

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 12 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 9 to 12 were added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is an amendment by Mr. Samar Mukherjee and Mr. Sushil Bhattacharya. But they are not here. So the question is :

"That clause 13 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 14 to 33 and the Schedule were added to the Bill

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula the Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted

16.36 hrs.

BENGAL IMMUNITY COMPANY
LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND
TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS)
BILL

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS
AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT
SATHE) : I beg to move* :

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer, in the public interest, of the undertakings of Messrs Bengal Immunity Company Limited, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer, in the public interest, of the undertakings of Messrs Bengal Immunity Company Limited, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

15.37 hrs.

[SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR
in the Chair]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I do not have to say much while moving for consideration of this Bill. The Statement of Objects of this nationalisation of Bengal Immunity Company Bill makes already clear the purpose. I think this should be the shortest discussion on any Bill. So I feel there would be hardly any likelihood of any opposition from any quarter. There has been a long pending demand in this House and ultimately I have brought forward this Bill to nationalise this company which produces drugs which are essential for the people.

This Company has a history. It was established by B C Roy and his colleagues and since it was established in 1919 it was mainly producing life-saving drugs. Unfortunately—I do not want to go into those things—the company was beset with labour and management troubles. Therefore, it

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

(Shri Vasant Sathe)

was first taken over under Sec 18A of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act on 18th May 1978. Since then the Government has invested Rs. 16.70 crores in this company and the amount has been utilised not only to meet the cash losses and the working capital requirements but also for modernising the production facility and or addition of new production facility. In spite of this, I must say, with the previous handicap that was there when we took over this company, the losses have been going on although the production has shot up after take-over. In 1977-78 it was Rs 259 lakhs. It shot up to Rs. 815 lakhs in 1983-84. Similar is the case with sales. But due to various factors again, the losses could not possibly be contained although it is expected in 1984-85 that the losses would comparatively come down. We hope that with nationalisation, improvement in management and worker's participation in management the Bengal Immunity Company would become one of the ideal companies in the field of pharmaceuticals in the public sector.

It is with this hope that I have brought this Bill and I seek the kind support of all section of the House.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA (Calcutta North East) : Sir, I rise to support the Bill. While extending our whole-hearted support for the Bill I have to dwell on certain aspects of the operation of this company so that the hon. Minister may take them into consideration and with the passage of time do something about the suggestions that I will be making in the course of my speech.

Sir, Bengal once upon a time used to be a pioneer in the pharmaceutical industry in the country. Great sons of Bengal such as Acharya P.C. Ro, actually were the fathers of the pharmaceutical industry in Bengal. But since partition somehow or other the entire pharmaceutical industry in the

State of West Bengal got itself involved in troubles and today perhaps the last flame of the life of the industry is flickering and a strong wind will extinguish this last flickering flame that is still lingering in that part of the country.

Coming to the question of Bengal Immunity, Sir, it was founded by some eminent sons of Bengal, Shri Nilratan Sarkar, Shri Kailash Chander Bose and Dr. B.C. Roy. These were the persons who founded this company sixty-four years ago and as the hon. Minister rightly pointed out it used to manufacture and, I hope, still is manufacturing quite a lot of precious life saving drugs, for example, anti-tetanus drugs, anti-diphtheria vaccines, gas, gangrene anti-toxins and sera vaccines including toxides etc. This company once upon a time used to manufacture and market all over the country and abroad also. The management of the company was taken over in the month of May, 1978. It is about six years back that the management was taken over. After six years, the Government has come to the conclusion that the time for nationalisation of the concern has come.

The Minister while narrating the Objects of the Bill, as to why step for nationalisation was deemed to be essential did not say perhaps, but hinted and it has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons also, that among other things like mismanagement, and so on and so forth, the labour trouble was also one of the reasons for taking over the concern. I do not know, whether the Government and the hon. Ministers of the Government are also following non-alignment in the sphere of industries also. Whenever they blame the management for ills of a unit, in the same way, willy-nilly, they blame the workers also as if the blame should be shared equally by the management as well as the workers. My humble submission to the Minister would be that absolutely there was no reason to mention in the Bill that one of the reasons for taking over the

Company was labour trouble. As a matter of fact, I trust, the Minister must have gone through the Reserve Bank Report, survey over the question of sickness of industries. Last year, the survey was published. If you look to the figures, you will see that in December, 1979, the number of sick industries in this country was 22,366 and in June 1982, the number of sick units went up to 28,360. Therefore, sickness of the industries is not a phenomenon of a particular State, it is an all-India phenomenon.

Why is this sickness in the industry taking place at such an alarming and increasing pace? Of the sick units that were analysed by the Reserve Bank, they found that 52 per cent of the total can be accounted for mismanagement, diversion of funds etc., 14 per cent for faulty initial planning etc., 23% for market recession and 9 per cent for other reasons such as power cuts, shortage of material etc. For the information of the hon. Minister, only two per cent of the sick industries can be accounted for labour trouble but the hon. Minister who moved the Hooghly Docking and Engineering Company Bill, who is also present, mentioned about the labour trouble as if it was the most in West Bengal. When he was referring to West Bengal, I thought, he had forgotten the name of Datta Samant, and some of his equivalents in Delhi and other places. Therefore, it is not correct to say that one of the main reasons for sickness of the industry is labour trouble. It is not that. On the other hand, mismanagement, diversion of funds and so on and so forth are the main reasons for the sickness of the industry.

In this case also, the sickness of Bengal Immunity Company can be attributed directly to mismanagement.

Although it had a glorious tradition and a glorious past, yet it had fallen into the hands of very inefficient management. The whole thing was bungled, as a result of which Bengal

Immunity went sick. Now Sir, after all, the Government is going in for nationalisation and the Minister has already stated that they are arranging for representation of labour in management. I do not know how. I had a hurried reading of the Bill and I think through commissioning of this Bill and through rules and other things, he may go in for this. May I request you that, if labour is to be represented in the management, let that management be not only at the level of the Board, but also at the level of the floor and let the participation of the labour in management be meaningful and purposeful. If the representatives of labour have something constructive to suggest to the management, let those suggestions be not dismissed, simply because they are from the representatives of the labour. So far as other concerns where labour has been invited to the Board, are concerned, their suggestions, whatever they may be, are dismissed outright.

