

बातें पंजिक के सामने पा सके थीर औ सोग जिम्मेदार हैं इस काम के लिए उनके खिलाफ़ आकायदा ऐकशन लिया जा सके ?

श्री शांति भूषण : मैं भाननीय सदस्य के लिए एक बात साफ़ कर दूँ कि जब मैंने यह कहा कि ३६७५ लाइसेंसेज जनवरी से मार्च तक ग्रान्ट हुए थे ५२६ करोड़ ६० की वेल्यू के तो मेरा यह मतलब नहीं था न मैंने यह कहा कि उन सब ने, ४५ करोड़ का जो हम्पोर्ट हुआ है, बाकी सब ने वहां खरीद कर जरूर ही बेच दिया है। बात यह है कि कुछ ऐसे हो सकते हैं कि जिन्होंने उसको नहीं खरीदा और नहीं हम्पोर्ट कर सके। लेकिन इसकी जानकारी की जा रही है जिन्होंने वहां खरीद कर बेच दिया और अगर उन्होंने वह रुपया जो एक० ६० आर० ४० के अन्दर रिकवार्ड है कि उसको भारत में लायें और रिजर्व बैंक को रिपोर्ट करनी चाहिए। और अगर उन्होंने रिपोर्ट नहीं की तो इस फैस्ट की इनवायरी करके जो उचित कदम होगा वह लिया जायगा।

बोधरी बलबीर सिंह : आप हाउस की कमेटी बनायेंगे कि नहीं ?

श्री शांति भूषण : हाउस की कमेटी बनाने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। सरकार के पास पूरी व्यक्तिगती है, सब जानकारी करके पूरे कदम उठा सकती है।

श्री शांति भूषण : जिन ६ फर्म्स के खिलाफ़ एक० ६० आर० ४० के अन्दर कार्यवाही हो रही है उसमें किसी रकम इनवाल्ड है ?

श्री शांति भूषण : यह जानकारी अभी मेरे पास नहीं कि जिन ६ फर्म्स के मैटर डायरेक्टरेट आफ़ ऐनकोर्सेमेंट को दिये गये हैं कोरेन ऐक्सचेंज के करेक्शन में उसमें किसी रकम है।

श्रीमती शुभाल गोरे : जिसको आइसेंस दिया गया उन्होंने किसना रुपया कार्येस के ऐक्शन फंड में दिया है ?

MR. DERTUTY SPEAKER : You have put your questions and he has answered them. You cannot ask another question.

श्री राम शूलि : क्या सरकार के पास कोई ऐसी ऐजेंसी है कि जो लाइसेंसेज दिये गये उनके देने के बाद लाइसेंसेज को देखें कि उनकी ऐक्टिविटी ठीक हो रही है या नहीं, कोई गडबड हो रही है या कैसे वह लाइसेंसेज इस्तेमाल में लाए जा रहे हैं ? अगर कोई ऐजेंसी नहीं है तो बनाने की मंत्री जी सोचेंगे ।

श्री शांति भूषण : जो हम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस दिया जाता है उसके माने यह होते हैं कि फ़ोरेन ऐक्सचेंज उतना रिलाइज़ किया जायगा । जब वह हम्पोर्ट होता है तभी फ़ोरेन ऐक्सचेंज रिलाइज़ किया जाता है, उससे पहले नहीं किया जाता है ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि बिना लाइसेंस के भी आदमी बाहर खरीद सकता है और बेच सकता है अगर उसका वह रुपया फ़ोरेन ऐक्सचेंज रेग्लेशन ऐक्ट में रिपोर्ट कर के यहां से आये तो कोई कन्ट्रावेंशन ला का नहीं होता । लेकिन हां यह हो सकता है कि यह लाइसेंस लेने से कुछ उनको इस तरह की खरीदफ़रीकरत करने में कुछ भद्र हुई हो । लेकिन उसका जब हम्पोर्ट होता है तभी उसका कन्ट्रावेंशन होता है वरना नहीं ।

Setting up of a petrochemical Complex at Haldia

*५३: SHRI SAMAR GUHA:
SHRI DINESH JOARDER:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the government has been drawn to a report published on 29th April 1977 in Daily Ananda Bazar Patrika of Calcutta to the effect that instead of setting up of the Petrochemical

Complex at Haldia, the Government is thinking of taking a changed view of building such complex in the area of Bombay Port ;

