

ceilings etc. The particular objective mentioned by the hon. Member will be kept in view.

श्री ओम् प्रकाश त्यागी : उपसभापति महोदय, क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन में प्रत्येक प्रान्त समान रूप से प्रगति नहीं कर रहा है अर्थात् प्रान्तीय उत्पादन में भिन्नता है ? तो क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन में प्रान्तवार प्रगति कितनी हुई है और उसमें जो असमानता है उसको दूर करने की दिशा में गवर्नमेंट का क्या प्रयत्न है ?

श्री राम निवास मिर्धा : श्रीमन्, यह सही है कि राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन के वितरण में राज्यवार भिन्नता है। एक राज्य में ही एक क्षेत्र से दूसरे क्षेत्र में भिन्नता है। इस असमानता और भिन्नता को दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने कई योजनाएं बनाई हैं। उनका पिछड़ापन किस तरह से आंका जाय, इसके बारे में काफी काम किया जा चुका है। कई जिले हैं जिनका उनके पिछड़ेपन के हिसाब से चयन किया गया है और उन जिलों और उन क्षेत्रों के लिए विशेष कार्यक्रम बनाए गए हैं और उन जिलों को ऊपर के स्तर तक, समान स्तर तक लाने की योजना की जा रही है। इस प्रकार के कई और कार्यक्रम सरकार ने चलाए हैं।

श्री ओम् प्रकाश त्यागी : उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने प्रान्तवार पूछा है। कुछ प्रान्त राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन की दृष्टि से बहुत पिछड़े हुए हैं। आपने जिलेवार बात कही है। एक प्रान्त में जिलेवार की बात समझ में आती है, लेकिन जो बिल्कुल पिछड़े हुए प्रान्त हैं उनके लिए आपकी क्या योजना है ?

श्री राम निवास मिर्धा : श्रीमन्, मैंने कहा कि जिलेवार तो एक तरीका है उन प्रान्तों को एक स्तर तक लाने का। जो पिछड़े राज्य हैं उनके बारे में कई प्रकार की योजनाएं योजना आयोग द्वारा बनाई गई हैं कि कितना पैसा योजना के अन्तर्गत दिया जाय, कितना पिछड़ेपन के आधार पर दिया जाय, कितना

पैसा उनकी आबादी के अनुपात से दिया जाय। ये कई सारी टेक्नीक हैं जो इस्तेमाल की जा रही हैं ताकि वे प्रान्त जो विशेष रूप से पिछड़े हुए हैं वे बराबर आ सकें।

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, may I know whether the Survey Report of the World Bank has come to the notice of the Government in which a survey of the economic growth of different developing countries has been conducted? According to the Report, the rate of growth during the year 1970-71 in India is only 1.2 per cent.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I am not aware of the specific figure given by the World Bank but the Government feels that our report which is not yet out would be the only authoritative publication which would give a true picture of the national economic structure as well as the rate of growth.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: It has appeared prominently in all papers and they have specifically mentioned about the rate of growth of different developing countries.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Whatever it may be, we do not regard these figures to be final. I would request the hon. Member to wait till our figures are known.

MISUSE OF AIR AND TELEVISION SERVICES BY RULING PARTY

*793. DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA: f SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some M.P.s have recently complained that the AIR and Television services are being misused by Government to suit the ruling party; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. K. Nagappa Alva.

(b) if so, the details of the complaints received and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) :

(a) No, Sir. No. complaint has been received within the last two months.

(b) Does not arise.

DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA: Is it not the truth that too much of political matters is being broadcast everyday as compared to the other material, items of socio-economic and cultural importance and people's welfare and that too being greatly partial to the ruling Party ?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : So far as the first part of the question of my hon. friend is concerned I am inclined to agree that in our mass media including Radio there is more coverage of political news than of socio-economic news. The difficulty basically arises because the news collection machinery in India is of that nature that socio-economic or other news are not collected as efficiently as they should be and this is receiving our attention. So far as the second part of my hon. friend's question is concerned the answer is an emphatic no.

DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA : Will it not greatly help to educate and awaken the people to their duties if more time is allotted to growth, production and developmental activities and also special emphasis laid on the importance and advantageous of family planning?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : I agree with my hon. friend.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: It is very strange to hear from the hon. Minister that no complaints have been received from the Members of Parliament whereas this House is also aware and the lower House is also aware that this was discussed several times on the

floor of the House and several Members have expressed their dissatisfaction over the functioning of the AIR and Television. In view of this I would like to know what is the difficulty in converting this into a corporation?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : So far as the complaints are concerned, my hon. friend would notice that my colleague had replied that no complaints had been received within the last two months because in the question submitted by my friend the emphasis was on 'recently' and that is why the reply was of that nature. So far as the discussions are concerned I might say that it was not on the complaints but it was a general discussion about the media which I think is a healthy sign because if my hon. friends discussed what the Radio is doing and should be doing, well, naturally it is a very healthy sign.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: What about the other part of the question ? I wanted to know what was the difficulty in converting it into a Corporation ?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: The question is not one of difficulty; the question basically is what would suit an expanding media like ours, what type of set-up we should have in India. Today we have 67 broadcasting stations and by the end of this Plan the number will go up to 104 and in the Fifth Plan it will be still more. It is the biggest structure I think in the world. The experiments of corporation have been made in those countries which have a unitary system and which have one or two broadcasting stations. Therefore it is not possible for us to copy any system from anywhere else structurally speaking and organisationally. We have our own problems which we can solve in our own way. One of the things we are now doing is to zonalise control and that by itself will help considerably.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The hon. Minister stressed the word 'recently' perhaps to escape responsibility because I would like to tell the House that I have myself made several complaints some time back but not to a single complaint I received any satisfactory answer and it is also our experience that when a completely false statement is broadcast regarding our party and when the party secretary gives a rebuttal it is not deliberately broadcast and it is the general feeling among all the Opposition parties that the AIR is being utilised for the interests of the ruling party and to denigrate the Opposition.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : What in the question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: It has become a scandal. Is it for that reason also that you do not convert it into an autonomous corporation as recommended by the Chanda Committee ? The BBC is functioning well and the Opposition there gets full coverage. Here it has become a roaring scandal, the way the AIR is being utilised.

