

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Friday, April 16, 1982/Chaitra 26,  
1904 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

श्री आर० एन० राकेश : भारत  
सरकार ने अनाज, गेहूँ का भाव . . . .

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am not allowing  
anybody.

(Interruptions)\*\*

अध्यक्ष महोदय : राकेश बाबू क्वेश्चन  
आवर चल रहा है।  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मुझे एक बात समझ  
में नहीं आती कि जब सारे हाउस में बात  
होती है फिर भी आप ऐसा करते हैं। मेरा  
तो फर्ज यही है कि मैं आपको बात करवा  
दूँ, डिस्कशन करवा दूँ। इससे ज्यादा  
मैं कुछ नहीं करवा सकता हूँ।  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : डिस्कशन हो रहा  
है।  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप हाउस को  
चला लें।  
(व्यवधान)

श्री मूल चन्द डाया : रूल 32 के  
अन्दर, क्वेश्चन आवर में यह नहीं  
होना चाहिए। हर रोज ये उठा लेते हैं  
इस तरह से सवाल को और आप उसको  
एक्सपेंज नहीं करते हैं। (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बड़े बुजुर्ग  
आदमी हैं, यह आपको शोभा देता है ?  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मिनिस्ट्री की डिमाण्ड्स  
चल रही हैं, आप बोलते क्यों नहीं।  
डिस्कशन से काम चलेगा, धींगामुश्ती से  
तो काम चलेगा नहीं।  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : रूल के अण्डर  
काम होगा। डिस्कशन से ही होगा।  
डिस्कशन के अलावा और मैं क्या कर सकता  
हूँ? क्या आपको यह शोभा देता है ?  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अच्छा लगता है ?  
शोभा देता है आपको ?  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बुरा लगता है,  
सही नहीं लगता।  
(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस तरह से काम  
नहीं हो सकता। ऐसे काम नहीं चल सकता।  
यस श्री ए० सी० दास।  
(व्यवधान)

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप तो इस तरह से कर रहे हैं जैसे आप ही हैं, और मेंबर भी इस हाउस में हैं। गलत बात है। मैं किसी को एलाऊ नहीं कर रहा हूँ। .. I have not allowed anybody.

(व्यवधान)\*\*

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** यह क्या तरीका है? यह पार्लियामेंट का चलाने का कोई तरीका है?

(At this stage, Sarvashri Mani Ram Bagri, Multan Singh and R. N. Rakesh came and sat on the floor of the House near the Table).

(Interruptions)

**SHRI HARIKESH BHADUR:** If you give any assurance to them, they will...

**MR. SPEAKER:** What sort of assurance? I can assure this House that there is going to be a discussion. The discussion is going on the floor of the House. What more assurance you want?

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** What can I do?

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** No, this is not the way. I have allowed you full discussion, I can allow you more time even today. I can allow you sitting up to 12 O'Clock in the night or till 4 O'Clock in the morning. Come on and discuss. That is what I can do. That is within my power and I will do it.

कोई मुझे यह बताए कि मैंने कभी डिस्कशन नहीं होने दिया। कोई यह बताए कि मैं टाइम नहीं दे रहा। और लीजिए टाइम। आज भी मैं एग््रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर से कहूंगा कि और टाइम दीजिए। रात का 10 बजे तक, 12 बजे तक, सुबह 4 बजे तक,

कल सुबह 10 बजे तक बैठिए और कर लीजिए डिस्कशन। लेकिन यह कोई तरीका नहीं है। ... Come on, have a discussion.

I do not mind.

कोई इस तरीके की बात नहीं होनी चाहिए। यह तो डिक्टेटरशिप है।

(व्यवधान)

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** कल कह रहे थे — There is enough of time. It was the House demand

(Interruptions)

**SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY:** There is so much chaos here. (Interruptions). It is good that you will allow discussion. But the Ministers can assure and the problem can be settled.

