

**Duplication of Production Efforts
in Certain Industries**

*692. SHRI R. K. AMIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in a number of fields viz. structurals, steel castings, wagon building, generators, pumps and compressors etc. production efforts are being duplicated for the same items in the public sector in spite of the fact that the capacity in the private sector is lying idle;

(b) if so, whether Government consider it necessary to evolve a machinery to co-ordinate the work of private and public sectors in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

In accordance with the Industrial Policy Resolution Capacities in the Public Sector are set up by and large in industries the future development of which will be the exclusive responsibility of the State and in industries which will be progressively state owned but in which private enterprise will also be allowed to supplement the efforts of the State. In the latter type of cases, when Government consider the question of setting up capacities in the Public Sector, besides taking into account the prospective demand for the item of manufacture, careful stock is also taken of the capacities already set up or licensed for its manufacture as also the ranges of production covered. Fresh capacity in Public Undertakings is set up only in cases where the existing capacities are not able to meet the demand as in the case of structurals or does not cover certain ranges and compositions required as in the case of castings. Furthermore, as in the case of Pumps and Compressors, care is also exercised to

ensure that there is no deliberate duplication of facilities already available whether it be in the Public or Private Sector.

It is, however, possible that in recessionary periods as the one we recently passed through, there may be an odd instance or two of excess capacity arising, mainly as a result of fall in demand. This fortunately is only a passing phase one has to live with, in times of recession.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: So far the resolution of the Industrial Policy and the manner in which the targets in the public sector were fixed, were appropriate for the manner in which the second and the Third Plan were evolved. But now that the Government has given up that sort of planning fixing targets and adhering to it for 5 years and it has started with annual plan with flexibility in planning, would the hon. Minister like to make a restatement of the Industrial policy and also the manner in which the targets in the public sector are fixed so that the duplication of efforts in the public sector as well as the private sector be removed ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : The position is very clear. We have to consider this question on the basis of three categories in which different industries have been divided. One is : industries which are exclusively reserved for the public sector. Second things is these industries where progressively the public sector will be established and the third is the category where we have allowed private sector to function except where we find that they are not meeting the demand or they are not engaged in production of a range of items which are absolutely necessary for the country. So far as the first category is concerned, there is the question of our demand and on the basis of that demand public sector is established. It is true that in one or two cases what we consider would be the demand, actually has not become true with the result that there is idle capacity. Now in future we are taking into consideration whether the public sector should be set up having regard to the demand. I may give one example : pumps and compressors. Formerly we were going to establish a factory with a capacity of nearly 16000 tonnes, but after considering the various aspects and also the production

by the private sector, we have reduced the capacity from 16000 to 6000.

Then where the industries have not been established we are taking into consideration as to what will be the prospective demand and on the basis of that the figures are being revised. So far as the second category is concerned, before the licences are issued we do take into consideration the demand and the production both in the private sector and the public sector and only in respect of those items which cannot be undertaken by the private sector and where the demand can only be met by the public sector, the public sector comes in. So far as the third category is concerned, it is only very few items where the public sector undertaking has gone into production only with regard to such range of production which is not being provided by the public sector.

SHRI R. K. AMIN : My question was different. These were the machinery approved in 1965 which may be appropriate for the type of plant set up in the Third, Five-year Plan. But now you are adopting an annual plan and now that a great deal of flexibility is given and licensing systems are also given up, a new type of machinery is necessary. Are you going to import that type of machinery or not ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : It is true that normally on the basis of targets fixed for the Third Plan, the demand and production are taken into consideration. But now we are providing funds on the basis of annual plans and for that purpose we project what will be the deficiency, what will be the demand and what will be the production; on that basis licenses are being given and public sector undertakings have been established.

SHRI R. K. AMIN : My next question is this. In respect of telephone cables there is already an excess capacity existing. Is the Government thinking of installing a new factory in that sector ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANUPRAKASH SINGH) : Regarding the tele-

phone cable factory we are not thinking of having it in the public sector but the Planning Commission has said that if it is possible it can be given to private sector and the matter is under examination.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : It is very unfortunate that most of our engineering industries are beset with idle capacity since the last 2 years. During this time the hon. Minister has given an assurance that we are putting up some plants for diversification of production and for increasing the demands of these things. May I know specifically as to what steps had been taken so far for increasing the demands of plant and machinery manufacture in the country ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : In this regard also it is a fact that engineering industry was one of the industries which got affected very badly during the recession period. But I may inform the House that the things have considerably improved, particularly in view of the export order which we have got from other countries. I may point out that even in respect of wagon capacity we have not been able to fulfil the target. With the diversification, and with the export order we are getting, and also the demand which has increased so far as railway is concerned. I hope, this industry will show improvement in the coming months of the year.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : The Minister is speaking about the Industrial Policy Resolution. May I know whether this Industrial Policy Resolution is applicable to the States also ? If so, I want to know whether this policy provides for the handing over of the management of some of the public sector units to private hands. Also, I would like to know from the Government whether it has come to their notice that some of the public sectors in Orissa are being handed over for management to private hands by the Swatantra Government. Did they consult you on this matter ? Is there any such policy in these matters that when the States go ahead with a different policy than that accepted by the Centre, then they have to consult you and then do it ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : So far as the Policy Resolution is concerned, it covers

