

Prof Raj Krishna, a former member of the Planing Commission, was present. In this meeting formation of a coordinating body comprising representatives of several important voluntary organisations to guide and monitor the various movements in different parts of the country, was considered. At the instance of Shri Radhakrishna and Shri B.G. Verghese, the People's Union for Civil Liberty and Democratic Rights has been revived under the name of 'People's Union of Civil Liberties' which is intended to be a forum for bringing together various opposition parties on a common platform. Shri V.M. Tarakunde is its Chairman and Shri Arun Shourie of the Indian Express is its Secretary.

I would like to inform the hon. Member that the All India Conference of Heads of Gandhian organisations held at Nadiad on October 22-23, 1980....

MR. SPEAKER : You give him the information.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: In it they decided to undertake political activities. Now this is nothing but misuse of the money for the purpose other than for what it was received.

AN HON. MEMBER : Misuse for political purposes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. Now Mr. Shejwalkar.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I am seeking a clarification. The hon. Minister mentioned the name of Arun Shourie. He is not here to defend himself.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : Sir, two are fact evident. Foreign money is being sent here to different foundations, organisations or bodies and some Indian bodies as their counterparts are receiving and those foreign monies here. Sir, I want to ask whether in the proposed Commission an inquiry will be made regarding all the foreign money which is being brought here and sent to all the private firms or private companies or private associations under or institutions particularly including those who are interested the guise of religious propaganda in propagating anti-national activities. Will you kindly tell us whether you will include all that in the commission ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This is a suggestion made by the hon. Member. I have taken note of it.

SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR : It is not an answer. I am not giving a suggestion. I want to know specifically 'yes' or 'no' Will the inquiry be held regarding all the foreign money which is being brought here for private institutions ? I am specifically putting that question. There is no question of suggestion.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, I said that the purview of the resolution was pertaining to certain organisations only. Now, If the hon. Member wants to include many other organisations, it is a suggestion from the Member and I said that I have taken note of it.

#### Automobile Tyres Project, Durgapur

\*458. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved to set up a project in Durgapur (West Bengal) to manufacture automobile tyres in the joint sector with a private company ; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects and progress so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

A Letter for Intent for the manufacture of 4 lakh Nos. each of automobile tyres and tubes in Haldia (West Bengal) was issued in favour of the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC) in September, 1972. To implement the project, the WBIDC promoted a company in January, 1974 in the name if and style of M/s. Webstar Ltd. The technical foreign collaboration proposals with M/s. Dunlop Ltd. U.K. were approved by Government in February 1974, and the capital goods clearance was given in June, 1975. The Letter of Intent was converted into industrial licence in July, 1975 and the location of the project was indicated at Durgapur. The validity of the industrial licence was last extended up to 22-7-1980.

2. In their application, the WBIDC had indicated that the project would be implemented in the joint sector. They had also indentified M/s. Williamson Major & Co. to hold 25% equity shares in M/s. Webstar Ltd. Subsequently, however, the private company had disassociated itself from the project.

3. The IDBI which had initially sanctioned a term loan in June, 1975; subsequently treated their sanction as lapsed and advised the company to slow with the implementation of the project for reasons of economic variability.

**SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:** Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister what was the amount which was sanctioned by the IDBI in June 1975 and why the sanction lapsed and whether a project to manufacture automobile tyres and tubes in Durgapur is economically viable or not.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):** Sir, the IDBI sanctioned a loan in 1975 of Rs. 6 crores to them. As far as the viability is concerned the IDBI conducted two surveys. One was in 1979 when they said that the economically viable units must have the capacity of 7 lakh numbers. But due to the price escalation a recent and latest study done by the IDBI says that it should be 10 lakh numbers.

because the investment involved in it according to them is Rs. 74 crores.

**SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:** In these circumstances, as stated by the hon. Minister, what are the steps that the Central Government proposes to take to set up the project for the manufacture of tyres and tubes in Durgapur? Is any further licence possible? Can the Central Government financially participate in the project if the proposal comes?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The licence lapsed on 22nd July, 1980 and thereafter the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation has intimated about the setting up of the Expert Committee on the viability of the project by West Bengal Government. The report has yet to come. It will be considered only after the report is received by the Government.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister, on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee are you going to extend the licence period? Are you going to take proper steps to help the West Bengal Government and the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation so that the project may come up at Durgapur? To-day the tyres and tubes are in short supply. These are selling at high rates. So to welcome the situation are you going to take proper steps so that the project may come up at Durgapur in West Bengal?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** To the hypothetical question of the hon. Member my reply is that the receptivity from the Government of India will be positive. But the hon. Member must appreci-

ate that from 15th March, 1972 to 3rd September, 1980 it is still an unborn baby. Unfortunately it has not come up. IDBI and the Ministry of Industry will do all that is essential to see that the project is born. There is no question of revitalisation yet. If I tell you the chronological order of the whole thing, this has not been born yet. But I can tell you that our receptivity will be positive if the unit has economic viability according to the principles laid by the IDBI through their studies.

**DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:** There is severe criticism about the functioning of public sector. In view of this capacity utilisation of all the public sector undertakings in West Bengal which ranges from 7% to 54%, will the hon. Minister ask the West Bengal Government to ask the CPM led workers to work much more so that the capacity utilisation is first maintained in the country? I think then he will decide to establish any public sector project of this nature.

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** We have noted down the positive suggestion of the hon. Member.

**SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN:** In view of the shortage of automobile tyres in the country and in view of the attitude of the West Bengal Government of not honouring the order of 1972 Letter of Intent and Licence, will the hon. Minister consider transferring this licence to some other person or organisation who may be interested in putting up the project straight away?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The licence is dead. Therefore, the question of transfer does not arise. But with the gap in demand and supply, any application that comes from any party from any part of the country will be considered provided it is economically viable.

#### **Demand for abolition of cantonment Board in Himachal Pradesh**

\*460 **SHRI KRISHNA DATT SULTANPURI:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cantonments in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the population of civilians living there;

(c) whether Government have received any representation or a demand from the representatives of the people and on behalf of the civilians to abolish the Cantonment Board so that steps are taken to improve the conditions in these cantonments and to provide facilities of loans, lands etc. to the poor people, and