

What is this ? Is it really an assistance or a farce?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : This is a subsidy naturally.

**TOP APPOINTMENTS IN PUBLIC
SECTOR UNITS**

*439. SHRI S. B. BOBDEY :

SHRI V. R. PARASHAR :

SHRI N. JOSEPH :

SHRIMATI SATYAVATI

DANG : SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI

: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 947 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1972 and state :

(a) whether appointments to the 34 top level vacant posts in the public sector Units have since been made by the Ministries concerned; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay in these appointments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LXXXIII, Annexure No. 59]

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, I want to go through the statement first very carefully before putting my question. Sir, in the statement the reasons for not filling up these posts have been given. I think he has forgotten to mention one most important reason and that is that they are not able to get the right type of persons with a political background. Is it so, Sir ? I say this because the statement gives a different account. According to the statement, 34 posts were vacant, 7 posts have been filled up and another seven posts are in the process of being filled up. In the meantime, eight posts have again fallen vacant. Excuse me, Sir, if I mention something by way of example. In Kolhapur, there is a Nandi in the Shiva temple

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri A.G. Kulkarni.

there. It is supposed to move forward by 1' and move backward again by 2' r.nci thi' way it will never move forward at all. The statement is like this, Sir. Even the Bureau of Public Enterprises has no Director General for the last so many months. Then, the STC, the National Textile Corporation and other organisations are there. I want to know whether they are quietly adopting the scheme of upgrading their IAS or ICS bureaucrats to these posts and make it a Government Department ? Is it the way of running these public sector undertakings? Your own Cabinet colleague, Mr. T. A. Pai, said on the 11th March at Madras that wrong men are at the helm of affairs which is a bane for these units. I want to know whether the Government is at all serious about this. Otherwise, they can abolish all the public sector posts or, do they want to hand them over to the bureaucrats for running these public sector units ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Minister.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, nobody is prepared to answer. The question is difficult.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your question is long and difficult _____

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : They are not long, but they are more important and relevant.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, in the statement it has been mentioned that out of the 34 posts which were vacant in November when I answered a similar question here 7 posts have been filled up, for 7 posts the incumbents have been located and only the procedural formalities have to be gone through and 2 posts have been kept in abeyance because these two units do not need these posts at the moment.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Are they kept in abeyance till the next Rajya Sabha election?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : For instance; for the BHEL, there is a Chairman at the moment and there is no need for

a Deputy General Manager. The Rata-nagiri project has not been sanctioned and it is only a technical question of the post being filled up. Sir, 18 posts are remaining which have got to be filled up.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : How many new vacancies are there?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I have given details of 18 posts in the statement. Now, Sir, for these 18 posts also, there are certain difficulties in finding suitable men, because some of these are highly specialised posts.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA : Amongst the 600 million people in India you cannot find anybody ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Why should there be any difficulty ? You can find persons now that you have been defeated in the Bombay municipal elections.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Ganesh, please continue.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I am referring to the posts of chief executives for the public sector undertakings. The chief executives are the Chairman, Chairman-Cum-Managing Director, etc. These are all posts which are to be filled up by professionally qualified persons.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : श्रीमन्, क्या हारे हुए कोई मंत्री अ-वाइंटमेंट के लिए नहीं है ।

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Out of the 18 posts, there are certain posts, for example, in the STC, in the Jute Corporation, in the Export & Credit Guarantee Corporation, etc. for which it is becoming difficult to locate proper persons. In the Hindustan Antibiotics the posts have fallen vacant only in October, 1972. Now, Sir, there are certain posts of functional Directors which have fallen vacant at various stages.

Sir, then there are about 7 posts in the Fertilizers Corporation of India. Now, Sir, in the Fertilizers Corporation

of India, the Corporation has been able to locate these persons inside the industry itself, because they have a policy of having persons who have grown in the industry itself. That is of course the general policy of the Government itself that- these industries must be able to have a process by which they will be able to develop their own managerial personnel. These have been found and the administrative Ministry has received the proposal and they have gone through the process of empanelment.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, the way in which the Minister has replied, it appears he himself is not convinced. Even strong words are losing relevance here. The public sector enterprises require really top people. You are following the practice to appoint...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kulkarni, if every one takes such a long time, it will be very difficult....

