

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: By the end of 1974 the work would be completed. There may perhaps be an extension of two or three months.

SHRIMATI M. GODFREY: Perhaps my question would not be very relevant. There are many places of tourist interest in Andhra Pradesh. What steps have been taken to improve those places of tourist interest, like the opening of a Tourist Department in Andhra Pradesh?

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: Does Andhra Pradesh also come under the North Eastern region?

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed it because it comes under the same sex.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: Shall I answer it?

MR. SPEAKER: I am happy you are responding.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: In Andhra Pradesh we have taken up quite a large number of projects. Hyderabad airport has been developed and terminal facilities have been improved. We have opened an airport at Tirupathi. At Vizag and Vijayawada terminal building facilities are being improved. An additional wing for the Vijayawada terminal building has been completed.

So far as tourist facilities are concerned, the Hyderabad Zoo is being developed. A new project at a cost of Rs. 7 lakhs has been undertaken. I am happy that the Andhra Government is responding in a very active way. There will be a bird sanctuary also. In Warrangal, a tourist bungalow is being built. In Nagarjunasagar, it is being developed. An airstrip has been included in the Fifth Plan.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: May I seek a clarification?

MR. SPEAKER: This question was allowed because she was a lady. You are not a lady. Next Question.

Steps to Check Under-invoicing and Overinvoicing

*83. **SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI:**

SHRI R. P. DAS:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any step to stop under-invoicing and over-invoicing; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the steps taken and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) (a) and (b). Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

The Honourable Members seem to have in mind the problem of leakage of foreign exchange, particularly through the medium of under-invoicing of exports and over-invoicing of imports. Government are already seized of the problem and have also taken specific steps from time to time to solve the problem. As recommended by the Public Accounts Committee in its 56th Report of 1968-69 (Paragraph 1.55), the problem was referred to a Study Team comprising of senior officers of the concerned Ministries, Reserve Bank of India and Central Bureau of Investigation. The Team made a study in depth and submitted a copy of its report which was laid before Parliament in November, 1971.

After a comprehensive survey and detailed examination of the various aspects of the problem, the Study Team was able to identify the vulnerable areas of operation. It also focussed attention on the lacunae in the laws and proceedings as also on the deficiencies in the organisational and administrative set-ups. Suggestions

of various kinds, such as legislative, administrative, organisational and procedural, were made by the Team to plug the loopholes and remedy the deficiencies noticed by it.

A special Cell has been working in the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance to process the recommendations of the Team. Comments of the concerned departments and Ministries have been obtained in most cases and these have been considered by a Committee of four Secretaries to Government of India which has been specially constituted to take decisions on these recommendations.

In pursuance of the acceptance of the recommendations, action is in hand to amend suitably the various Acts, such as Customs Act, Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, Import and Export Trade Control Acts, Passport Act, etc. In fact, Foreign Exchange Regulations Bill, 1972 incorporating the desired amendments was introduced during the last session of the Parliament. The Ministry of Finance may introduce bills in the current session of the Parliament seeking amendment of Customs Act, Central Excises and Salt Act, and Gold (Control) Act.

Government decisions have already been taken on the bulk of the recommendations. A few of the recommendations are still under consideration by the Ministry of Finance in consultation with the concerned departments/Ministries, Reserve Bank of India and Central Bureau of Investigation.

श्री विश्व कुमार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो विवरण सभा हल पर रखा गया है उसमें बताया गया है कि लोक सेवा समिति की संव. 1968-69 के प्रतिवेदन की सिफारिशों के अनुसार एक अध्ययन दल का गठन किया गया था और इसमें विधियों

तथा प्रक्रियाओं की खामियों के साथ ही संगठनात्मक और प्रशासनिक व्यवस्थाओं में निम्नमान त्रुटियों की ओर भी विशेष ध्यान दिया गया और इस दल द्वारा बचाव के रास्तों को बन्द करने तथा अन्य त्रुटियों का उपचार करने के सम्बन्ध में वैधानिक, प्रशासनिक, संगठनात्मक और प्रक्रियात्मक प्रकार के विभिन्न सुझाव दिए। इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा पहला प्रश्न मंत्री से यह है कि यदि इस अध्ययन दल के सुझावों पर इतना प्रयत्न किया गया, चार सचिवों की एक समिति उनको क्रियान्वित करने के लिए गठित की गई फिर भी ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि गोल माल करने की बहुत गुंजाइश है और उसका उदाहरण अभी आया कि चिचड़ों के नाम पर ऊनी वस्त्रों का आयात किया गया तो इस प्रकार की असावधानी क्यों बर्ती गई जिसके कारण यह कठिनाई आई ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : अध्ययन दल की सिफारिशों का जहां तक सवाल है, हमने जो टीम बनाई उसने 220 सिफारिशों की इस परिस्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए उसमें से 211 सिफारिशों को प्रोसेस किया गया है और 9 पर अभी जांच हो रही है। 211 सिफारिशों में से 183 पर फैसला हुआ है और 183 में से 108 को हमने मान लिया है। 68 सिफारिशों को हमने सिद्धान्त रूप में माना है, 4 में थोड़ी सी तरमीम करके माना है और 3 को नहीं माना है। इस तरह से आन्वेषिक कदम देखेंगे कि 220 में से 211 सुझावों को मान लिया है। इसमें 33 सुझाव ऐसे हैं जिनके लिए कानून में सुधार करना होगा, विधेयक लाना होगा और उसकी वजह से देरी है।

