

negotiations are going on and I would not like to say much.

SHRI BABUBHAI M CHINAI May I know if the sale price of Rumanian ships compare with those of other countries and, if so, whether our Vizagapatnam Shipyard is fully booked and therefore we are going out or is it due to the cost that we are going out for these ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR We want to build up our shipping and we want to build it up at least to fulfil the targets that we have got before us and it was in pursuance of this that this contract was concluded but the fact remains that our shipbuilding yard has also to be kept on and we have taken good care to see that is has all the bookings on its registers that it requires. The prices compare favourably

SHRI M K, MOHTA Sir, the hon Minister has stated that this was a fixed price contract and there was no escalation clause. Yet Rumania wants to increase the price of the ships and it only means that there is default on the part of the supplier. May I ask the hon. Minister as to what redress the Government of India has got according to the terms of the contract signed with Rumania and what action is open to us ? If not arbitration is there any other international forum for insisting on our right to get delivery of the ships at the contracted price ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR The main plea that has been advanced by the Rumanian firm—now it is known as Navimpex—is that prices have escalated considerably since the time they concluded the contract in 1969. As I said earlier our contract does not provide for escalation. Now the main question is how to reconcile the two. Negotiations are going on and I cannot say anything about arbitration at this stage, nor as I said earlier arbitration is visualised.

SHRI M K MOHTA My question was if arbitration was not visualised, what else can they do. There must be something written in the contract to safeguard our interests and I want to know what that clause is.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR I do not think there is any clause in the contract for this. This is an agreement between the two Governments first and then between the

firms. As I said there are negotiations going on.

डा० भाई महावीर श्रीमन्, जब इन जहाजों के लिये आर्डर दिया गया उस वक़्त क्या सरकार ने कोई वर्ल्ड टेडर्म मगवा करके कीमत देखी थी कि रूमानिया के जहाज ही हमारे लिये सबसे मस्ते हो सकते हैं और यदि ऐसा नहीं किया गया तो 1972 ई० में जब उनके जहाजों की डिलीवरी शुरू हो जानी थी आपके जवाब के मुताबिक तो इस वक़्त जो वह कीमत बढ़ाने की बात कर रहे हैं वह कितनी बढ़ाने की बात कर रहे हैं और उसका औचित्य कहाँ तक है ।

श्री राज बहादुर जहाँ दो सरकारों में आपस में मुआहिदा हो, एक करार हो, वहाँ वर्ल्ड टेडर की बात उठती नहीं। जहाँ तक की सवाल कीमत बढ़ाने का है, जैसा मैंने कहा, उन लोगों का कहना यह है कि इस बीच में, दो वर्षों में, कीमतें बढ़ गई हैं। मैं इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता क्योंकि नेगोशियेशन चल रही है। और जहाँ तक ये बात है कि अब तक वह डिलीवरी हो जानी थी तो उन्होंने सन् 1971 ई० में 23 अगस्त को पहली बार यह सवाल उठाया और तब से बराबर यह चीज नेगोशिएट हो रही है, अभी पिछले महिने में पहले जनवरी में उनका डेलिगेशन यहाँ आया था और फरवरी में हमारा डेलिगेशन भी रूमानिया गया था और वह वानचीत चल रही है और मैं समझता हूँ कि शायद कुछ मैटिसफैक्ट्री चीज निकल आये। प्राइमेज अच्छी है। इतना ही कह सकता हूँ।

*532 [The questioner (Shri Ganesh Lal Chaudhary) was absent. For answer, vide cols 36-37 *infra*]

*533. [The questioner (Shri Suraj Prasad) was absent. For answer, vide cols 36-37 *infra*]

संसद की सलाहकार समितियाँ

*534. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव
क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संसदीय सलाहकार समितियों का उचित रूप से गठन न होने तथा उनके कार्यक्रमों और योजनाओं को क्रियान्वित न किये जाने के कारण उनमें उचित लाभ नहीं हो रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार इन समितियों के कार्यक्रमों को अनिवार्य रूप से लागू करने का विचार रखती है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