Then Sir, during the time of the take-over of the management, that is between 1978 and now, 1984, as I have said earlier, I do not know how many crores funnelled into this company have been misused or wasted by the management. But, is there any machinery from the Government of India to keep track of the funds that are being funnelled into these companies whose managements are being taken over? Are you monitoring the expenditure? Is there any machinery in the administrative Ministry or anywhere else at the governmental level to monitor the spending of the money that is being given by different financial institutions? I am giving a very recent example. Bengal Potteries in Calcutta has been taken over by the Government of India, and workers there have been complaining for the last two or three years that the funds have been misused. Now, thanks to a financial institution, which was the biggest lender, some investigations were made. And now, Sir, for the information of the hon. Minister who is not listening to me, who is chatting with another of his colleagues.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): He demands the attention of the Minister. He invites your kind attention please.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Shri Daga is distracting me.

AN HON. MEMBER : He is the gadfly of your Party.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : Half a dozen senior officers of the company whose management has been taken over by the Government of India, have been arrested by the police. These officers are connected with the Accounts Department. Thanks to the Government, because it was again the Government's duty, the financial institution which was the biggest lender, did it. What were the workers saying for the last two or three years? Funds given to the Bengal Potteries are defalcated, funds have been wasted. It was not looked into. I myself requested so many times. Everytime I was assured—“Yes, it will be looked into.” After two years, when actually somebody took the trouble of looking into it, the whole bunch of them were arrested and the other day when I left Calcutta, they were still in jail, pending investigations. Have you got a monitoring cell? It is not possible for you to give an account here now. But after nationalisation, would you please an investigation to be made to see how money was given to this company, what use was made of the money, whether it is purposeful and really for the development of the company and on that basis whether it will be honest on my part or fair on my part to go on levelling accusations against anybody? But the only thing I can request the Minister to do is: Please cause an enquiry to be made into the funds made available by the Government, and the use made of them.

When the company was taken over, the number of workers was 1900. Now their number has come down to 1799, whereas the number of officers in May 1978 was 150, and it has gone upto 207

Fifty-seven more officers have been appointed. The officers' cadre increased by 57, whereas the workers' cadre decreased by 101. Don't we have this as a more or less regular feature in almost all the undertakings taken over by the Government, and subsequently nationalized? The workers' force is decreasing and the officers' force is increasing. I request the hon. Minister to explain why it is so.

My last point is this: if you really want to make the company a viable one, there is absolutely no other choice but to take the workers into confidence. After all, only if the workers are motivated, can the company not only survive but also prosper. The greatest stake in a company is that of the worker. The managerial cadres have other means to sustain themselves. The worker is the only individual in a concern who has no other means to sustain himself ultimately. The closure of the factory means starvation for the worker and his family. So, he has the greatest stake. So, the efficiency of the management should also be judged by seeing whether it is possible for the management to motivate the workers.

For that purpose, the workers have to be taken into confidence. Only if it is done, will the company prosper. Unfortunately, the work force has gone down. It means they have been retrenched. This is not going to encourage or enthuse confidence in the workers. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister that he should see that if there has been a retrenchment, he should reinstate the workers.

Lastly I have a report—whether it is correct or not, is again for the hon. Minister to investigate and take remedial steps, if it is correct. I am told that the drugs and medicines which are in great demand in the market, i. e. those manufactured by Bengal Immunity are not either being manufactured, or are not being manufactured to the extent the market demands them, and up to the capacity of the company. If the

report is correct, my conclusion is that this concern which is going to be nationalized to-day, will again be in the red. They can do these things only if there is some understanding between a rival giant multi-national company which is manufacturing the same brands or formulations which Bengal Immunity is manufacturing, in order that the market is completely captured by that big monopoly company, or the multi-national company. So, we are not utilizing the capacity which has been installed in Bengal Immunity i. e. in respect of formulations for certain medicines and drugs. I would request the hon. Minister to have a look into it. If it true and correct, he should take remedial measures so that these things do not happen again. I think Mr. Stathe is very upright and righteous man. If this is correct, I think, he will not only take remedial action but also deterrent action to see to it that way public sector nationalised concerns are not allowed to go down the drain.

17. hrs.

So many forces are there in the country, which on principle are opposed to nationalisation. My party is wedded to the concept of nationalisation. If nationalisation succeeds, our slogan for nationalisation will catch the imagination of the people; if nationalisation fails, then people themselves will oppose it. It is in our interest and I would request you to please take these observations and submissions that I have made seriously and cause investigation to be made. With these words, I once again support the Bill.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास (मीलवाड़ा) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं बंगाल इम्युनिटी कम्पनी लिमिटेड बिल 1984 का समर्थन करता हूँ। यह जो कम्पनी 1978 से टेक-ओवर की गई थी और अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने जिस प्रकार से इंट्रोडक्शन के वक्त बताया है कि यह कम्पनी बराबर लास में जा रही है। हिन्दुस्तान में जितनी कम्पनीज

पब्लिक सेक्टर में हैं, उनमें से कौन सी ऐसी कम्पनी है जो कि मुनाफे में जा रही है? अभी जिस तरह से वहाँ पर इंप्लीमेंटेशन होता है तो उससे यह लास हो रहा है। अभी माननीय सदस्य बिल्कुल ठीक ही बता रहे थे कि अधिकारियों का खर्चा बहुत बढ़ गया है। उससे बहुत नुकसान होता है। इन कम्पनियों में बड़े-बड़े अधिकारी बैठ जाते हैं, सबसे ज्यादा खर्चा इन पर होता है। अगर किसी कम्पनी को ठीक तरह से चलाना है तो सारी व्यवस्थाओं को सुचारू रूप से चलाना होगा।

