

J. & K. Government might acquire the land and participate in the project, as one of the States concerned but the J. & K. Government had raised some legal and constitutional matters. They were examined by the Law Ministry here and the opinion of the Law Ministry has also been sent to the concerned State Governments. Even now there are some disagreements among various States. There are disagreements between the States as regards the sharing of the costs of the project, who should finance it, whether it should be a central project or not and also how the benefits should be shared, particularly the power generated. Until these are cleared, naturally the project cannot go ahead.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: The Chief Minister of Punjab made a categorical statement that the Union Ministry of Irrigation and Power had come to the conclusion that the land site will be given by the J. & K. Government on lease to the Punjab. Secondly, Punjab has spent about Rs. 1 crore on this project on preliminary work. I would like to enquire if he is prepared to call for a meeting of the beneficiary States and try to settle this problem according to a time bound programme. Can he give any assurance in that regard?

SHRI K. C. PANT: I would be very happy to be of any assistance that is possible in getting the States to agree to some arrangements because I think it is in the national interest to use the waters of Ravi by building this dam. As such, I certainly hope that all the Chief Ministers concerned with this will agree to something quickly, I will certainly discuss it with them, but a time-bound programme to make up the minds of others is not easy.

Indianisation of Drug and Pharmaceutical Industry

*227. **SHRI K. S. CHAVDA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to Indianise the Indian Drug and Pharmaceutical Industry; and

(b) if so, the broad outline there-

of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Indian sector of the drug industry has already made considerable progress and is now giving (along with Public sector) about half the drugs produced in the country.

Government have already adopted measures to regulate the working of foreign pharmaceutical companies in the country and to encourage the Indian sector. They are as under:—

- (i) The Indian sector of the industry is given preference in approval of manufacturing schemes.
- (ii) Manufacture of increasing number of bulk drugs through public sector undertakings is being encouraged.
- (iii) Industrial licences are usually not issued to foreign firms for producing formulations unless linked with the production of bulk drugs.
- (iv) Foreign firms are asked to take up production of bulk drugs from more basic stages and to make available a suitable portion of their bulk drugs production to non-associated formulators in the country as a condition for being permitted expansion in capacity or for taking up new activity.
- (v) Appropriate export obligation are imposed as a condition for permitting expansion in capacity or for taking up new activity in the case of foreign firms.
- (vi) Progressive reduction of foreign equity participation with corresponding increase in the Indian shareholding is imposed when they are allowed expansion of their manufacturing activities.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Out of a production of drugs worth Rs. 300 crores in the country, about Rs. 200 crores worth of production is from the foreign companies. A company which has got more than 50 per cent foreign equity participation is called a foreign company. I would like to know whether Government intends to reduce this foreign equity participation from 50 to 25 per cent.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: That is the intention eventually, but as the hon. member is aware, the production of drugs and pharmaceuticals is a very complicated matter in which a lot of foreign research is also involved. We would like to hasten rather slowly in this matter, because we would like to take advantage of the developments all over the world and we are taking suitable action to achieve our objective without doing any harm to the interests of the country. The Indian sector of the industry is being accorded preferential treatment and the manufacture of an increasing number of bulk drugs is being taken up in the public sector enterprises. These are some of the steps we are taking.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: I asked whether Government intend to reduce the foreign equity participation to 25 per cent.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: I said, that is our ultimate object, but we are not doing it in a hurry.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: In the statement six measures have been mentioned to regulate the working of foreign pharmaceutical companies in the country and to encourage the Indian sector. These measures are good, but they are not being implemented. I would like to know from the Minister whether he will assure the House that at least 50 per cent of the measures will be implemented in future.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Not only 50 per cent but 100 per cent will be implemented.

DR. RANEN SEN: Is it not a fact that the drugs produced by the public sector organisations in India are sold very cheaply to companies which have foreign equity shares, as a result of which huge profits are earned by those companies? Now that Indianisation has become a far cry, may I know what steps have been taken by the Government to see at least that this loot by the foreign monopoly firms is resisted by the Government?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Some of the imported drugs are canalised through the public sector undertakings. In respect of those drugs the prices charged by the public sector undertakings are quite reasonable. The prices of the drugs produced indigenously have been pegged down and kept deliberately down. In the case of the indigenous drugs there is scope for the foreign companies to make profits. That matter is receiving the attention of the Ministry. We have to take remedial action.

DR. RANEN SEN: What is the remedial action proposed or taken by the Government? This is a matter which has been discussed in this House. If there is no Indianisation, let them at least prevent this looting.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): I do not recollect any formulation of foreign companies which comes under this. Among the basic drugs manufactured by the IDPL there may be one or two items which IDPL may be distributing to different manufacturers also. I will look into it. Certainly, IDPL is expanding and is poised for larger expansion in the Fifth Plan. IDPL also wants to go in for formulations in a big way.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: May I know the total number of Foreign drug and pharmaceutical companies working in our country, their names and foreign sources and the total capital invested in them?

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, it is not relevant. He may ask a separate question.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: The answer of the Minister of State to the first supplementary is not only disquieting but indicates a somewhat weak approach. Their apprehension about hastening slowly for Indianising the drugs is the fear that otherwise we would be denied the benefits of some of the drugs now manufactured by the foreign companies. This does not happen in other developed countries. May I, therefore, know of them as to what are they doing in our own country by way of giving fiscal, monetary and other incentives to their own brilliant scientists for developing research in the field of drugs and pharmaceutical industry—I want a specific answer—so that....

