

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will he please correct the answer?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I am concerned only with the undertaking which are licensed under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. Only with regard to those matters the question of permission from the Central Government arises. With regard to the shifting of head offices or undertakings which are of a trading nature, as the hon'ble Member might have seen, the matter is agitating the West Bengal Government. It is also published in the papers. The matter is under discussion between Mr. Birla and the Deputy Chief Minister, West Bengal..

[Intern[^]pKioTi by *Shri Kalyan Roy*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is irrespective of the talks with Shri Jyoti Basu.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I have seen it. The matter is also being discussed with the Advocate-General of the State Government. With regard to shifting of these units it can be done by the State Government. With those units' I am not concerned. I have already given replies to all the questions.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, एक प्वाइन्ट आफ आर्डर है ।

श्री सभापति : क्वेश्चन आवर में प्वाइन्ट आफ आर्डर नहीं हुआ करना ।

श्री राजनारायण : आपने आल्वा साहब को अलाऊ किया, भूपेश गुप्त को किया ।

श्री सभापति : मैंने आल्वा साहब को रूल आऊट कर दिया ।

श्री राजनारायण : तो हमारा रूल आऊट मत कीजिये ।

श्री सभापति : और कोई दूसरा मौका आप ले लीजियेगा । इसे इस वक्त छोड़ दीजियेगा । बस खत्म कीजिये ।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, हमारा एक प्वाइन्ट तो आप सुन लीजिये ।

श्री सभापति : भाई बैठ जाइये, । कभी तो कहना मानिये ।

श्री राजनारायण : अफ़्फ़ा, इस वक्त आपका कहना मान लिये हैं । आइन्दा आप मानियेगा ।

SEAMLESS TUBES AND GAS CYLINDERS

154. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPA-YEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 12 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th November, 1969 and state:

(a) whether clearance has been given to the proposed public sector projects for seamless tubes and gas cylinders to be started in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details of the two projects and the sites approved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH): (a) and (b). It has since been decided to set up a project for the manufacture of high-pressure Gas Cylinders in the public sector at Naini through M/s. Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd[^] Naini. The capital cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 378.07 lakhs. As for the seamless steel pipes project, this is still under consideration.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the Government

of India was considering the question of locating it somewhere in Maharashtra, at Nagpur, and the Government of Maharashtra had furnished all the technical details and had also assured the Central Government of all facilities for this project of gas cylinders? If that is a fact, why is it that the project is being shifted from Nagpur to Naini? May I know the grounds on which this shifting has been allowed?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, the matter was under consideration, so far as the location is concerned, not only in Maharashtra but in U.P. and also in Andhra Pradesh. After taking into consideration all the pros and cons, it was decided that this project should be set up.....

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: What are the comparative grounds on which the decision was taken?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: There is another public sector undertaking at Naini, i.e. Bharat Pumps and Compressors, and it was found more economic to have this unit also under the same management, same supervision. Therefore, it has been decided to set it up at Naini.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will assure us that at least the second project, i.e. seamless tubes, which is under the consideration of the Government, will be located in Maharashtra, and also in an area which is industrially backward?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, the matter is under consideration. I cannot give any assurance. This has to be decided on the basis of techno-economic feasibility.

SHRI M. M. DHARI A: Sir, is it not a fact that so far as public sector undertakings are concerned, great injustice is done to Maharashtra, particularly to the backward areas in that State? It will not be right to con-

sider Maharashtra on the basis of Bombay. There are so many backward areas and in spite of demands from Nagpur, Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan, the Central Government has neglected all these backward areas. I do not know why the Government is partial in this respect. Will the hon. Minister assure this House that no such partiality will be shown at least in future?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: No partiality to anyone will be shown.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: May I know from the hon. Minister on what basis he has found the opinion given by his officers as valid, the opinion that Bharat Pumps and Compressors has got something to do with the seamless tubes, apart from the question of management? Seamless tubes are one thing and pressure pumps are something different. I want to know whether the hon. Minister himself has applied his mind as to what is the real technical difficulty. I charge the Government that they have a bias against Maharashtra State and they are not giving public sector projects.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question. Do not charge anybody.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I have got a right to ask.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I charge the Minister that he has got a bias against Maharashtra (*Interruption*) I also want to know whether it is not a fact that a site was selected near Nasik for locating the second telephone project and it was moved to Allahabad under some pressure. I charge the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, it is not a debate. No charges. You put your question.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Let him not merely assure us of this or that. We definitely know that the Central Government is not giving any public sector units to Maharashtra for reasons well known.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put your question. Do not debate or discuss.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I would like to know whether the technical reasons found out will be again reexamined in consultation with the officers of the Maharashtra State and whether the seamless tubes project can also be brought back to Nagpur from where it has been shifted.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The hon. Member in his excitement.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: No, I am not excited. You are doing an injustice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, Mr. Kulkarni.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The hon. Member has taken for granted that we have taken a decision about the seamless tubes. No decision regarding the seamless tubes has been taken. I was only referring to gas cylinders and he was talking about seamless tubes....

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: No, I said gas cylinders.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Kulkarni himself is a gas cylinder.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Anyhow, I would assure him that there is no bias against Maharashtra State. Every matter is decided on merits.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the Minister has not replied to my specific question. I asked him whether he will re-examine this question whether there is any connection between the production of gas cylinders and pumps and compressors. That is the reason

given by him. He must assure us that he will re-examine it in consultation with the State Government.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, so far as the decision regarding the cylinders is concerned, it will not be re-opened. So far as the other matter is concerned, it is under consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

WATCH UNIT IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

155. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 35 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th November, 1969 and state:

(a) whether the detailed project report for the setting up of a second watch unit in Jammu and Kashmir State has since been received;

(b) whether the site has been chosen and water and power supply arrangements for the factory have been made;

(c) when is the machinery expected to arrive; and

(d) when is the unit likely to go into production ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Ye-, Sir. The Detailed Project Report is under consideration of the Government, at present.

(b) Preliminary details relating to site, water and power supply etc., for the factory in Kashmir have been settled in discussion! between HMT and State Government of Jammu and Kashmir.