

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Pointedly, the attention of the Prime Minister was drawn to a specific point that even in the case of those who are living below the poverty condition there are people who are living in almost inhuman poverty-stage. The Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Planning Commission. So, while the Eighth Five Year Plan is going to be formulated, will the Prime Minister take into account that greater attention will be paid to uplift those category of people who are living in almost inhuman poverty-stage? Will that thing to taken into account while farming the Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, the House is aware that for the first time in Shrimati Indira-ji's time, the methodology of mounting a direct attack on poverty was adopted. The IRDP and other programmes were meant for that. Now, it so happens that among the poor there are gradations. Naturally, the logic demands, the need of the hour demands that we should go to the poorest. But then, sometimes in this society it becomes so difficult to distinguish and single out the poorest to the exclusion of poor. These are logistic matters. But I can assure the House that how that we have these different gradations of poverty also, the Planning Commission could have to give first priority to the poorest of the poor. And, I think, it is being done. We can double check and see that specific attention is paid to this aspect.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Hon. Prime Minister has right now about spoken of the poorest of the poor. I want to know if any survey has been conducted to find out the number of people living below the poverty line who get suppose Rs. 5 as daily wages. But if the man at the lowest rung of the ladder i.e the poorest of the poor gets Re. one as daily wages and whom you want to bring above the poverty line in next five years, then I would like to know the proposed rate at which such persons would be brought above the poverty line? At the same time I would like to know as to what is the number

of people getting one rupee and fifty paise daily... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: The problem lies in the fact that we are getting lost in data alone. To get involved in figures alone is not correct. If a worker gets Rupees five today, the next day he gets none, then that would be the average. Should he be categorised under the workers getting Rs. five or getting nothing at all? We need not go into these things. We know that the poverty is there. You go to villages. We all come from villages. We know that there is the real poverty. Underemployment is also too much. It is even more than unemployment. Whatever employment is there, we cannot call it employment in the real sense. Those people do only that work as they do not have something better than that to do. Whatever the Planning Commission has to do, that shall be got done. A question has just been asked about the figures, no absolutely clear, distinct and unambiguous reply could be given regarding that. The number of the poor in our country is very large and the layers of poverty are different at various places. We have to go to the lowest ebb. This is our objective and I think everyone will agree at that point... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: We have discussed this question for the last thirty five minutes so we would more to next question now.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I called out your name. But you did not get up.

(*Interruptions*)

Turnover of M/s Pepsi Foods Private Ltd.

*673. **SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:** Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pepsi Foods soft drink con-

concentrate sales are not to exceed 25 per cent of the total turnover of the company in any year;

(b) if so, whether the term "turnover of the company" includes all the items sold by it;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the items included in the term "turnover of the company"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHARGOMANGO):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Ministry had taken a view that the turn-over of the company should relate to the items specified in the Letter of Intent/Foreign Collaboration Approval granted to the company; but the company has inter alia argued that the agreement does not define or list the products to be included in such "total turn-over" and, therefore, should include all products sold/exported by it. In view of the difference of interpretation of the term "total turn-over of the company", the matter has been referred to the Ministry of Law and until the legal examination is completed and a decision taken, it will not be possible at this stage to categorically state the items that are to be included/excluded in counting the turn-over in the expression "total turn-over of the company", mentioned in the Letter of Intent/Foreign Collaboration Approval.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Hon. Speaker, Sir hon. Minister has been by very old friend of mine. It seems that he is working to benefit this company... *(Interruptions)*...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a kind of an allegation. This will not be allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not form part of the record.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: First, you kindly listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER: You say whatever you want to, but don't abuse.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have to understand that you cannot allege such things against the Minister.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: I seek your protection, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I am protecting your rights.

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems that Pepsi Cola Company has violated our conditions many times. This company was issued a letter of intent for foreign collaboration for all the things it produces. It seems to me that total turnover has not been added to it intentionally. It clearly means that the total turnover has not been added in the agreement so as to benefit the company. The second thing I want to say is that the whole matter has been sent to the Law Department with a view to delay it. When the matter is delayed, the company will be benefited. According to the terms and conditions agreed upon in the agreement, Pepsi Cola had declared that it would establish new Agricultural Research Centres, but it has not yet fulfilled that condition. Mr. Speaker, I would like to know as to why this matter has been sent to the Ministry of Law for advice or opinion, when the Min-

ister himself and his Ministry was vigilant about this matter and when it was not needed at all. I would like to know as to how long would it take to receive the advice from the Ministry of Law and by which time Government will take a decision in the matter?

SHRI. GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: MR. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has asked three or four questions. Should I answer all of them or only one?

MR. SPEAKER: You may answer as many question as you wish.

SHRI. GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: First of all, I am grateful to you, because the manner in which the question has been raised. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not refer to it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: I have already answered it in the House, last time, when there was a question. Today also, you have kindly admitted half an hour discussion. We will discuss the same in the evening. Whatever the answer that is already there with me and whatever I have stated in the past in the House, while replying to the questions, all these things, we will discuss in the evening during the half an hour discussion. I have categorically stated that we have not agreed to the interpretation of the company on the turnover.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FER-NANDES: We means who? you have just now said.

[*English*]

Is it not possible to say definitely?

[*Translation*]

This is the responsibility of your Ministry.