MR. SPEAKER: If you want a specific answer, you ask a specific question.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: My specific question is this. If you do not have to hasten and go slowly in Indianising the drugs and pharmaceutical industry, what concrete steps you have taken by offering fiscal, monetary and other incentives to Indian scientists so that you are not apprehensive that you will be denied the benefits of research?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I do not know about fiscal and monetary incentives; I have not considered that. But so far as research work is concerned, the Hindustan Antibiotics has a well-organised research centre and in the I.D.P.L. also, we have a research centre which is doing excellent research work. In fact, so far as the Hindustan Antibiotics is concerned, we are marketing some of the results of research by our Indian researchers there. Both foreign-equity companies as well as Indian companies are also, in a somewhat limited way, interested in research work.

Then, we have also the Drug Research Institute and the C.S.I.R. All these are doing research work. But the drug research is not only a very expensive matter but it also depends upon a lot of experimenting. So, it takes a very long time. The people in this country or in no country can wait for very long for any drug that appears on the scene. Therefore, sometimes, we have to accept some of the new drugs even before our researches are complete. But that does not mean that our researches would be ruled out.... (Interruption)

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Long and wrong. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: That is the only way of preventing you to ask further questions.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: He said, "Long and wrong". There is a rhyme but there is no reason.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you should have been satisfied. He has made it very clear.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री जी ने जो बक्तव्य सदन के सामने रखा है उसके आखिरी हिस्से में उन्होंने कहा है :

"Progressive reduction of foreign equity participation with corresponding increase in the Indian shareholding is imposed when they are allowed expansion of their manufacturing activities."

सरकार का कुछ माल पहले पिंपत्र निकाला था जिसके तहत 25 प्रतिशत उत्पादन का विस्तार करने की सब लोगों को आपने छूट दे दी थी इसलिए 25 प्रतिशत का जो विस्तार हुआ उसमें तो कोई शर्त लगाने की बात आई नहीं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ यह जो विदेशी दवाइयाँ बनाने वाली कम्पनियाँ हैं उनके इंडियनाईजेशन का कोई मिलमिलेवार कार्यक्रम आपने बनाया है? यदि बनाया है तो कितने समय में उसको पूरा करने की आप उम्मीद करते हैं?

श्री बेवकान्त बहग्रा : अभी तो हमारे फारेन एक्सचेंज का कानून बन गया है इसलिए उसकी बुनियाद पर सभी को चलना पड़ेगा। लेकिन इसके पहले जब हमारे पास कोई एग्जीक्यूशन थी तो हम उसमें कहते थे कि आप फारेन एक्वीटी में डाइव्यूट कीजिए, स्टेशन आई स्टेशन एक साथ नहीं, और किमी का 75 परसेन्ट या तो 60 परसेन्ट कर दिया, किमी का 60 परसेन्ट या तो 50 परसेन्ट कर दिया यानी उसको मरख कर दिया जब लाइसेंस देने को हुआ।

हमारे यह हुआ कि जो उत्पादन होगा उसका कुछ हिस्सा एक्सपोर्ट करना होगा।

तीसरे ये कि जो दवा बनाएंगे इसका एक हिस्सा तीस प्रतिशत या पचास प्रतिशत तक छोटे जो फार्मूलेटर्स हैं उनको इनको देना पड़ेगा, वे स्वयं पूरा फार्मूलेशन नहीं कर पायेंगे।

Conversion of Routes of Mail Train between Calcutta and Delhi

*231. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the route of any of the mail train running between Calcutta and Delhi through Daltonganj (Palamau); and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Apart from the question of traffic justification diversion of any of the Delhi/New Delhi-Howrah/Sealdah Mail/Express trains via Daltonganj is at present operationally not feasible due to strained line capacity and speed restrictions on the sections en-route, and the increased fares and longer journey time involved for long distance through passengers in the event of such a diversion.

KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: No supplementary please.

श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : अध्यक्ष महोदय ...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जिन्होंने सवाल पूछा है उनकी तमल्ली तो हो गई है आपकी क्यों नहीं हुई है ?

श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : दिल्ली से हावड़ा के लिए मेन रूट से इलाहाबाद और मगलसराय होते हुए बहुत सी मेल ट्रेज हैं लेकिन दिल्ली से बनारस हो कर हावड़ा के लिए कोई डायरेक्ट ट्रेन नहीं है। डी लक्स हफ्ते में दो तीन बार जाती है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि मेल ट्रेज में से कोई मेल ट्रेन बनारस हो कर डायरेक्टली देने की क्या आप कृपा करेंगे ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : यह प्रश्न डालटनगंज के बारे में है बनारस के बारे में नहीं है। अगर आप पूछेंगे तो पीछे मैं आपको इसका उत्तर दे दूंगा।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मंत्री महोदय का उत्तर बहुत ही असन्तोषजनक है। आप बिहार के नक्शे को देखें। भौगोलिक दृष्टि से बिहार दो हिस्सों में बंटा हुआ है, उत्तर बिहार और दक्षिण बिहार। यह पालामऊ (डालटनगंज) जो है यह दक्षिण बिहार में आता है। सरकार द्वारा नहीं बल्कि रेलवे के द्वारा दक्षिण बिहार की पूरी उपेक्षा होती रही है। इसको मद्देनजर रखते हुए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्यों नहीं आप कोई नई या जो पुरानी ट्रेनें चल रही हैं उन में से एक डालटनगंज हो कर चलाते हैं ताकि उड़ीसा और मध्य प्रदेश दोनों प्रदेशों को भी लाभ हो ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र : जहां तक दक्षिण बिहार का सम्बन्ध है देहरी आनसोन हो कर गाड़ी जाती है, गोमो हो कर गाड़ी जाती है। यह कहना ठीक नहीं है कि दक्षिण बिहार में मेल ट्रेन नहीं है। नई गाड़ी देने की जहां तक बात है यह अभी सम्भव नहीं