also the States. The hon. Member has spoken about certain industries being handed over from the public sector to the private sector for management. All I can say is, they come under the second category where both public and private sectors are allowed to compete.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : It is Centrally sponsored. The management is given to the private sector.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : There is no bar to it because so far as the first category is concerned they will be within the exclusive domain of the public sector. But this one is with regard to the second category of industries where both private and public can operate.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : It is now well known that recession itself was in a measure part of the consequence of the failure of the Government to place sufficient demand in the public sector, particularly the steel industry; and that is how it triggered off a process of recession and ultimately engulfed the entire economy in a recessive circle. May I know whether we have any danger of recession again coming because of lack of investment in the plan or lack of demand? May I also know whether the hon. Minister can inform the House whether there will be enough demand from the public sector itself or from the Government departments so as to operate them without much loss or their capacity remaining idle?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : It is difficult to reply in regard to all the public undertakings; but I can say that so far as public undertakings under my charge are concerned, there are few public undertakings where we have sufficient orders for 1970-71 and unless the order book improves, particularly in Heavy Electricals and Bharat Company, there is likely to be idle capacity. That will entirely depend on what will be the power generation in the next Fourth Five Year Plan. It is only on that basis we can anticipate orders and take action. The Plan is under consideration and it will entirely depend on what amount we are going to allocate to various items. It is true that beyond 1971 the position regarding the order

book is not very clear and until and unless the Plan is accepted, it will be difficult for me to say.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The hon. Minister has said that if he finds that capacity in the private sector is lying idle, then fresh capacity in the public sector may not be created or may be suitably restricted. I would like to know whether the reverse is true or not, namely, if the capacity is lying idle in public sector, will they allow fresh capacity to be set up in the private sector? In the Hindustan Cables to which reference has been made the capacity is lying idle and yet they are contemplating giving licence to private sector to set up their plant. What is the policy regarding this?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : First of all, I did not say what is attributed to me.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The Deputy Minister said that.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : What he said was that while taking into consideration the capacity and the demand, we have to take into consideration the capacity which has been created by the private sector also. Therefore, we cannot ignore the capacity of the private sector.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : Don't you see any contradiction?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : No contradiction. When any licence is given to the private sector, we certainly take into consideration the effect on the public undertakings also. So far as the Cable Industry is concerned the cable industry which is under the public sector is not having any idle capacity. It is working to its capacity.

श्री शशि भूषण : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे पब्लिक सेक्टर की जो महान कार्यक्षमता है, उस में बहुत से वारखाने ब्राइडल पड़े हैं। उन को आप में कोआर्डिनेट करने के लिये क्या सरकार ने कोई कमीशन बनाया है या बनाने जा रहे हैं जो सरकार को राय दे सके कि इन कारखानों में ब्राइडल कैपैसिटी न रहे? क्या

सरकार ने इन कारखानों को नुकसान से बचाने के लिये कोई योजना बनाई है ?

दूसरा प्रश्न—हिन्दुस्तान केबल के कर्मचारी और अधिकारी चाहते हैं कि उन की कंपैसिटी को डबल किया जाय। इस के बावजूद भी आप दूसरी जगह लाइसेंस दे रहे हैं। कई जगहों पर डीजल इन्जिन्ज बन सकते हैं, स्ट्रक्चर्स बन सकते हैं, रेलवे वैगन्ज बन सकते हैं, लेकिन उस के बावजूद भी आप दूसरे लोगों को आर्डर दे रहे हैं ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन सब को कोआरडिनेट क्यों नहीं किया जाता ?