SHRI I. K. GUIRAL: My hon. friend has got a very old habit of making generalised statements without any basis. I would like to draw his attention to one letter which his party member wrote to me—I think it was Mr. Saroj Mukherjee—in which he had made allegations that on three occasions his party did not receive notice and I sent back a letter to him proving to him that on all the three occasions the All India Radio had noticed it and it should have been to his satisfaction. Therefore I would suggest to my hon. friend that he should correct his facts before he makes allegations.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I myself wrote to you and there was no satisfactory reply to my letter.

SHRI I. K. GUIRAL: Sir, any letter which my hon. friend may have written to me when I was holding this charge

earlier must have been replied to to his satisfaction. But if he was not satisfied, he would not have kept silent for two years.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : How many times ? Two, three, four times.

SHRI YASHPAL KAPUR: While the opposition parties are complaining that the AIR is being used for the benefit of the ruling party, may I ask the hon. Minister whether, while reporting the meetings of the President of the Jan Sangh which are attended by a permanent set of RSS volunteers, they are not described as the Vishal Jana Sabha in the AIR news bulletins?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You want to answer it ?

SHRI I. K. GUIRAL: It is difficult for me to recall any particular news. But that by itself should prove that All India Radio's method of functioning is to judge news, on the basis of news.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: I do not mind the All India Radio being used by the ruling party. Every ruling party has an edge over the opposition parties. But in what manner it is being used is the question. In a most provocative manner, the All India Radio has completely blacked out the names of the opposition parties. I draw the particular attention of the hon. Minister to 'Today in Parliament' and 'Spotlight'. He must listen to these two broadcasts for a couple of days and then he must tell the House whether they are fairly reported and whether a fair commentary is given to the people.

SHRI I. K. GUIRAL: Sir, I do feel—and I would like my friends to appreciate—one thing basically is that 'Today in Parliament' is covered in a matter of a few minutes, and the proceedings of both the Houses are held for the whole day. Therefore, when a very brief summary has to be reproduced, naturally, it is difficult for the per-

son who is doing 'Today in Parliament' to cover all the names.

Secondly, let us look at it differently from the audience point of view. The news bulletin, the 'Spotlight' and 'Today in Parliament' are meant more from the point of view of the audience and— my friend, Shri Mariswamy, might share this with me—many people have told me, "You are repeating the names so often and so much that the news dies in that." Therefore, I think the audience reaction is not very favourable when we give the names too many and too often.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: On a point of order ...

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: The Ministers' names also should not be mentioned in that case.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: I have been listening to the two items for the last two years and I am yet to hear several names.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But it is not a point of order.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: Names of people of the Opposition parties are deliberately omitted, they are never used.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not a point of order. You are just saying which you want to say.

श्री जगदीश प्रताप भाथुर : आप कह रहे हैं कि शिकायत नहीं आयी । मैं किसी शिकायत की बात नहीं करता, लेकिन आप की नीति का विरोध पिछले दिनों में विभिन्न राजनीतिक दलों ने किया है और प्रदर्शन किया है, ए० आई० आर० के सामने वे प्रदर्शन करते हुए गये हैं और उन्होंने झपन दिया है और इस प्रकार की शिकायतें की हैं कि आप का तंत्र हिटलर की तरह से, एक तानाशाही ढंग से काम करता है और विशेष तौर से जब से आप मंत्री बने हैं आप गोबल्स की तरह से काम कर रहे हैं और प्रधान मंत्री जी का प्रचार हो इस

दृष्टि से हर व्लेडिन को तैयार किया जाता है और इस ढंग से आप का काम हो रहा है । क्या यह बात सही है ?

श्री आई० के० गुजराल : जहाँ तक डिमांस्ट्रेशन का ताल्लुक है माननीय मेम्बर दो चीजों को मिला कर रहे हैं । एक तो यह कि बहुत सी पार्टियों का डिमांस्ट्रेशन, या जनता का डिमांस्ट्रेशन या जनसंघियों का डिमांस्ट्रेशन, वह क्या था । मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि जो डिमांस्ट्रेशन था वह चन्द जनसंघियों का डिमांस्ट्रेशन था, न तो वह डिमांस्ट्रेशन जनता की तरफ से था और न वह मुस्लिम पार्टियों की तरफ से था ।

डा० भाई महावीर : पार्टीज की तरफ से कोई विरोध नहीं हुआ ?

TARGET FOR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION DURING THE FOURTH PLAN

*794. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the State Industries Ministers' Conference held in September last, he had stated that the Fourth Plan targets of industrial production is not likely to be achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the extent to which the production is likely to fall short of the targets; and

(c) the steps contemplated by Government "to achieve the targets?"

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SIDDHESH-WAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) The low rate of growth in industrial production can be attributed to shortage of certain categories of steel and other raw materials, shortage of