दूसरी बात यह है कि प्रोडक्शन किस तरह से हो रहा है। इसमें बराबर लासेस हो रहे हैं। इसके लिए आपको देखना होगा कि इसमें कितना प्रोडक्शन ड्रग्स का होना चाहिए था और कितना हुआ है? अगर पूरा उत्पादन नहीं हुआ है तो उसके क्या कारण हैं? किस वजह से लासेस बराबर बढ़ रहे हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में माननीय मंत्री जी को देखना चाहिए, इसके अलावा यह भी देखना चाहिए कि जिन जिन फाइनेंशियल इन्स्ट्रुट्यूशंस से पैसा लिया गया है, उसका उपयोग किस तरीके से किया गया है। ठीक हुआ है या नहीं। उसको लाभ-दायक स्थिति में लाने के लिए मॅनेजमेंट ने ठीक तरीके से काम किया है या नहीं। अगर इन सारी चीजों को ठीक तरह से देखा जाए तो निश्चित तौर से कम्पनी लाभ में आ सकती है।

जो सुधार करने का प्रावधान किया गया है, खास तौर से माडर्नाइजेशन के सम्बन्ध में आपने 50 लाख रुपए देने की बात की है। क्या पचास लाख रुपए से इसके माडर्नाइजेशन की व्यवस्था ठीक हो जायेगी जिसकी वजह से इसका प्रोडक्शन बढ़ सके

(श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास)

और वह लाम की स्थिति में आ सके। यह रुपया किस बेसिस पर अलाट किया है? इस संबंध में ध्यान रखने की आवश्यकता है। सन् 1978 से जबसे आपने इस कंपनी का टेक-ओवर किया है तब से इसकी प्रापर्टीज के सम्बन्ध में आपने क्या व्यवस्था की है? क्या मशीनरी को ठीक प्रकार से मेनटेन किया गया? किसी प्रकार से उसका दुरुपयोग तो नहीं हुआ है। इसकी प्रापर्टीज के सम्बन्ध में अगर कोई आदमी मिस-मैनेज, डैस्ट्राय या अपनी बताने की कोशिश करेगा तो उसको आपने पैनलाइज करने की बात इसमें कही है। इन सात-आठ वर्षों में आप के सामने कितने मामले आए जिसमें आपने मशीनरी या प्रापर्टीज का दुरुपयोग करने वालों के सम्बन्ध में एक्शन लिया है। इतनी बड़ी कम्पनी, जिसमें करोड़ों रुपया इन्वेस्ट हो चुका है, कोई भी आदमी मिस-मैनेज करने की कोशिश करता है तो उसके सम्बन्ध में जो आपने सजा मुकर्रर की है, वह बहुत ही मामूली है। क्लाज 27 में आपने दिया है :

“...shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to Rs. 10,000, or with both.”

इस प्रकार का प्रावधान आपने किया है कि या तो आप सजा दे सकते हैं या जुर्माना कर सकते हैं। कितने लोगों को आपने सजा दिलाई है, जिन्होंने इसकी प्रापर्टी के सम्बन्ध में आफेंसेस किए हैं? लोगों को पता चलना चाहिए कि जिन्होंने कम्पनी का सामान इधर-उधर किया है, उनको सजा मिल रही है। मैं नेशनलाइजेशन के पक्ष में हूँ और इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

नेशनलाइजेशन में भी अगर मिस-मैनेजमेंट होता है तो सारी व्यवस्था बिगड़ जाती है। हमारे फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब भी यहाँ बैठे हुए हैं। चेयरमैन साहब, आप वहाँ बैठे हुए हैं। आपने भी मेरी बातों का खण्डन करने की कोशिश की कि.....

(व्यवधान)

श्री मूल चन्द्र डागा (पाली) : यह एलीमिनेशन है।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : यह एलीमिनेशन नहीं है।.....

(व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय : मुझे तो कहने का मौका ही नहीं मिलेगा।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : नेशनलाइज करके अगर एम्पलायमेंट दिया जाता है तो वह नेशनलाइजेशन की शर्त को पूरा करता है, इसलिए यह जरूरी है। मैंने कहा था कि 105 में टेक्सटाइल मिलों को आपने नेशनलाइज किया है। फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब कहते हैं कि पांच सौ करोड़ रुपए का लास है। लेकिन, तीन-चार लाख मजदूरों को रोजगार मिलता है तो कोई बुरा नहीं है। एक हजार करोड़ रुपए की इन्डस्ट्री में एक हजार आदमियों को रोजगार मिलता है तो कोई बुरा नहीं है। फाइनेंशियल बरडन सरकार को लेना चाहिए ताकि रोजगार की समस्या साल्व हो सके। नेशनलाइजेशन की वजह से अगर सरकार को रोजगार देने में नुकसान होता है, जिस के लिए उसका कर्तव्य है, तो निश्चित रूप से उसको भुगतने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए हमारे राजस्थान में मेवाड़ टेक्सटाइल मिल

चार महीने से बन्द पड़ी हुई है चार महीने से बन्द पड़ी हुई है उसको हुई है उसको टेक-ओवर कर लिया जाए क्यों कि वह एक बायबल यूनिट है। लेकिन पिछले चार सालों से लगातार चिल्लाते रहने के बावजूद मेरी कोई सुनता ही नहीं। मैंने कई बार कहा कि उसकी हालत फाइनेन्स्यजी खराब है, उससे हमारा नुकसान हो जाएगा, मगर उस पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। हमारे फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब यहाँ पर बैठे हुए हैं, मैं समझता हूँ कि अब वे अपने दृष्टिकोण में बदल लायेंगे कि फर्दर कोई इंडस्ट्री नेशनेलाइज नहीं की जाएगी। क्यों कि नेशनेलाइजेशन के बिना काम नहीं चलेगा नेशनेलाइज करके उसके मैनेजमेंट में सुधार की जरूरत है जिससे उसके लांसज को मेक-अप किया जा सके। उसके कारण एम्प्लायमेंट की प्रॉब्लम हल की जा सके जो कि आज हमारे देश में सबसे बड़ी प्रॉब्लम बन गई है। इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था का होना नितान्त आवश्यक है। इसलिए बिल में जो प्रावधान किए गए हैं, स्वागत योग्य हैं, उनका स्वागत किया जाना चाहिए और जिस मकसद से इसका अर्जन किया जा रहा है, मैं चाहता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी उन मकसद को पूरा करने की दिशा में भी उचित पग उठावें जिससे इस देश में लाइफ सेविंग ड्रग्स, भेषज तथा जन-साधारण के लिए आवश्यक दवाइयों का निर्माण और उत्पादन बढ़ाया जा सके और हमारे देश के लोगों को उसका ज्यादा से ज्यादा फायदा मिले। वे ड्रग्स आसानी के साथ हमें अर्बलेबल होनी चाहिए।