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : कोआरडिनेशन के लिये हम ने अभी कदम उठाया है। जहाँ तक इन्जीनियरिंग और स्टील का सवाल है, हम ने इन सब को एक ही मिनिस्ट्री के अण्डर कर दिया है। वे देखेंगे कि इन अण्डरटेकिंग में जो काम होता है, उस से दूसरी इण्डस्ट्रीज को कैसे फायदा पहुँच सकता है। इसी तरह से इलेक्ट्रिसिटी की तमाम इण्डस्ट्रीज के लिये एक कन्सोर्टियम बनाया है ताकि इन की एक्टिविटीज कोआरडिनेट किया जा सके। पब्लिक अण्डरटेकिंग के मिलने के बाद किस तरह से प्राइवेट लोगों के यहाँ जो चीजें बन रही हैं, उन को भी इस में लगा कर हम ऐभी कोशिश करना चाहते हैं कि मुल्क में आउटल कंपैसिटी न रहे—इस के लिये भी सोचा जा रहा है। यह बहुत बड़ा सवाल है, चन्द दिनों में यह हल नहीं हो सकता है। हम चाहते हैं कि पब्लिक अण्डरटेकिंग में कोआरडिनेशन हो और कन्साटिया में किस तरह से प्राइवेट इन्टरप्राइजेज को भी लेकर चलें, इस बात को भी सोच रहे हैं।

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, वर्तमान समय में इस सरकार की जो पालिसी उद्योग-धंधों के लिए लाइसेंस देने की है उससे कुछ शहरों में ही वह सेन्ट्रलाइज हो रहे हैं और इसका परिणाम यह है कि उसी क्षेत्र के लोगों

को मजदूरी मिलती है और बाकी क्षेत्र सारे बेकार पड़े हुए हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त उन शहरों में आबादी ज्यादा बढ़ जाने से और भी समस्याएँ पैदा हो गई हैं आवास इत्यादि की, तो मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह इन्डस्ट्रीज को डिसेन्ट्रलाइज करने का विचार रखती है जिससे कि भारत के सभी क्षेत्रों में उद्योग-धंधे बढ़ सकें और सभी जगह के लोगों को काम मिल सके ? पब्लिक सेक्टर और प्राइवेट सेक्टर, दोनों में क्या सरकार इस बात का ध्यान रखेगी कि उद्योग-धंधे एक ही स्थान पर सेन्ट्रलाइज न हो कर सारे देश में उनका विकेन्द्रीयकरण हो सके ?

श्री भानु प्रकाश सिंह : सरकार की यही नीति है कि एक ही जगह पर उद्योगों का केन्द्रीयकरण न हो। मीडियम स्केल और स्माल स्केल इन्डस्ट्रीज इसी लिए चलाई जाती हैं कि उनको गांवों तक ले जाया जा सके और गांवों के लोग अधिकतर शहरों की ओर न आयें।

जहाँ तक पब्लिक सेक्टर में बड़ी बड़ी इन्डस्ट्रीज का प्रश्न है, उनमें रा-मैटीरियल, एकोनामिक और टेक्निकल फीजिबिलिटी का ध्यान में रखकर निर्णय किया जाता है तथा साथ ही साथ रीजनल इम्बैलेंसेज पर भी ध्यान दिया जाता है।

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : मन्त्री महोदय ने जवाब गलत दिया है। रा-मैटीरियल तो बम्बई और दिल्ली में आकर जमा हो जाता है, वह रा-मैटीरियल अर्ल गढ़ और मुरादाबाद में भी जा सकता है।

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : The hon. Minister has said that there has been a lot of improvement and the idle capacity is being geared up for the last two years. I would like to know the unutilised capacity which has been geared up in the case of the Heavy Engineering Ltd, the Heavy Electricals Ltd., and the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. What is the capacity now in the case of these three units ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : So far as heavy engineering is concerned, that is not.....

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : It was with him some time back. I am talking about the past.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : May I just say what I remember ? During the last year, the production has gone up from 8000 tonnes to about 14,000 tonnes. That is what I remember now. So, it has shown improvement. So far as Heavy Electricals are concerned, they have shown considerable improvement, and the losses are going down.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : I would like to know how much capacity was being utilised two years before and how much capacity is remaining unutilised now.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I shall be able to give those figures also....

MR. SPEAKER : It is a general question. Since the answer may be long, it may be placed on the Table of the House. He need not give all the details of the capacities, but it would be better if he places a statement on the Table of the House.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I have got all those figures. I can lay the statement on the Table of the House.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : I would now ask a particular question instead of a general question. Contradiction seems to be the second name of this Government. In the statement, Government have stated :

“When Government consider the question of setting up capacity in the public sector, besides taking into account the prospective demand for the items manufactured, careful stock is also taken of the capacities already set up or licensed for its manufacture as also the ranges of production covered.....”

Care is also exercised to ensure that there is no deliberate duplication of facilities already available whether it be in the public or private sector.”

