

Essential Commodities Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8463/74.]

REPORT OF TARIFF COMMISSION ON REVIEW OF DYESTUFF'S INDUSTRY

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (1974) of the Tariff Commission on the Review of Dyestuff's Industry (Hindi version) under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8464/74].

NOTIFICATION UNDER INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Industrial Disputes (Central) Amendment Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1151, in Gazette of India dated the 26th October, 1974, under sub-section (4) of section 38 of the Industrial Disputes, Act, 1947. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8465/74].

NOTIFICATION UNDER INCOME-TAX ACT, NOTIFICATIONS re MARKET LOANS FLOATED BY CENTRAL GOVT AND UNDER CAPITAL ISSUES (CONTROL) ACT

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Income-tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 627(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 2nd November, 1974, under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8466/74].

(2) A copy of Notification No. F.5 (9)-W&M/74, (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India, dated the 14th November, 1974 regarding Market Loans floated by the

Central Government. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8467/74].

(3) A copy of the Capital Issues (Applications for Consent) (Amendment) Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 541(E) in Gazette of India, dated the 13th September, 1974, under sub-section (2) of section 12 of the Capital Issues (Control) Act, 1947. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8468/74].

12.59 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on Monday, the 11th November, 1974, adopted the following motion in regard to the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1974:—

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1974 be extended up to the last day of the first week of the Ninety-first Session of the Rajya Sabha".

13 hrs

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED ENTRY OF U.S. NAVAL TASK FORCE INTO INDIAN OCEAN

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the

following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Reported recent entry of US Naval Force into Indian Ocean in flagrant defiance not only of the protest of India and other littoral countries but also of the UN Resolution and the Government's reaction thereto."

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): On November 10, 1974 a task force of US 7th Fleet consisting, according to our information, of an aircraft carrier, the "USS Constellation", three destroyers, and one fast combat supply ship, entered the Indian Ocean. The exact duration of the task force's stay is not known though from some remarks of an official US Government's spokesman it appears that it will be an extensive visit.

The House will recall that the US 7th Fleet last appeared in the Indian Ocean on June 29, 1974 and remained there till the 30th of August; and also that the US aircraft carrier, the "Kitty Hawk", was deployed there from March 11 to April 21, 1974. Government reiterates their deep concern and misgivings at these developments which are inconsistent with the UN resolutions declaring the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Recently the UN 15-Member Ad-hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, of which India is a Member, has recommended to the General Assembly to call on the Great Powers to refrain from increasing and strengthening their military presence in the Indian Ocean region as an essential first step towards the relaxation of tension and the promotion of peace and security in the area. A further proposal was made unanimously by the Ad-hoc Committee to convene a UN sponsored Conference on the Indian Ocean.

At this stage I should like to assure the House that Government will

continue their efforts to mobilise international opinion and with other States of the region, take all possible measures to achieve our objective of creating the Indian Ocean as an area of peace and tranquility.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Sir, in the course of his statement, the Minister has recalled two previous instances of incursions by the US Navy into the Indian Ocean, i.e., on 29th June this year and earlier in March and April this year. May I remind him that these are not isolated instances? We all remember the first incursion which came into prominence in 1971 at the height of the Bangladesh crisis when the *Enterprise* and other vessels came into the Bay of Bengal with obvious motives, although they failed in their efforts to intimidate either India or Bangladesh. We recall very well that incident and we remember with pride how we stood up to it at that time. Again last year in October at the height of the West Asian crisis, a task force consisting of aircraft carrier *Hancock* and five destroyers had come into the Indian Ocean and cruised around for one month before they left the area. Again, in November and December last year, at the time of Mr. Brezhnev's visit to Delhi another task force consisting of aircraft carrier *Oriskany* supplemented by a nuclear-powered vessel called *Brainbridge* came into the Indian Ocean. Subsequently, there have been three incursions, two earlier ones he mentioned and the present one. I would like to know whether these repeated incursions are not considered by them as attempts to create some sort of atmosphere of armed intimidation in this region. Can they be viewed in isolation from the fact that the United States is now busy developing the new military base at Diego Garcia, just south of the Indian mainland? Are the two not connected? Does he not view the problem as a whole, as something which concerns not only the peace of the region but also as a threat direct

[Shri Indrājīit Gupta]

or indirect to the national independence and sovereignty of many of the countries of this region, all of which used to be colonial possessions at one time of either Britain or France or Portugal or one of these imperial powers, which have in the last 20 or 25 years won their independence?

