

श्री श्याम लाल गुप्त : हम हमेशा तनख्वाह बढ़ाने की बात करते हैं, लेकिन क्या हमने ख्याल किया कि एक दफ्तर में जहां 5 आदमी थे वहां 30 हो गए, क्या काम बढ़ गया, क्या हर आदमी इतना काम कर पाता है या नहीं ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That does not arise.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Even after the Pay Commission gives its award, we find that the prices continue to rise. May I know whether, in view of this, the Government would consider the advisability of starting a large number of fair price shops all over the country to supply to Government employees essential commodities at controlled prices?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : It is a suggestion which will be taken into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You want to put a question. Last question.

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि कछ ऐसे भी केन्द्रशासित राज्य हैं जहां केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों को राज्य सरकार के कर्मचारियों से भी कम तनख्वाह मिलती है, कम सुविधाएं मिलती हैं। उदाहरण के लिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं ...

श्री सभापति : No, please. आप सवाल पूछिए, आप उदाहरण दे रहे हैं।

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर : इसलिए मैं पूछ रहा हूं कि क्या सरकार वैसे कर्मचारियों की सुविधा के बारे में पे कर्मिगन के जरिए विचार कर रही है और उन्हें सुविधा देगी ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, it is a fact that there are certain places or areas where because of the State Government's scales being higher, certain Central Government employees are getting less than that. But the policy of the Government is that

the Central pay scales are decided by the Pay Commission and Government will stick to that.

IMPORT OF STAINLESS STEEL BY MESSERS KARNATAK EXPORT HOUSE

* 34. SHRI V. R. PARASHAR :
SHRI S. B. BOBDEY :
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :†

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Karnatak Export House was allowed to import stainless steel against export entitlements during 1970-71 and 1971-72;

(b) what was the gauge and other specifications of the imported steel; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a deviation from the rules was made to allow this firm to sell the imported items directly, if so, the reasons therefor and the parties to whom the material was sold and the sale price thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import licences Release Orders issued for the import of stainless steel were only for permissible types/gauges as laid down in the Import Trade Control Policy (popularly known as Red Book) from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Is it a fact that the favoured Karnatak Export House was given various relaxations against their imports made through the MMTC? Particularly I want to know whether relaxation was made in the case of the Karnatak Export House to sell the stainless steel imported by them outside the channel and not to the DGTD units but to the units in the small-scale sector in the Mysore State, and also whether the price was high and it was raised from Rs. 19,000 to Rs. 20,000. May I know what is the reason for this?

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

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : No special favour was shown to the firm. I have been through the papers and I can say no special consideration has been shown to this firm. This firm has earned R&P entitlements and other entitlements some years ago during the time of my predecessor, and I have found that all decisions taken on this thing have been perfectly in line with the policy laid down in the Red Book. No special favour has been shown. Only they have been allowed to sell to the actual users. No special favour has been shown by the MMTC or the STC. If there is any concrete evidence shown by the hon Member, I am prepared to look into it. I am prepared to say that no special favour shown to it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, with your permission, I want to ask not only whether special favour has been shown to the Karnatak Export House through various relaxations but whether it is also a fact that apart from the relaxation shown, the Karnatak Export House was particularly allowed to sell the stainless steel imported to the small-scale sector at a higher price than the price usually applicable to the priority industries given in item 39 of 59 priority industries in Volume 1 of ITC CPP. If it is a fact, what were the reasons? It is rumoured that most favoured treatment was given by some Government officer. If it is a fact, are you prepared to enquire into it?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : So far as the price is concerned, I have already stated that they have been asked and they have sold only to the actual users. No complaint has been received by us from any of the buyers or actual users that they had to pay a comparatively higher price to the Karnatak Export House. About the conduct of any officer, I have gone through all papers and I find that no special favour has been shown. A number of other firms have been given the same licence and the same entitlements in similar situations. It is not one firm. There are a number of firms. If you like, I can read out the names. There are seven or

eight firms. What is the total amount? It is some Rs. 12 lakhs of licence that has been given, and a mountain is being made out of a molehill.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : The Minister has stated that there was no complaint made. The Madras Small-scale Industries Association has complained not only to the Minister but to the Prime Minister, and I myself have written a letter to the Chief Controller of Imports and to the Chairman of the MMTC. They have not replied. They are trying to give protection and they do not want to give a reply.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Sir, on a point of order. It is a very serious matter. The hon Member says something and the hon Minister has replied something. Please take some decision on this. Either the Minister should suffer or the Member should suffer. We cannot pass over this thing. We have heard replies from the hon. Minister which are self-contradictory.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Nobody should suffer . . .

