

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, February 27, 1974/Phal-
guna 8, 1895 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SETTING UP OF AN ATOMIC POWER STATION AT NARORA (U.P.) WITH CANADIAN HELP

*101. SHRI PRABODH CHAN-
DRA : Will the Minister of ATOMIC
ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Canada has agreed to
help India to build up an atomic power
station at Narora in U.P.; and

(b) if so, the terms of the agree-
ment?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION
AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT) :
(a) The atomic power station at Narora
will be designed and built by the Depart-
ment of Atomic Energy. No help from
Canada or any other country is propos-
ed to be sought for this purpose.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA : The
emphasis has been laid on that no help
in connection with the building of this
atomic power station will be sought
from Canada. May I know from the
Government if, apart from building, any
other kind of help is being sought from
Canada for this atomic power station?

SHRI K. C. PANT : No, Sir.

श्री हुकुम चन्द कछवाय : मैं यह जानना
चाहता हूँ कि इस योजना पर विचार करने में
कितना समय लगेगा, इस को अन्तिम रूप कब
दिया जायेगा, इस पर कितना खर्च होगा और
इस से कितनी बिजली मिलने की सम्भावना
है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मिनिस्टर साहब ने
कहा है कि वह नहीं लगा रहे हैं। यह योजना
कहाँ से जायेगी ?

SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO : Hav-
ing in view the present oil crisis, most of
the countries like Japan and others are
going in a big way for nuclear power
generation. What is the Government's
plan for more emphasis on setting up
nuclear power stations and, particularly,
for expediting the construction of the
Narora project?

MR. SPEAKER : This does not arise
out of it.

श्री लालजी भाई : कोटा में

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह सवाल कोटा के बारे
में नहीं है।

पांचवी योजना में आत्मनिर्भरता

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*103. श्री धनराह प्रधान : श्री
माधवराव सिधिया : क्या योजना
मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश
को आर्थिक दृष्टि से पूर्णतया स्वावलंबी तथा
आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए पांचवी योजना में
क्या कदम उठाने का विशेष विचार है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING
(SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : A State-
ment is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Complete self-sufficiency in the sense
of complete economic isolation from the
rest of the world is neither feasible nor
desirable in the modern world. However,
self-reliance in the sense of progressive
reduction in the dependency on foreign
aid has been set out as a major objec-
tive of the Plan. Special measures pro-
posed to be taken in that direction
are :—

- (i) Intensification of import sub-
stitution programme particular-
ly in POL, metals, machinery
and equipment and fertilisers

and maximum utilisation and development of indigenous technology;

- (ii) (a) Export promotion mainly through raising the output in respect of cotton and jute textiles, coffee, oilcakes, fish and fish preparations, iron ore, coal, leather & leather manufactures, rubber tyres and tubes, engineering goods and handicrafts;
- (b) Diversion of output from domestic consumption to exports; and
- (c) Raising the competitive capability of our exports;
- (iii) Under invisibles, raising our earnings from tourism, shipping and encouraging larger remittances from abroad.

श्री धनशाह प्रधान : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज तक हमारे देश पर कितना विदेशी ऋण है और उस से मुक्त होने के लिए सरकार ने पंचम पंच-वर्षीय योजना में क्या टारगेट बनाये हैं। खाद्य पदार्थ आदि अत्यन्त आवश्यक चीजों में ऐसी कितनी चीजें हैं, जिन के बारे में हमारा देश विदेशों पर निर्भर है, और उन के विषय में स्वावलम्बी बनने के लिए पंचम पंच-वर्षीय योजना में क्या टारगेट रखे गये हैं ? विदेशों से कम से कम सामान आयात करने के सम्बन्ध में पंचम पंच-वर्षीय योजना में क्या व्यवस्था की गई है। विदेशों से कितने प्रतिशत आयात करने की योजना है ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : In the document, Fifth Five-Year Plan, placed on the Table of the House, all the information has been given, and we have been taking all possible care in order to reduce our imports and enhance our exports.

श्री धनशाह प्रधान : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का सही उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है। मैंने पूछा है कि हमारे देश पर अभी तक कितना विदेशी ऋण है और हम विदेशों से कौन कौन सी आवश्यक चीजें मंगा रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह स्टेटमेंट में दे दिया गया है।

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : It goes without saying that we would achieve a significant step towards self-sufficiency if we concentrate on the growth of farmers, thereby increasing our food production. A major agricultural input is fertiliser. Yet, at the end of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, it is clearly seen from the statistics that the short-fall in fertiliser production from the target set comes to as much as 53 per cent, and again in the latest Economic Survey it is pointed out that much greater emphasis will have to be laid on sources other than fertiliser-use to increase our much-needed food production. The Minister has said that a general statement has been laid on the Table of the House. I would restrict my question to a specific subject. I would like the Minister to explain what are the concrete steps envisaged in the Fifth Five-Year Plan to increase our fertiliser production and to meet the target set in the Fifth Plan. I would also like to know the impact of fertiliser import on the balance of trade position in the Fifth Plan period.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : I do concede that there is shortage of fertilisers in the country, and it is with a view to meet this necessity that the capacities that we have already installed are tried to be utilised to the extent possible. Also five fertiliser plants will be set up in the Fifth Five-Year Plan. That is how we shall try to meet this need.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I also wanted to know the expected impact of fertiliser import on the balance of trade position.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI D. P. DHAR) : We have taken this into account in the exercise; it is worked out in detail in the Draft Fifth Five-Year Plan. The figures are given there—the figures about imports, the figures about fuller utilisation of the capacities which are already in existence, and figures about the installation of new capacities which would come into production during the Fifth Five-Year Plan.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Self-sufficiency and self-reliance are noble objectives and I am glad that the Government is trying to move in that direction. May I know from the Government whether it is possible to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency in the major industrial activities during the Fifth Plan? This needs to be categorically stated. I have read both the Draft Outline as well as the statement.