The US Defence Secretary, Mr. Schlesinger is on record as having told the House Committee of the House of Representatives on 30th November last year as follows:

"...that the United States would now send naval patrols into the Indian Ocean area, not only more frequently and regularly, but also in greater strength"

So, I would like to know from our new External Affairs Minister whether they are taking due note of the statements which are being openly made by various spokesmen of the White House and of the Pentagon—I have no time; otherwise I could quote so many; he must be familiar with them—including by the army and navy chiefs, who have given evidence before the Senate and the House of Representatives Committee, where they have openly said that "we have a mission in Indian Ocean and that mission is we want to be present, we want to be able to be present, whenever we consider it necessary". For that purpose those bases are being set up and for that very purpose these frequent and repeated incursions of the United States' navy into the Indian Ocean are taking place.

He has made a reference in the statement to the effect that:

"Government will continue their efforts to mobilise international opinion and with other States of the region, take all possible measures to achieve our objective of creating the Indian Ocean as an area of peace and tranquility".

I would like to know from him what are the efforts that they are making at the moment and what other steps they have in view.

Yesterday the hon. Minister was good enough to inaugurate an international conference, which is currently taking place in Delhi, on this very question of the military bases in the Indian Ocean; and in the course of his speech, in his inaugural address, which has been widely reported in the press today, he has said that it is not enough to pass resolutions, the time has come for action. So, I would like to know from him what type of action the Government of India is contemplating in this regard. I would also like to inform him, if he has not got the news yet, that barely two hours ago the plenary session of this international conference, which he himself inaugurated yesterday, has unanimously adopted a resolution which strongly condemns the entry into the Indian Ocean of the US naval task force, demands its immediate withdrawal and elimination of all military bases and says that the continuous intrusion of the US Naval task force into the Indian Ocean is a menace to peace and security and development of the entire region and is also a threat to world peace. This resolution was moved by an Indian delegate but it was seconded by a delegate from the United States of America, who is also attending the conference.

The other question which I would like to ask him, because I know it would be brought up, probably by my hon. friend, Shri Samar Guha, is this. It may be said that, after all, we are opposed to the growing presence of all navies, whatever country they may belong to, in the Indian Ocean.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra):
Mention some of them.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: There are the French and British navies. The Shah of Iran, who recently was

your respected guest in this country, made a statement while he was here, in the course of which he said that, after all, the Americans are bound to come here because they are being provoked by the steadily growing presence of the Soviet Navy. Just a few years ago we were hearing that Visakhapatnam is a Soviet base.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Shirayinkil): Shri Piloo Mody has said it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I do not remember who said it. The Soviet naval presence, 9,000 shipping days or whatever it is, it is being put forward as a justification or an excuse for the presence of American ships in this area. May I know from him whether it is not a fact, that these 9,000 shipping days or 19,000 or 900, I do not know what number, are due to the fact that a large number of Soviet naval craft, mine sweepers, dredgers, supply vessels and support vessels have been working for over two years, at the request of the Bangladesh Government, to clear the approach channels to the harbours of Chittagong and Chalna, working there to remove war debris, sunken ships and other things which have been blocking the channels as a result of the war operations. Everybody knows about it. This is a fraternal assistance rendered by them to the Bangladesh Government at its own request. If you add up all those figures, you could prove that they have been here for 9000 shipping days or 19,000 shipping days.

Apart from that, is it not a fact that in the Indian Ocean, the Soviet Navy has never been practising this armed intimidation of coming and setting up military bases anywhere in the Indian Ocean. Therefore, when he talks about Indian Government's support to the United Nations Assembly Resolution and his desire that we should see that this Resolution is honoured, does it not require that the Indian Government should come more openly and frankly tell us and tell the country

who exactly is disturbing the peace and tranquility of the Indian Ocean area and to clearly nail down the fact that these imperialist powers who once used to lord over all the colonial possessions in this very region are now trying again in a different way to come and plant their foothold in various parts of Indian Ocean region?

Why are they evading this question? Why don't they say it clearly? Why don't they admit that, for example, the British Navy which was being operated from Simons town base cooperating with the racialist regime of South Africa have now declared under pressure from the Labour movement in Britain that they may like to terminate the Simons town base Agreement but, in that case, they would attach more importance now to develop Diego Garcia.