In the light of this, may I know whether there is no contradiction in the fact that whereas a licence has been given to a particular firm for setting up a factory for earth-moving equipment in Tamil Nadu, on certain technical grounds it is being delayed, for instance, on the pretext that Government are examining possibilities whether any of the public sector undertakings can expand or get a new collaboration or create further capacities to meet those demands ? If a licence is already existing, what is the reason for setting up new capacities in the public sector ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : There is no contradiction. The hon. Member will recall that I had just cited an instance where a decision had been taken to set up a unit in a public undertaking for pumps and compressors, where we had decided to go in for 16,000 tonnes capacity but later on when we found that our demand would be only about 6000 tonnes, after taking into consideration the production in the private sector units, we have reduced it from 16,000 to 6000. Therefore, so far as the earth-movers also are concerned, there was an application for those items, but when we found that we had a public undertaking where some of these.....

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : A licence had been given.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : That may be so, but before they have gone into production we have found that those very items can be produced in a public undertaking; so, there was no justification for allowing expansion, of those items under the private sector. Therefore, the matter is under examination and if we find that the production can be undertaken by the public sector undertaking, it will be given to that public undertaking.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : Does he mean that he will allow the public sector undertaking in this particular case to manufacture this item only if it does not require any expansion, only if no further machinery will be installed and only if no further collaboration will be required.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : The idle capacity of the public undertaking has also to be removed.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : I did not hear the reply.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I said not only because that is the reason, but if there is idle capacity in the public undertaking and that public undertaking can undertake production of that item, it will certainly be given preference.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पब्लिक और प्राइवेट सेक्टर की इन्डस्ट्रीज में कंपैसिटी आइडिल पड़ी रहती है वह न हो और प्राइवेट इन्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स जोकि अपनी इन्डस्ट्री खोलना चाहते हैं उनमें पब्लिसिटी करने के लिए, उनको बताने के लिए जिससे उनकी समझ में आ जाये कि वे कौन सी इन्डस्ट्री खोलें, इन सारी बातों की जानकारी उनको देने के लिए सरकार की क्या मशीनरी है ?

श्री भानु प्रकाश सिंह : हमारे पास जो भी कोई इन्डस्ट्रियलस् एप्लीकेशन लेकर लाइसेन्स के लिए आता है तो हम उसको समझाते बुझाते हैं कि इसकी कंपैसिटी है, इसकी कंपैसिटी नहीं है, अगर इस इन्डस्ट्री को आप चलायेंगे तो फायदा होगा—अगर वे हमारी बात मान लेते हैं तो अच्छा है, नहीं मानते हैं तो उनकी मरजी की बात है। हम उनको जरूर बताते हैं कि किस लाइन में फायदा है।

मतपत्र

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*694. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :

श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री :

क्या बिधि तथा समाज कल्याण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कई राज्यों में हुए गत मध्यावधि चुनावों में मतपत्रों पर चुनाव अधिकारी द्वारा हस्ताक्षर किये ज ने की व्यवस्था की गई थी ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को इस आशय की शिकायतें मिली हैं कि यह व्यवस्था होने पर भी कुछ मतपत्रों का दुरुपयोग हुआ ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार मविप्य में इस प्रकार की बात को रोकने के लिए कुछ और विशेष उपाय अपनाने का है ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI M. YUNUS SALEEM) : (a) Yes, Sir. (The ballot papers are signed on the back by the presiding officers of the polling stations before the commencement of the poll and not by the polling officers as mentioned in the question).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को जब इस प्रकार की शिकायतें समय-समय पर मिलती रहती हैं कि बड़े-बड़े राजनीतिक अधिकारी सरकारी अधिकारियों का उपयोग करते हैं तो केवल किसी एक बड़े अधिकारी के हस्ताक्षरों से क्या इस व्यवस्था में कुछ त्रुटि आने की सम्भावना नहीं है ? यदि है, तो फिर को ऐसा कारगर उपाय जिससे मतपत्रों का दुरुपयोग न हो सके, या किसी ऐसी व्यवस्था के ऊपर निर्वाचन आयोग विचार कर रहा है ?

श्री मु० घूनस सलीम : यह जो नियम निकाला गया है उसका मकसद यह है कि जो वोट डाला जाये उसके मुताल्लिक लोगों को इत्मीनान हो कि वह सही तरीके से डाला गया है और महफूज रखा गया है चुनावों के लिए पेपर डालने के लिए जो डिब्बा होता है उसमें न सिर्फ यह कि प्रिजाइडिंग आफिसर के पेपर पर साइन होते हैं बल्कि बिलेट बाक्स को महफूज भी कर दिया जाता है—चारों तरफ से एक फीता लगाकर और गिरह लगाकर