

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 25th July, 1974/the 3rd
Savana, 1896 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
Mr. Chairman in the chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Industrial Licensing Procedures

*91. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY:†
SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:
SHRI HARESH DEO MALAVIYA:
DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD:
SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that even after
the formation of the new Secretariat for
Industrial Approvals, disposal of licensing
applications is very slow; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor
and what steps Government have taken to
improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE
(SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) No, Sir.
93% of the cases numbering 1161 had been
disposed of within 120 days. The balance
of 7% numbering 85 were disposed of
beyond 120 days. The back log of 3848 pre-
SIA cases as on 1.11.73 have been brought
down to 928 on 1-7-74.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: I am
thankful to the hon Minister that he has
given a very valuable information that the
disposal of applications has gone up. May
I know from the hon. Minister whether it
is a fact that, along with the disposal of
applications, rejections also have gone up
from 41 per cent to 59 per cent? If so,
may I know whether it is because of the
speedy disposal additional care and proper

care is not being taken in so many cases
and even for very minor details, which are
not available, the applications are being
rejected?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Disposal
means both rejection and acceptance.
Disposal does not mean acceptance only.
I agree that rejections have gone up be-
cause we are now more discriminating. We
do not just go on adding to the letters
of intent or licences without taking into
account whether a person has got the
capability or capacity to implement it. We
are a little bit choosy in giving letters of
intent and, therefore, the hon. Member
will find that the rejections percentage-wise
have gone up and, in my view, this is
a healthy trend.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: I am very
glad to note that the Minister has said
'No' to the first part of the question, that
the Secretariat is not working slowly but
it is working fast. In this connection I
would like to know about the promise that
the hon. Minister made during the last
Session when I raised the question of a
nylon yarn factory in the joint sector by
the State Government. The Minister said
that the matter was being looked into and
when I pressed for a specific answer he
said that it would be given very soon. It
is now more than three months and the
Minister can be hauled up in the Assurance
Committee for having delayed it. I would
like to know the position.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: That is not
the fault of the Secretariat for Industrial
Approvals. It is the fault of myself, my
colleague and a few others. We have not
yet been able to come together and take
a decision in the matter. I would request
my Planning colleague to give some atten-
tion to it and take some decision, whatever
it may be.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Regarding
this new organisation, the so-called Indus-
trial Secretariat, who are the members of
the Secretariat and who are in charge of
the Secretariat? I should like to know the

†The question was actually asked on the
floor of the House by Shri N. R. Choudhury.

name of the Secretariat-in-charge. May I know whether the antecedents of those people who are disposing of the applications and dealing with them have been carefully gone into in order to find out how many of them, if any, have any connections, direct or indirect, with the monopoly houses? In this connection I should also like to know from the hon. Minister how many applications this Secretariat received from companies or concerns belonging to the 75 monopoly houses and what is the proportion or the value of their applications in the sense of capital investment and so on compared to the total.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: In regard to the last part of the question, I have answered that ever so many times on the floor of this House, and I am sorry I do not have all the numbers with regard to the 75 houses, but I do remember and I recollect that these figures have already been given. And if the hon. Member is interested, I can pass on that information.

Then, with regard to the persons in charge, they are all Secretaries to Government, of known integrity, and I have no doubt. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Names.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The Chairman is Shri R.V. Raman, Secretary, Ministry of Industrial Development, and the other Secretary is in the Petroleum and Chemicals Ministry.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What about other names?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am sorry I cannot immediately reel off the names. All these are Secretaries to the Government, and I have no doubt about their integrity.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, on a point of order. I did not ask whether he has regard for the Secretaries or not. I wanted the names so that we can find out whether we have regard for them or not.