[*English*]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: I am coming to that point also. We found that the interpretation of the company is entirely different from the interpretation of the Ministry on the basis of Letter of Intent. Unless I get the legal opinion from the Ministry of Law, it will be very difficult for me to make a categorical statement saying that the turnover which they have given was right or wrong.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: What is the interpretation as per the letter of intent? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: As far as Ministry of FPI is concerned we are not disagreeing with what has been mentioned in the Letter of Intent for turnover. I will read out the contents mentioned in the Letter of Intent.

"The turnover from soft drink concentrate manufacturing shall in no year exceed 25 per cent of the total turnover of the company for that year.

But the turnover which the company is stating is not according to the Letter of Intent. We have already referred this to the Law Ministry for legal opinion. On 6th September, the Inter-Ministerial Committee is meeting to discuss all these points and after that we will decide what action is required to be taken.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: He is not answering to the specific points which I have asked... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know how much time you need to get the legal opinion from the Law Ministry.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: On 6th September, the Inter-Ministerial Committee is meeting and there they will discuss all these aspects and different interpretations made by the Company.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after seeking your protection I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why no clear interpretation was given in the Letter of Intent Foreign Collaboration agreement about the business of the company and who is responsible for this lapse? Hon. Minister has not said anything in this regard so far. Secondly, there is a dispute between Pepsi Cola and the Government of India about the total turn-over. You have referred the case to law Department in order to solve the dispute. May I know the nature of such disputes? May I know as to why these aspects were not taken into consideration when the terms of the agreement were put forward and when the agreement was signed? The country has suffered loss in this case on so many fronts.

{*English*}

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking why you have not put the usual interpretation on the agreement.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: We have put the usual interpretation; therefore the difference arose out of the interpretation. The point is, we are bound by the letter of intent; we are not bound by the interpretation of the company. The Ministry of Law will have to take a decision in which they have to say whether the interpretation of the turn-over is just like as it is there in the letter of intent. So, unless I get the opinion of the Law Ministry, how can I come to a conclusion about the exact turn-over?

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: This is my second supplementary. First I had sought a clarification. I had asked about Agricultural

research, but the hon. Minister did not reply to that even.

I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that when we signed the agreement with this foreign company, a condition is included in the agreement that the company would not make use of foreign brand name. There is a convention and a rule. The Government of India does not allow it at all. This Pepsi-Cola company produces a drink under the brand name of Lehar-Pepsi. Publicity of Lehar Pepsi is very limited, but the name Pepsi-Cola is publicised again and again. Therefore, I would like to know from you whether any directions have been issued to the company in this regard, because it is such a matter that the "Lehar" (wave) is suppressed and sidelined, but foreign brand name of Pepsi Cola is always coming in the limelight. Has any letter been written to the company? I would like to know whether Government is going to take any action against the company.

MR. SPEAKER: I too could not follow this question.

[*English*]

MR. Minister: if you have understood the question, you can answer it.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: In the agreement as well as in the letter of intent there was a mention that they will not use the foreign brand name in the domestic market. But now after the approval they are using the high-bred name - Lehar Pepsi. It was not there in the letter of intent. But they are using Lehar Pepsi - they have added 'Lehar' with the approval of Ministry FPI. On that basis the relaxation is given for two names that Lehar as well as Pepsi will be used.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Sir, My question has not been answered.

[*English*]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: In the letter of

intent they have given a commitment that they would export 40% of their total turnover of own manufactured items along with 10% from a selected list of items to be exported from this country. It has been seen that they are exporting items like shrimps, rice and tea which are not manufactured by them or which would not form a part of that selected list. Is the Government aware as to what are the items being exported by Pepsi Food and whether they form a part of the selected list? If so, it should be specified by the Government.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: The Government is aware of it. We constituted an official team which visited the company. They found out that the export obligations have not been fulfilled. On that basis we issued a show-cause notice and that show-cause notice has been replied to. We find that the 40% export obligation which they have to fulfil, they have not fulfilled because the items which they have exported are not manufactured by the units they have set up. The Ministry of Commerce are also examining the violations of Pepsi Food Pvt Ltd regarding the export obligations. (*Interruptions*)

Their letter of intent is here. We are examining all the issues which are related to the company as well as their obligations which are to be fulfilled. The Inter Ministerial Committee is meeting day after tomorrow. After that, a decision would be taken. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Because we are discussing it for half-an-hour, we will go to the next question.

(*Interruptions*)

Export of Maruti Cars

*674. **SHRI ANNA JOSHI:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Suzuki propose to set up a plant to manufacture different types of cars in Hungary to meet the demand for cars in Europe;

(b) whether this will affect Maruti's exports to Europe; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Maruti Udyog Limited in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Suzuki Motor Corporation is setting up a plant in Hungary to manufacture 1 litre and 1.3 litre cars.

(b) and (c). The Suzuki plant in Hungary will manufacture different cars from the one Maruti Udyog Ltd. will be exporting to Europe. They will cater to different market segments.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Anna Joshi, you do not want to put the supplementaries?

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, I would put the supplementaries a little afterwards.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much foreign exchange has been earned by Maruti Udyog Limited by export of Maruti cars and the amount of foreign exchanges spent by the Government on Maruti Udyog Limited?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have this information?

SHRI P.K. THUNGON: Yes, Sir; I have information from 1988-89 to 1990-91.

So far, M/s Maruti Udyog Limited have spent worth US\$ 764.63 million. And they have earned worth of about US\$ 103.50 million. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government of Hungary is interested in buying Maruti cars manufactured in India. Some of our officials had visited Hungary in