अभी हमारे कम्युनिस्ट साथी सरकार पर आरोप लगा रहे थे कि मल्टी नेशनल कम्पनीज के साथ मिलकर यहाँ का मैनेजमेंट प्रोडक्शन कम कर रहा है। मैं समझता

हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी को इस तथ्य को भी ध्यान रखना चाहिए। लेकिन ये लोग तो इस तरह के आरोप लगाते ही रहते हैं। हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने बिल्कुल सही कहा है कि बंगाल में आज जो ट्रबल पैदा हुई है वह इन की पार्टियों की नीतियों की वजह से है। ये तो हमेशा वहाँ की स्थिति को खराब करने की कोशिश करते हैं। माननीय चेयरमैन साहब, हमारे यहाँ जितने यूनिट्स बन्द पड़े हैं, उन सबके पीछे मिस-मैनेजमेंट मुख्य कारण है, लेकिन इनके यहाँ बंगाल में जितने यूनिट्स बन्द पड़े हैं, वह इन लोगों की वजह से। वहाँ की सरकार ने उन इंडस्ट्रीज को बन्द कर दिया है। इसलिए दोनों में अलग-अलग स्थितियाँ हैं। हमारे मंत्री महोदय को उनका अलग-अलग तरीके से देखना चाहिए। ये लोग वहाँ पर लेबर ट्रबल पैदा करते हैं और बाद में यहाँ आकर बाने करते हैं कि उनको नेशनेलाइज कर दो। लेकिन हमारे इलाके में जहाँ लेबर ट्रबल नहीं है, लेकिन मिस-मैनेजमेंट की वजह से इंडस्ट्रीसिक हो रही है, जब हम उनको नेशनेलाइज करने की बात करते हैं तो कहा जाता है कि नहीं किया जाएगा। इसलिए मंत्री महोदय इन दोनों व्यवस्थाओं को अलग करके देखिए, उनको आपस में उल्टा सीधा करके मत देखिए।

(व्यवधान)

मैंने आपके सम्बन्ध में भी निवेदन करना है क्यों कि आपके मध्य-प्रदेश में भी कई यूनिट्स बन्द पड़े हुए हैं, ऐसे ही बिहार और राजस्थान में भी बन्द पड़े हुए हैं। मैं सरकार से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि उन सब के बारे में फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर महोदय विचार करके, उनकी व्यवस्था बदलने की कोशिश करें जिससे वहाँ जितनी लेबर

(श्री गिरधारीलाल व्यास)

प्रोब्लम खड़ी हो रही हैं, वे सॉल्व हो सकें तथा उन गरीबों को रोजी-रोटी मिल सके, इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था वहां होनी चाहिए। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह (फिरोजाबाद) : मान्यवर सभापति जी बंगाल इम्यूनिटी कम्पनी लिमिटेड (उपक्रमों) का अर्जन और अन्तरण) विधेयक, 1984 का मैं पहले से ही समर्थन कर रहा हूँ। लेकिन आपने उसको टेकन-ओवर करने में काफी वक्त लगा लिया। बंगाल में तीन ऐसी कम्पनियाँ हैं एक स्मिथ स्टैनिस्ट्रीट एण्ड कम्पनी लिमिटेड है दूसरी बंगाल कैमिकल एण्ड फार्मेस्यूटिकल्स लिमिटेड है और इन दोनों कम्पनियों को क्रमशः 1972 और 1977 में टेकन-ओवर कर लिया गया।

मान्यवर आप देखें कि 1919 से लेकर 1971 तक यह कम्पनी मुनाफे में चलती रही और ठीक 1972 में, जब से इसमें घाटे का क्रम शुरू हुआ, इसकी इन्वेस्टीगेशन के लिए एक कमेटी बैठी हैडिड बाई एस. पी. भट्टाचार्य जो कि डी. जी. टी. डी. से सम्बन्धित थे। उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में भी इसका उल्लेख किया कि यह कम्पनी घाटे में चल रही है और उस समय तक इसमें एक करोड़ रुपये का घाटा हो चुका है।

मान्यवर हम जो भी इन्डस्ट्री लेते हैं, उसकी हालत पहले से खस्ता होती है, वह सिक होती है और उसको ऐसी अवस्था में चलते चलते काफी दिन मुजर गए होते हैं। उसके पश्चात् ही हमें ध्यान आता है। इस कम्पनी के अर्जन के सम्बन्ध में बंगाल

सरकार और वहां के मजदूरों ने काफी समय पहले मांग की थी कि इसका राष्ट्रीयकरण होना चाहिए, लेकिन हमारी सरकार 1972 से लेकर 1984, आज तक, इतने लम्बे अर्से तक ऐसे ही देखती रही और कम्पनी को वैसे ही चलने दिया।

17.16 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
in the Chair)

मान्यवर मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि जीवन रक्षक औषधियाँ और रसायन बनाने वाली जो आवश्यक चीजें हैं, जिनकी मांग है, ऐसी औषध कम्पनियों का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर दिया जाना चाहिये। लोग कहते हैं कि लाइफ सेविंग ड्रग्स नहीं हैं, और दूसरी तरफ हमें सब स्टैन्डर्ड दवायें मिलती हैं। इस बारे में सरकार की पहल होनी चाहिये कि जो भी नितांत आवश्यक औषधियाँ बनाने वाली कर्पनियाँ हैं उनका राष्ट्रीयकरण करना चाहिये क्योंकि वह जनता के लिये बहुत ही उपयोगी है और यह काम प्रॉफिट और लोस का ध्यान रखे बगैर करना चाहिये।

राष्ट्रीयकरण के सम्बन्ध में कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। मित्रांतिक पहलू है। राष्ट्रीयकरण अच्छी चीज है। लेकिन उसके बाद भी यदि सही उपयोग न हो तो एक तो ग्राम जनता का पैसा व्यर्थ जाता है, साथ ही लोगों में राष्ट्रीयकरण के बारे में तरह तरह की बातें कही जाने लगती हैं। इस लिये हमारा दृष्टिकोण ऐसा होना चाहिये कि जिस इन्डस्ट्री का राष्ट्रीयकरण करें वह सही माने में चले क्योंकि उसमें जनता का पैसा लगता है। इसलिये गम्भीरता से इस प्रश्न को लेना चाहिये। अन्यथा ग्राम जनता

