answer given.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Ten days notice was given to the question.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : Sir, he wants you to postpone the question. He wants ten days notice.

MR. SPEAKER : He has said that he must get facts from the State Government. After all, the facts have to be collected if he is to answer the question. He has to write to Bihar, UP, Bengal and, perhaps, other States also.

श्री मधु सिमये : कब रखेंगे, उनसे समय पूछिये ? मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस को पोस्टपोन किया जाये।

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister wants time. After all, he cannot off hand jump up and answer all questions. Therefore, I postpone the question to another day, because he wants time. I am not fixing up any date here and now, I will fix it up again in consultation with the Minister.

Election Petitions

*396. **SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :**

SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD :

Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly Election Petitions pending in the various courts in the Country ;

(b) the details of such Election Petitions state-wise ; and

(c) the steps being taken to dispose of the election petitions expeditiously and the reason for not their being disposed of within the stipulated period of six months ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI M YUNUS SALEEM) : (a) 4 Election petitions calling in question elections to Lok Sabha and 35 petitions calling in question elections to State Legislative Assemblies are pending in various High Courts.

Appeals in 7 cases relating to Lok Sabha elections and 25 cases relating to State Legislative Assembly elections are pending in Supreme Court.

(b) A statement showing the details of such election petitions State-wise is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. Ser. No. LT-278/69].

(c) Apart from section 86(7) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which provides that the High Courts shall endeavour to conclude the trial of the petition within 6 months from the date of presentation of the petition, no statutory period has been stipulated for the disposal of election petitions. It is not proper or practicable to settle any time limit for disposal of cases by Courts. The Chief Election Commissioner has requested the Chief Justice of India to use his good offices for the disposal of election petitions.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : I would like to know how many cases have already been disposed of and whether in all the cases the stipulated time was observed.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : There have been cases where more than six months have been taken by the High Courts. After all, section 86(7)

of the law only says that an endeavour shall be made to dispose of these objections within six months. In many cases, that has been done. There are certain cases which have not been disposed of within six months.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : May I know whether the Government is aware that the cost of conducting the election cases due to petitions made is sometimes more than the cost incurred by a candidate in the election, in his constituency, and, if so, what steps are going to be taken to see that the cost is less ?

SHRI GOVINDA MENON : The cost of litigation is sometimes heavy depending upon the fees paid, depending upon the number of witnesses examined, depending upon the number of hearings, etc. It is not the part of election expenses.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Donations to Political Parties by Companies

*391. **SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 269 on the 12th November, 1968 and state :

(a) whether before Government's instructions were issued to the Directors representing Government on Boards of private sector companies, it was pointed out that it was improper for Companies in which Government have shares or have advanced loans, to give donations to political parties ;

(b) the name of Directors and companies to whom instructions were issued and date thereof ;

(c) the number of meetings from which Directors have abstained and whether any decision to give donations was taken in any such meeting ; and

(d) whether Government propose to instruct the Directors to be present during the meetings and oppose moves for such donations and submit a minute of dissent and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Since the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1968, which seeks to prohibit companies from making any political contributions, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 10th May, 1968, this question may not arise at this stage.

Tractor Factory with Czech Collaboration

*397. **SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :**
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a final decision regarding the setting up of a tractor factory with Czechoslovak collaboration has since been taken ;

(b) the name of the State where the factory is proposed to be set up ; and

(c) the estimated cost of setting up of the factory ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) and (c). Earlier, when it was intended to set manufacture of this tractor as an entirely new project, a site near Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh had been selected for it. Since then the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute and Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur have developed prototypes of a 20 HP tractor and the suggestion was made that the proposed project should undertake the manufacture of that model. It has also been considered desirable that the project should make full use of the spare capacity available at the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur and the Pinjore Unit of the Hindustan Machine Tools. The National Industrial Development Corporation has accordingly been asked to prepare a detailed project report, taking into account all these aspects and to make its