

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, August 23, 1974/Bhadra 1,
1896 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

हथियारों के आयात के लिए लाइसेंस देना

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* 467. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :
श्री भाव्यवराब सिन्धिया .

क्या वाणिज्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि

(क) क्या नेशनल रायफल एसोसियेशन ऑफ इण्डिया ने भारत में चादमारी (टारगैट शूटिंग) को बढ़ावा देने हेतु उन्नत किस्म की रायफलों का आयात करने के लिए लाइसेंस प्राप्त करने के लिए आवेदन किया है ;

(ख) क्या 16 महीने के बाद एसोसियेशन से कहा गया है कि वह अपनी आवश्यकताये प्रहमदाबाद की एयरगन बनाने वाली कम्पनी से, यद्यपि वह उन्नत किस्म की रायफल नहीं बनाती है, पूरी करे, और

(ग) इस मामले के तथ्य क्या हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

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(b) and (c). The applicant was asked to approach the indigenous manufacture on the advice of the Directorate General of Technical Development. A further representation received from the applicant is under consideration in consultation with the Ministry of Defence Production. There has been an administrative delay in the disposal of the application, as the import of the item is not normally permissible, and also because the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare had recommended the import without having obtained indigenous clearance.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव: अध्यक्ष जी, मैं सबसे पहले मन्त्रालय को धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ कि 16 महीने बाद ही सही लेकिन उन्होंने जवाब तो दिया लेकिन प्रश्न यह उठता है कि नेशनल राइफल एसोसियेशन ऑफ इण्डिया ने टारगैट शूटिंग के लिए कहा कि अच्छी किस्म की रायफल आयात करने की सुविधा हमको दी जाये लेकिन उसके बदले में उनसे कहा गया कि प्रहमदाबाद एयरगन फैक्टरी से

अध्यक्ष महोदय बात यह है कि इस एसोसियेशन का प्रसीडेंट मैं हूँ, अगर आप चाहे तो मैं बाहर चला जाता हूँ। चूँकि मैं इन्स्टीट्यूट पार्टी हूँ इसलिए मैं बाहर चला जाता हूँ और किसी दूसरे को बिठाये देता हूँ।

Have you any objection? As I happen to be the President of the Association. I am morally bound to have the House. This question comes when I am sitting here as Speaker. It will be better if I move out and ask somebody else to sit here.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : अध्यक्ष जी, इनके मन्त्रालय से 16 महीने के बाद जवाब लिया लेकिन इतने विलम्ब से उत्तर देने का इन्होंने कोई कारण नहीं बतलाया।

दूसरी बात यह है कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सफल प्रतियोगिता जिसका प्रतिनिधित्व हमारे संसद् सदस्य डॉ० कर्णीसिंह जी करते हैं एयरगन शूटिंग के अभ्यास से, जिसमें केवल 15-16 गज तक टारगेट लिया जा सकता है, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय श्रेष्ठ की प्रतियोगिता में कैसे भाग ले सकते हैं।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I am not quite happy that it has taken such a long time, but I would humbly submit that there are some procedural reasons whether they are good or bad, it is for you to consider.

MR. SPEAKER: I assure you I did not inspire this question.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We had to refer it to the Education Ministry and they had no foreign exchange on their own, on the basis of which they could clear it. Otherwise also it was necessary to obtain clearance from DGTD. DGTD advised us that we should be first satisfied that this sort of rifle is not obtained in the country. So, a reference was made to Ahmedabad. On enquiry it was found not suitable for our purpose. Now we have asked the Defence Production department whether they can do it. If they can, we will ask them to supply it, otherwise, we will take the necessary measures. I assure you that I will take personal interest and the matter will be disposed of as expeditiously as possible.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेने के सम्बन्ध में जो मैंने प्रश्न किया था उसका उत्तर मन्त्री जी ने नहीं दिया। प्रश्न यह है कि बढ़िया किसम की राइफल हमारे हाथ में नहीं दी गई तो हमारे भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व संसद् सदस्य

डा० कर्णीसिंह करते हैं वह अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जगत् की प्रतियोगिता में कैसे टिक सकते हैं? तो इसके लिये कौन सा उपाय किया जा रहा है, इसके सम्बन्ध में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I will repeat that I will take personal interest in it and see that it is disposed of as expeditiously as possible.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I do not know which company the Minister has in mind in Ahmedabad. But there is one company which I know which has been producing excellent air rifles with even modern sophisticated gas cylinders. But because gas cylinders are not available, they want to switch over to the spring system. Only on account of some technical difficulty in the ministry, they are not being given this permission. Will you allow this company to switch over to the spring system without raising any technical objections? They are excellent rifles.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Maybe, but I am not an expert in the excellence of rifles.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We are and we know it. So does the Speaker, who is one of the best shots.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I am speaking of myself. I do not have that technical information. But I am told the National Rifles Limited, Ahmedabad, does not have the power to produce this sort of rifles that had been asked for. That is why we are in touch with the Defence Production department.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: May I know whether it is not a fact, that when the National Rifle Association applied for an import licence for .22 miniature rifles, without going

through the application, they advised the National Rifle Association to purchase air rifles? The Minister stated that it is not their policy to allow the import of guns from outside. Is it not a fact that two years ago they allowed the import of .22 rifles from Czechoslovakia in large numbers? When they have already adopted a policy for the import of such rifles, why this application has been held up?

PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA
As I said, if the DGTD clearance is obtained that this sort of rifles are not obtainable in the country, we do allow, and we did allow, the import of it. There is no denying that fact. But, in this case, they could not get that clearance.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO,
Sir, since, you are the President of the National Rifle Association, you are in a position to say whether the Minister's reply is correct or not.

MR. SPEAKER. I said in the beginning that I want to keep away from this question. But now you are involving me unnecessarily. I may inform the Minister that two years back there was such an order and they were imported from Czechoslovakia.

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: He has not replied to my question that when the application was for .22 rifles whether they were asked to get air guns.

Rates of Interest on G.P. Fund

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*469 DR. GOVIND DAS RICHHA-
RIYA:

SHRI FATEH SINGH RAO
GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing rates of interest for long term deposits in nationalised banks, all national saving certificates and saving schemes in existence and General Provident Fund;

(b) whether the rate of interest on G.P.F. is proposed to be enhanced as recommended by the Third Pay Commission; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) The rates are as given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) The Third Pay Commission recommended that the rate of interest on provident fund balances of Central Government employees should be broadly comparable with the interest allowed by the nationalised banks on long-term deposits. The Commission, however, left it to the Government to determine the precise rates having regard to various factors. After careful consideration, the rates have been revised upwards from 1-4-1974 (to 6.5 per cent on balances upto Rs 15,000 and 5.8 per cent on balances beyond that) and again from 1-8-1974 (to 7.5 per cent on balances upto Rs 25,000 and 7 per cent on balances beyond that) consequent upon the increase in the bank rate.

Statement

RATES OF INTEREST

For long term deposits in nationalised banks National Savings Certificates, existing Small Savings Schemes and General Provident Fund.

(i) Long-term deposits in nationalised banks.

The rates of interest, revised from 23-7-1974 consequent on increase in bank rate from 7% to 9% are —

(1) Deposits for 1 year and above but less than 3 years.

(2) Deposits for 3 years and above but upto and inclusive of 5 years.

(3) Deposits above 5 years.