The French Navy was here in October. Their Minister in Paris had also made a statement saying that because Madagascar used to be their traditional base in the Indian Ocean and they can no longer use it, they have to look for new bases.

It is all very well that he has expressed his concern and all that. But what is the effect? What is the background? Will he not be more explicit in warning the country and the people of this Country and international opinion also as to where the danger is coming from and also tell us what are the steps the Government propose to take which he has briefly mentioned in the last paragraph, that is, to mobilise international opinion against this danger?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: As far as the first part of the question is concerned, it is true that I have only mentioned about the visits of some of the naval crafts only in 1974. I think, the others were mentioned in previous statements. Therefore, I have not made a mention of them. It is not that I am not aware of that

The American naval ships, this Task Force, has visited in 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974. Continuously for three or four years, it is there. There is no question of our not knowing that.

Instead of isolating any particular aspect of the problem, the main question is: What should we concentrate our efforts on? Instead of isolating importance or non-importance of any particular Navy or isolating a particular great Power as such, our emphasis will have to be to create an international sanction for it. It is not merely a question between India and one power or one base. It is a question of creating unity amongst the littoral countries and work very effectively at the international forum of the United Nations. This is the only basic way of approaching to this problem.

I think, what I said yesterday and what I say today is that we have to act on this aspect of the problem. It is this particular aspect that I have in mind. Naturally, the Navy of any great Power never moves without any purpose behind it. They do not move about just for fun's sake. As to what their intentions are whether they are militarily intended against any particular country or not, I do not think that is a question now and I cannot say, I have got any information.

At the present moment, that is not the aspect of the matter. The question is that the constant or continuous presence certainly creates an atmosphere of tension and this atmosphere of tension can be countered only by certain constructive measures that we will have to take and these are indicated in the reply I have given.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd.): My hon. friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta, mentioned my name before he started asking questions. I want to draw his attention to the fact that it is not my habit to look issues which involve our national interests through any political periscope imported from any

country; I am not for or against any country; I am for my own country.

I am really sorry because I very frankly admit that I had developed respect and admiration for the recent politics of Dr. Kissinger who had really brought about a new atmosphere on the international front, a detente in different parts of the world, who had endeared himself to China as well as Russia.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): He is only repeating what Mrs. Gandhi has said.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: We have seen the recent move of the Government of India to have certain understanding with the USA and to set up a Joint Commission for socio economic and other cooperation between the two countries. I am really shocked, and I do not know whether the USA means what they say openly; otherwise after signing this Treaty with India, instead of creating a new climate of understanding between the two countries, India and the USA, why should they have chosen this wrong time to have the entry of U.S. Navy in the Indian Ocean. America was the first country that raised the banner of freedom against British imperialism. But, afterwards, by adopting a perverted foreign policy, particularly since the last war, in the name of defending democracy, in the name of containing communism, they have only helped to prop up and defend all reactionary regimes in Asia and Africa. They have forgotten that, those emergent states in Asia and Africa are very sensitive to the presence of any foreign power either in their territory or in their territorial waters, and that is the reason why America has been spending a large quantum of their funds for the so-called development of Asian and African countries. But they have got the worst kind of sympathies for Asian and African countries. This is due to their pursuing a perverted foreign policy. When Dr. Kissinger started

a *detente* with Russia and China and also other countries, I thought that senses had dawned on the USA. *Interruptions*). I have not the imported periscope with me, my dear friend.

Firstly, I want to know from this Government whether they have categorically made it known to the Government of USA that the recent policy of *detente* between India and USA will be affected by the presence of the United States Seventh fleet in the Indian Ocean and secondly, by setting up a military base in Diego Garcia.

Secondly, with regard to the entry of the fleet and setting up a base, I want to know from the Minister as to what is the real intention they have. Then if the fleet of any foreign country like USA or Russia or UK or France enters into the territorial waters of another country, does it not require that the littoral countries are informed about the entry? What is the international convention?

Thirdly, I also want to know whether the Government of India have approached the Government of UK. Now, there is a Labour Government. We have our currency linked with the sterling and I want to know whether our Government will take it very seriously and that India will consider setting up a base of the Indian Ocean is against not only the interests of India but against the interest of mutual relations between India and UK.

Fourthly, I want to know as has been pointed out by my friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta, that something came from the Shah of Iran who is a very respectable man. He made a press statement. I want to know whether the Government ascertained whether there was any truth in the statement of the Shah of Iran about the presence of the Russian Navy in the Indian Ocean.