SHRI D. P. DHAR : We have mentioned in the Fifth Five-Year Plan that we shall work towards the achievement of self-sufficiency by the end of the Fifth Plan and this is an objective which is pre-eminently achievable. In the Fourth Plan it was envisaged that the net foreign aid would be reduced by half. This objective is most likely to be achieved. Therefore, I think, taking into account the total percentage of outside investment and outside resources which would be about 3.1% of the total outlay of the Fifth Plan, it should not be difficult for us to achieve the goal of self-reliance.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : In order to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency there are two kinds of power which are essentially needed to build a nation. One is the political power and the other is the electrical power. The political power the Government has already got.

As far as the electricity power is concerned, may I know what priority you have given in the Fifth Five Year Plan because according to the Prime Minister of Russia who visited India recently and he said it also, what we require is that top priority is to be given for power generation because on power depends production of industries as also agriculture. May I know what priority you have given to the generation of electricity? Of course, you have got the massive mandate but may I know whether you are going to generate power sufficient to meet the needs of the country?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as power is concerned, we are not going to import it.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going to be a general discussion on the Fifth Five-Year Plan. The question is very simple. It has been given in the statement already. If you go on asking all sorts of questions on the Fifth Five Year Plan, then, there will be no end to supplementaries.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : I qualify my question, Sir . . .

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member may kindly resume his seat. He need not qualify his question.

SHRI D. P. DHAR : The hon. Member may have had occasions to see in the Plan Document that we propose to go in for an additional generation of 33 million kilowatts of energy during the Fifth Plan period and that is what we propose to do with regard to generation of power.

As far as wielding of political power is concerned, that the hon. Member has already got.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Since the attainment of economic self-reliance in effect means a better mobilisation and conservation of internal resources, will the Government be willing to tell us whether they are prepared to introduce measures like (1) demonetisation of currency to unearth-black money, (2) introduction of a capital levy, (3) imposing a ceiling on income and property as well as expenditure and (4) to augment the revenue through income-tax, to club effective clubbing of agricultural and non-agricultural incomes?

SHRI D. P. DHAR : I think these suggestions are very valid and very relevant. But I have yet to come across an occasion when questions like demonetisation, etc. become a subject matter of an open debate. But I would suggest that the hon. Member may have a look at the Budget when it is presented and perhaps some of the least debatable suggestions which have been made may find some reflection in the Budget. . . . (*Interruptions*) I would be very grateful to

the hon. Member if we could receive from him some concrete suggestions.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : May I know as to what is broadly the criterion before the Planning Commission for the achievement of self-reliance and what is the programme by which they want to achieve it during the Fifth Plan ?

SHRI D. P. DHAR : I draw the attention of the hon. Member who has just come to the House to the statement which is laid on the Table of the House. All these questions have been attempted to be answered in that statement.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : In the earlier stages it was stated the 12 fertilizer plants are going to be set up during the Fifth Plan but now they have revised it to 5. If it is 5, how are they going to meet the requirements of the country in this regard during the Fifth Five-Year Plan ? This is my question.

SHRI D. P. DHAR : My distinguished colleague mentioned about 5 fertilizer plants in the public sector. Over and above that there are programmes of expansion of the existing plants and also some plants in cooperative and private sectors.

LICENSING CRITERIA FOR SUGAR MILLS

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SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :

*104. **SHRI D. K. PANDA :**

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

(a) whether Government have decided to follow a new licensing criteria for sugar mills; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. B. RANA) : (a) and (b) There is no change in the licensing criteria for sugar mills. Government have announced in

their press note dated 9-1-1974 that entrepreneurs, who propose to establish new sugar factories or existing sugar mills who apply for substantial expansion in their units, should forward their applications for industrial licences through the concerned State Governments. State Governments, in turn, have been requested to forward such applications within a specified time limit along with their recommendations and data of cane availability to the Ministry of Industrial Development. This procedure is designed to expedite the processing of applications within the prescribed time limits.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : In the press note released by the Government it is specifically stated that hereafter licences will be issued and applications will be entertained only after they are processed through the State Governments. Such being the case I want to know what is the reason for the change in policy and getting the applications through the States. Is it to give more power to the States because some of the States are clamouring for more powers ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) : In the past whenever there were applications for establishment of sugar factories the applications get referred to State Governments to get their assessment with regard to the availability of sugarcane. That is because, without the availability of sugarcane no unit can be established. Now instead of sending their applications after their receipt by us here we want this to be submitted to the State Governments so that with their recommendations these things come to us so that there may not be this time gap between receiving applications and sending them to the State Governments and getting their recommendations and also a time limit is fixed for the State Government to forward those applications. This will in no way enhance or decrease the powers of the State Governments.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY : Two points have been raised; one setting up new