† [CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT

*534. SHRI J. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due benefit is not accruing from the Parliamentary Consultative Committees because they are not properly constituted and their programmes and schemes are not being implemented; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to enforce the programmes of these committees on a compulsory basis; and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):

(a) No Sir, The Consultative Committees for the various Ministries/Departments have been constituted properly and fully in accordance with the Guidelines formulated in April, 1969 in consultation with the Opposition Parties and the Government to regulate the constitution and functioning of the Consultative Committees. The purpose for which they are constituted is being served amply as would be apparent from the statement placed on the Table of the Sabha.[see Appendix Lxxix, Annexure no. 1]

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

‡ [संसदीय कार्य तथा नौवहन एवं परिवहन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी नहीं। विरोधी दलों तथा सरकार के परस्पर विचार विमर्श द्वारा अप्रैल, 1969 में तैयार की गई

मार्गनिर्देशिका के अनुसार विभिन्न मंत्रालयों तथा विभागों के लिये सलाहकार समितियों का उचित तथा पूर्ण रूप में गठन किया जा चुका है। जैसा कि सभापटल पर रखे गये विवरण [दिखाए परिशिष्ट 79, अनुपत्र संख्या 1] में स्पष्ट है इन समितियों को गठन करने का उद्देश्य पर्याप्त रूप में पूर्ण हो रहा है।

(ख) उपरोक्त (क) को देखते हुए प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।]

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमन्, विरोधी दलों के बहिष्कार करने के कारण ही थोड़ा कमेटियों के सदस्यों की संख्या में कमी अवश्य की लेकिन मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो आपने टेबिल पर ले किया है उसको देखें कि 1971 ई० में आपकी मिटिंग्स कितनी हुई है, जबकि प्रत्येक संसदीय सलाहकार समिति की बैठक आठ-नौ तक साल में होनी चाहिये तब एक दो तीन करके हुई है और आपके शिक्षा विभाग की समिति की बैठक 1971 ई० में एक भी नहीं हुई है। इसीलिये हमने कहा कि यह कारगर नहीं है। मैं आपसे एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसको ठीक काम के लायक बनाने के लिये जिस प्रकार इंग्लैंड में स्टैंडिंग कमेटियाँ हैं और जिसमें आफिसर्स बुलाये जा सकते हैं और एक थारो जाँच पड़ताल हो सकती है क्या आप स्टैंडिंग कमेटियों के जैसा इसको बनाना चाहते हैं और इन कमेटियों के अध्यक्ष आप नान-आफिशियल रखना चाहते हैं। माननीय मंत्री महोदय इसका जवाब देने के लिये उपस्थित हो।

श्री राज बहादुर : जहाँ तक उनके विधान का संबंध है, जैसा मैंने पहले कहा, उनका विधान विरोधी दलों से, परामर्श करने के उपरान्त ही बनाया गया है। चाहे हम उसको स्टैंडिंग कमेटियों कहते हो फिर भी यह स्टैंडिंग कमेटियों के बहुत कुछ समानांतर जैसे है और यह कहा जा सकता है कोई प्रश्न ऐसा नहीं है जो उन पर उठाया न जा सके और उस पर संबंधित मंत्री से जवाब न लिया जाय। आप जानते हैं, इसमें आफिशियल्स ही नहीं होते हैं बल्कि मंत्रीगण, प्रधान मंत्री, विपक्ष के दल, सरकारी दल सबके सब इसमें होते हैं और मैं समझता हूँ कि इसमें कोई ऐसी बात नहीं।

† [] English translation.

‡ [] Hindi translation.

जहाँ तक आपने बैठकों की बात कही, जैसा आपको मालूम है, पिछली बार सदन के मध्याह्नाधीन चुनावों के बाद ही इनका निर्माण हुआ था जुलाई में। जुलाई से लेकर 1971 के अन्त में अगर औसतन तीन-तीन, चार-चार मीटिंगें हो चुकी हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ अपर्याप्त नहीं है, कुल मिलाकर 70 मीटिंगें हो चुकी हैं।

