

asking the hon. Minister how many Bengali films have been financed by this Corporation. If so, whether the Films Finance Corporation would consider sanctioning finance to the regional films for dubbing in other languages?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: What I can do is to lay on the Table of the House the list of films in various languages financed by Film Finance Corporation.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY: Has the grievance of the film industry come to the notice of the hon. Minister that celebrated and eminent producers have been denied accommodation by the Films Finance Corporation whereas the other producers who have produced social and cultural films which are below standards have been given such accommodation. If so, what steps are the Government going to take to re-constitute the Films Finance Corporation in the light of the experience gained?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: It has been brought to our notice that the people whom my hon. friend chooses to call eminent people....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I want to put a very relevant question.... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

Action Committee to Identify Problems of Priority Industries

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*445. **SHRI DINESH SINGH:**
SHRI N. K. SANGHI:

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Advisory Council has decided to set up Action Committees to identify the problems which are bedevilling certain priority industries and also to suggest remedial measures thereto;

(b) if so, the number of such Committees that have been formed and by what time the findings of these Committees will be available to Government;

(c) the justification of setting up of such committees when the principal problems of the priority industries have been repeatedly made known by these industries to Government; and

(d) whether the formation of such Committees and obtaining their report will further delay the much needed action that could have been taken to help solve the problems even without the recommendations of such Committees?

THE DEPUTY-MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

In the last meeting of the Central Advisory Council of Industries held on the 16th November, 1973, the Minister for Industrial Development in his capacity as Chairman of the Council had suggested that the Council should consider measures to improve the production in some key industries during the last quarter of the year i.e. January to March, 1974. He had sought the views of the members of the Council in regard to the industries and suggested that the Council should fix the targets for these industries and also identify the action to be taken in this regard by the 15th December, 1973. It was finally decided that action on the lines suggested above should initially be taken in regard to six industries i.e. aluminium, tyres and tubes for automobiles and bicycles, textiles, cement, fertiliser and machinery industries. It was also decided that after this short-term programme, action could also be initiated to identify the course of action in key industries with a view to increase produc-

tion for the Fifth Five Year Plan. The Minister had also suggested that action in this regard should be taken by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The matter was further discussed with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and they have already initiated action in regard to finalising the course of action for increasing production and fixing targets in the industries referred to above, firstly on a short term basis, i.e. for the period January to March, 1974. Further action in the matter will be taken as soon as their report in regard to these industries is available to the Government. The specific problems of the industries as and when received by the Government are examined and efforts are made to solve their difficulties. The report to be prepared by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry is in no way likely to interfere with or delay the action to be taken by the Government in regard to general or specific problems otherwise coming to its notice.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: From the statement laid on the Table of the House it appears that the idea of setting up these committees was mooted by the hon. Minister of Industrial Development himself. In part (d) of the main question, the reason for the setting up of these committees has been asked, but that has not been given in the statement. It is said that some industries were selected out of the priority industries. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the reason for selection these industries. I could have understood if the idea was to select the industries dealing with items of mass consumption or items which might be in short supply in order to see that they were produced and distributed. But I find that items of mass consumption have not been taken; items of priority industries have not been taken up; apart from fertilisers, the other industries chosen are not priority industries in the sense that they are absolutely essential. So, what is the particular

reason for selecting these industries? The general feeling is that these committees that have been set up are only an excuse to increase the price of these items, because there is no other problem which the industry has not already brought to the notice of Government.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): The idea was this. There has not been growth in the industrial sector, as the hon. Member knows, and we are trying to find out whether at least during the last quarter of this financial year we could step up the production in the various industries. In that connection, I said that there was no use of looking at it in a global way. I said that we could look into the problems industrywise, and in fact, not only industrywise but unitwise also and try to set new targets for the last quarter and try to see how far those targets could be reached. In that connection, if any help was necessary from government, certainly we would be prepared to consider it, if they could put forward positive suggestions in that regard. I asked them to select some of these industries, to begin with. This may not be the end of that exercise. If this proves successful, the idea is to take up other industries also. Therefore, these have been selected *ad hoc*. For example, textiles are there. That is an industry dealing with a mass consumption item. Similarly, the bicycle tyres and tubes industry is also there. That is also an item for mass transport. Therefore if these were selected and the committee were set up it was not for increasing the prices. I can give the hon. Member an assurance that this will not be used as a lever for increasing the prices, but the idea was mainly to make available to them facilities to increase the production. They have already had some sittings, and I hope to receive the report within a few days, and let us see what comes out of it. My main idea was to get the industry also involved in making commitments to have increased pro-