जहां तक मानवीय शक्तियों ने ऊनी वस्त्रों की बात कही, वह ओवर एम्बायसिंग और क्लडर एम्बायसिंग का प्रश्न था और

जंमा कि माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं उस पर कल यहां घंटे भर बहस हो भी चुकी है ।

श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री : मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह जो वक्तव्य है उसके अन्त में कहा गया है कि कुछ सुझावों पर विचार किया जा रहा है उसमें कितना समय लगेगा जिसमें कि आप पूरी तरह से साधानी से इन चीजों के सम्बन्ध में विचार कर सकें और निर्णय ले सकें ।

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : मैंने बताया कि 220 सुझावों में से 211 को हमने मान लिया है । 211 में से 183 को इम्प्लीमेंट कर दिया है और बाकी में कुछ एग्जिमेन्ट्स लाना होगा एकट में और उसमें देर लगेगी— 33 सुझाव ऐसे हैं । 68 को हमने सिद्धान्त रूप में मान लिया है, चार सुझावों में थोड़ी सी तरमीम करके माना है । कुल 3 सुझावों को नहीं माना है । इसलिए इसमें समय लगने की बात नहीं है । मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें 50 से लेकर 70 करोड़ के फारेन एक्सचेंज की ओवर एन्वार्थसिंग और अन्डर एन्वार्थसिंग का जो सवाल है उसमें अन्दाजा है कि यह जो सुझाव हमने माने हैं उनसे सुधार होगा ।

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: The hon. Minister just now told the House that about 211 suggestions were accepted. May I know, in totality, what is the result, how many cases have been caught, how many cases are pending and how much of foreign exchange is involved—because the leakage has become very prominent so far as import and export are concerned. Suggestions were made by the Public Accounts Committee in its 56th Report; you have accepted them; it is all right. May I know whether you are vigilant, how many cases have been caught, how much of foreign exchange is involved in the process of over-invoicing and under-invoicing?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: It was referred to the Committee in 1970. It came to us in 1971, and in 1972 we have examined them and accepted them. The immediate result, I cannot say. As I have stated earlier, leakage of foreign exchange involved through under-invoicing and over-invoicing is to the extent of Rs. 50 to 70 crores a year. The total figure of smuggling, foreign travel, manipulation of invoices comes to Rs. 220 to 240 crores. About the number of smugglers or offending parties, the figure is not with me. I have given the total amount involved.

SHRI ANNASAHEB GOTKHINDE: It is mentioned in the statement laid on the Table:

“Comments of the concerned departments and Ministries have been obtained in most cases and these have been considered by a Committee of four Secretaries to Government of India which has been specially constituted to take decisions on these recommendations.”

Then, in the last para of the statement it has been stated:

“Government decisions have already been taken on the bulk of the recommendations.”

Are there two machineries to take decisions on the recommendations, one the Committee of four Secretaries, and another separate body named ‘Government’ in the last para?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: The Committee of four Secretaries was set up to examine the recommendations made, and they have examined. It is on their recommendation, as I stated earlier, out of 222, we have accepted 211; and out of 211, on 183 decisions have been taken. As I said earlier, on 33, Acts have to be amended and for that, Secretaries are examining those Acts; this Committee is doing that job.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: In the year 1970-71, the Customs people raided the houses and offices of Birlas throughout India. What is the result of those raids? Has any case been instituted against the Birla Houses for under-invoicing and over-invoicing which have already been detected?

MR. SPEAKER: How does it arise out of this question? This is a general question; and you are mentioning a special case....

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Birla Houses were raised.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry; I cannot allow it.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: It relates to this very question.

MR. SPEAKER: So many Birlas are there in this country. I am sorry.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: It has been admitted by the Minister that there is leakage of foreign exchange in India. I want to know whether this phenomenon is prevalent in the whole world or is it a special feature only in India?

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you ask questions which have no head or tail?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: The impression is being created that the leakage is only in India. What about the other countries?

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is not responsible for other countries here.

We can take question No. 85 also along with 84 because they are identical questions. But neither of those gentlemen, Shri Birender Singh Rao or Shri Mukhtiar Singh, is present. So we take up Question No. 84 only.

Ch. Ram Prakash

Decline in Export of Green Tea

*84. **SHRI RAM PRAKASH:** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the export of green tea in the recent times; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) There was a slight decline in total exports of green tea from 3992 thousand kgs. in 1970 to 3754 thousand kgs. in 1971.

(b) This is accounted for by lower off-take by Afghanistan. However, exports to new markets like Japan, Morocco and U.S.A. maintained the rising trend.

MR. SPEAKER: No supplementaries?

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY: Has there been any improvement in the export of other kinds of tea and, if so, how much has there been during the last three years?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: I think the hon. Member is referring to the export of black tea, though there is a shortfall in the exports of green tea.

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking about green or black?

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY: Exports of other kinds of tea.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry I cannot allow it. The hon. Member may table a separate question.