

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Wednesday, March 27, 1974/Chairra 6,
1896 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDUSTRIAL ESTATES IN WEST BENGAL,
GUJARAT AND MAHARASHTRA

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*466. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE :
SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SAR-
KAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE

AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to
state :

(a) the number of industrial estates
and sheds functioning in West Bengal,
Gujarat and Maharashtra and small
scale industrial units reported working
on the 31st December, 1973; and

(b) the outlay for the programme of
industrial estates and sheds in these
States during Fifth five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVE-
LOPMENT (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN
ANSARI) : (a) and (b). A statement
is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(As on 31-3-1973)

(a)

Name of the state	No. of estates functioning	No. of sheds functioning	No. of units functioning
1	2	3	4
West Bengal	5	97	73
Gujarat	57	1935	2483
Maharashtra	51	1647	1565

(b) Outlay envisaged by the Plan-
ning Commission for the Fifth Five
Year Plan :—

West Bengal : Rs. 100 lakhs .
Maharashtra : Rs. 150 lakhs

No outlay has been envisaged for in-
dustrial estates in the State Plan of
Gujarat. Industrial Estates will be con-
structed by Gujarat Industrial Develop-
ment Corporation.

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : The
statement portrays a very dismal pic-
ture. While 57 industrial estates are

functioning in Gujarat and 51 industrial
estates are functioning in Maharashtra,
only five are functioning in West Bengal.
This is no case of disparity. Will the
hon. Minister kindly tell me how this
sky-high difference has cropped up? Is
availability of finance and raw materials
the reason why these institutions grow
so fast in Maharashtra and Gujarat and
is non-availability of these things the
reason why they did not grow in West
Bengal? Also I want to know how many
financial institutions are Bombay-based
and how many of them are Calcutta-
based.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) :

Unfortunately these figures are a little bit misleading in the sense that, after all, industrial estates are part of the process of establishing small scale industries; where industrial development had not taken place, steps had to be taken to build up industrial estates by States themselves and then provide facilities and then start small scale industries in the States. Therefore, comparison will have to be made not with reference to industrial estates as such but with regard to the number of small scale industries which have come up in Gujarat State or Maharashtra State or West Bengal State. From that point of view, West Bengal stands very high—with regard to the number of small scale industries which have come up even without the assistance of industrial estates. That shows the high level of industrial development which has already taken place there. Therefore, the hon. Member need not be under the impression that, simply because there are not many industrial estates in West Bengal, small scale industries have not developed.

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : That part of the question apart, the number of small units functioning in West Bengal is only 73 whereas the number of small units functioning in Gujarat is 2,483 and the number in Maharashtra is 1,565. This is the difference. Whatever improvement West Bengal had, it was West Bengal Government's job. Under the Central scheme, what benefit has West Bengal derived? Secondly, this itself provides enough employment. West Bengal is a problem-ridden State so far as employment is concerned. What remedial measures did the Government of India take to help West Bengal in solving the unemployment problem by providing these facilities under the Industrial Estates scheme?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I have already explained why Industrial Estates are created. Industrial Estates are created where people are not coming forward to establish small scale industries and,

therefore, assistance was necessary. I would like to give the figures also.

As far as small scale industries as such are concerned, by the end of 1972, the number of units registered in West Bengal were 29,137 whereas Gujarat had only 19,966 in spite of the fact that so many industrial estates are there. Maharashtra is a little above West Bengal with 33,000—4,000 more. Therefore, central assistance has been given for the purpose of removing the imbalances in the industrial development. Whereas West Bengal stands foremost in industrial development and there are others coming forward to start small scale industries with bank assistance and all those things, that is why this form of assistance was not given. But we have to take into account the totality of the situation in judging the development, particularly, of small scale industries.

SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR . In view of the answer given, may I ask that due to want of sympathy, West Bengal State has not developed its industrial estates. If you kindly see, in the five industrial estates, out of 166 sheds completed, only 127 sheds were occupied by the small scale industrial entrepreneurs. Is it not enough to show that due to paucity of funds they are not in a position to get occupation of the sheds in the industrial estates functioning in West Bengal?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That only shows the entrepreneurs in West Bengal do not depend upon facilities created by the State for starting small scale industries because even outside the industrial estate, a large number of industries have come about and, therefore, it is only where they are unable to get on without the assistance, they go to the Industrial estates. That shows that industrial estate is not a necessity there. That is why perhaps if you create more industrial estates, there will be greater unoccupied sheds. That is why we should look into the question of a large number of small scale industries coming into existence and in that, West Bengal is leading most of the other States.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : According to the hon. Minister's argument, it is difficult to follow why the number of industrial estates allotted to Maharashtra should, in that case, be so much higher than in West Bengal because the number of small scale units which have come up outside the industrial estates is much higher in Maharashtra than in West Bengal. In spite of that we find that West Bengal has got much fewer industrial estates than Maharashtra. There is no comparison between the two. So, this seems to be a case of spite, for despite the fact that in Maharashtra so many small scale industries have come up—a higher number, outside the industrial estates, they have been given so much favoured treatment as compared to West Bengal. Why?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : What we have to take into account is : how many small scale units have come into existence in each State. As far as that is concerned, I have given the number. West Bengal, at the end of 1972—29,000 odd. Maharashtra has no doubt a little more—about 33,000, including all the industrial estates put together and outside the industrial estates also. This shows that West Bengal industrialists and entrepreneurs as a class perhaps do not like industrial estates functioning in that way. After all conditions vary from place to place because even the small number of estates already started have not been occupied fully.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Following the argument of the hon. Minister that more industrial estates in West Bengal cannot be economically viable I have not understood this argument. The industrial estates are necessitated to be started in the rural areas other than the big metropolitan cities. Also it is known to the hon. Minister very clearly that except for a small portion of 24 Parganas district, Calcutta and Howrah, all other districts of West Bengal are declared as 'backward' by the Planning Commission. What steps the hon. Minister is going to take to put in more industrial estates in those backward areas where there is

large scope for small scale industries to come up? Even without industrial estates in large numbers in West Bengal there are large number of small-scale industrial units, about 29,000 by the end of 1972, as the hon. Minister said. So, I want to ask of him whether the hon. Minister will take further steps to start more industrial estates in those districts marked as 'backward' areas.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : This is a matter which the State Government will have to tackle. With regard to rural areas which are not developed we also give positive direction and orientation or establishment of small-scale industries in the rural areas rather than urban areas and already industrialised areas. This is a new direction which we want to give in the Fifth Plan.

श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि लघु उद्योगों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा संख्या में पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रों में चलाया जा रहा है उनकी वहां स्थापना की जा रही है। क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश में और खासकर छत्तीसगढ़ में जो बहुत ही पिछड़ा हुआ क्षेत्र है ज्यादा इंडस्ट्रियल एस्टेट्स बनाने की कोई योजना बनाई गई है।

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I have full sympathy for Madhya Pradesh but I will not be able to give the answer just now as I do not have the information.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : The Minister avoided reply to the question put by Mr. Indrajit Gupta. Upto 1972 he says 29,000 small-scale units are there in West Bengal. It is 33,000 in Maharashtra. This relates to 1972, 1973 and 3 months of 1974. I want to know whether these 29,000 small units are really working or they had been closed down. In the periphery of Howrah small factories were closed down; hundreds of small scale bulb manufacturing factories are closed down. I can give many such examples. That is due to lack of supply of raw materials and financial assistance either from the

State Government or from Central Government. I want to know whether it is within the knowledge of the Central Minister and if so, what action he is going to take so that more such units come into existence.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am fully aware, not only small-scale units but large-scale units and medium-scale units got closed down during the period when the hon. Member's party was in charge of the affairs of West Bengal. (*Interruption*).

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : Absolutely wrong; I strongly protest; I challenge him. He should withdraw it if he is wrong. Don't make them scapegoats. (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order please. Do not lose your temper.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I know this is an unpalatable fact. (*Interruptions*). But, steps are being taken now to reopen many of the units; many of the units have also been reopened. I am also aware that there are certain industries, particularly, small-scale industries which exist only on paper for the purpose of quota. We are aware of that not only in West Bengal but also in other States. That is why census is now being taken unit by unit for trying to find out their capacity, how they have been functioning and they have been utilising their raw materials. And once the census is over, we may be able to come to the correct opinion with regard to the ghost factories.

MR. SPEAKER : Now I pass on to the next question.

DR. RANEN SEN : Sir, I wanted to ask one question.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the next question which is in your name.

MR. RANEN SEN : Sir it is very important so far as West Bengal is concerned. I want to put a question. I was trying to get up with a view to catching your eyes. Please allow me to put the question.

MR. SPEAKER : Look here. After all, there should be a limit to the number of questions. It is not necessary always that West Bengal Members should ask questions. Please proceed on to the next question which is in your name.

TAKE OVER OF GANESH FLOUR MILLS COMPANY LIMITED, DELHI

*467. **DR. RANEN SEN :**

SHRI B. S. BHAURA :

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

(a) whether Government have taken over the management of Ganesh Flour Mills Company Limited, Delhi;

(b) if so, the date on which the industry was taken over and how many factories were there in the entire group of Ganesh Mills;

(c) the number of factories managed by Government; and

(d) the number of factories actually functioning ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI) : (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House

Statement

Government have taken over the management of Ganesh Flour Mills Company Limited, on 3rd November, 1972, under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. There were five factories in the group, all of which have taken over, and are being managed through the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India Limited. Only the Electrical Fan and Fractional Horse Power motors manufacturing unit at Delhi is not functioning at present, and necessary steps are being taken to reopen the unit.