कभी-कभी कहने लगती है कि जिसका राष्ट्रीयकरण हो जाना है उसका मामला ही गड़बड़ हो जाता है। अतः इस कार्य को व्यवस्थित रूप से करना चाहिये। मैं एक छोटी सी मिसाल देता हूँ हमारे यहां आगरा में एक बिजली कम्पनी थी जिसका राष्ट्रीयकरण कर दिया गया तो जहां जहां उसके तांबे के तार थे वह तार खोल दिये गये और उसकी जगह अलुमिनियम के तार लग गये। ऐसा इसलिये किया गया क्योंकि तांबा महंगा निकता है। तो राष्ट्रीयकरण के साथ-साथ ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये कि उसमें कुछ मिले ही नहीं।

मजदूरों को मैनेजमेंट में भागीदारी का मौका दिया जायगा, यह अच्छी बात है और स्वागत योग्य है। इससे उनमें विश्वास पैदा होगा कि जो हम पैदा कर रहे हैं उसमें हम भी हिस्सेदार हैं। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा (पार्ली) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सवाल तो यह है कि आज भी इस देश के अन्दर 100 से ज्यादा ऐसी दवायें बिक रही हैं जो नहीं बिकनी चाहिये। पास के छोटे-छोटे देशों ने जैसा बांग्लादेश इत्यादि ने उन दवायों को अपने यहां मना कर दिया है क्यों कि वह दवायें स्वास्थ्य के लिये हानिप्रद हैं। लेकिन हमारे यहां बिकती हैं।

जहां तक लाइफ सेविंग ड्रग्स का सवाल है, माननीय साठे जी ने कहा कि इस के अन्दर हमें अच्छी ड्रग्स मिलेंगी। देश के अन्दर इतने अनभिज्ञ डाक्टर हैं कि लोगों को आउटडेटेड दवायें देते हैं और आज हजारों की संख्या में लोग गांवों में इसलिये बीमार पड़ते हैं क्योंकि दवायों में मिलावट

है, स्पूरिबस दवायें मिलती हैं। लाइफ सेविंग ड्रग्स के अलावा जो दवायें बाजार में नहीं बिकनी चाहिये वह बिक रही हैं। दवाओं के दाम भी ज्यादा हैं। और देश के गरीब लोगों के स्वास्थ्य के साथ खिलवाड़ हो रही है। एक आपने हेल्थवर्कर्स खड़े कर दिये जो लोगों को अनालजिन की गोलियां दे रहे हैं। तो ड्रग पोलिसी में चेंज होना चाहिए।

The Financial Express dated the 22nd February 1983 states :

“Private Producers tend to shift Production away towards those drugs which give them higher profit... The Government should also pay serious attention to the observations made by WHO that India can get by spending so much only 2,000 drugs.”

अगर आप इसके आर्टिकल को डिटेल् में पढ़ें तो मालूम होगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में ये मन्टी-परपज कम्पनियां अपनी दवाएं बेचती हैं और उनके आघार पर आप इस काम को कर रहे हैं। उसकी सराहना विरोधी दल के हमारे श्री सुनील मैत्रा जी ने की है इसलिये इस पर बोलने की गुंजाइश नहीं है लेकिन मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब किसी कम्पनी को लेते हैं तो एक प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट बनाते हैं, वह यहां मेम्बरों के सामने क्यों नहीं रखते? हमारे मंत्री महोदय बड़े मारी लोकतंत्र के विचारों के हिमायती हैं, हम भी उस रिपोर्ट को देखना चाहते हैं कि वह क्या है और कैसे आप कम्पनी का विकास करेंगे?

आपने फाइनेन्शियल मैमोरेण्डम दिया है, क्या आपने बताया है कि उसमें कितनी मशीनरी थी, क्या कास्ट थी? कोई नहीं जान सकता कि कितना सामान था,

(श्री मूलचन्द डागा)

कितना कर्जा था, कुछ पता नहीं लगता। आपने कह दिया कि 9 करोड़ देगे, आप दे दें, लेकिन हमें मालूम नहीं कि किसने इन्क्वायरी की? आपने कहा कि एक्ट के अन्तर्गत इन्क्वायरी करवा दी और इसे हमारे सामने ला रहे हैं बतायें कि इसमें कितना व्याज का है, कितना सर्विसेज का है। आप सदन के सामने पूरी प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट रखें और बतायें कि कितनी इन्वूवेबल प्रापर्टी है, कितनी मशीनरी है, कितनी आउट-डेटेड है और कितना जक है। हमें फँक्ट का मालूम नहीं है।

हम पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग चाहते हैं, सरकारीकरण नहीं चाहते हैं। आपने जो शुरू किया है, उस पर ध्यान दीजिये। आप कह रहे हैं कि आजकल राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं हो रहा है, सरकारीकरण हो रहा है। वहाँ मनेजमेंट सर्वेन्ट जाकर बैठते हैं, वह मनेजमेंट करते हैं। यह हो गया कि मनेजमेंट जो काम करेगा उसमें पार्टनरशिप होगी। कांस्टीट्यूशन के मुताबिक लेबर बिल वी दी पार्टनर। आप बतायेंगे कि क्या लेबर की उसमें पार्टीसिपेशन होगी या लेबर भी डायरेक्टर बनेगा? जब आप राष्ट्रीयकरण चाहते हैं तो राष्ट्रीयकरण कीजिये।

यह बताइये कि 1978 के बाद आज तक घाटा क्यों है? आप अब इसे 6 साल के बाद लाये, कब इसकी रिपोर्ट सदन के सामने आई थी। कौन देखता है? इसको कोई देखने वाला नहीं है। हमें मालूम नहीं है कि क्या बनने वाला है।

जब कभी इस कम्पनी का मामला आता है तो एक बड़ा सवाल है इस पर

स्पीकर साहब की गाइडलाइन होनी चाहिये कि उसकी पूरी प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट, पूरी हालत सदन के सामने आनी चाहिये। सदन को पता होना चाहिए कि किस लिये यह दिया जा रहा है?