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से इस संदर्भ में जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिये उद्योगों की

स्थापना के लिये कोई विशेष सुविधा देने जा रहे हैं ? अगर हाँ, तो खासकर पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और उत्तरी बिहार, जो औद्योगिक विकास में सबसे पिछड़े इलाके माने जाते हैं या दूसरे और भाग है, तो यहाँ आपने कोई लाइसेंस दिया है या नहीं ? दूसरे, इनके लिये आपके पास क्या योजना है और कितने लाइसेंस देने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am afraid this is far away from the main question. If the hon. Member is interested, he can put a separate question. These questions have already been answered.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I would like to know the number of applications received from the different States of India by this Secretariat and whether it is also a fact that 40 industrial licences from West Bengal were rejected. If so, on what grounds? A news item appeared in the press that generally they have been chary of granting licences to the entire eastern region including Eastern UP, Bihar, Orissa, Assam, West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I think this point was raised during the time when we discussed the working of the Ministry of Industrial Development, and I have categorically answered these points. And I would like the hon. Member not to be carried away by press reports, and press reports are some times very much one-sided.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: It was a specific question whether 40 industrial licences coming from West Bengal were rejected and, if so, on what ground.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I do not have the figures here, particularly when he puts a pointed question about 40 licences—evidently, he means 40 applications—that have been rejected. I do not recollect forty being rejected.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI: The hon. Minister just now gave the figure about the number of cases that have been rejected. Out of them, what is the proportion of the rejected cases coming from medium

categories and how many have been rejected from the larger house, and also may I know whether any applications have been rejected, applications coming from the foreign collaborating houses? What is the proportion of the rejected cases from the medium-scale industries, those of the individuals who did not belong to the larger houses?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I do not have those statistics with me now.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ सरकार से कि जब किसी कारखाने को स्थापित करने के लिये कोई लाइसेंस दिया जाता है तो लाइसेंस देने समय उसके लिये क्या कोई अवधि मुकर्रर होती है कि यह सामान इतने समय के अन्दर प्रोड्यूस होगा ? और अगर उतने समय के अन्दर प्रोड्यूस न हो तो क्या सरकार लैटर आफ इन्डेंट देने के बाद उसकी अवधि बढ़ती है ? इस संबंध में, जैसा मैंने समाचार पत्रों में पढ़ा है, मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि मारुती कंपनी की ओर से यह कहा गया है कि अभी हम को कार प्रोड्यूस करने की इजाजत सरकार ने नहीं दी है ? क्या यह सत्य है ? यदि नहीं दी है तो क्यों नहीं दी है ?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, I cannot answer the particular question with regard to the car. I do not have the facts before me. But as far as the time limit is concerned there are two stages. First there is the stage of letter of intent. When the letter of intent is issued we provide a time limit during which certain conditions will have to be fulfilled and he will have to apply on that basis for an industrial license. And once an industrial license is given we lay down a time limit for that purpose and if it is not implemented within the time limit it is cancelled. In the past this was not there. Because it was dragging on for years and years we have now fixed a specific time limit for implementation.

श्री राजनारायण : समाचार-पत्रों में मैंने जो पढ़ा है, उसके बारे में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ

कि मारुति कंपनी के मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर क्या कहते हैं और इसके बारे में मंत्री जी बतायें...

(Interruptions)

श्री समापति : जो वह कह सकते हैं वह उन्होंने कह दिया है। बाकी डिटेल् उनके पास नहीं हैं।

श्री राजनारायण : मेरा पाइन्ट आफ ऑर्डर है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस सदन में शांति व व्यवस्था कायम होनी चाहिये। डिसेन्सी और डेकोरम कोई तोड़ेंगे तो उसके लिये हम जिम्मेदार नहीं हैं।

Import of Silicon Semi-Conductor Device

*92 SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY:
Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some leading institutions have instituted an enquiry to find out the extent of country's dependence on import of silicon semi-conductor device;

(b) if so, the names of these institutions; and

(c) whether Government have provided grants to these institutions for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER who will also assist the PRIME MINISTER in Parliamentary work relating to the DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Department of Electronics had constituted a panel of experts in 1972 for reviewing the level of semi-conductor technology in the country and to identify future trends where R&D efforts should be supported. The Committee included representatives of public sector undertakings, research laboratories, academic institutions and the Department of Electronics. The panel report was presented in November, 1972 and its main recommendations have been approved by the Electronics Commission. In pursuance of these recommendations, action has been taken in processing