(b) whether a foreign Multi-National Corporation proposes to invest Rs. 900 crores for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the facts thereabout ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) With regard to the setting up of a petrochemical complex at Haldia, the position is that proposals have been received from the State Government of West Bengal from time to time for the setting up of a petrochemical complex at Haldia and for expansion of the capacity of the Haldia Refinery to provide for higher availability of Naphtha. The two questions of expansion of Haldia Refinery and the setting up of a petrochemical complex there are interlinked as the Naphtha available from the existing capacity of Haldia Refinery has already been tied up for use by the Fertilizer Unit of FCI and unless the refinery capacity is increased, Naphtha will not be available for setting up of a petrochemical complex. The proposals have also come up for discussion between representatives of the State Government and the Ministry of Petroleum (including at Minister's level) more than once. Government's view on the subject has been that the plans for expansion of refinery capacity/development of petrochemical industry shall have to take into account many factors and the setting up of any new petrochemical unit will inter-alia depend upon the availability of resources. More recently, the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation had applied for industrial licence for setting up of naphtha cracker and downstream units at Haldia. An inter-departmental committee and the licensing committee went into these proposals and decided that before any decision could be taken on the proposals, the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation would have to furnish further data and this would have to be appraised by the Planning Commission to ascertain whether the proposals were economically viable.

Some entrepreneurs under the name and style of M/s Technical Works and Industrial Link Ltd. had some time back come forward with a proposal for setting up a Rs. 700 crores petrochemical complex in Western Region. The proposal envisages the setting up of an export oriented petrochemicals complex. No final decision on the proposal has been taken so far. It is, however, mentioned that the proposal involves setting up a petrochemical complex whose products are substantially and predominantly for export and that this complex is not by way of substitution for any petrochemical complex that might be set up at Haldia.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Although the hon. Minister has said 'No' in reply to my second part of the Question in his statement, but in the last part of it, he has directly admitted that Messrs. Technical Works and Industrial Link Ltd. had already applied for setting up a Rs. 700 crores petrochemical complex at Bombay. For the last five-six years, talks have been going on interminably and assurances have been given on innumerable occasions in this House that different complexes including ship-building and petrochemicals would be developed at the new port of Haldia. Almost every session, questions are brought here and assurances are given in this respect. But I now find that the hon. Minister has given a reply as if it is interlinked with the production and availability of naphtha and as naphtha is not available, therefore, the petro-chemical complex cannot be developed. It appears so.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether for the petro-chemical complex that has been proposed by some multi-national—their name is not given—if at all a licence is given to that company, even if it is export-oriented, why such a petro-chemical complex should not be allowed to be set up at Haldia? Because Haldia has also equal advantage of industrial engineering basis behind it like Calcutta, Howrah, Jamshedpur, Kharagpur, etc. and all the requirements are there. Therefore, I want to know from the government that, if at all any licence is given and even if it is export-oriented, as it is linked with the employment creation programme of West Bengal, it will be considered that it should be set up at Haldia.

SHRISHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Why should you ignore Barauni?

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : I am second to me in trying to do what this government can do for Haldia. I have said and promised the chief Minister of West Bengal also that we are

trying to locate naphtha and if we can locate naphtha without prejudice to the requirements or claims of those places where it is available, we will certainly have or try our best to have something of solution for this problem.

So far as this particular concern is concerned, in 1975 they applied but they could not put up the plant. Now this whole complex will cost anywhere about Rs. 800 crores. This particular firm has never done any work of more than Rs. 30 lakhs over a period of 8 years of their existence. So, their credibility or capability is rather in doubt. Therefore, the question of our relying on them has not been one of something which has excited me.

I can assure the hon. Member, Shri Samar Guha that we are at it. I have not said, 'No'. My reply should not mean to say, 'No', but I must say that I cannot do it at the cost of Barauni or Matlura or at the cost of others. And, yet, Haldia has lots of advantages. Haldia has, from many other points also, many advantages and West Bengal's needs are second to none and Haldia too is in the picture. But let me first locate naphtha and as soon as I do it, we shall certainly have a petro-chemical complex there.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I offer my heartfelt thanks for the sympathetic attitude the Minister has taken about the Haldia petro-chemical complex because the reason is as I said, the acute unemployment problem in West Bengal and that can be eased to some extent. That is one reason. There are two parts about setting up a petro-chemical complex.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government themselves will initiate some project. (2) Recently the West Bengal Government have come with a concrete proposal to the Central Government for their approval. But I find in the reply that there are two lacunae. (1) They have asked for further data. What type of data they ask again and again, I do not know.