माननीय सदस्य ने एजुकेशन की समिति की बात की। लेकिन आपको स्मरण होगा, जो हमारे संबंधित मंत्री रहे एजुकेशन के, श्री सिद्धार्थ शर्करा, उनको दूसरे उत्तर भी सौंपे गए, उनको बगल ऑफिस में काफी समय देना पड़ा इसलिए उनकी एक कमेटी की मीटिंग नहीं हुई। मेरे सहयोगी ने अभी-अभी मीटिंग उस मंत्रालय की की है और मैं समझता हूँ इस बारे में शिकायत का कोई मौका नहीं होना चाहिए।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव श्रीमन्, अगर 1971 के भी और 1972 के भी चार्ट माननीय मंत्री महोदय देखें तो उनको पता लगेगा, अगर उसके साथ ही 1969 और 1970 का जो उन्होंने चार्ट दिया है देख लें, कि जो उन्होंने एक्सप्लेनेशन दिया है वह सचमुच में एक्सप्लेनेशन नहीं, सिर्फ बहाना है। मैंने स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के बारे में पूछा था। अगर स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के जैसा ही है, और उसके नजदीक है, तो उसको पूर्ण-रूपेण स्टैंडिंग कमेटी बनाने की बात क्यों नहीं सोचते और इसके अध्यक्ष को नान-आफिशल क्यों नहीं रखा? मैंने इस प्रश्न को साफ पूछा था। अगर ऐसा नहीं चाहते हैं तो उसका कोई कारण दिया जाए।

श्री राज बहादुर हर एक देश अपनी-अपनी व्यवस्था के, अपने अपने जनतंत्र को अपने मानस के अनुसार बताता है। पोलिटिकली अगर हम गुलाम की तरह से उनकी नकल करें अंगरेजों की, अंग्रेजी साम्राज्यवाद की...

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव अंगरेजों की तो नकल किए हुए हैं।

श्री राज बहादुर नकल करें तो मुनासिब बात नहीं है, न हम इसमें दुनिया से प्रेरणा प्राप्त करेंगे। जो आपने नक्शे की बात कही, यह मैंने

खुद देखा नहीं है। मुझे मालूम है 70 मीटिंगें हुई हैं 8 महीने के अन्दर और यह पर्याप्त है।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Is the hon Minister aware that there is no regularity of any system in calling the meetings of the Consultative Committees with the result that many of the Members are not in a position to participate in them? I should like to know what steps Government are going to take to systematise and regularise them so that within one year a minimum number of meetings are held. I should also like to know what happens to the unanimous recommendations or to the consensus expressed in the Consultative Committees on different matters. Only this morning I attended a meeting of the Finance Consultative Committee. What happens to such a recommendation for when the opinion is expressed almost unanimously, for example as it happened today, that there should be a need-based minimum wage and there should be maximum and minimum salaries? How the Government tackles this thing? Is there any arrangement that such opinions which are unanimous are placed before the Cabinet for serious consideration by the Cabinet at the initiative of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs or, they just shelve or treated bureaucratically in the routine manner?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR With regard to the regularity of the meetings I may invite my hon friend's attention to the Guidelines, a copy of which I am prepared to place on the Table of the House but which, I believe, has already been placed on the Table of the House, to regulate the Consultative Committees for various Ministries/Departments. I may again recall to him that these Guidelines were finalised after due consideration and after full consultation with Members of the Opposition. Now, with regard to the acceptability of the decisions or of the views, normally, I should say, the Government attaches the highest importance to the views expressed there and tries to implement them or act according to them as far as possible. Where unanimous recommendations are made, they are normally accepted.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA . Well, today

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR , May I complete my answer? You are a good friend

MR CHAIRMAN How can he answer about anything that happened this morning?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA He has given an example

MR CHAIRMAN And you have given your example

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR So far as unanimous recommendations are concerned, I again repeat they are normally accepted excepting in cases where any such view has financial implications, because that will involve budgetary and other considerations, it is concerning security, defence, external affairs and atomic energy and any other matter falling within the purview of an autonomous corporation. These three exceptions are taken into account. In the remaining cases, by and large, I would say that the unanimous recommendations are accepted. If there are any exceptions, they only prove the rule.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA On a point of order. Sir, you are the Chairman of the House. Members of this House are Members of one or the other Consultative Committee. You invite suggestions from the Members, but the more or less unanimous recommendations had not been accepted—I am not talking of the Minister—by the Government. Now, what is the mechanism for it?