**MR. SPEAKER:** What is the assurance that they should give in the House?

**SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY:** They have to give an assurance.

**MR. SPEAKER:** There is no question of assurance. It is already there it is going on. The discussion is on.

**SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY:** But the Government can assure, Sir.

**MR. SPEAKER:** What can they assure?

**SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY:** You cannot assure. It is good that you allow discussion. But they can assure.

**MR. SPEAKER:** What can they assure?

**SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY:** That is what the hon. Members insist.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will allow you discussion. More time will be given if it is needed. That is what I can do, but not like this. I am not going to be cowed down, no.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर मेरे खिलाफ भी कोई बात हो, तब भी मैं एलाऊ नहीं करूंगा।

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: My argument is different.....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : और क्या कर सकता हूँ, डिसकशन ही एलाऊ कर सकता हूँ।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: Let there be a gesture from the senior Ministers. The Members are squatting. Let there be a gesture from the Finance Minister....

(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : It does not behave you.

जब पार्लियामेंट चल रही है . . . . ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : पार्लियामेंट के सामने . . . . । (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : : नहीं, यह कोई मतलब नहीं है। मुझे क्यों घसीटते हैं बीच में ?

(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं अगर पार्टी बनूंगा तो आपको अच्छा लगेगा ? कल आपको ही नुकसान होगा। दिस इज नाट माई जाब। मेरा जाब एक ही है कि मैं आपके लिए डिसकशन करवा दूँ। उसके लिए मैं तैयार हूँ। समय और बढ़ा देता हूँ, लेकिन यह कोई तरीका नहीं है। इस तरह से किसी का काम नहीं होगा। यह तो आपकी ही भलाई के लिए है।

This is what I can do.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : आप जानते हैं कि किसानों की स्थिति सबसे ज्यादा खराब है।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: At least you request the Finance Minister and other Ministers...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या कहें ?

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY:...to say something at least.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी मिनिस्टर आफ एग््रीकल्चर ने रिप्लाई करना है। आप बोलिए, अभी तो उन्होंने जवाब देना है।

(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अच्छा नहीं लगता, अब आप बैठ जाइए, शोभा नहीं देता।

(व्यवधान)

श्री मनोराम बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, तीन-चार बातें सदन में आईं, आप सदन के सेंस को समझिए। गुजरात में हरिजनों का मामला है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप डिसकशन करिए और सारे हाउस की सेंस बनाइए। कुछ भी करिए। डिसकशन चल रहा है। आप चर्चा कीजिए, रात 12 बजे तक, सुबह 4 बजे तक, जो बात करनी हो करिए, I do not mind, मगर इस तरह से नहीं होना चाहिए।

(At this stage, Sarvashri Mani Ram Bagri, Multan Singh and R. N. Rakesh went back to their seats).

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the way. No discussion like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 734.

11.10 hrs.

**Iron ore for Malaysia**

\*734. SHRI A. C. DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Malaysia has expressed a desire to buy iron ore from India;

(b) if so, the total quantities of iron ore Malaysia wants to import from the country annually;

(c) whether any contract has been signed by M.M.T.C. with Malaysia for channelising export; and

(d) if so, when the export is going to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A Draft Supply Contract has been signed by M.M.T.C. for supply of 2.5 lakh tonnes of iron ore per annum for three years commencing from 1984-85 to Sabah Iron & Steel Company (Eastern Malaysia).

SHRI A. C. DAS: Has any bilateral trade been started between Malaysia and India? If so, since when it has started? Which are the main items exported and imported from Malaysia at present?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We have bilateral trade with Malaysia since long. We have been exporting to Malaysia Machinery and equipments, iron ore etc. Joint ventures have also been established with Malaysia. We are importing from Malaysia things like Palm oil, rubber, etc.