श्री नागश्वर प्रसाद शाही : आन एम्बाईट आफ आर्डर, सर। मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर पहले था। मंत्री महोदय ने जो कुछ फेवर दिया है वह अपने लिये नहीं दिया है बल्कि अपनी पार्टी के लिये दिया है इसलिए मंत्री महोदय को चार्ज नहीं करना चाहिये।

MR CHAIRMAN : Do you wish to say anything?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I stick to my old answer that no special favour has been shown to this firm or to any other firm. I have already stated that whatever decision has been taken was taken much before I came to this Ministry. Whatever decision was taken by my predecessor was a correct decision. I say, no incorrect decision has been taken, no special favour has been shown, and many other firms have also got R&P and barter things according to

the policy laid down in the Red Book. There have been transfers also and transfer is allowed to eligible export houses also. I would request Shri Kulkarni to go into the facilities given to an eligible export house. This is a firm which has exported more than Rs 25 lakhs of non-traditional things rather about Rs 79 lakhs, and it was made an eligible house on the recommendation of the Mysore Government.

Then, one thing more. There have been a number of questions in this House and I would say to the hon. Members that this firm is not just a private firm. The Government of Mysore has got its financial interest in it. The Chairman of this Corporation is an IAS officer, the Director of Industries of the Mysore Government. And apart from their own performance, there was a recommendation of the Mysore Government. And no special favour has been shown to it. I still stick to it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR Sir, I rise on a point of order because Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra has made a statement which he has made earlier also, and it is solely to misguide the House and the public about this particular firm. It is true that the Government of Mysore has got a certain economic and financial interest in this firm. But the firm is not controlled by the Mysore Government but by a notable person, Mr Santosh Tulsian, who is known . . .

MR CHAIRMAN What is the point of order?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR The point of order is that Shri Kulkarni says that certain objections were raised by the Madras Small Scale Industries' Association. Now, the Minister has said, no objection was raised. The other point he has said is that the Mysore Government has got a financial interest. A 10 per cent or 5 per cent financial interest does not make the Mysore Government liable to it. The fact is that Shri Santosh Tulsian who is known for economic offences and against

whom the CBI has made an inquiry, he is the man controlling this firm, and to give a clean chit to such a firm that it has exported so much last time, that this firm.

MR CHAIRMAN It is not a point of order.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR It is a point of order. When the Minister makes a wrong statement not once or twice, but many times, what is the remedy open to us? Should we hear everything? Mr Chairman, I am telling you that when jute export was allowed to this firm, at that time special favour was given to this firm. Again in import special favour is given to it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Sir, I have a submission to make. You kindly hear. The Minister need not speak because we are not asking questions.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR Sir, otherwise, the only remedy open to us will be, we will also make an issue of everything.

Mr Chairman, is the Minister ready to face an inquiry by this House as to whether or not the firm is not bungling in this affair?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA What Shri Kulkarni has said was a clear reflection on the company.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR It will be impossible for us to function as Members of Parliament if the Government officers or the Minister goes on protecting men who are guilty of economic offences.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA It is a very serious matter.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR I have raised the same question again and again and he has given the same answer.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA How will Shri Mishra go on certifying that company which is owned by a person . . .

MR CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Question Hour or no Question Hour I rise on a point of order. The point of order is. Is there any manner of procedure in this House or not? Mr Chairman, we, MPs, get a certain information. Our information cannot be as complete as that of the Minister.

[12 Noon]

I have personally written against this firm to Mr Lalit Narain Mishra. The firm is guilty of many economic offences but the Minister goes on giving an impression that this firm is controlled by the Mysore State Government and the Mysore Government has got only a nominal financial interest. If Mr Lalit Narain Mishra is ready to face an enquiry I am ready to place materials and also to face an enquiry.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I am on a point of order.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I want your ruling. What was the occasion for Mr Misra to give clean chit to this firm? *(Interruption)* Why did he go all out to give a clean chit and a certificate to this firm?

