

## RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 16th April, 1987|26  
Chaitra 1909 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the  
Clock. Mr. chairman in the chair.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Pruning of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

\*41. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER please to state:

(a) what is the number of centrally sponsored schemes which are proposed to be either dropped or transferred to the States for implementation in order to prune the number of such schemes;

(b) the reasons for pruning such schemes; and

(c) what are the criteria for pruning the centrally sponsored schemes and the types of schemes which are proposed to be dropped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As decided by the National Development Council Committee a Group of Officials under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission is currently going into the issue of listing all Centrally Sponsored Schemes under implementation on 1-4-1985 and considering which of these Schemes need to be continued, dropped or transferred to the State Governments for implementation. After finalisation, the Group will submit its report to the Committee of National Development Council for further consideration of the matter and recommendation to the National Development Council.

(b) At the time of formulating the Seventh Plan, some of the States had suggested a closer examination of the issues arising in connection with the operation of the Centrally Sponsored

Schemes accounting for a large transfer of funds.

(c) The criteria accepted by the NDC Committee in November, 1986 for Centrally Sponsored Schemes are that these schemes:

(i) fulfil an important national objective such as poverty alleviation or achievement of minimum standards of education, or

(ii) the programme has a regional or inter-state character, or

(iii) the programme or scheme should be in the nature of a pace setter or should relate to demonstration, survey or research. Schemes which do not conform to the above criteria are to be considered by the group of Officers for pruning/dropping.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sukh Ram, tell your department that long answers should be given as statements.

SHRI SUKH RAM: I have noted that for future. I also thought so but by that time it had already been circulated.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: This NDC Committee headed by Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Union Minister for Human Resource Development decided to order scrutiny of existing schemes by a team of officials. The Minister has said that the officials are going through and are scrutinising the schemes. This Committee met first in 1985, then in November 1986. I would like to know which are the other Ministries which come under this scheme and how much time it will take to scrutinise, to finalise, the whole scheme, and the total amount that is to be transferred to the States under different items in different Ministries.

SHRI SUKH RAM: As far as the Committee is concerned, it is constituted under the chairmanship of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and there are eleven Chief Ministers of different

States and the concerned Ministers of the Centre. And this Committee has constituted an officials committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission. This committee has held three meetings; this committee is seized of the matter. As I said in reply to part (c) of the question, these are the criteria which have been fixed by the NDC Committee and the committee of officials will scrutinise all the schemes as per the criteria and then it will submit its report to the NDC Committee. Thereafter the matter goes to the NDC for final decision.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Can you tell the House how long it will take? That is part of the question of the honourable Member.

**SHRI SUKH RAM:** Specific time cannot be given. We will try our best that this is expedited.

**SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:** Sir, I also asked about the major portion of outlay by the Centre under the different Ministries for these schemes. I would like to know what those Ministries are and what the total amount is which comes for these schemes.

**SHRI SUKH RAM:** There are 22 Ministries of the Government of India which are operating these schemes and the total amount for these 251 schemes comes to Rs. 15,405 crores. This is the allocation for these schemes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Yes, Mrs. Jayanthi Natarajan.

**SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:** The amount comes to Rs. 18,257 crores and not 15,405 crores as you have stated.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** If you have any difference in the figures you write to the Minister. Yes, Mrs. Jayanthi Natarajan.

**SHRI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:** Sir, in view of the fact that some of the scheme being Centrally-sponsored ones are pruned, I wanted to ask the honourable Minister about the Centrally-sponsored schemes for strengthening the planning machinery in the States. It seems large amounts seem to have been provided in the Seventh Plan. In view of the present pruning process, I would like to know whether the schemes for strengthening the planning machinery in the States would also be pruned as well in view of the criteria which the honourable Minister has just now explained.

**SHRI SUKH RAM:** Sir, though this question does not relate to the main question, I would like to state that there is a separate scheme for strengthening the planning machinery at the State level and at the district level for which the Central Government gives 50 per cent grant and that scheme is in operation.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Yes, Mr Jogi.

**SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:** Sir, the Government in our country is the largest spending agency. The State Governments and the Central Government put together spend crores and crores of rupees every year. We are informed that the Finance Ministry at the Centre has already done some exercise and identified 300 odd schemes which they think are redundant and are not necessary, that is, schemes like the community singing programmes on which we spend about eighty to ninety lakhs of rupees.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Now come to your question, please.

**SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:** Sir, I wish to know whether this Committee of officials which is scrutinising these schemes would take into account the findings of the Committee of the Finance Ministry which has already identified 300 schemes which they think are redundant and are to be done away with.

**SHRI SUKH RAM:** Sir, I am not aware of the schemes identified by the Finance Ministry as the honourable Member has just now said. With regard to the total number of schemes being operated by the 22 Ministries of the Government of India, we have collected this information and the number comes to 251. So, I do not know whether there are any other schemes which have been identified by the Finance Ministry.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Yes, Prof. Ramachandra Rao.

**PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:** Sir, before we take up this question of pruning, I would like to make an observation. Sir, I want to know whether representations have been received by the Union Government from some of the State Governments about the misuse of funds allotted for the IRDP, RLEGP and the other Centrally-sponsored schemes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The question is not relevant.

**PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:** I am coming to the main question, Sir. I have just made an observation.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** That is right.

**PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:** Before pruning the Centrally-sponsored schemes, I would like to know whether the Union Government will inquire into the proper utilization of the funds meant for the Centrally-sponsored schemes and if they have not been properly utilized, I would like to know whether any inquiry will be conducted. Sir, during my recent tour of Andhra Pradesh, I came to know that some villages are receiving on political considerations grants.... (Interruptions).... but not other villages and this is a fact which came to light... (Interruptions)

**SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:** Sir, what is this?... (Interruptions).

**SHRI K. MOHANAN:** Sir, why is he objecting?... (Interruptions).

**SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:** Is it relevant (Interruptions)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It is not relevant. I am taking care.

**PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:** You examine this. I want to know...

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** If you want to know this, give a separate question. Please sit down. (Interruptions).  
Mr| Vikal.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : माननीय मंत्री जी के उत्तर से संबंधित—उन्होंने कहा था कि योजनाओं के पुनर्विचार के लिए विशेषज्ञ बिठाये जा रहे हैं :

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि विशेषज्ञ कौन हैं, उनमें कोई ग्रामीण अर्थशास्त्री भी है या नहीं ?

दूसरा, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में पुनर्विचार हो रहा है, तो पाने के पानी की जहाँ कटिबाई है देश के बँकवर्ड इलाके में, उनके लिए और किसानों की सिंचाई योजनाओं को कोई प्राथमिकता देंगे या नहीं ?

श्री सुख राम : श्रीमन्, जो एक्सपर्ट्स की बात कही है, क्योंकि जो एन०डी०सी० की कमेटी है, उसमें जैसा मैंने कहा कि श्री नरसिंह राव जी उसके चैयरमैन हैं, ग्यारह मुख्य मंत्री हैं और केन्द्र के मंत्री हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि हम से ज्यादा ग्रामीण व्यवस्था के एक्सपर्ट हो नहीं सकते। हम जानते हैं कि ग्रामीण की क्या-क्या परेशानियाँ हैं।

एक तो यह है और दूसरे जो भी एक्सपर्ट्स कमेटी है या आफिशियल कमेटी है, यह कमेटी तो महज जो काइटीरिया दिये गये हैं, उन काइटीरिया के आधार के ऊपर वह विचार करेगी कि कौनसी स्कीम्स स्टेट्स को जानी चाहिए कौन सी स्कीम्स रहनी चाहिए और कौनसी डिलीट होनी चाहिए।

**PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:** Sir, before the beginning of the Seventh

Plan there were 172 continuing schemes under this. With the addition of another 80, it is 252. I would like to know as to how many of these schemes have corresponding, similar schemes in the States? If so, what is the coordination which is effected between the programmes conducted by the States and by the Centre?

**SHRI SUKH RAM:** Sir, it is a fact that 172 schemes were transferred or carried forward from the Sixth Plan to the Seventh Plan, and some were added in the Seventh Plan. The total now comes to 251. About coordination, any scheme which is being prepared by any Central Ministry, is done in consultation with the State Government, and the implementation part is that of the State Government.

**श्री कैलाशप्रति मिश्र :** सभापति महोदय, सेंट्रली स्पांसर्ड स्कीमज के लिए जो राशि आवंटित की जाती है, निर्धारित समय पर उस राशि का उपयोग नहीं होता है, तो क्या वह आगामी वर्ष के लिए फिर से केंद्री आन की जाती है ? अगर उसका उपयोग नहीं हुआ, तो उपयोग क्यों नहीं हुआ, इसकी कोई जांच होती है और उसमें प्रष्टाचार न हो, उसे दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने कोई सर्वदलीय समिति उसकी मानिट्रिंग के लिए, बनाने के लिए विचार रखती है क्या ?

**श्री सुख राम :** सर, जहां तक इसके आवंटन का ताल्लुक है, यह तो यहां से जो सेंट्रल मिनिस्ट्रीज हैं, जहां तक मुझे मालूम है, वह समय पर राशि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को देती हैं, मगर जैसा मैंने कहा कि इसका जो कार्यान्वयन है, इसका जो इम्पलिमेंटेशन है, वह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का काम है। अगर कोई ठीक ढंग से इम्पलिमेंटेशन नहीं होता, तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का और जहां तक प्लानिंग कमिशन का ताल्लुक है, यहां पर इसकी मानिट्रिंग हो रही है और अब के तो, बल्कि इस वर्ष से जो इयरमाकर्ड सैक्टर्स हैं, इयरमाकर्ड सैक्टर में हर तीन महीने के बाद इसकी मानिट्रिंग होती है ताकि कोई ऐसा जो सैक्टर है, जिसमें खर्च नहीं हुआ है और अगर खर्चा

नहीं हुआ, तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का आखिर में उतनी प्रोपोर्शन में खर्चा काटा जाता है।

#### **Evasion of customs Duty by M/s. Reliance Industries Limited**

**\*42 SHRI JASWANT SINGH:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that show-cause notice has recently been issued by the Collector of customs of Bombay to Ms. Reliance Industries Limited, alleging an evasion of Customs Duty to the extent of around Rs. 120 crores by the company;

(b) if so, what are the other details on this notice;

(c) what specific violations does this notice relate to; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that this show-cause notice relates to alleged smuggling of a Rs. 1000 crore plant into India by M/s. Reliance Industries Limited?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT):** (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) to (d) A show-cause notice has been issued by the Deputy Collector of Customs Bombay on 10.2.1987 to M/s. Reliance Industries Limited alleging unauthorised importation of Plant and Machinery, and alleged misdeclaration and under-invoicing of goods involving alleged evasion of duty of Rs. 119.64 crores. The show-cause notice also requires Reliance Industries Limited to explain liability to confiscation of the goods unauthorisedly imported and liability to penalty under the Customs Act, 1962.

**SHRI JASWANT SINGH:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I owe this question to you