SHRI A. C. DAS: Does Malaysia want to import iron ore from India for iron plants? Do some other countries also import iron ore from India for the same purpose? What will be the total amount of foreign exchange earned annually by exporting iron ore to Malaysia and other countries?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Malaysia is importing iron ore from India. We have already sent 50,000 tonnes of iron ore to Malaysia and a contract is likely to be entered into between the two countries for supply of 2.5 lakh tonnes of iron ore to Malaysia. Other countries also import iron ore from India.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I would like to know about the bilateral agreement between Malaysia and India regarding supply of iron ore from India. I would like to know which are the States and projects including Kudremukh Project? Is M.M.T.C. involved or covered also?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The supply of iron ore will be made by MMTC. The delegation had gone to Malaysia and they had discussed this matter with the authorities in Malaysia. They have signed a draft agreement. It is not a final agreement or contract but a draft agreement has been signed between Malaysia and India. The factory has to be started in the year 1984-85 in Malaysia and for that factory they want to take iron ore from India. Probably they require 5 lakh tonnes of iron ore. They are wanting to take iron ore not from one country but from another country also i.e. two countries. They do not want to take from one country only. Half of the iron ore is likely to go from India to Malaysia. As to the time schedule and price all those things will be decided at that moment. They would evolve a formula. That formula would apply and they would take iron ore from this country.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: The hon. Minister has not given the figures as to what is the total amount of export that India has made to Malaysia and what is the total amount of import that India is going. The amount of import that we are doing is more than Rs. 260 crores according to the *Economic Times* figures. May I know that is the total export quantity that we are making to Malaysia and, at the same time, may I know whether the pollet variety of iron ore from the Kudremukh project is also included in this contract?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: He has not answered that point.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The export and import figures are like this:

	Export	Import
	Rs. in millions	Rs. in millions
1976-77 . . .	304.5	339.3
1977-78 . . .	336.3	2210.3
1978-79 . . .	452.4	2411.9
1979-80 . . .	537.9	2073.3
1980-81 . . .	549.5	2534.8

For the period upto September, 1981 the export was to the tune of Rs. 254.1 millions and the import was to the tune of Rs. 1104.1 millions. The iron ore pellets from the Kudremukh project are also tried to be exported to Malaysia.

#### Setting up of Electronic Unit in West Bengal

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\*735. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government has requested the Central Government to set up an Electronics unit in West Bengal;

(b) if so, when Government received the proposal from the State Government;

(c) what are the salient points raised by the West Bengal Government in the said proposal;

(d) whether Government have taken any decision;

(e) if not, how long it will take to take a decision in this regard; and

(f) what are the reasons for the inordinate delay?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VANKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, during 1978-1981.

(c) The proposals relate to establishment of an electronics complex for

avionics, and location of units of BEL and HAL in West Bengal.

(d) to (f) Requests have been received from a number of State Governments. All relevant factors would be taken into consideration before taking a final decision. No decision has been taken so far.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Sir, due to the partition of India lots of people were uprooted in the erstwhile East Pakistan now Bangladesh. They had come to West Bengal and settled there. For this reason West Bengal has become a problem State. Further, a recent study of the Association of Indian Engineering Industries indicates that the whole of eastern region accounts barely for 9 per cent of the licences issued while it is 45 per cent in west, 27 per cent in south and 27 per cent in north. The State of West Bengal has become very keen in establishing an electronics industry in the State. For this purpose, the Government has allotted 100 acres of land in West Bengal. Furthermore, a good deal of foreign currency is being paid for the import of electronics goods. In view of these facts, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government would give a green signal for setting up the electronics complex in West Bengal.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The problem of West Bengal refugees will be one of the factors that will be taken into consideration in deciding the location. As many as 11 States have requested for the location of this Unit and each one has pleaded some special consideration in respect of each one of them. Government will take a decision on the merits of the case.