duction particularly during the last quarter

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The hon. Minister has said that he saw that these industries were not producing as much as they should. That means, production had not increased. That is not quite correct factually, because in textiles, for instance, production had increased. But that apart, take for instance, the industries which produce goods of mass consumption. Take, for instance, cement. The idea was that Government themselves would be the major producers of cement in the country, and large public sector cement projects were to come up. In fact, the idea was to have these public sector projects in cement. What is going to happen to these public sector projects? Is the idea now to encourage more private sector projects in this industry?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Like fertilisers.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: As far as cement is concerned, I had answered this question in detail. We have looked into the new capacity to be put up during the Fifth Five Year Plan, namely 10 to 12 million tonnes. First, we tried to find what the capacity was in the Cement Corporation in the public sector. We have loaded fully the Cement Corporation first in the public sector. The second priority was given to the State Industrial Development Corporations, and we have given them whatever was their capability within their sector, and we have given licences to them on that basis. It is only the balance that we have distributed in the private sector, and there too, priority was given to the newcomers and the medium sized entrepreneurs. It is only after that that the balance left over has been given to the larger industrial houses, particularly for expansion and the production of cement based on slag. So it is not due to the fact of the cost of public sector projects that we are trying to give it to the private sector; it is only when it is not possible to be taken in stride either in the

public sector corporations or in the State Government sector that we have gone to them. The same strategy was adopted with regard to paper. Therefore, the first priority is being given to the public sector projects.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Why has the Ministry not considered the advisability of selecting along with fertiliser the production of pesticides, which is also necessary to be increased if agriculture is to be assisted because use of many fertilisers lead to the crops being rendered more vulnerable to pests and therefore, the two should go together?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: As I already stated, this is not an exhaustive list of even the important industries. First we wanted to select in an *ad hoc* manner six industries and try to find out whether this approach would yield results, and on the basis of the exercise being done now, we will try to take up other industries also. I agree pesticides also occupies a very prominent place particularly in the agricultural sector.

SHRI K. GOPAL: With reference to part (c) of the question, according to Prof. Northcote Parkinson, the committee procedure is just like a man going to a bathroom. A sitting is held followed by a report and finally the matter is dropped. In view of the fact that these problems have got to be solved quickly instead of resorting to committees, will the Minister himself take a decision and see that there is no delay in this matter?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It is not my taking a decision which is important but the industry producing more. So I thought I could involve the industrialists also so that they can also make a commitment for this increased production.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I want to ask a very simple question. How is it that when a public sector enterprise, with all the resources of the

entire country and the Government at its disposal, cannot do a thing, the private sector is able to do it, whether it is in the case of cement, fertiliser etc?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Fertiliser would include public and private sectors.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Cement.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: This is not confined to the private sector alone. The question is what are today the bottlenecks in the way of increased production and how far they could be rectified within a short period? Of course, we can say that during the Fifth Plan we are going to take up so many projects and so many measures to improve production. But I was trying to find out whether within this short period of three months something could be done to push up production. If it succeeds, it is all right; if it does not, we do not lose much.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That makes me think that the private sector is more resourceful than the Government itself.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot argue here.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It sounds so unconvincing and ridiculous.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not know he was going to make this observation.

Promotion in BSF

*446. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Emergency Commissioned Officers of Group EC-3 and EC-4 have been promoted as Deputy Commandants in B. S. F. superseding the Officers of the Group EC-I and EC-II who rank much senior; and

(b) the reasons for such promotions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: May I know if there were any promotions at all during the relevant financial year?

MR. SPEAKER: He had better confined himself to the question. The main question was about the categories to which there was a categorical answer.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: If we come to know, whether there were some promotions at all, we will follow it up.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Promotions, according to the Promotion Committee's recommendations, are done every year. They make recommendations with regard to the promotions and other arrangements.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: The answer is not very clear and definite. I want to know whether there were any promotions during this financial year and, if so, how many, so that we may be able to verify whether there was some supersession or not.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: What really happens is that when the Promotion Committee meets, it makes what is called 'A' list, which means people who are good enough or meritorious enough to be promoted immediately; then they have got what is called 'B' list, which means they are given officiating appointments or appointments as Deputy Commanders in addition to their own work. These two lists are prepared by the Committee. I want to know what exactly does the hon. Member want to know.