

FOREIGN COLLABORATIONS

*296. SHRI M.K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of foreign collaborations approved during the years 1968-69 and 1969-70 respectively; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the foreign collaborations are showing declining trends, if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) :

(a) The number of foreign collaboration cases approved during the years 1968 to 1970 is as follows:

1968	. . .	132
1969	. . .	135
1970	. . .	183

(b) Yes, Sir, Compared to the number of cases approved during the early sixties, the number of foreign collaboration cases approved during 1968, 1969 and 1970 have shown a decline. The reasons, among others, are that a much greater indigenous technological capability has been established in a number of fields through prior collaborations or otherwise and a greater selectivity is now exercised to avoid import of technology in non-essential fields and in a repetitive manner.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: May I know whether it is not a fact that a number of experts in the field have voiced concern regarding the decline in the number of foreign collaboration agreements that have been entered into as compared to the early 'sixties', and this has also retarded foreign investment in India? May I also know whether it is not a fact that as against the Fourth Plan estimate of a gross investment from abroad of Rs. 300 crores, during the Plan period, so far only Rs. 35 crores have been invested from these sources? If so, what is the Government's intention regarding making the climate for foreign collaboration better, so that the target of Rs. 300 crores may be reached? This is my first question.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : If my hon. friend had heard me with attention, he would have noticed that in 1970, the figure has gone up to 183. So the climate is looking up. Within the four walls of our policy about foreign collaboration, we do want to see that foreign investment comes in particular fields in which we want it to come.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : My second question is: Is it not a fact that other experts have refuted this Government's assessment of the situation? For instance, no less a person than Mr. G.L. Mehta, Chairman of the Indian Investment Centre, has said that "the actual experience of foreign entrepreneurs is a heart-braking struggle with red tape and bureaucratic delays." He goes on to say, "the obstacle raised for the Indian entrepreneur and his foreign partner has become more formidable with the passage of time." So, the hon. Minister's contention that the climate is better is not borne out by facts. Secondly, . . .

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MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. You take a long time.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Only one minute, Sir, Recently, delegations from West Germany and Japan came regarding assessment of the climate for foreign investment in India. What exactly is the follow-up action taken by the Government in this regard and how much investment and collaboration can we expect from those two countries?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : Sir, when I said that the climate has improved, I compared it with the climate that was prevailing previously. As I said, in 1969, the number of foreign collaboration cases approved was 135. Now it has gone up to 183. In that sense I was saying that the climate was looking up. I may just add that our attention has been drawn to what has been said by the hon. Member and we are trying, within the framework of our policy with regard to inviting foreign collaboration and technical know-how, to streamline the procedure of issuing letters of intent and licences.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA: I asked about the delegations from West Germany and Japan, whether any follow-up measures have been taken.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : That we shall consider, I cannot off hand say now.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : May I know whether the Government is aware of the criticism that indiscriminate use of foreign collaboration is being made, particularly by the private sector ? This morning, Sir, there was a report that Mr. Giri, our President, speaking somewhere in the South, said that foreign collaboration should not be encouraged and that Indian scientists and technologists are quite competent to do the job.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The President's name should not have been mentioned.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I am ¹ sorry, Sir. So, may I know whether it is not a fact that the Government is making blatant use of its powers to encourage foreign collaboration ? For example, the Philips are being allowed foreign collaboration for the manufacture of television sets, when we have developed very formidable television sets at the Central Electronic and Engineering Research Institute. That is number one.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are entitled to one question only.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, this is only the second part of my first question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please ; let others also have a chance.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, I only want to know whether the Government is not adopting double standards for its own public sector projects. They say that they are going to have foreign collaboration with Italy for the manufacture of scooters, when the Indian technicians have manufactured a scooter, completely with indigenous parts. Why is the Government applying double standards in the matter of foreign collaboration ?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : It is exactly the opposite view expressed by the honourable Member who put the question. I said within the frame-work of our policy, which requires that foreign collaboration should subserve the needs of the country's economy, should be consistent with our plans and programmes, should be consistent with our technical knowhow, should not disturb our consultancy, keeping in view all these factors, we encourage or invite