So far as the second point about the percentage of licences is concerned, I think that the question should be put to the Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Steel and Mines who is in-charge of licensing.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: My second supplementary is which are the States and places where the electronic complexes are at present working and why

is Government not issuing licenses to Pieco Electronics and Electricals Ltd., for the manufacture of electronic goods in West Bengal?

**SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN:** I will not be able to say in respect of all electronic industries because it will be outside the purview of Defence portfolio.

So far as Defence is concerned, the States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have electronic complexes.

In Andhra Pradesh, there is no electronic complex. There are other things but not electronics.

In Orissa, there is the MIG-complex but no electronic complex.

These are the electronic Complexes we have.

As I said, the question of locating these industries will depend on the utmost advantage that Defence would get from such location and, therefore, we will have to consider it from that angle.

If the Hon. Member wants information about all the electronic units in Defence, I can also furnish that information. But I do not think it is necessary.

**SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:** I would like to know whether it is a fact that the reason for the Department of Defence not issuing licence for setting up electronic complex in West Bengal is that the State is a border State. If so, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the logistics of modern warfare have made every part of our country vulnerable to destruction.

**SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN:** Being a border State is also one of the considerations. In fact, one of the factors to be taken into account is whether it is a border State and whether it would affect our production. But we will take not only one item into consideration but we will take all the factors into consideration before taking a decision.

**SHRI BHERAVADAN K. GADHAVI:** As far as this electronic complex is concerned, it is quite apt that Government should also take into consideration the congenial atmosphere for its growth, local labour tranquility and everything. but the hon. Member on that side himself admits West Bengal has become a problem State.

From this point of view, for this computer complex, we are having a very peaceful atmosphere in Gujarat. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Minister of Defence would agree to grant this complex to Gujarat in view of the very healthy industrial peace there and peaceful labour, tranquility and everything.

**SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN:** industrial harmony will be one of the considerations but it will not be the only consideration.

**Wide Differential between Import duties on Steel Sheets and Folded Angles**

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\*737. **SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA:**

**SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to wide differential between import duties on steel sheets and folded angles, leading to huge imports of cold rolled steel sheets under the guise of folded angles which in fact are nothing but sheets folded in the form of angles that are subsequently flattened and sold to utensil industry, thus causing huge loss to the exchequer;

(b) the extent of loss caused to the exchequer per year; and

(c) Government's reaction to the wide import duty differential?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):** (a) to

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The rate of Customs Duty on angles of stainless steel is lower than the duty leviable on stainless steel sheets. Recently, Government's attention has been drawn to certain importations of stainless steel sheets in the guise of 'folded' angles. While the importers claimed assessment of these goods at the lower rate, the Customs authorities held that the goods were nothing but sheets and accordingly were chargeable to higher rate of duty, viz., 220 percent under Heading 73.15(2) of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. The importers, however, took the matter to the High Court and obtained interim orders allowing the clearance of the goods at lower rate of duty applicable to 'angles' and covering the differential duty by suitable bonds.

(b) Since, under the Court's orders, the differential duty in the cases is covered by bonds/guarantees, and since the matter is still sub judice, it cannot be said at this stage that there has been any loss to the exchequer.

(c) With a view to preventing abuses of the type mentined above, a Bill to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, namely, The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 1982 has been interoduced in Lok Sabha on the 15th April, 1982.

**SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:** On every tonne of stainless steel sheet imported as angles or circles, the Customs are losing about Rs. 40,000 as import duty besides the foreign exchange cost of Rs. 222/- per tonne. These angles which are imported are generally made of 26-gauge sheets. My question is whether the Finance Minister has received any memorandum from the Indian Stainless Sheet Rollers' Association and if so, the contents of the memorandum.

**SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA:** In the recent past, this question has come up before the Finance Ministry whether the angles and circles which are being imported from other countries into our

country come under the definition of 'plain sheets' or there is a difference between these two articles. The Customs Department has taken the stand that they come under the definition of 'plain sheets'. Therefore, the question of levy of duty was decided by the Customs Department, that it also comes under the same category and, therefore, there cannot be a differential rate of duty. But the importers have taken the matter before the High Court and they have obtained a stay order. This matter has come before the Finance Ministry by various representations from the Indian factory-owners and other people also. We have taken note of it, and the remedial measures have been taken. This question has been discussed in Rajya Sabha also through a Call-Attention and the Finance Minister announced that remedial measures would be taken at the appropriate time. In this connection I may say that, yesterday, with your permission, I have moved the required Amendment to the Tariff Act and that is under the consideration of the House. So, this matter has been fully discussed. The Finance Ministry is quite aware of the situation and the seriousness of it and it has taken the necessary steps to see that misuse is not made, misinterpretation or ambiguous stand is not taken from the side of the importers.

**SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:** Apart from what has been mentioned in reply to parts (b) and (c) of my question, I would like to know whether any other measures have been taken in order to cope with the situation that has arisen out of import of stainless sheets as angles.

**SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA:** In the amending Bill which is before the House, the Finance Ministry has proposed that this measure should have retrospective effect, so that those persons who have tried to import and take the benefit of the interpretation do not get that benefit; it will have retrospective effect and from the date this Bill has been moved in the House, the Government has taken the stand that the rate of duty should be even more than what it is at present. All other loopholes

which are possible and the interpretation of which the importers can take benefit, have been carefully examined and Government has taken a stand; we are trying to see that no misuse or extra benefit is made by making us of any of the measures which are at present in existence.

### रबड़ का उत्पादन और आयात

\* 738. श्री जय राम वर्मा : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रबड़ पर आघारित बड़े और छोटे उद्योगों की मांग पूरा करने के लिए देश में रबड़ का पर्याप्त मात्रा में उत्पादन नहीं होता है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो देश में रबड़ का कुल वार्षिक उत्पादन कितना है और कितनी मात्रा में आयात किया जाता है ;

(ग) रबड़ का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है और इस सम्बन्ध में आत्मनिर्भरता कब तक प्राप्त कर ली जायेगी ;

(घ) इस समय रबड़ के स्टॉक की क्या स्थिति है ; और

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि यदि रबड़ का शीघ्र आयात नहीं किया जाता है तो छोटे उद्योगों के समक्ष बंद होने का खतरा पैदा होने की संभावना है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The estimated stock of natural rubber as on 1-4-82 is 45,000 tonnes.

(e) Government have already authorised the State Trading Corporation of India to import 30,000 tonnes of natural

rubber during 1982-83 to meet the demand-supply gap and further imports may be allowed if necessary. Hence the question of small scale industries facing the danger of closure would not arise.

### Statement

(b) The figures of production and import of natural rubber during the last four years are as under:—

Year	Production	Import
	(In tonnes)	
1978-79 . . .	1,35,297	25,850
1979-80 . . .	1,48,470	21,100
1980-81 . . .	1,53,100	9,250
1981-82 . . .	1,52,000 (Estimated)	42,750

(c) The Rubber Board is implementing various developmental schemes with a view to increasing natural rubber production in the country. The most important of these scheme is the Rubber Plantation Development Scheme, sanctioned for implementation during the Sixth Plan period. Under this scheme, Various incentives like cash subsidies for new planting replanting, input subsidies, soil conservation subsidy, interest subsidy at the rate of 3 per cent on the loans availed under Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation's programme are offered to the rubber growers. Free extension advisory support is also offered to the growers at all stages of planting and maintenance.

The production and consumption of natural rubber by 1989-90 are estimated at around 2,62,000 tonnes and 3,42,000 tonnes respectively. Despite determined efforts to increase natural rubber production in the country it would take many more years to attain self-sufficiency in natural rubber production to full meet the domestic requirements.

श्री जय राम वर्मा : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाएंगे कि इस वक्त इंटर-नेशनल मार्केट में जो रबड़ के दाम हैं वह