

arise are political rather than judicial and so it is properly provided that the question whether a person is entitled to a passport or not should be considered by the passport authorities and that appeals should be handled by appellate authorities. The case which gave rise to the promulgation of this Ordinance is interesting in this sense. There were two cases. In one case the allegation against the applicant was that he was a passport racketeer. And in the other case, there was an allegation that the—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may continue his speech on the next occasion. We will now have to take up private Member's business.

15.30 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FOURTH REPORT

श्री हरदयाल देवगुग (पूर्व दिल्ली) :
मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि यह सभा गैर सरकारी सदस्यों के विधेयकों तथा संकल्पों सम्बन्धी समिति के चौथे प्रतिवेदन से जो 14 जून को सभा में पेश किया गया था, सहमत है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That this House agrees with the Fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 14th June, 1967.”

The motion was adopted.

15.31 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. DECONTROL OF STEEL—Contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Nambiar is to continue his speech. He has spoken for nine minutes. Only one hour is allotted. So we have to ration the time. He may now take not more

than 10 minutes, because he has the right of reply also for a few minutes.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirappalli): Sir, to make the House remember the resolution, I shall once again read it:

“This House disapproves the action taken by the Government in decontrolling steel and thereby causing steep rise in the price of steel.”

On the last day, I quoted certain figures as to how the price of steel has gone up very much during this period. This morning there was a question answered in this House, where in you could see that the figures for the steep rise in the price of steel have been given. The hon. Minister gave the figures. In all varieties, whatever it be, whether it is scarce variety or the free variety, there was a steep rise in price immediately after decontrol. In the case of beams it was six per cent; billets, nine per cent; bars (Light), seven per cent; structurals, four per cent; black sheet, five per cent; galvanised corrugated sheet, 29 per cent; plates, six per cent; cold rolled sheet, 12 per cent; cold rolled strips, 11 per cent; heavy rails (90 lbs.) eight per cent; light rails (30 lbs.), four per cent; in regard to wheel and tyres used by the railways and the government, new design, five per cent; old design, 20 per cent; axles, new design, five per cent, and old design, 21 per cent.

As I told you the other day, the Railway Minister when he submitted the budget, said that due to the price rise in steel, the expenditure on the side of the railways has increased. Here, the Government on the other hand, is allowing this sort of increase without much justification. Perhaps it may be a little inconvenient to you if I remind you that you were once the Chairman of the Committee which went into the question in this regard, and you also may be a party to the recommendations for the decontrol of steel.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Have you gone through both the parts? I do not know whether the second part is there. There was a scheme to decontrol.

Shri S. S. Kothari (Mandsaur): You should not be on the defensive at all, Sir. It has done good to the economy.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not on the defensive. I am stating facts.

Shri S. S. Kothari: Your recommendations are correct.

Shri Namblar: May be there is a difference. There are two views on this question. I have gone through the first report which was placed before us. A part of the second report is not received. Whatever it be, there are two opinions. One opinion is that of the producers who have got a big monopoly interests, and they are for decontrol and more profits. On top of it stands the TATA group and certain elements who are the supporters or the beneficiaries of the TATA group, and they are also for it. But for the people, the common man, it is not good. The fact remains, as stated in the morning, that the price has gone up. You would agree with me if I say that the price increase in any country depends upon the price increase in steel. Even in a free country,—as it is said that there is free enterprise in America—there is control of steel price in Britain, in Japan, and in all the countries they will not allow the price of steel to go up as it likes. If it once goes up, the price of the produce also goes up. Not only that. A wave or a chain reaction of increase in prices takes place. Therefore, for the stability of economy in any country, the first and foremost thing is to see that the price of steel is controlled, and controlled at a very reasonable level. Here unfortunately after the committee's report, decontrol has come in and that has allowed the JPC to increase the prices as and how they like. The members of the JPC are from the production side only—TISCO, IISCO

and Hindustan Steel. You may say that because Hindustan Steel is the main producer, the benefit would go to the Government. But the JPC is so constituted that the benefit of the price increase goes to the Tatas. Where prices are more, as in the case of scarce commodities, they are allotted to the Tata group, so that they can get any amount.

