

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The examination as to the construction of new railway lines which would be more profitable is also under consideration along with the considerations that are given to such uneconomic lines which are continuously on the loss side.

श्री शिवचरण लाल : मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं थाया। सन् 1942 तक भागरा से बाहू को रेल चल रही थी। वह क्यों बन्द की गई और क्या उस को पुन चलाने की कृपा रेलवे मन्त्री करेगे ? भागरा से एटावा तक जाने के लिये उसकी बड़ी जरूरत है।

Mr. Speaker: He has answered it.

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या मन्त्री महोदय को मालूम है कि किसी रेलवे लाइन में घाटा नहीं होता है। लास इसलिये होता है कि 60 परसेंट पैसेन्जर बिना टिकट चला करते हैं। क्या बिना टिकट चलने को रोकने की बात पर विचार किया गया है ताकि रेलों को घाटा न हुआ करे ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I take that information.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मार्टिन बर्न कम्पनी की जितनी रेलें भारतवर्ष में हैं उनकी व्यवस्था के सम्बन्ध में रेलवे अनुदानों के समय विशेष रूप से चर्चा भी चुकी है, जैसे एस० एस० लाइट रेलवे हैं, बिहार की लाइने हैं। अब इस कम्पनी का ठेका समाप्त होने का समय निकट आ चुका है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या रेलवे मन्त्रालय प्रविश्य में इस कम्पनी का ठेका प्रागे न बढ़ाने का निश्चय कर चुका है, ताकि सरकार स्वयं इसकी व्यवस्था को सम्भाल सके ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: These agreements for a review after a period of ten years. Every ten years we review the position, and then we take a decision as to whether we should take over the management or allow the company to run under certain terms and conditions. At the time when the agree-

ment comes up for review, we will look into the question.

Industrial Licensing

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*995. Shri E. Barua :
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri :
Shri D. N. Patodia :
Shri C. C. Desai :

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six new industries have been added to the 'banned list' for the year 1967-68, so far as industrial licensing is concerned;

(b) if so, the names of those industries and the names of industries included at present in that list,

(c) the principles that govern the drawing up of the 'banned list'; and

(d) whether there is any specialised cell or expert agency in the Ministry to study and make recommendations on these matters?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri Bhanu Prakash Singh) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No LT-946/67.]

Shri E. Barua: From the statement I find that the dairy machinery is also put in the banned list. Are we to understand that we are self-sufficient?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed) : The target has been covered.

Shri E. Barua: Recently it came in the papers that the Birla group of industries were prevented from taking more licences. Is it also because of the policy followed in regard to licensing?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: If a particular firm applies for an item in the banned list, it will not be considered.

Shri D. N. Fotedis: According to the recent relaxation, industries with an investment of Rs. 25 lakhs or less are not required to obtain any licence. How far will these restrictions and regulations apply to the industries falling into this category in which the investment is less than Rs. 25 lakhs?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: As hon. Members are aware, so far as that policy is concerned, they need not apply for licence to the licensing committee. These items refer to such items which go before the licensing committee in respect of which this list has been prepared. *(Interruptions)*

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It has come out in the newspapers that 172 firms in the Birla group had been circulated to the Ministries and that they had been mentioned in the Monopolies Commission report. Is it a fact that a circular has been sent to all the concerned Ministries not to give fresh licences to the Birla group of companies unless there is a probe into them according to the Hazare Commission report?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: I do not know how this arises out of this question.

Mr. Speaker: It arises out of the newspaper.

Shri F. A. Ahmed: So far as I am concerned, I am to reply whether a certain number of industries have been put in the banned list and if so what is their number and what are those industries. I have given the answer.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: If you really see the statement, he says 'the names of industries recently added to the rejection list'. This is a rejection list. This news appeared and it emanated from him.

Mr. Speaker: This morning it appeared in the papers; all of us have read it. You may put a different question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let him say if it is a fact or not. I want to know whether no more licences will be given to the Birla group unless there is a thorough probe.

Mr. Speaker: He can give separate notice. In fact Hazare report is coming here, it is going to be discussed on the floor of the House.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He has said in Rajya Sabha last month that no more licences will be issued pending an expert enquiry.

Mr. Speaker: You are taking the remaining two or three minutes of the question hour in this way. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Cannot he repeat what he said in Rajya Sabha?

Shri Hem Barua: If he has said so in Rajya Sabha, why should he bypass Lok Sabha which is not less important?

Mr. Speaker: He only said that this does not arise out of this question.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What he says in the Rajya Sabha need not be repeated here.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He did not deny. He said this morning's paper has published something, and that this question arises out of that. He did not say yes or no.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: In the statement which has been laid on the Table, it is said:

"... the main principles followed in drawing up the 'Rejection List' are that if adequate capacity against targets or estimated demand in a particular industry has been covered by licences already issued."

That is the main criterion.—

Shri F. A. Ahmed: There is another criterion also: that if an industry is

reserved for the small-scale industrial sector, then also it is put up.

Shri Badraji Gupta: My question is with reference to this.

Shri Hem Barua: If you look into part (b) of the original question, you will see, Sir, that **Shri Banerjee's** question arises out of this.

Mr. Speaker: If he answers, I have no objection. He has already answered in the Rajya Sabha, he can say that.

Shri F. A. Ahmed: So far as part (b) of the question is concerned, what is required is, the name of the six new industries which have been put on the banned list, and the names of the other industries which have been put on the banned list are also included, I have placed the entire list, covering both the items.

श्री रवि राय : मन्त्री महोदय को श्री बनर्जी के सवाल का जवाब देने में क्या एतराज है?

श्री मोल्लू प्रसाद : उन्होंने कोई प्रसंग दीया बात तो नहीं कही है ।

12.00 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Drought Relief Loans to N.C.D.C. Employees

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SNQ. 25. Shri P. K. Ghosh :
Shri Valmiki Choudhary :
Shri Kartik Oraon :
Shri Yamuna Prasad Mandal:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state—

(a) whether drought relief loans have been paid to the employees of the National Coal Development Corporation, Ranchi;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to pay the same; and

(c) if so, by when?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. At an early date in the fields, and as soon as possible after normalcy is restored at the headquarter of the Corporation.

Shri P. K. Ghosh: It would have been possible to persuade the employees in the headquarters to end the pen down strike on the assurance that drought-relief loan would be given to them as soon as normalcy is restored, but the management on the 23rd June, under instructions from the Minister himself, issued notice of termination of the services of five of the employees of the Gidi collieries who are members of the association, therefore the agitation in the headquarters also aggravated in the Gidi collieries, the strike started on 27th June, 1967. In the circumstances, I would like to know whether the Minister would withdraw the termination of the notice, or at least keep this notice in abeyance in order to restore normalcy there.

Dr. Chenna Reddy: The question of dismissal or removal of the workers from the Gidi colliery has not been brought to the Ministry's notice nor any decision was taken at the Minister's level. It has however been reported that five workers' case is pending. Some proceedings against them are pending for the last several months, and action has been taken, and on that issue, the NCOEA and the management have been negotiating and they wanted the order to be kept pending, and the management do not find it possible, because the action was taken after consideration. It has not come to the notice of the Ministry.

With your permission, for the information of the House, I may say this: as the House is agitated over this, and as things are not very good in the NCDC, and the affairs are not very bright, it has been decided to appoint a committee of enquiry. The constitution of the committee of enquiry and