हमारे एक सदस्य ने कहा कि राजस्थान में 1000 आदमी बेकार हैं, उनको नहीं लिया जा रहा है। कारण यह था कि हमारे सामने कोई प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट नहीं है। किसी को मालूम नहीं है कि कितनी इन्वूवेबल प्रापर्टी है, कितनी बेच दी गई है, कितनी सरकार ले रही है। बस इतना कह दिया गया है कि एक्ट के अन्तर्गत एन्क्वायरी कराई गई थी। हम नहीं जानते कि एन्क्वायरी करने वाला कौन था और उसकी रिपोर्ट क्या है। स्पीकर महोदय जिस तरह और मामलों में गाइडलाइन देते हैं, उसी तरह वह यह भी गाइडलाइन दें कि कम्पनी के राष्ट्रीयकरण का बिल रखते हुए उसके साथ ही प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट भी रखी जाए।

अगर यह कम्पनी ठीक तरह से काम करे, तो देश के गरीब लोगों को लाइफ-सेविंग ड्रग्स कम कीमत पर उपलब्ध हो सकेंगी।

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Sir, I welcome this Bill. Our Hon. Minister is a very able Minister. Sir, he has written a book on social revolution. Have you gone through it? At least he thinks of social revolution.

As we know, Sir, all these industries in Bengal Chemicals and others came as a part of our national struggle against the foreign domination. Even our textile mills in Bombay, Bengal, Madras and Kanpur came as a part of the struggle of the Indian people against

the British foreign monopolists. Here also, this company has been brought into being by the illustrious sons of Bengal who were pioneer is not only setting up this company but also seeing that our country becomes self-sufficient in the matter of medicines and drugs. So, while this is nationalised, I do support it. But, Sir, as I said earlier, nationalisation not a panacea for all evils and if it is mismanaged, it becomes a weapon in the hands of such people who do want nationalisation. So, that should be carefully looked into.

Here in this entire House there are persons like us who want nationalisation. There are also persons who do not want nationalisation. But all of us want that our industries should be managed properly. Our industries cannot sustain continued losses. Here also, if after the take-over, losses continue to increase, this is a matter of regret and this should be looked into. As Comerade Sunil Maitra has stated, in Bengali, there is a proverb :

सब बैटा के छिड़े दिये
बेड़े बैटा के घर

Catch the small man, leave all. So, whenever anything comes, we are in the habit of blaming the workers. Why has this bad thing happened? It is because of the workers. Why this good thing has happened? It is because of the officers. Bad things happen because of the workers and good things happen because of the Officers. This is not proper. I hope our Minister will look to it. In other words this thinking means heads I win, tail you lose. Sir, there is a song in Bengali :

मोरी हाय कलकत्ता
केवल भूले भरा,
बुद्धिमान करे चोरी
बोकस्य पड़े घरा ।

Calcutta is full of omissions and commissions. Here the thieves pass

by and only the poor people are caught and held. So, here the people who mint money out of the government funds, when these are taken over by the Government, oppose it fully. They always come to Delhi by plane. That is the Executive Class and they will have commissions here and there. But for the omissions, only the workers are responsible.

I will request Shri Sathe to see that thing is properly looked into.

I want to speak on another point on which Shri Sathe will definitely agree with me. We have supported nationalisation of all industries. But what about the drug industry? He knows much better than many persons in this house as to what is the reality in the drug industry in this country.

Sir, actually it is dominated even today by the multi-nationals of foreign countries. He knows it, and I request him to look into it. How long my country will be allowed to be looked by the multinationals in this domain?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY
(Nizamabad) : Our country.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
Our country, not your country.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY :
You said, 'my country'.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : M
Choubey, when you say your country,
there is a meaning. When he says his
country, there is a different meaning.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
What is the difference in meaning. I do
now know.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I do
not want to let out the secret.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :

Many reports have come that this country along with other Third World countries, is dumped by such medicines which are of no use in the metropolitan/cities of those countries which produce them, and this has come out in the press. This has tested the patience of our country and I want to bring to your notice as to how long this will be allowed to continue.

Sir, when Mr. Shiv Shankar was Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals—now Mr. Sathe is the Minister—he told on 8.3.1982 in the Lok Sabha that Glaxo did not produce 21 drugs out of 32 for which it has been given licence. And they all say that they are not interested in the production of life-saving drugs. They produce only such drugs which bring heavier profits. Mr. Shiv Shankar said further in the Rajya Sabha that Glaxo, Pfizer and Sandoz were producing products of high profit and less essential products. They produced more than their licenced capacity. In this case the Bengal Immunity Company produces less than its capacity. But these companies are allowed to produce more than their capacity. Seven multi-national companies like Pfizer, American Cynide Co., Bristol-Mayor Company, Olin Corporation etc. cheated our Government to the tune of 38,315 million dollars. The Government of India went to the court, but there the American Government came to the aid of these companies and they changed their rules even, for which the Government had to make a compromise out of court. The Government was supposed to get from these companies 38,314 million dollars but the Government got from them only 0.8 million dollars. Our country is being looted by the multinationals. Remittances by Prozer only were Rs. 1.8 million in 1974-75, Rs. 9.4 million in 1976-77 and Rs. 16.9 million in 1977-78. It is nearly 15 times the remittances from one country. They are violating our national rules even. So, I will encroach upon the indulgence of the hon. Minister to see that these multinationals are controlled, while he is the Minister.

Sir, Mr. Sathe himself stated in Bombay on 7.5.1983 that the drug multinationals, of necessity, are anti-Indian. So, by taking this one factor in West Bengal, he has done a good thing. But I would like to know what will be the condition of this entire industry in India, what steps he is going to take and whether some new policy will be adopted by him in this regard or not.

Here, about this Company I beg to submit that this Company produced some fluid which is very much used for giving injections and other things. But now, under the licence of this Company another firm in Madras is producing it. I have nothing to say if the Madras company produces it, but I know it can be extended. The question is why that cannot be produced there also.