foreign collaboration. We are very careful about it. We want to see that it does not disturb our experts and scientists in developing the indigenous consultancy, the indigenous knowhow. We are very careful about it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, on a point of order. Is this reply commensurate with my question ? I have charged the Government that they are giving collaboration to the Philips for The manufacture of...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kulkarni, I am asking you to please sit down. Mr. Minister, his question was whether you were not applying double standards.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : No, no. Sir. There is no question of it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, on a point of order. He says "No". Quite all right. But he has himself declared, the Government have themselves declared, that they are having collaboration with Italy for Vespa scooters when Indians are prepared to manufacture them...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kulkarni, you are unnecessarily taking the time of the House. The answer has come.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : On a point of order, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : At this rate, I cannot do nay question. Where is the point of order?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, once you admit a question as you admitted Mr. Kulkarni's long question, the Minister is bound to reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But he has replied.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : No, Sir, he has not replied.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know he has replied. Now please sit down.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Sir, I rise on a point of order. If an honourable Member insists that what the Minister has said is not a fact, there should be some remedy thrown open for the Member; otherwise, it is a peculiar phenomenon, the Member

insisting that one fact is correct and the Minister contradicting it and the House passing over on it. In this House I had been responsible for challenging a statement of no less a person than Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. I got the permission of the Chair to challenge the statement of the Prime Minister. If there is contradiction between the statement made by the Minister and the assertions made by the Member, if not today, you should ask the Member tomorrow to substantiate what he says and ask the Minister to make a statement on it. It is becoming an everyday phenomenon ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot decide on this matter immediately...

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: You cannot decide on this matter, but I shall like your ruling on a specific point, whether this practice is going to continue or there will be some end to this practice—a Member making an assertion and the Minister contradicting it, both saying both are correct and the House passing over on that matter. There should be an end to this practice.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Sir, it is not possible to continue the proceedings if any statement on a case is challenged. A clarification must be given immediately. That is the convention.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot give a decision just now.

श्री राजनारायण : इस में डिजीजन क्या देना है, श्रीमन् ? आप तो विचित्र स्थिति पैदा कर देते हैं। इस में आप को कोई डिजीजन नहीं देना है, यह इस्टैबलिश्ड कंवेन्शन है।

श्री एस० डी० मिश्र : आप कोई जजमेंट न दें, लेकिन क्या मशीनरी हो यह तो बतला दें।

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : The honourable Minister has mentioned 183 cases before 1970. I would like to know in these cases what the minimum time required was for the disposal of a particular case and what the maximum time taken by the department was in disposing of the case.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : It is not possible to give that information off hand as to how much time was taken.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : I am asking for only two types of information—the minimum time and the maximum time. I am not asking for the details of all cases. When the Minister says that the atmosphere has now become favourable and they are disposing of more cases and they are liberal, I just wanted to know. ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is about collaboration.

SHRI

स्वीकृति जो दी गई है वह कमसे कम कितने समय में दी गई है और अधिक से अधिक कितना समय लगा है।

N. K. SHEJWALKAR: . . .

That is what I want to know.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : We are trying to do it as speedily as possible. We are looking into the licensing procedure in order to streamline it. If the hon. Member points out any particular case where a longer time was taken, I will look into it.

*241. [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Jaipuria) was absent. For answer vide col. 31 infra.]

*297. [The questioner (Dr. Bhai Mahavir) was absent. For answer vide col. 32 infra.]

जूही स्टेशन पर माल चढ़ाने-उतारने के ठेके की जांच के बारे में प्रतिवेदन

*298. श्री जगदम्बो प्रसाद यादव : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जूही स्टेशन तथा इलाहाबाद डिजीजन में माल चढ़ाने-उतारने के ठेके के सम्बन्ध में कतिपय अधिकारियों द्वारा किय गये कदाचारों के बारे में और उसी डिजीजन के एक टी० टी० ई० द्वारा यात्रा भत्ते के झूठे दावे पेश किये जाने के बारे में भी सतर्कता विभाग के जांच अधि-