The monopolists have control over everything in the country. With all respect to the Steel Controller and members of the Railway Board who are members of the JPC, the fact remains that Tatas control the steel price and market also. In your committee's report it was stated that allotment will be given to the States for agricultural and other purposes. Unfortunately we understand from the various States that the scarce commodities are not being received at the State level. Only recently the Madras Minister, Mr. Nedunsezhiyan, said that Madras State is not getting the necessary quota of scarce commodities. It is so in the case of every State. Why is it that the Government is not in a position to supply the necessary quantities of steel to the States? The reason is that the Steel Controller has gone out and the JPC has stepped into his shoes. The JPC only looks to the price structure and the distribution according to their needs and likings and not according to the needs of the small industries.

श्री जॉकार नाम बॅरवा : सम्बल महोदय, कोरम नहीं है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung—Now there is quorum. He may continue.

Shri Namblar: Small-scale industries and export-oriented industries should have priority. Otherwise, there is no possibility of earning foreign exchange. If the price goes up, we cannot compete in the world market. When allowing price increases, the JPC is not at all considering this aspect. The small-scale

industries in the States do not get steel. Even if they get, the prices are very high. They are not in a position to export their produce because there is cut-throat competition in the export market. Thereby the export of our industrial products dwindles. All these facts are to be taken into consideration.

15.40 hrs.

[SHRI G. S. DHILLON in the Chair]

With regard to the internal price structure I have to submit that there is a heavy dose of excise duty put on steel produce. During the last fifteen years you will find that the price increase has been unbearable. On 1st July, 1949 the price of light bars was Rs. 295 and in August, 1965 it went up to Rs. 683, that is an increase of 232 per cent, with an excise duty dose of Rs. 125. The price of structurals in 1949 was Rs. 285 and it went up to Rs. 713 in 1965 with an excise duty dose of Rs. 125 added on. In the case of black sheets the price was Rs. 315 in 1949 and it went up to Rs. 807 per ton in 1965 with an excise duty dose of Rs. 175. The price of plates was Rs. 282 in 1949 and it reached Rs. 792 in 1965, a rise of 285 per cent, with an excise duty of Rs. 135. The excise duty imposed by Government plays a great part in the steep rise in the price of steel. I do not understand the economics in it. The Government says it wants money in the form of excise duty. It imposes excise duty on steel and gets some money. At the same time, Government is the main purchaser of steel and Government pays that money through the backdoor, through the Railways and other departments. Therefore, the money received by way of excise duty is paid back. What is the benefit of imposing this excise duty? They will say there is some benefit because the private sector will pay a share. The private sector can be made to pay a share by other means; they need not swell up the cost structure of steel production and

make the common man pay the entire amount. It is nothing but profiteering, looting the people, looting the agricultural worker and the ordinary peasant who wants steel products. It is looting the small scale industries.

Therefore, my humble submission is that things have changed. Decontrol was allowed as a result of this report. It is very clear that they recommended that there must be decontrol. They also said that there must be fair play given to the Joint Plant Committee, which is a committee consisting of the producers, the General Managers of TISCO, HSL and other plants, to think about the price increase. Therefore, there was a wrong done by accepting the report in toto and introducing de-control. In fact, during one year we have seen that much harm has been done. In the report it is said that if the price has gone up or is going up steadily we can bring in control. What is it? Is it a child's play, that you introduce decontrol and after a year again bring in control? People will laugh at us and no benefit will accrue to the people. By that time the prices would have increased and they will settle the prices at that level so that further looting can be made possible.