Lastly, I beg to submit that Shri Vasant Sathe knows very well the poverty of the Indian people. He himself stated that nearly 50% of our people are below the poverty line. So, we want cheap, proper medicines and life saving medicines which the common people should get. Generally, the medicines from the multi-nationals are beyond the reach of our common people. Our nationalised industries should be so managed so that we can produce medicines for the common people and Bengal Immunity Company Ltd, can be used as such. So, I demand that he changes the policy.

While I support this Bill, I hope that the management will be properly re-shuffled as need be. I hope that the thefts and burglaries will be weeded out. Punishments will be given to such persons.

He has managed some other factories. He had been to Durgapur to see a factory. There was some trouble there. He managed it. The trouble was not because of labour only. I hope he will be able to get over that thing in the Bengal Immunity also.

Kindly bring a Bill so that all the drug industry industries of this country are nationalised. They have to be nationalised. They have to be brought under your control. These multi-national companies should not be allowed any more time to loot our country and to loot our people.

I hope that this bold Minister will bring a Bill which will nationalise the entire drug industries of the country,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jatiya,

श्री सत्यनारायण जाटिया (उज्जैन) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो विधेयक है बंगाल इम्युनिटी कम्पनी लिमिटेड (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) विधेयक इसको सरकार कम्पनी के संचालन के संबंध में जो चिन्ता थी उसको दूर करने और उसकी व्यवस्था को सुधारने के लिए लाई है। औषधियों का निर्माण होना और उसके लिए उपाय करना यह नितान्त आवश्यक है। इसकी पूर्ति के लिए जो भी उपाय किए जा रहे हैं वह पर्याप्त और समुचित होने चाहिए देश में ड्रग्स की मांग दिन प्रति दिन बढ़ती जा रही है। सरकार ने यहां पर यह भी नहीं बताया है कि इस कम्पनी में कौन-कौन सी ड्रग्स बनती थीं; उनका विवरण क्या है। उस विवरण से पता लग सकता था कि वहां पर बनने वाली औषधियां कितनी उपयोगी हैं। फिर भी हम समझते हैं कि जो भी ड्रग्स बनाई जा रही हैं उनकी उपयोगिता है।

जैसा कि और माननीय सदस्यों ने यहां पर कहा है कि राष्ट्रीयकरण के नाम पर यदि केवल सरकारीकरण ही करना हो तो कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। राष्ट्रीयकरण के साथ-साथ यदि उपयोगी सुधार भी किए जायें तो सराहनीय होगा। यह देखने की

बात है कि सरकार जो भी उपाय कर रही है वह कारगर हैं या नहीं। श्रमिकों को रोजगार मिले यह तो आवश्यक है ही। साथ ही साथ जो पूंजी लगाई जा रही है वह देश की पूंजी है, उसका ठीक प्रकार से और न्यायोचित रूप में उपयोग होना चाहिए। साथ ही साथ जो भी औषधियां वहां पर तैयार की जायें उनकी क्वालिटी मेनटेन होनी चाहिए। इन सभी बातों की पूर्ति के बाद ही देशवासियों के मन में जो राष्ट्रीयकरण के प्रति एक आशंका रहती है वह दूर हो सकेगी। माननीय मन्त्री जो अपने कुशल नेतृत्व के माध्यम से इस कम्पनी की बिगड़ती हुई स्थिति को [समझालें] ताकि वहां पर अच्छा उत्पादन हो सके जिसका लाभ राष्ट्र की प्रगति और चिकित्सा सुविधाओं में हो सके।

इसके साथ साथ वहां पर बकिंग कंडीशन्स को भी सुधारा जाना चाहिए क्यों कि बकिंग कंडीशन्स पर भी उत्पादन बहुत निर्भर करता है। जैसा आपने कहा कि की श्रमिक मैनेजमेंट में भागीदारी होगी यह अच्छी बात है। सही भागीदारी का मतलब यह है कि उत्पादन के लाभ में श्रमिकों को भी हिस्सा मिले। यदि श्रमिकों की मनोवृत्ति अच्छी रहेगी तो उत्पादन भी अधिक हो सकेगा और मुनाफा भी बढ़ेगा। और आज जो नुकसान है वह दूर हो सकेगा। इसी आधार पर आप इस उपक्रम को अच्छी तरह से चलाने का प्रयत्न करें। इसी भावना के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): Sir, I just require only one minute to draw the attention of the Minister that the Government has done a very good job by nationalising this Bengal Immunity. But I understand that there is a print-

(Shri Satyasadhan Chakraborty)

ting press attached to this company and actually the workers of this Press depend on this company. So, I would request the hon. Minister to enquire into it and also to nationalise the press because it is a part and parcel of the company itself. And if that press is also is also nationalised, it will ensure not only bread to the workers but also something more because you know some people were talking about the welfare of workers. The end of our activities is "man". Otherwise, there is no meaning in these activities.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER ; Some may disagree with your view. When you say the end is "man", somebody will say, it is God.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : Even the saints of our land have said, to see the man is to see the god. It was Karam Chand Gandhi who said, God appears in the shape of food for poor man in India.

Therefore, I would request the Minister to go into it and to see that this press is also nationalised and the workers are thereby ensured their bread. It will also help the company.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank all the hon. Members who have participated in the debate and I must say this is probably a unique occasion when every Single Member who participated has supported the Bill and the action taken by us.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : We also supported.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Yes, those who stand, sit and wait also supported,

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Don't mention the Member who supported

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : John Milton on his blindness said they also serve who stand and wait so, there are many people who are standing and wait also.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : With apologies to John Milton, they also sit and suffer

Sir, Let me come to the last point which Mr. Satyasadhan Chakraborty suggested about the printing press. I had enquired into this matter, The fact is that this printing press which was an ancillary of the company has gone into liquidation and the matter is pending in the High Court of Calcutta. As far as we are concerned, once this Bengal Immunity is nationalised if this press becomes viable on its own because we will get the work, from this, then problem will not arise. There would be no need of nationalising it directly. But till these legal matters are resolved, it would not be possible for us to take any step immediately in this matter.

By and large, the suggestion made by Shri Narayan Choubeyji went on a very large canvas of the entire drug industry and suggested that we should come forthwith a new policy. We are actually considering and taking a review of the entire drug policy and making improvement according to our experience of the last 5 years after the last policy.

