

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed five questions, The questions are all in the nature of suggestions and the Minister is not giving any more answer. I am sorry I cannot allow any more questions.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : I got up many times to catch your eye and you are not allowing me. As a protest, I walk out.

Shri Bhogendra Jha, then left the house.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM : This may be registered as a walk-out. This is the first walk-out after the Emergency.

This is the first lone walk-out by a loan member.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry. Next question.

Loans outstanding Against the Bihar Government

*151. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan outstanding against Bihar Government on account of relief advances; and

(b) the amount of interest Bihar Government have paid to the Central Government during 1974-75 and 1975-76 on this account?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) : Following the recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission, all loans outstanding against the State Governments at the end of 1973-74 have been consolidated. The State Governments are paying interest and repaying the principal in respect of such consolidated loans. The loans given to the State Governments for natural calamities prior to the 31st March, 1974 have become a part of these consolidated loans.

As from the 1st April, 1974, there has been a change in the policy of Central assistance to States for natural calamities in pursuance of recommendations of the Finance Commission. No non-Plan Central assistance is given to States now for meeting expenditures necessitated by natural calamities. Where considered essential, advance Plan assistance is made available to the States for accelerating Plan programmes, but such advance assistance is liable to be adjusted within the Central assistance to States in the Fifth Plan period as a whole.

In view of what has been stated above, it is not possible to isolate the amount of interests paid by the Bihar Government on Central loans for natural calamities during 1974-75 and 1975-76.

SHRI N. E. HORO : As per the statement since the policy has been changed and now all the outstanding loans are consolidated, the Government are not able to give a separate figure as to what is the relief loan outstanding from the Bihar Government. I should like to know from the government, at the time the different loans were consolidated, what was the figure and how much has been realised as principal and interests and what is the outstanding?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : It is true that the loans were being consolidated and the hon. Member wants to know the figure at the time it was consolidated. In the case of Bihar at the end of 1973-74 the consolidated amount stood at Rs 42.79 crores.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it against relief ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : That is the consolidated total for natural calamities.

tion from the various State Governments we hope to review the whole scheme and we will see in what manner it can be further improved if any improvement is called for.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN: This lengthy answer shows that Government is not actually very clear about the impact of this scheme on industrial relations in our country. One year has passed since the scheme has come into force. Will the Government agree to undertake a total review of the scheme and will they discuss this with the Central Trade Union Organisations? Will Government indicate by what time this will be done?

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: As I have said, it has got tremendous impact and the figures clearly indicate that production and productivity has increased in some of the public sector undertakings particularly and this has got its reflection in the mandays lost, etc. This scheme was announced on the 30th of October and it is not yet one year. We will naturally go in for a review when the time for the review comes. At that time we will consider whether certain trade union organisations could be consulted. This is certainly a scheme for the benefit of the working class and the working class would definitely have a role to play.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: The Prime Minister's Twenty-point Economic Programme mentions about workers' participation in industry. Immediately after the proclamation of emergency certain recognised trade unions in West Bengal conferred with likeminded trade unions and announced that they did not like the movement of J. P. Narayan and anti-national activities and so on. In regard to management in various units like Farakka Barrage, Gresham and Craven and Jessops, the management is trying to disrupt the arrangement and they do not recognise the proposal. Have such complaints come to Government's notice? Will Government see to it that these

schemes are implemented as announced by the Prime Minister in her 20-point programme? Will the Government review the entire matter so that there is a healthy development along these lines especially in regard to the Central Government units in West Bengal?

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: Sir, in the very first or second meeting of the National Apex Body and also in the meetings of Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament, I have made it very clear that the trade union organisations, which do not support the emergency or which do not also support the 20-Point Economic Programme of the Prime Minister, will have no place in any one of the bodies which are recognised by Government.

Also I have made it very clear that they would not be given any place at all. As regards participation of the workers at the shop floor as well as plant levels, no outsider is allowed to become a member of the shop level committee. It is only those who are working in the plant itself who are allowed to do so.

Naturally, the management judges the situation and adopts the scheme in a manner that it is getting the fullest cooperation of the workers. If any suggestion is to be made by the hon. Member, he is most welcome to do so and I shall have the benefit of it.

श्री राम सिंह : आपने कहा कि उद्योग के प्रबन्ध में श्रमिकों की भागीदारी को ले कर उत्पादन बढ़ा है, प्रोडक्टिविटी बढ़ी है। जहाँ तक श्रमिकों का सवाल है उन्होंने उत्पादन भी बढ़ाया है और प्रोडक्टिविटी भी बढ़ी है, लेकिन इस भागीदारी योजना के अन्तर्गत जो प्रबन्धकों को करना चाहिए था जैसे बकिंग कंडीशन्स को अच्छा बनाना और मैटीरियल आदि की सुविधा प्रदान करना वैसे न करते के कारण मजदूरों में इस योजना के प्रति मायूसी आ रही है, यह आपके ध्यान में आया है कि नहीं ?

उस में से जो कुछ खर्च हुआ उस का ब्यौरा प्राप को मिला कि नहीं ? और क्या इन सम्बन्ध में और भी बिहार सरकार ने कुछ राशि मांगी है जो सरकार देने जा रही है ?

श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी : इन बीच में नान्यवर मैंने फिगरें मंगाने का प्रयास किया है और थोड़ी सी फिगरें मेरे पास हैं। एक तो नैचुरल कैलिफिटी का 1973-74 का एग्जटस्टैंडिंग जैसा मैंने पहले बताया बिहार का 42.79 करोड़ था। दूसरे टोटल लोन एग्जटस्टैंडिंग, जिस को कि नाननीय सदस्य ने पूछा था

Total amount outstanding from Bihar at the end of 1973-74 was about Rs. 700 crores.

तीसरी बात जैसा मैंने कहा, क्यों कि इस के लिये अलग से प्रावधान नहीं है पर वह रेडवाउट प्लान असिस्टेंस के रूप में प्राया है कि वह पर्ट एफ्र दी प्रोग्राम बन जाय डेवलपमेंट के लिये, इसलिये 1974-75 में बिहार में 4 करोड़ 0 का इंजास किया गया है और 1975-76 में 975 लाख का प्रावधान है।

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:
In the second para of her statement, the minister has said :

"No non-plan central assistance is given to the States now for meeting the expenditure necessitated by natural calamities."

Should we take it that whatever be the nature of the calamity, the Centre does not come forward with any assistance to the States?

SHRIMATI SHUSHILA ROHATGI:
For non-plan expenditure, the Centre does not give anything. It is expected that the State Government can do it with its own resources. In case there is any need, the Central Government gives it through the central plan assistance.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI : May I know whether it is a fact that because of the changed policy of the sixth Finance Commission, the economically backward States [and States] which suffer from natural calamities too often are finding it very difficult to meet the expenditure on natural calamities?

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot ask generally about all States. This question is with reference to Bihar.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI:
Is it a fact that in States like Bihar, the development programmes are going to be affected in view of this policy and if so, has the government any re-thinking on it?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI :
At the time the recommendations of the sixth Finance Commission were accepted they were unanimous recommendations. Afterwards some States raised it and this was again reviewed by the government. So far this formula stillstands.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question.

Relief in Excise Duty

*152. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:

SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced their Scheme of excise duty relief on 43 items, recently;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether Government expect higher production in vital sectors of the industry as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT 11161/76.]