One word about the Steel Controller's Office. They have only a skeleton staff now. The main functions have been removed from them. I understand that even the employees of the Steel Controller's Office, Calcutta, have been rendered surplus and they are not being given any alternative employment. The Joint Plant Committee which is a free lancer does not have the responsibility to employ these men. I submit, when the whole scheme was introduced and operated, they should have at least thought in terms of the whole effect of it including the effect on the employees. These employees should be absorbed by the Joint Plant Committee in their undertakings and they should not be left in the lurch. I strongly plead that something must be

[Shri Nambiar]

done for them, and a re-thinking is necessary whether it is time for us to re-introduce control. Whether the 990 hour has reached or not, I cannot say, but the time is fast approaching when a re-thinking on this matter is called for

I hope the hon. Minister will accept my Resolution and take necessary action to implement it.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"This House disapproves the action taken by the Government in decontrolling steel and thereby causing steep rise in the price of steel."

श्री. डा० बा० शिवाजी : (गोपाल गज) मन्नापति महोदय, एक घण्टी कम को कौसे खराब कर दिया जाता है, यह श्री नम्बियार के रेजोल्यूशन में मान्य पड़ता है। हम लोग लोहे के डीकंट्रोल पर पुनर्विचार कर सकते थे, लेकिन उनके प्रस्ताव की जो मज्दावली है, वह हम लोगों का बाध करती है कि हम उस प्रस्ताव का विरोध करें। पहले सम्भव में उन्होंने बिन बातों को छोड़ इकारा किया वे ऐसी बातें नहीं हैं, जिसके कारण हम विषय पर पुनर्विचार को जरूरत हो।

लोहे का डीकंट्रोल कोई नई बात नहीं है—वह बहुत पहले से धीरे धीरे किया जा रहा है। लोहे की विभिन्न कैटेगरीज का समय समय पर डीकंट्रोल होता आया है और इससे पहले उस के बारे में वहाँ पर कोई वाद-विवाद नहीं हुआ था। वह नहीं है कि एक-दो-तीन धीरे धीरे का डीकंट्रोल कर दिया गया है, बल्कि यह डीकंट्रोल की शक्ति पहले से बनी आ रही है। कुछ कैटेगरीज का डीकंट्रोल एक इन्स्टान्ट में हुआ, कुछ का दूसरी इन्स्टान्ट में हुआ और बाकी कैटेगरीज का डीकंट्रोल धीरे धीरे हुआ है।

प्रमुख जीवन में—या किसी भी जीवन में—यह कब्र बंधा है कि प्रकृति नहीं

रेस्ट्रिक्शन या कंट्रोल हो वो प्रमुख को इन्कनविनियंस होता है और करप्शन बढ़ता है। क्लॉबट या धेर होने से करप्शन बढ़ता है और इन्कनविनियंस बढ़ता है। जनरलप सखारण जनता में जायें, तो मान्य होगा कि लोग दो पैने अधिक देना पसन्द करेंगे, लेकिन कंट्रोल के बकर में पटना पसन्द नहीं करेंगे। इस आफिस में जानो, उस आफिस में जाओ, परमिट लो, हुकान्टर के पास हम मर्नवा जाओ, लोग हम बात को श्वारा नहीं करते हैं। हमारा देश बहुत बड़ा है और बहुत बड़ी संख्या में लोगों को इनमें पैमाने पर मोहा देना पड़ता है कि हमारे आफिस उस हाथ में कीप बिट नहीं कर सकते। जैसा कि मैंने कहा है, जहा क्लॉबट होती है, वहा करप्शन शुरू हो जाती है। हम करप्शन और इन्कनविनियंस को दूर करने के लिए लोहे का डीकंट्रोल किया गया था। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि लोगों की भावना कंट्रोल के पक्ष में नहीं है। कोई भी कामोबिटी हो, लोग उस के कंट्रोल के पक्ष में नहीं हैं।

घाप जानने है कि ज़ा तक सीबेट का सम्बन्ध है, परमिट और कंट्रोल के जाने में भी शीघ्र डीकंट्रोल होने पर भी सीबेट नहीं मिशवा है और उस में बड़े बाधा है। लोग हम प्रसुविधा की बर्दास्त कर लेते हैं, लेकिन व नहीं चाहते कि उस पर कंट्रोल हो।

