

issued to other export houses. Benefits Nos. 2 and 3 are available to the items in the product group while so far as benefit No. 1 is concerned that is available to others also. This is the difference. I hope my friend, Mr. Chandra Shekhar will excuse me; there are three groups, traditional and non-traditional and when you go deep into the subject there is also one product group which gets more advantage.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I do not know the matter fully: I shall pursue it later if necessary. I want only a specific answer about one thing and that is, whether embroidered fabrics before 1971 were among the non-traditional items or not. That is the only question. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : . . . That you have put or that you are putting now ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : that is the only question which I put before and which I am putting again. I only want to know whether embroidered fabrics were among the non-traditional items before December 1971 or not.

SHRI L.N. MISHRA : I will just read out from my brief. Embroidered fabrics have all along been non-traditional item. There has been no change. I have volunteered the information. The only change has been that from non-traditional the CCI has put it in the product group where there are other products. If you see the list of non-traditional items only 12 of them are in the product group and of these 12 embroidered fabrics is one item.

SHRI J. S. TILAK : When the traditional items are shifted to the non-traditional list are there any guiding principles governing this inter-Ministerial classification ? I would like to know if a single company were to benefit will that fit in with the guiding principle of shifting an item from one to the other ?

SHRI L.N. MISHRA : Sir, I will again say that broadly speaking non-traditional items are those items which are comparatively new in export trade, which are non-primary in nature and which have undergone certain stages of processing according to modern concept and international standards.

Only such items are included in the list and that list is prepared by a committee consisting of representatives of the Reserve Bank, the Finance Ministry, the Industrial Development Ministry, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the C.C.I. This committee goes into the merits of the item, the performance of the item and if they feel that with some incentive its export can pick up they decide that way.

श्री गुरुमुख सिंह : मजदूरों, मजदूरों के दमरे हिस्से में माननीय मिनिस्टर ने बताया कि इसमें दो आइटम्स का इजाफा कर दिया गया है। इन्हीं रीजन्स पर जिन पर इन दो आइटम्स का इजाफा किया गया क्या कोई और आइटम भी मिनिस्टर साहब के जेरे गौर है जो इसमें इन्कलूड किया जाए ?

श्री एल.एन. मिश्र : अभी कैसे कह दूँ। देश के हित में नहीं होगा यह बताना कि किसको ट्रेडिशनल और किसको नॉन-ट्रेडिशनल बनाने जा रहे हैं। उस पर ऐसा बनाने वाले लोग बहुत चालाक होते हैं फौरन खरीदारी कर लेंगे। ऐसा काम नहीं करेंगे। जिस दिन करेंगे उसी दिन घोषणा कर देंगे।

RUSTERITY MEASURES TO REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE

*155 SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA:
SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH MUS-
AFIR : SHRI KRISHAN
KANT :| SHRI J. S. TILAK :
SHRI V. B. RAJU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the nature of the austerity measures Government have taken since January, 1970 for reducing its administrative expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : A number of austerity measures have been adopted during the last few years for reducing administrative expenditure. Some of the important measures are—restrictions placed on unproductive items of

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kant.

expenditure by curtailing the provision imde for contingencies, entertainments, printing of greeting cards and the like, by imposing curbs on white-washing, foreign travel, use of telephones and staff cars, purchase of furnishings, decorative articles and imported cars and so on.

Besides the austerity measures a number of economy measures have been taken to contain the growth of expenditure. These are—the ban on revision of payscales, partial ban on recruitment to certain categories of posts, ban on creation of posts on the non-plan side, curtailment of travelling allowances, intensification of staff inspection studies and non-filling of vacant posts.