MR CHAIRMAN No, please do not take the time of the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA How then are your Committees to function?

MR CHAIRMAN I will tell you later.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA You tell here.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR May I just add one word? So far as the unanimous recommendations are concerned, I have already said that normally they are accepted. But when he says they are more or less unanimous recommendations, then they are not unanimous.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Now you should kindly guide us. I say 'more or less' because the Minister himself is also a Member of the Consultative Committee.

MR CHAIRMAN Mr. Monoranjan Roy. Now, please sit down, I have called the next Member.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to the figure supplied to the House on labour and rehabilitation. You said that 183 items were circulated. It

is not a fact. The question is how many questions were received for the meeting. It may be that some questions reached after the scheduled date by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. So this is not a correct answer and the figure supplied is .

MR CHAIRMAN Kindly put your question.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY This is to point out that correct figures are not given to the House.

MR CHAIRMAN This is question Hour.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY Yes, Sir.

MR CHAIRMAN Not for debate.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY If the Minister gives a reply which is wrong, we must point it out.

MR CHAIRMAN Now, please put your question.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY I would like to ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in how many issues in regard to the Labour and Rehabilitation Consultative Committee unanimous decisions were taken and not given effect to. How many issues unanimously accepted by the Consultative Committee—although the Labour Minister usually says that he has no opinion.

MR CHAIRMAN Now your question has come.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY First question.

MR CHAIRMAN Only one question is allowed.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR I would say respectfully that so far as the Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation are concerned, they have been more than active. In fact, there were as many as four meetings. Two of these went over for two days consecutively. So, they met in all for six days. One hundred and eighty-three points were raised and 183 notes were prepared by the Ministry and circulated. As for unanimous recommendations, unless any recommendation unanimously made in such a Committee was involved in and came under the mischief of the rule or the exception that is to say, involved financial implications. I have no doubt they must have been implemented. But if it came within the mischief of the rule which I just now said, viz., financial implications, then I am quite

clear that my reply was not wrong and I hope my hon. friend will appreciate it.

SHRI MONORANIAN ROY Mr Chairman, Sir, I seek your protection. Financial implication for whom? Is it for the Government or for the private owners?

MR CHAIRMAN I cannot allow any other question.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR He should pinpoint it, and not be rembling. Which unanimous recommendations have not been accepted?

SHRI MONORANIAN ROY Financial implications for whom?

MR CHAIRMAN Kindly sit down.

SHRI MONORANIAN ROY My question has been not replied to.

MR CHAIRMAN Your question has been replied to. (*Interruptions*) I cannot allow three Members to speak at a time.

SHRI MONORANIAN ROY Sir, you did not allow me the question I wanted to ask.

MR CHAIRMAN Please sit down. I rule that he has given the reply.

SHRI TRILOKI SINGH These Consultative Committees are supposed to be attached to the various Ministries. May I know if, in the history of the functioning of these Committees, the Government have come forward with any proposal wherein they wanted to invite the opinion of the Members over proposal, or it is the Members who are required to pose questions which are never put to vote and are generally taken out?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR It is a two-way traffic, if I may say so, because it is not merely the points which are raised.

SHRI TRILOKI SINGH One-way traffic.

CHAIRMAN I see that it is a two-way traffic.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR I was submitting that so far as these meetings are concerned, even the Minister himself volunteers some information and also takes the Committee

into confidence about many things which are, of course, under consideration. I would say that this is an evolution and we should evolve this as our democratic process is evolved, this should be evolved to a satisfactory stage.