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Many persons are holding two or three posts. One is Sethna, who is Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission is also entrusted with the Electronics Corporation. Then, Mr. Pathak, who is really doing good work as Member, Planning Commission, is again entrusted with Engineers India Ltd. I want to know whether instead of dilly-dallying with such type of wrong thing, which does not really generate real spirit of enterprise, the Government will be serious and look into the matter and once and for all appoint, or create a different agency, whereby these public sector undertakings will work properly?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, the managerial policy of the public sector undertakings has been in the evolutionary process....

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Where does the delay take place ? Where are the files struck up ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I was explaining that the managerial policy of public sector undertakings has been in the evolutionary process.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Elusive process or evolutionary process ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The managerial policy has been in the evolutionary process. Through trial and error we are also learning. Sir, as you know, after the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission certain steps were initiated. As far as deputationists are concerned, as the House is aware, certain steps were taken, and now public sector undertakings are not depending on the deputationists. They have to give their options. Various other drills have been laid down. Many of them have given options and many of them have gone back to their parent organizations. A certain specified period has been prescribed for which they can stay in a public sector undertaking, and once they are on deputation they cannot go on another deputation indefinitely after one public sector undertaking in another. Also there is an Action Committee set up under the chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission who has studied in detail....

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Who has got different posts.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : His reports are examined by the Government. Also, there is committee of Ministers. There is also a group of Ministers, who try to see, on the basis of the experience we have gone through, what are the various other remedial measures which have got to be taken. Their recommendations also are now awaiting a decision at the highest level.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जान सकूंगा कि यह जो 34 जगहें हैं जो खाली हैं क्या उनको भरने की अब तक आवश्यकता नहीं थी इसलिये वह नहीं भरी गयीं अथवा मितव्ययिता के लिए नहीं भरी गयी और भविष्य में उनको भरने के बारे में क्या मितव्ययिता का और सुयोग्य व्यक्तियों का ध्यान रखा जायगा ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I have already informed the House, Sir, that out of 34 posts, 7 posts have been filled up. Seven incumbents have been located. Now, persons have been found and they are only awaiting the approval of the Empanelment Board, or Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

When I say that it is difficult to find persons, it is not a light statement that I am making. During the last 25 years, India has entered into an age of industrial development. We have started such complicated technological enterprises as the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi which will produce a plant by itself. It does require that certain selections have got to be made and it is also a fact that in some of these very complex categories, we are not finding persons. Let us accept this reality. There is no use of shifting the problem and saying that it is held up there. That fact has to be accepted.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : I do not think there is any dearth of technical personnel in the country.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत : मंत्री महोदय ने अभी कहा कि सूटेबिल व्यक्ति नहीं मिलते। यह हमारी समस्या में नहीं आता कि इतने बड़े मुल्क में करोड़ों की आबादी में 17 व्यक्ति नहीं मिल पा रहे हों। कई बड़े-बड़े कारखाने चल रहे हैं, प्राइवेट सेक्टर में भी चल रहे हैं। मंत्री महोदय मेहरबानी करके साफ-साफ बतायें कि क्यों नहीं चुना गया। क्या दिक्कतें हैं। क्या बजह है। साफ-साफ बात कहें।

MR. CHAIRMAN You have answered it.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : This statement is a story of a total mess.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly look at the time and be brief. You are starting with a story.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : I am saying that does the hon. Minister expect anybody to believe the tale that has been told?

In the statement, the first reason on the first page is that the posts are highly specialised. The fourth reason is that the posts are important. The second reason is that the concerns are new and the third reason is that new vacancies are coming up. Are the hon. Members here considered to be lacking in intelligence that this type of story is being told to us? Sir, I am asking an explanation because it is absolutely an effort to bamboozle the House and the Government is guilty of something very serious. Mr. hon. friend, Shri Kulkarni, has been hinting that there is some political reason behind keeping these posts vacant. I would like to know if this is the reason. Against the Export Credit & Guarantee Corporation, the reason given is : Preliminary selection of the persons who could be considered for appointment is being made in consultation with the Department of Banking. Does it amount to a reason?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already said that these are the reasons. Don't take the time of other Members also.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Is it convincing to anybody with a modicum of intelligence? Against the Fertilizer Corporation of India, the posts have been shown vacant since 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972. I would like to ask the hon. Minister if he would consider the proposal of leasing out the Fertilizer Corporation of India to the Japanese because you don't seem to have any capacity to take any decision anywhere.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I do not agree with the hon. Member. All that you say is not something that I should accept. Sir, I don't agree that there is any political consideration. I have tried to put before you, Sir, and through you to the House that these posts are posts of Chairmen, Managing Directors, functional Directors and General Managers of Constituent Units and for these posts highly specialised persons are needed. It is not the politicians who can be sent there. These posts have got to be filled by highly specialised persons. A procedure has been laid down.