Lastly, there is the Afro-Asian Peace Council but they are not an impartial organization. You know their

ideological background. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether a different kind of international conference of the Asiatic and African countries, particularly, of the littoral countries, will be convened and the initiative in this regard will be taken by the Government of India in which the big naval powers like the USA, Russia, UK and France may also be invited and persuaded to state categorically that the Indian Ocean should be considered as a zone of peace and a zone of free from any international conflict.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:

The first question the hon. Member raised was with regard to Diego Garcia figuring in our discussions with Dr. Kissinger. We have made our position entirely clear in our discussion with him that not only the Government but the entire nation as one man is against this idea of having a base there in Diego Garcia. That position we have made absolutely clear. He made it clear that there is no identity of approach on this question. That was the reaction. We agreed to differ. Naturally, we did not want to make it a bilateral issue in that sense.

Secondly, his question was whether we have taken up this matter with the UK Government. As you know, UK Government is aware of our position in the matter. My information is that they have said that they are going to have a second look in the matter. So, let us wait for their second look.

The third question is about the entry of the naval forces of another country. Naturally, if they enter the territorial waters, they have to inform and possibly, we may take objection. But, as long as they are on the international seas, normally, they informally inform and I am told that our Navy was informally given information that such a force is entering and we also called in the representatives of the American Embassy here and

[Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan]

conveyed our concern about this particular matter when they gave us the detailed information.

Secondly, about the statement of the Shah of Iran, I hope the hon. Member would have seen the joint communique that was issued in the matter between the Governments of India and Iran and there is a special reference made about this particular point on which the Shah of Iran has expressed his dissatisfaction on the concept of the Indian Ocean being kept as a peace zone. We will say this is an improvement in the situation.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Did you as certain about the presence of Russian fleet or Naval base?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We did not have any discussion with him about this question. We will have to go on the basis of what UN Secretary General said about presence because the respective countries have made statements. Their the statement says the Soviet Union has no base in the Indian ocean. This information was given by the Secretary General on the basis of the information supplied by the governments.

The last question he mentioned was about our taking official initiative for having a conference of littoral countries in this matter. I would say we have to be very cautious in this matter. It is not just a question of taking initiative for having a conference. Such an initiative can be counter-productive also. So, we will have to activate the international forum.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I am not in a position to agree with the observation of Shri Guha about the role of Dr Kissinger. If you pardon me I will say he is the main culprit of the cold-blooded murder of President of Chile and has toppled the whole democratic institution in that country. Naturally, such a man has been admired by Shri Guha because they are doing the same thing in this country too.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Who?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Vayalar Ravi, you are a youngman and you should not be led away by emotion. You should be careful in the language you use. You come direct to the motion.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I said about the murder of Mr. Allende. Sir, this US. naval base in this part of Asia is not the only one. They have bases in Japan, Malaysia, Australia and in other different parts of Asia. Although they have established their naval bases in this area yet they are not satisfied. They are moving to Diego Garcia. Recently we all had seen the movement of Seventh Fleet in the Bay of Bengal during the liberation struggle in Bangla Desh. They may say it was late and they could not act. So, it is nothing except intimidation of this country as well as other countries who are fighting for their independence and sovereignty and are trying to develop their economy. These forces have come, as the hon Minister said, with a purpose. We have recently got a sensational report about the invasion of an oil country by US. The movement or intrusion or invasion to the Indian ocean by the US naval forces has to be viewed in that context.

Also you will agree with me that from 1971 to 1973 the UN. General Assembly had taken a very definite position that the Indian Ocean must be a zone of peace.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ravi, please do not make a speech. Put your questions.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I am only making my observations and not a speech. Unfortunately, even though strong protests have been made by the Government and the Government of India have tried to do their level best to create a public opinion it could not prevent a large U.S. force from entering the Indian ocean and intimidating this country.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister one thing. Now there is concentration of the forces in the Indian Ocean. Therefore, my specific question is this. The Communist Party Chief of U.S.S.R. has visited this country; Dr. Kissinger also visited this country and the Shah of Iran has also visited this country. So, my question is this—whether the Government of India had specifically discussed this matter with all these leaders. If so, what are their reactions and what are the assurances given by different leaders? Have the Secretary-General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Dr. Kissinger agreed to this? I would like to know from the hon. Minister one thing. By merely creating a public opinion or making speeches will not serve any purpose at all. Is he going to make any specific efforts in this regard? I cannot spell out those efforts at the moment. It is for the Government of India to think over this matter. You cannot allow this kind of thing to continue. We have ourselves experienced about the position taken by the Americans in West Asia. There is a trouble there. Taking the case of Viet Nam and Korea, millions of people have been killed by the intervention of Americans. They are not satisfied with that. They are now shifting to the other areas from their own areas. Therefore I would like to know what is proposed to be done by Government in regard to this.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I do not think that I can add anything to what has already been stated. He has raised a number of questions. They are by way of further clarifications to what I said before. We did raise these questions. In fact one of the questions discussed as the sub-continental issues was on the Indian Ocean. It is a very important one. It came up for a discussion with Iran. We also had a discussion with Dr. Kissinger. I have told you what the reaction of Dr. Kissinger was and what the reaction of the Shah of Iran, was. I may tell you that on these issues, it is not enough merely India