यह कहा जाता है कि कंट्रोल होने से भारी स्थिति शुरू करने में। मैं निकेश करना चाहता हूँ कि जब हमारे देश के सामान कम है और हम सब लोगों को पूरा नहीं दे सकते हैं, तो कंट्रोल करना अच्छा है। मैं चाहता था कि लोहे का भी सीबेट का तरह हो डीकंट्रोल किया जायें। सीबेट के निकट डिस्ट्रिक्शन का डीकंट्रोल किया गया है, उसकी शक्ति डीकंट्रोल नहीं हुई है—जान की जायत रिजर्व है। लोहे का कंट्रोल

लोहे के डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन का भी कंट्रोल कर देती, उस को ही छोड़ देती और मैक्सिमम और मिनिमम प्राइस फुकरर कर के प्राइस पर कंट्रोल रखती, तो यह ज्यादा प्रबल होता और जो स्टॉकिस्ट्स या दुकानदार अधिक लाभ लेते, वे कानून की गिरफ्त में आ सकते थे ।

श्री नम्बियार ने मुख्य के संबन्ध में जो आंकड़े दिये हैं कि उनमें 1 5 या 6 परसेंट वृद्धि हुई है । 2 परसेंट कम या 2 परसेंट ज्यादा होना तो अस्मर व्यापार में होता है लेकिन जो 21 परसेंट या 29 परसेंट वृद्धि हो गई है उसका कोई जस्टिफिकेशन नहीं हो सकता है । वही जो इसे ब्रॉफ ध्यान देना चाहिये कि शीट्स में या लोहे की कुछ और कंटेनरीज के मूल्य में एकबैक 21 या 29 परसेंट की वृद्धि क्यों हुई । मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि बागों की सुविधा के नाम पर या खोब डीकट्रेस बन्द करते हैं, इस नाम पर कोई नूट हा । दो चार परसेंट की बात हो सकती है लेकिन इतना शायद बढ़ जाना उचित नहीं है । दूसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहता था वह यह है कि कुछ दिन पहले यह देखा गया था कि लोहे की कच्चापन में कम हो गई थी और वह सोचा जाने लगा था कि किन्तु स्टील प्लांट हम लोग करें या न करें । आज के मंत्री के पूर्व मंत्री, इनके प्रेसीडेंस में जो इस क्लरस में बयान दिया था कि मार्केट स्टाप्प हो गया है । जो हाउस की कमेटीज हैं उनको भी जब उनकी शपथ करने का मौका मिला था उस वकन भी कहा गया था कि प्राइस कम आ रहे हैं और लोहा डिस्ट्रिब्यूट के लोअर की कच्चापन हो रही है जिससे फारेन एक्सचेंज लुप्त करना सकें और वहाँ के बाव से कुछ फायदा प्राप्त हो सके । तो वास्तव में होता है कि जब लोहे की कच्चापन देश में कम है, जिसका देना होता है उसकी कच्चापन नहीं हो सकती है जो इतना लाभ नहीं बढ़ सकता ? क्या मैं अधिक लाभ कम होकर

माजूम पड़ता है । क्या कोई मैनिपुलेशन होता है डीलर की तरफ से या फेक्ट्री वार्कों की तरफ से समझ में नहीं आता । इसकी तरह में मिनिस्टर साहब का जाना पड़ेगा ।

ए० माननीय सचिव उद्योग मंत्रालय से मैनिपुलेशन हो रहा है ।

श्री डा० ना० तिवारी बंर 119 ही यह करते हैं बहा भी प्रोग्र यहा भी ।

Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai): Government raised the price.

श्री डा० ना० तिवारी गवर्नमेंट ने जो डीकट्रेस किया । प्राइम रेड करने की बात नहीं की

Shri Nambiar: The Joint Plant Committee has raised it.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: That is something else and not the Government. Everybody knows what the Joint Plant Committee is and what the Government is. If you mix up everything with Government that is another thing.