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी श्रीमन्, अभी मंत्री महादय ने इस बात का स्वीकार किया है कि विरोधी दलों के साथ मिलकर उन सलाहकार समितियों को नया रूप दिया गया है और ये जस्ट-लाइक स्टेडिंग कमेटीज हैं और एक बात यह स्वीकार की गई है कि जो इनके सर्वसम्मति प्रस्ताव होंगे उन्हें सरकार स्वीकार करेगी। तो मैं मंत्री महादय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब से इन सलाहकार समितियों को नया रूप दिया गया है तब से विभिन्न मंत्रालयों की सलाहकार समितियों में कितने प्रस्ताव सर्वसम्मति में स्वीकार हुए जिन्हें इस सरकार ने स्वीकार किया? आपके पास अभी रिकार्ड है, तो दीजिए, नहीं तो बाद में दे दीजिएगा।

श्री राज बहादुर आपन बहुत विस्तृत सवाल कर दिया जिसका विस्तृत जॉच करके ही मैं कोई निश्चित जवाब दे सकूंगा।

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी आप आश्वामन दे दीजिए।

श्री राज बहादुर आश्वामन की बात यह है कि विभिन्न मंत्रालय हैं विभिन्न मंत्रालयों से अलग अलग प्रश्न किया जाय उनको नोटिस दिया जाय, तो निश्चित रूप से उत्तर आएगा।

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी अध्यक्ष महादय, आपकी सेवा में मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि जो सलाहकार समितियाँ हैं वहाँ वास्तव में मेटल एक्साटर्जेज होती हैं और सरकार सर्वसम्मति प्रस्ताव को भी स्वीकार नहीं करती। इसलिये मैंने जानकारी के लिए इस बात को उठाया है ताकि सरकार बताए तो सही कि वह इन प्रस्तावों को कोई क्रियात्मक रूप देती है या नहीं।

श्री सभापति उनके पास अभी जानकारी नहीं है।

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी वे बाद में दे दें।

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : the coordinating Ministry is the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry. Therefore, it is very reasonable of the hon. Members to ask the Parliamentary Affairs minister to ascertain from the different Ministries and place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : May I submit that the Members expect us to function as efficiently as possible? And I think 'efficient' means cutting down delays. Instead of routing the enquiries through me, if notices are given direct to the Ministries, they will answer them much more quickly than through the medium of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

* 367. [The questioner (Shri K. L. N. Prasad) was absent. For answer, vide. col 37 *infra*]

CONSUMPTION PRICES OF FERTILIZERS

*535. **SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL ;†**
SHRI K. C. PANDA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the consumption prices of fertilisers in the country during the last one year and how do these prices compare with the prices in various developing and developed countries; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to reduce the prices of fertilisers so that the same may be within the reach of all farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) the retail prices of Important imported fertilizer for the farmers during the last one

year and the current prices effective from 17.3.72 are as under :

(Rupees Per M. T.)

Name of fertiliser	Prices as Prevailing from 1.4.71 to 16.3.72	Prices from 17.3.72 After imposition of 5% additional duty.
Ammonium Sulphate	529	549
Urea (46 per cent N)	923	959
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (26 percent N)	575	594

The maximum retail prices of the fertilisers mentioned above are statutorily fixed for both the imported and indigenously produced fertilisers. Regarding the other fertilisers, both imported and indigenously manufactured, like Ammonium phosphate- Ammonium Nitro Phosphate, Super-Phosphate, NPK complex fertilisers, etc., there is no statutory prices control; but their prices prevail more or less at the levels of prices of nitrogen, phosphate and potash nutrients of fertilisers imported by Government.

The prices of fertilisers prevailing in same developing and developed countries *vis-a-vis* India as available in the latest available F. 4, O. publication are shown in Appendix (*see* below). It will be seen therefrom that the prices of fertilisers in India are relatively high. But it is also to be noted that the prices of agricultural produce in India are comparatively higher than in several other countries. Scientific use of fertilisers, despite their relatively high price, bring in reasonable profits for the farmers. In some countries there is also an element of subsidy. The policy of Government is not to subsidise inputs but to offer incentive prices to the farmers for out-put.

(b) the prices of imported fertilisers depend upon the cost of procurement from abroad. Every effort is made by Government to import fertilisers at the lowest possible cost. Government continuously review the prices of these fertilisers and reduce the prices whenever possible. In fact, the prices of certain varieties of Ammonium Sulphate were reduced by Rs. 100 per tonne in 1969-70 and Urea by Rs. 20 per tonne in March, 1971.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the house by Shri Sunder Mani Patel.