(2) Approval of the Planning Commission, Govt alone knows. Even for small things, the Planning Commission takes days and days and months and months for approval.

I want to know whether the Central Government will themselves take initiative to set up the petro-chemical complex. Secondly, with regard to the West Bengal Government's proposal to expedite it, something has to be done. Will a decision be taken quickly about the proposal made by West Bengal?

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : The Central Government or the State Government cannot act in isolation in this matter. Both have to be involved. Therefore, the question of isolating one as against the other does not arise.

So far as the Planning Commission is concerned, it comes into the picture even if we give it to the private sector. The question of foreign exchange and so many other things are involved. Therefore, we find out whether the kitty will permit and if the kitty does not permit, the Planning Commission will come into the picture. We cannot avoid it. But I can assure the hon. Member that it is not a fault of the Planning Commission or a fault of the West Bengal Government. From 1971, I think, the West Bengal Government have always been writing to us something or the other and the Government of India has been writing to them, 'No'. It is for the first time, now that the Janata Government is there, that we will try to find a way to help. Earlier they were saying 'We cannot do it'. Then, the West Bengal Government used to write, 'All right. Increase the capacity of your plant at Haldia.' The Government of India said, 'We have only 1.5 million tonnes.' They said, 'Make it 3.5 million.' Again, the reply was, 'No'. We cannot do it because whatever naphtha we get at Haldia is committed to Durgapur factory. It is committed elsewhere. I cannot close Durgapur Fertilizers. That will not give West Bengal better employment position. Then the Government of West Bengal said—make it 7 million tonnes capacity refinery. Where have we to get crude from? Even if we cannot have naphtha cracker, we can have downstream things so that we can make naphtha. Everything has to be worked out in the interest of Haldia.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : A news item is there saying that the people of Bombay have had a lung full of pollution caused by Petro-Chemical complex. Will priority be given to anti-pollution work?

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : I am beholden to the hon. member for extending me his cooperation and help. I will certainly make use of that help.

Pollution has been there for a very long time. Some steps have been taken. I have promised hon. members that we will have a joint meeting with Maharashtra Government, their anti-pollution Board, hon. members in Bombay, particularly Mr. Subramaniam Swamy in whose realm I have to be in Bombay.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: It is absolutely necessary to have a petrochemical complex in Haldia to remove regional imbalance. The Minister is very sympathetic to remove the difficulties. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will issue order for expansion of Haldia Refinery so that the Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex can be constructed in the shortest possible time.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA : At the outset, I had said that the difficulty with Haldia is that we do not have more crude to refine it there. Existing capacity and expansion programme in the country is good enough to process crude by the year 1983-84. Therefore expansion of Haldia is not immediately really there in the picture.

I am saying it is not a question of Haldia. If you think of Haldia expansion only, take it from me thus complex will never improve. We have to think of all parts of the country. We are finding other methods to do it.

It is not a question of regional imbalance or sympathy. It is our duty to look to the interest of every part of the country and Government is willing to do it.

DR. KARAN SINGH : Sir, the question of pollution and how pollution technology has been raised. May I ask the hon. Minister, when these projects are sanctioned or expansion takes place, whether the National Committee for Environmental Planning and Coordination which was set up, particularly, to ensure that in a developing nation we should try to take full advantage of non-pollution technology, whether the experts associated with this committee, will be involved very carefully in any such expansion?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA : As far as this Government is concerned, the decision is that the mechanism for taking foolproof anti-pollution measures will be in-built in any plant that we sanction hereafter so that nothing is going to happen. What we are facing is the neglect of some past periods.

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR : May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that the State Government are so keen to have big industries that the safety aspect and the no pollution aspect is given a go-by and whether it is also not a fact that his own officers ride rough-shod over the advice of the experts? For instance, for Mathura Refinery, the

experts' opinion was that it would be dangerous for the people of Agra and those living down-stream to drink Jamuna water if the refinery is located at Mathura. I am glad that a new look is being given to that proposal. But, Sir, I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that the advice of the experts will not be ignored and further, may I also ask him whether it is a fact that in Chembur the health survey shows that 55 to 75% of our children are suffering from lung infection, because of the pollution of the atmosphere there. What does he propose to do in order to undo the damage that has already been done by setting up industries indiscriminately without full precautions for taking care of the atmospheric pollution?