Shri Nambiar: The Steel Controller is the Chairman of the Joint Plant Committee.

श्री डा० ना० तिवारी एक बात और नम्बियार साहब ने कही कि रेलवे मिनिस्टर ने अपने बाल्कन में रेलवे का प्राइस बढ़ाने का एक कारण दिया लोहे का दाम ज्यादा हो जाता यह तो सरकारी काम है, सरकारी काम में इस्तेमाल होता है इसमें चबराके की बात नहीं है . . .

श्री मधु तिवारी (मुंगेर) हम को ज्यादा देना पड़ता है इसलिये चबराके की बात है ।

श्री डा० ना० तिवारी आप भी कुछ कमा लेते हैं तो ज्यादा दे देते हैं तो कोई बात नहीं ।

[श्री डा० ना० तिवारी]

मैं कह रहा था कि यह कोई बजह नहीं है कि डीकंट्रोल न हो। डीकंट्रोल तो होना चाहिये था। डीकंट्रोल की पालिसी अच्छी है लेकिन किम दूर तक हम जायें, किम दूर तक हम को नहीं जाना चाहिये यह बात सोचनी चाहिये थी। अगरचे रेलवे के कुछ घाइटमों के दाम बढ़ गये तो न नम्बियार साहब को हानि है और न जनता को हानि है। रेलवे वाले समझे। लेकिन जहां तक आयरन गेटम की बात है इसमें 29 परसेंट बढ़ गया तो डीकंट्रोल नहीं करना चाहिये था। जैम प्रोग्रेसिव डीकंट्रोल की पालिसी आप ने चलायी थी एकाध घाइटम छोड़कर डीकंट्रोल चलाता चाहिये था। सरकार इसको फिर से एग्जामिन करे और जिन चीजों में आप समझते हैं कि दाम बहुत बढ़ गया है उन कैटेगरी के आयरन्स में फिर कंट्रोल करने की कोशिश कीजिये या उनमें कोई सृजान लाने की कोशिश कीजिये जिसमें दाम ज्यादा बढ़ न सके। एक बात और मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं कि नम्बियार साहब ने कही है कि आयरन कंट्रोल के आफिसेज में कुछ गलतियाँ हैं जिनको काम नहीं है और वह रिट्रैच होने जा रहे हैं। तो आप उनको काम दूमरा दीजिये। लेकिन रिट्रैचमेंट के डर से या काम लोगों को कराने के लिये हम कांई बोझा डालें या लोगों को किमी इन्क्वॉनिटम में डालें या दिक्कत में रखें यह नहीं होना चाहिये। हम को कंट्रोल की जरूरत नहीं है फिर भी कंट्रोलर आफिस रखें, कंट्रोलर को रखें सिर्फ इसलिये कि कुछ घादमी काम करते रहें यह तो कोई बात ठीक नहीं। नौकरी कुछ लोगों की जाने वाली है तो उनको आलटरनेटिव एम्प्लायमेंट मिले, या उनको आस्वासन मिले। यह बात तो ठीक है और मैं समझता हूं कि कहीं भी रिट्रैचमेंट होता है तो गवर्नमेंट का ऐसा आस्वासन होता है कि कहीं भी यदि नौकरी खाली होगी तो उन्हें देकर ही दूसरे की दी जायगी। तो यह कुछ ऐसी वसीमें नम्बियार

साहब ने दीं कि जो मुझे पसन्द नहीं आई। इसलिये मैं कहता हूं मिनिस्टर साहब से कि इस समस्या को फिर से एग्जामिन कर लें। जिन कैटेगरीज में ज्यादा दाम बढ़ गये हैं उनको कंट्रोल करें या उन पर रोक लगाने की कोशिश करें। प्राइस-कंट्रोल रखें, डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन डीकंट्रोल रखें जैसा कि सीमेंट में हुआ है।

Shri Virendrakumar Shah (Junagadh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish I had an opportunity to move an amendment to the Resolution moved by my friend Shri Nambiar because I am with him as regards the second part of his Resolution is concerned and not about the first part, that is, when he is condemning the Government for the decontrol of steel. Certainly, I am in full agreement with what Mr. Tiwary said. My hon. friend, Shri Nambiar, perhaps, has no experience of how the steel control functions and that is why he is asking for the reimposition of steel control. If he had that experience, he would not have asked for the reimposition of the control on steel.