The economy measures being a continuous process the matter is constantly engaging the attention of Government.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know whether an estimate has been made as to how much expenditure was being made earlier, before the economy measures were taken, and how much economy in the total amount has since been made ? May I know what was the number of staff cars then and what is their number now and whether their number has been reduced ? The same about the number of peons and furnishing of offices. May I know how many carpets used to be there and how many are there now ? May I know whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the Economic Panel Report of the Bombay Congress where they had specifically mentioned that offices like the Secretariat should have an internal telephone system and not so many direct telephones ? That makes quite a difference in expenditure. May I know whether that has been examined and, if so, what they are going to do about it ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The hon. Member has asked me some specific questions. I will not be able to provide him with answers now, but I will give him the answers to the specific questions. I have not got them now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will give you later.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know whether the report appearing in newspapers

that in the Fifth Plan Approach Paper a sum of Rs. 280 crores has been provided for giving loans to Government servants for purchasing cars and vehicles and, if so, is this really an austerity measure and an economy measure ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The Plan document is yet to be finalised.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to certain suggestions made by the Economic Panel Report of the AICC in Bombay in 1969 about austerity measures and whether the Government is satisfied that even one item of austerity measure has been implemented ? As far as I know, not even a single item of the 1969 Economic Panel Report was implemented by the Government and, if not, what were the compelling reasons or obstacles in the way of Government implementing those austerity measures which were mentioned in the Report of the AICC Economic Panel ?

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : it was never meant to be implemented.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Sir, does the Government take into consideration the reports made by political parties in their sessions?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Yes, of course.

Government is run by the party in power. The other political parties are not in power.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The suggestions made by the AICC Economic Panel are continuously kept in mind by the Government and whatever measures I have indicated are being taken. Those suggestions will also be considered. There is one point I wish to submit, that is, this economy and austerity are as far as non-plan expenditure is concerned. It comes to a very small component of the total budget. It is about Rs. 600 crores. It is with this Rs. 600 crores that whatever economy the Government has to do can be done, because others are fixed expenditure on which we cannot touch.

SHRI J. S. TILAK : Has the Government estimated what will be the annual sav-

ing because of the adoption of these measures ? Has the Government fixed any targets for saving for each Ministry ? If so, has it been reached ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : In a letter to the various Ministries it has been indicated that there should be a 5 per cent reduction *na* far as the non-plan expenditure is concerned and 2 per cent reduction as far as Defence Ministry is concerned. This target is being achieved by various Ministries. I have got figures of the total of the non-plan expenditure in relation to the total expenditure. The percentage of that had remained more or less constant.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : It is said that charity begins at home. In view of that will the hon. Minister be kind enough to enlighten us on one point ? There are several Joint Committees and other Committees which are meeting and are planning to go out of Delhi for evidence, etc., even though those people can very well come here and give evidence at their own expense. Will the Government be kind enough to assure us that as far as possible the Members of the Committee will not go out of Delhi so that this money may not be spent unnecessarily ? For example, the Petitions Committee went out of Delhi on tour. For example, the Allowances Committee went on *tour to Bombay*. Will he assure the House that these unnecessary expenses will be saved of the public exchequer ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Government cannot answer that question. I shall bear your observations in mind.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : The hon. Minister wants to say something.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He cannot answer the question about Committees.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA ; What is the use of your bearing it in mind ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : They cannot go out unless I permit.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : No Committee can go out ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No Committee can go out of Delhi unless I permit.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Not the Speaker ? That is the point. Therefore, you have taken up on yourself the responsibility.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rajya Sabha Committees.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : Particularly the expenditure which is being incurred on Government vehicles I think must be not less than two hundred times what it was in the year 1950 or thereabout. May I know whether any specific measure have been suggested to cut down the expenditure on Government vehicles and to stop the misuse of those vehicles ? As a suggestion may I submit that if the vehicles are not owned by the State or the Government but if they are owned by the officers and some allowance is given as was formerly the case, will that system help the Government to reduce the expenditure ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, one of the more important items for reduction in the non-plan expenditure is the restriction of the use of staff cars and such other things.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : This is not a complete reply. He says only that some restrictions are being put on the use of staff cars. I put forth my own suggestion that instead of this thing, if the Government does not keep its own vehicles but allows the officers to keep them and also gives them some allowance, then the maintenance charges will be less and other things will also be less. That was what I suggested. What is the reaction of the Government ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, it is a suggestion.