(Interruption by Dr Bhai Mahavir)

MR CHAIRMAN: No, I do not allow.

DR BHAI MAHAVIR: I am not asking any question. I am just making a submission. Here is an issue which has been raised and if there is anything in this issue which is fishy the whole House is entitled to know what the matter is. Some members of the ruling party—we do not know much about it—but some very honourable Members of the ruling party have made certain allegations and the Minister has given a clean chit to the particular firm involved in this question. If the Minister is so sure of himself and is so sure about the

correctness of the decisions which have been taken by the Government in this regard, why does he not invite four or five members of the Committee to go into the whole question and satisfy itself and also the House regarding the correctness of the offence?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: You may hear me for half a minute. My only objection is that if a certain objection has been raised the Minister should reply to the question and not give a clean chit and a certificate. A person like me who generally does not get up in the Question Hour is entitled to a satisfactory reply. What impelled Mr. Misra to go out of his way to give a clean chit and a certificate to this firm? If he is not interested in this firm what was the motive to give a clean chit and a certificate? And how is it that you allowed the forum of Parliament to be used by the Minister to protect a corrupt firm?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I suggest that the proceedings which pertain to giving a clean chit and a certificate to this firm should be expunged.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: On a point of order, Sir.

MR CHAIRMAN: There are so many points of order.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: May I submit to you, Sir, that, as you know, have written already ten or fifteen letters to you about this matter... *(Interruption)* You do not come to his help, Mr. Thakur. I am asking the Minister. You please sit down..

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I would like to say that I am not here to give clean chit against the economic offences of any company. As for giving import licence for stainless steel, I said that no special favour has been shown. It has been done on the lines laid down in the Red book. Other firms have also got the same facilities.

As for the other question, I only said that no departure or any special favour has been made. If any special favour has been made I am prepared to make enquiry. I am satisfied with the papers. I have discussed the matter with senior officers. I saw the Red book also. In the first place so many motives have been imputed. This also happened much before I came to this Ministry. But I defend the action and the decisions taken by my previous colleague; he has taken the right decision.

The other thing is, I mentioned the Mysore Government because it was made an eligible export house on the recommendation of the Mysore Government who have got financial interest in the company and one of their persons is the Chairman. I do not give any clean chit for any other economic offences that this company might be committing. I am prepared to render any service in the public interest or public cause. If there is any economic offence on the part of this company or any other company, I will be the last person to hide it. There is nothing to hide. If you like, I can send all the files to you, Mr. Chairman, Sir.

(Interruptions)

About this question, it was done about 2½ years ago. Now the policy has been changed. Of course, I have changed the policy about barter. Now entitlement can be given only for 25 per cent of the export of non-traditional items. But this is the new policy. This was given to it on the basis of the old policy by my previous colleague.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the matter may be closed now.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Sir, will you take us into confidence about what the Minister has in his pocket?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Statements by Ministers Correcting Answers to Questions. Mr. K. R. Ganesh.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

गोयनका समूह की कम्पनियों की आस्तियां

* 35. डा० भाई महावीर :

श्री दत्तोपल्ल ढेंगड़ी :

श्री प्रेम मनोहर :

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर :

श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर :

श्री लाल आडवाणी :

श्री पीताम्बर दास :

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :

क्या कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गोयनका समूह की प्रत्येक कम्पनी की समादत्त पूंजी, आस्तियां और वार्षिक कुल बिक्री कितनी कितनी है ?

†[ASSETS OF GOENKA GROUP OF COMPANIES]

*35. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:

SHRI D. THENGARI:

SHRI PREM MANOHAR:

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI PITAMBER DAS:

SHRI J. P. YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state what is the paid-up capital, assets and annual turn-over of each of the companies of the R. P. Goenka Group of companies?]

कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री के० बी० रघुनाथ रेड्डी) : सदन के पटल पर एक विवरण-पत्र प्रस्तुत है ।

†[] English translation.