acting as one country. We have to activate the international forum and create public opinion. It has already begun. Iran has also accepted a certain position. Now, we will have to work on those positions and create an opinion and also take some concrete steps so that our position becomes a reality.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Nawal Kishore Sinha. He is not here. Mr. Mehta.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a matter of serious concern to this House and this House has expressed its concern more than once. But, unfortunately, the Government has not come forward to give a full account regarding the Indian Ocean situation. I would like to quote para 3 of his statement. This is what he says:—

“Recently, the UN 15-Member Ad-hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, of which India is a Member, has recommended to the General Assembly to call on the Great Powers to refrain from increasing and strengthening their military presence in the Indian Ocean region as an essential first step towards the relaxation of tension and the promotion of peace and security in the area.”

Therefore, it is clear that these big powers are indulging in strengthening and increasing their military strength in this area. This Government has never given the correct picture or the factual position in regard to this situation. Which are the big powers which are indulging in increasing their military strength in this area? China has accused the US and the Soviet Union of pursuing a frantic gun-boat policy in the Indian Ocean, massing their warships and vying with each other in a show of force. This is what China's representative has told the UN Sub-Committee on the Indian Ocean on September 25. China has further said that the root cause of the absence of tranquillity in that area was the military expansion of these

[Shri P. M. Mehta]

two super powers which seriously threatened the independence and security of the countries in this region. I would like to know what is the reaction of Government to this accusation of China because our member was present there.

SHRI PILOO MODY: And of the Soviet presence.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: The Government has realised the seriousness of the situation but I must say a bit late. When were these activities, naval exercises and the military presence in this region, started? They started in 1969. I think it had come to the knowledge of the Government but it did not take appropriate measures at that time. That increased the rivalry. They could not stop one power from undertaking this naval and military activity in this region and that provoked the other big power to increase its naval activity and strengthen its military presence. Therefore, I would ask whether India protested to any big powers against their conducting naval exercises and strengthening their military presence in this area? If so, which are those countries which are indulging in these activities? Also what further measures do Government propose to take? Lastly, does India propose any summit conference or talks between these big powers, especially the USA and USSR to be away from this region for peace in the region and world peace in general?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: There is, if I may again use the word, an error being made in judging the situation. Let us not isolate the question of this general situation in the Indian Ocean and its treatment by looking at it only from one navy's point of view. It is a fact of life which has been known to the world that the navies of the USA, France, UK and USSR do cruise in the Indian Ocean. Now we have to find out how we can tackle this problem by elimi-

nating the presence of this military and naval strength in the Indian Ocean so that it may not create tension...

SHRI PILOO MODY: Turn it into land.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: This, really speaking is the problem of ours. Now we have to formulate our approach to this problem and we have to think in what manner we can effectively deal with it. It is not a question of merely getting subjectively angry and making very fierce statements; it is not going to help us at all. Therefore, the approach has been to create opinion in the world which we think is gradually building up. The conference which was held here yesterday is ample proof of that.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Bogus.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Delegations coming from different countries have certainly created opinion. Also the opinion that is formulated and concretised in the forum of the UN is a much more important thing for us and I think we will have to pursue the same line. It is no use merely quoting what China says and asking what is our reaction and what other countries say about it. We have to make our own judgments and act accordingly.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Who started it in 1969?

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Does India propose to arrange any summit talks between the USA and the USSR?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Will you be a Kissinger to the USSR and the USA?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I propose to be myself, not anybody else.

SHRI PILOO MODY: You will have to persuade him to be a Chavan,