SHRI G. A. APPAN : What are the qualifications _____

{Interruptions}

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Mr. Appan, please sit down.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : A procedure has been laid down and this House has got a right to discuss whether this procedure conforms to the realities that exist today. A procedure has been laid down and a panel has been made by the Bureau of Public Enterprises. The selection board consists of four Secretaries and four chief executives of public sector enterprises. This Empanelment Board selects from a panel.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : On a point of order. He is talking of something completely irrelevant to what I have asked. He is not talking about my question at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now only two or three minutes are left.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : But at least he is giving longish answers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You do not allow him to complete the answer.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Let him answer me. I asked for the reasons....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Mahavir, please sit down now ; you have said enough.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : At least please ask the Minister to answer what I have asked.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I was trying to say that a procedure has been laid down. Now, two committees have gone into this procedure. This also is a matter before the highest body in the country to consider whether some changes are necessary as far as the procedure which we are having is concerned. Then he has referred to the Fertilizer Corporation of India. In the Fertilizer Corporation, as I have indicated, seven posts are vacant there. The Fertilizer Corporation has already found out persons inside their own enterprise. Now, the other thing. ... (Interruptions)... These persons who have been selected by the Fertilizer Corporation are considered as suitable persons by the Board of Directors of the Fertilizer Corporation. Now these persons have got to be empanelled by the Board and put into a proper schedule. Now a question may arise from this, whether once

a Board of Directors has found these persons suitable, empanelment is necessary or not. That is also a matter on which the two committees have expressed their opinion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Jain, you are not putting a question?

SHRI A. P. JAIN : No, Sir.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : श्रीमन्, आपकी आज्ञा से मैं यह कहते हुए कि इस विशाल देश में मंत्री महोदय का यह कहना कि योग्य व्यक्ति नहीं मिल रहे हैं।...

श्री के० आर० गणेश : यह नहीं कहा मैंने।

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न पूछिए। 2 मिनट रह गए हैं और एक-दो साहबान को और पुकारना चाहता हूँ।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : आपकी इस कमेटी में जिसमें 4 सेक्रेटरीज हैं इस ग़रज़ से तो नहीं पदों को खाली रखा जाता कि सेक्रेटरीज रिटायर होने के बाद उन पदों पर पहुँच सकें? क्या इस ग़रज़ से तो उन पदों को खाली नहीं रखा जाता कि सेक्रेटरी के रिटायर होने के बाद...

श्री सभापति : क्या आप दोहराए जाइएगा कई दफे उसको। आप ख़त्म कीजिए किसी और को भी सवाल पूछने दीजिए।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : इसके साथ ही सप्लीमेन्टरी सवाल है कि इन पदों की रिक्तता कहां तक उन इकाइयों में घाटे की जिम्मेदार है?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Short question, short answer.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I do not think the hon. Member is fair to the Secretaries and the four chief executives of the public sector undertakings when he says that they are keeping those posts vacant because they want to get them after their retirement. The hon. Member has not brought in the necessary seriousness to the very serious problem that we are facing. 2—158RSS/73

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the hon. Minister—in view of the admission by the Government in the statement that this is a recurring thing—whether they have, up till now prepared a list of suitable persons who could be put in from time to time? Have they done it and, if not, why not? Is it also a fact that even an IAS man was made Chairman of the National Textile Corporation, which is against the policy? How many posts are going to fall vacant in the next six months to one year and what are they going to do about it?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: The Bureau of Public Enterprises maintains a list and out of this list both for top posts and other posts names are there and this list is given to the public sector undertakings and to the administrative Ministries. I would like to inform hon. Members that there are 225 top posts so far as the public sector undertakings are concerned, and the 18 posts referred to in the statement are also in the various processes of being filled up. With regard to the specific question about the National Textile Corporation, I have not got the information now and if you want I will find it out. It is the general policy of the Government to see that we have got a perspective plan.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRICE CONTROL ON SYNTHETIC TEXTILES

*440. SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH : SHRI KRISHAN KANT : SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH : MUSAFIR : DR. Z. A. AHMAD : SHRI J. S. TILAK : SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to impose price control on Synthetic textiles; and

(b) if so, by what time a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?