For this purpose, we have appointed the National Council for Drugs and Pharmaceuticals which consists of representatives of all sections of the industry. The stage is that the working groups have given their reports and the steering committee is about to give the report very shortly. Once that is given, I propose to put it before the National Council and also the Consultative Committee. I will concern all concerned people and then only it will be possible for the Government to come before this House, before the Parliament.

The main objective of the new policy is, as we visualise it and as was said by some of the hon. Members, medicines for the masses. The production must be on a larger scale of essential and life-saving drugs. Our people's need for medicines is very meagrely met. You will be sorry to know that for our huge population of more than 70 crores in the rural areas, the availability of modern drugs is approximately about Rs. 10 per annum *per capita*. In the urban areas, it is about Rs. 20. You can easily imagine, for less than a rupee per head, how much medicine a person can get and that too these modern medicines. That means, if you think in terms of need, there is tremendous scope for growth of the drug industry in this country. But when you think in terms of only the market and those who have the purchasing power, then you find this phenomena of many people producing only the non-essentials and earning profits on them and not producing the essentials. That is because of the limited class of people's purchasing power, the law of demand and supply and all that. I need not go into all that. Therefore, the whole object of public sector coming in, in this country, was for the purpose of producing the essential and life-saving drugs and that purpose has been substantially served.

Now, because these public sector units went on producing the essential and life-saving drugs where there was not enough margin of profit, we could not in public sector get the profit. That is one of the reasons for not making profits. When you try to do some infra-structural development and go in to areas where there is no margin of profit, but you go into that to meet the needs of the masses, then very often you run into difficulties and run into losses. But I must say here without trying to be apologetic that the public sector also must prove its worth. As my colleague, the Finance Minister, has been saying again and again, they must also get a return on the investment of public money made in the public sector undertakings. The Prime

Minister has said that it should at least 10 per cent return. If this to be achieved, quite a few things will have to be done.

Firstly, the capacity, utilisation of the plants where investment of the public money is made must be proper. There must be proper management. You must also achieve proper cost-output and the cost-benefit ratio.

You must not block your capital in two large inventories. All the new techniques of management must also be applied in public sector units. Public sector units cannot just be treated as holy cows because nationalisation cannot be a panacea for all ills. It is not that once you nationalise, then all will be well. This sort of impression must not be created. Nationalisation, in fact, means greater responsibility to manage these units properly so that they become an example for the rest. You say that participation of labour is the be-all and end-all and that it will solve all our problems. But if there is participation from shop floor level to top level, the Board level and if there is a complete feeling of belonging, then, as Shri Sunil Maitra and Shri Narayan Choubey said, the greatest stake is of the worker. If something goes wrong with industry, he loses his livelihood. That is why he has a stake and, therefore, if you create a feeling of belonging, if you take the workers into confidence, the concern can be run well. The workers will then be able to find out and point out the mischief which is taking place and also explain why the concern is running in loss.

Therefore, the Workers have a stake in ensuring that the concern runs in profit and that its capacity is fully utilised. I can say proudly, although I do not believe in treating the workers as a generality there may be some places where some workers get misguided but by and large, given responsibility to the workers, the workers

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

have proved that they can rise to the occasion in this matter.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
It is they who can.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We have full faith that if you go honestly, it will all be good. Let my words be not taken as mere eye-wash. I want to make it very clear that this participation of labour in management must not be taken as a panacea or shibboleth. If it is implemented in both letter and spirit and if the Government comes up with a new policy for participation of workers in management, if it is implemented in true spirit both on the side of the employees and of management, it will certainly make production and profit.

Let me make a note of warning. I know that there are managers who in their heart of hearts are reluctant for participation of labour. That there are also trade unions who also in their heart of hearts do not want this participation of labour and management because they are afraid that then there is political influence. So, if both sides have a proper understanding and we have this participation in true spirit, I have no doubt as we have seen in Durgapur that it will have a tremendous effect on production and particularly in public sector undertakings.

Therefore, I really want to thank all the Members. I will make a note of these detailed points that you have made. Some multi-national company is manufacturing some drug. To my mind, there is no such drug actually.

There has been no reduction. On the contrary, if you are referring to diphtheria anti-toxin, then I would say, the production in Bengal Immunity Company, after its take-over, has gone up in this drug also. There is no question of Bengal Immunity Company being handing glove or having any link or

understanding with any multi-national and, therefore, not producing it...

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : I will write to you.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Please do. We will not tolerate any such thing.

SHRI STAYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : Top-heavy administration.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is also not correct. Someday has said that the number of officers has gone up after the take-over. That is not correct. Actually what happened was that, in a promotion policy that we introduced, a large number of employees, more than 60 or 70, got promoted to the junior officers' cadre. They got into the officers' cadre. That is how you see that the number of officers has gone up. We have not pursued any policy of retrenchment. On the contrary, we have increased the field staff. That is where real marketing and selling takes place. Sales have gone up. But again there has to be a link between sale and production. I do not want to go into all these.

Some Member have asked why they are incurring loss. In these six years it so happened that because we had not nationalised, the entire money that was given was treated as loan and interest had to be paid on it; it could not be treated as equity; therefore, you see this amount of interest as a net loss.

These are the factors. That is why it became very essential for us, in the interest of the industry, in the interest of the employees, in the interest of the country, to nationalise this. I am very thankful to all the hon. Members who have supported this measure.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer, to the public interest, of the undertakings of Messrs Bengal Immunity Company Limited, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration"

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Sudhir Kumar Giri is not present.

The question is :

"That Clauses 9 to 32 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 9 to 32 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula the preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.58 hrs.

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION BANK OF INDIA BILL

The Minister of Finance (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India, and for the transfer to, and vesting in, the said Reconstruction Bank, of the undertaking of the Corporation known as the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India Limited, with a view to enabling the said Reconstruction Bank to function as the principal credit and reconstruction agency for industrial revival and to coordinate similar work of the other institutions engaged therein and to assist and promote industrial development and to rehabilitate industrial concerns, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

I think I can finish the introductory part.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am going to request the hon. Members because this being such a non-controversial Bill.

18 hrs.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I will be too glad.

Sir, as the hon. Members are aware, the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India was incorporated as a company under the Companies Act in April 1971. The Corporation

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.