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : Sir, the hon. Dr. Nayak has raised two or three questions, perhaps, three. The first part of her question is : whether Government officials, in their excitement, ride rough-shod over the opinions of experts. I have made it very clear that the expert opinion, hereafter, will be final and binding so that no pollution is caused by any project which we put up. The second part of her question is : whether the pollution in Chembur is caused because of this or not. I agree that pollution is being caused. But, I cannot vouchsafe for the figures because they have not really come in that way to me. But, I have already promised her in this House about that. In fact, we had fixed the date but we had to shift it because the date which we thought would be suitable to some of the people there was not suitable to the Maharashtra Government and so, we are changing the date. And some time, in the first week of August, we would have to take these particular types of study, sit there along with the public and other representatives and finalise the matter to take steps. Some steps are already under way. There has been a study of it to see what more requires to be done. Money will not be any more a consideration in the matter of making a study. But, certainly, this cannot be done in one year—it will take a long period of years. I can assure the lady Member that I am second to none in taking effective anti-pollution measures.

The last part of her question was : whether this Mathura Refinery will effect downstream, that is the people living downstream Jamuna, beyond Mathura. Full precautions are being taken. I can satisfy her on the proposals for taking anti-pollution measures. But because of the rising cost, we have decided that the water which comes out of the refinery, the effluent, will be so treated that it shall cease to have any pollution effect.

M.R. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Dinen Bhattacharya.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Sir, I want to ask a question. I only want half a minute.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already called Mr. Bhattacharya.

SHRI SAMAR GHUA : Sir, I only want to say that it was because of the pressures of the capitalists, that the Congress Government did not bring forward the Anti-pollution Bill.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA : Sir, this House has discussed this project on a number of times and we got the assurances also so many times. Today the Minister is saying that he has all sympathy and will make efforts to see that the Haldia project comes up. But here I find from his statement that he has asked the West Bengal government to supply further data. May I know as to what data are required and also the reaction of the State government thereto?

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : The hon'ble Member has referred to some past promises. I can assure him that the promise I make today is subject to scrutiny by him that we are locating naptha and also seeing whether we can have naptha cracker and downstream units at Haldia. In connection with that we are asking for details as to whether the State government is prepared to go along with that. I have written to the Chief Minister of West Bengal that I propose to go to Haldia myself and invite him there and discuss on the spot.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : In view of the fact that the hon'ble Minister has just now promised that money will be no consideration where life of the people and also, I believe, of our culture is concerned, I would like to know whether he has got the report of National Environment Research Institute which has said that the waters of the Yamuna will be polluted by the Mathura Refinery and it will be hazardous to the life of the people and no amount of effort that you may put in will prevent sufficiently this pollution?

Secondly, the same report says that the Taj will be completely damaged over a period of 50 years by sulphur dioxide that may flow from the Mathura refinery and you cannot stop it. Will you after 50 years talk of shifting the Taj and insist on not shifting the Mathura refinery for financial consideration? What is your attitude?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA : Sir, the foundation stone of the Mathura Refinery was laid by the then Prime Minister and more than Rs. 60 to 80 crores have already been spent. I can assure Mr. Sathe that we will see to it that not a drop polluted water enters the Yamuna and we will take actions subject to satisfaction of such bodies which are concerned with keeping of environment. As far as the Taj is concerned, I have answered the question in this House earlier. I say it again that there are expert opinion that the Taj will not be affected. But one or two experts raised some more questions. We have again gone to the Committee to see what action should be taken. Sulphur dioxide is one thing which can be treated completely and taken care of by solami, by so many things, to see that not an ounce of vapour can be allowed to come out. A little more investment will be needed for this purpose. So, we will take all the precautions to see that the Taj will not be harmed. What I would expect from Mr. Sathe is that he had been as alert as he is today about the Taj Mahal when both he and I were on the same side.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Strikes and Labour Agitations in Thumba Space Research Centre

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S.N.Q. 21. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA:**
SHRI VASANT SATHE:
SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI:
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Thumba Space Research Centre is facing strikes and other labour agitations causing fall of efficiency of the centre from 100% to 30% ;

(b) if so, facts thereabout and the reasons for such labour troubles ; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed by Government to deal with the situation ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) There have been recent incidents when a section of employees of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) resorted to agitations including strike and gherao. While the normal working of the Centre gets inevitably dislocated when employees resort to such agitations, there is nothing to show that efficiency of the Centre has fallen from 100 percent to 30 percent.

(b) Two incidents occurred recently :

(i) On June 27, 1977 a tool-down strike was organised by a large section of employees as a protest