श्री बनारसी दास : क्या सरकार यह बतलायेगी कि प्रशासकीय व्यय कम करने के लिए सरकार ने इस बात की जानकारी प्राप्त की है कि अधिकांश दफ्तरों में स्टाफ सरप्लस है, छुट्टियाँ अधिकांश हैं, और टूर अननेसेसरी होते हैं तथा टेलीफोन का व्यय भी बहुत अधिक है। क्या सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में जानकारी प्राप्त करके कोशिश की है कि प्रशासकीय व्यय कम किया जाए ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, about the question of the staff, the staff Inspection Unit is visiting each Ministry and each Department of the Ministry and its recommendations are invariably accepted and through this a certain economy is brought about staff cars, etc.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : As far as tours and

श्री बनारसी दास : आपके टेलीफोन पर और अननेसेसरी टूंस और छोटी छोटी बातों पर बहुत व्यय होता है। ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि इस मुल्क में छुट्टियाँ ही छुट्टियाँ हैं, किसी की मृत्यु हो गई तो तमाम दफ्तर बंद हो गये, इस पर क्या सोच रहे हैं ?

telephones are concerned, these are also included in the instructions. These are the very items in which economy has to be done. As far as holidays are concerned, I think a proper climate has to be created in the country before the Government can take a decision in this

श्री गुरुमुख सिंह मुसाफिर : मेरा एक बिल्कुल सीधा सा सवाल है, मैं अपनी इंफार्मेशन को कंफर्म करना चाहता हूँ। क्या यह ठीक है कि स्टेट बैंक को फर्निश करने के लिए आफिशल्स के कमरों में जो गलीचे बिछे हुए हैं उनकी कीमत 25 हजार से 50 हजार रुपये तक की है। दूसरी बात यह है—मैं किसी बैंक का नाम पर्टिकुलरली नहीं लेना चाहता लेकिन मुझे मालूम हुआ है—उन कुर्सियों की जिन पर आफिसर्स बैठते हैं—उनकी कीमत 11 सौ से लेकर 4 हजार या 5 हजार रुपये तक है, क्या यह बात भी सही है ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, as you know, the State Bank and the various other nationalised institutions and the public sector banks, they have their own management, they have their own Boards and they decide about the expenditure. The particular specific point which the hon. Member has raised has come in the press. . .

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : On a point of order. How is it. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I will explain It is true that this matter was criticised; there was publicity in the press about the very luxurious furnishing of the banks, bank officers and bankers. Well, I must say that there is some justification in this criticism. Therefore Government have brought to the notice of the Custodians of the different banks to see that they take more care in this particular matter.

श्री गुरुमुख सिंह मुसाफिर : मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय राज्य मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है कि स्टेट बैंक का और दूसरे बैंकों का खर्च करने का अपना तरीका है। क्या स्टेट की इकानामी के ऊपर इसका असर नहीं पड़ता ?

श्री सभापति : मुसाफिर जी, दो सवाल नहीं पूछे जाते। क्वेश्चन 156।

DISADVANTAGES SUFFERED BY INDIAN EXPORTERS

*156. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL :
SHRI SUNDER MANI PATEL :
SHRI K.C. PANDA : SHKI
LOK. ANATH MISRA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state ;

(a) Whether the Indian exporters who intend to participate in global tenders for high value contracts suffer from a number of disadvantages vis-a-vis their counterparts abroad and as a result fail to compete, if so, the details of these disadvantages;

(b) whether any assessment has been made about such tenders lost by the Indian exporters due to these disadvantages; and

(c) if so, whether Government have formulated any proposals to solve these problems and if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Dahyabhai V. Patel.