I have personal experience of it since 1952 when the steel control was imposed. If Shri Nambiar is arguing the case for consumers, certainly, we will not want the re-imposition of control. The consumer hardly ever benefited by the iron and steel control over a period of 25 years. If Shri Nambiar is a champion of black-marketing in steel, then, certainly he is welcome to recommend the re-imposition of steel control. (Interruption) I am sure he is not. It is perhaps because of his lack of experience that has prompted him to ask the Government today for the removal of decontrol.

Sir, unfortunately, the first good step was not followed up just as this Government has a well-established reputation of taking a step and not following it up, whether it is devaluation, whether it is decontrol of steel or something else. The follow-up is always in the wrong direction. How will the price rise? This morning I was

amazed to hear the Minister saying that decontrol and price rise had no connection. It is absolutely beyond my intelligence as to how such a statement could be made, if I may be permitted to say so. The decontrol was announced on the 30th April and the price rise was announced on the 1st May. It was certainly not that the Government of India, the Ministry of Steel, was not aware of the price rise. They knew that this would lead to all this.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may resume his seat. The Minister for External Affairs is to make a statement. The hon. Member may continue his speech after that.

15.58 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: BEHAVIOUR OF
CHINESE EMBASSY STAFF

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): As the hon. Members are aware, the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi has been notified that the former First Secretary, Chen-Lu-Chih, is no longer recognised as a diplomat and is, therefore, subject to the provisions of the Foreigners' Registration Act. He was further informed that he should report himself to the Regional Foreigners' Registration Officer, New Delhi. As he failed to do so, a deportation order has been served on the Embassy in regard to this person.

Chen Lu-Chih is staying in the Chinese Embassy. Under international law, the premises of an Embassy are inviolate and, unlike China, our practice has been to respect and conform to international law and diplomatic usage. In the present situation, the Government of India have taken precaution of increasing the police protection and surveillance of the Embassy. We intend to make protection and surveillance of the Embassy. We intend to make sure that should Chen Lu-Chih leave the sanctity of the Embassy, he does not

flout the orders to report to the Regional Foreigners' Registration Officer, New Delhi. In the light of these precautionary measures, I regret to report an unfortunate incident which further illustrates that Chinese authorities and personnel disregard not only diplomatic usage but the standards of behaviour as members of an accredited Mission.

At about 8.30 P.M. last evening, a diplomatic car came out of the Chinese Embassy which was stopped in the course of surveillance by the police. The Charged' Affairs of the Embassy was in the car apparently on his way to a reception in the Pakistan High Commission. In accordance with their instructions, the police on duty stopped the car and sought to identify the occupants and seek permission to search the car. This was done in an extremely polite and courteous manner but the occupants of the car put on an air of great indignation and refused the car to be searched. During this argument one of the Chinese functionaries slapped the C.R.P. Constable No. 17262 Paras Nath

16 hrs.

Some hon. Members: Shame, shame.

श्री मधु लिमवे (मुंबई) : हमें सरकार की नपुंसकता वाली नीति पर शर्म है। चीनियों के बारे में क्या शर्म है वे तो जंगली जानवर हैं।

श्री सु० क० बागला : पहले सुन लीजिये।

Shri Paras Nath was in uniform and had not done or said anything which provoked this assault.

This unprovoked assault on one of our officers was done when they were actually protecting the Chinese officials from the anger of a big crowd which had gathered and was becoming restive by their rude behaviour. The pieces of wet earth, which were thrown by the crowd, in fact, hit the