

# SHIFTING OF INDUSTRIES FROM WEST BENGAL

- \*153. SHRI KALYAN ROY:  
SHRI Z. A. AHMAD:  
SHRI M. V. BHADRAM:  
SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY:  
DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-  
PADHYAYA:†  
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Ananda Bazar Patrika' of 27th December, 1969 under the caption "Group of Businessmen decide to shift industries from West Bengal";

(b) whether the Government are aware of any such move;

(c) whether the Central Government also have been approached by any industrialists to remove any concerns from West Bengal;

(d) if so, the names of such concerns; and

(e) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

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

## STATEMENT

(a) Government's attention has been drawn to the news item referred to.

(b) to (e) Industrial undertakings licensed under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 have to obtain the permission of the Government of India for change of location. During the last three years, i.e., 1967, 1968 and 1969, 10 applications for licences for shifting of industrial undertakings from West Bengal to other States were received. Seven of these have been rejected and two approved. One application received in 1969 is under consideration. The names of the applicants and the decisions taken in each case are given in the Annexure. The applications for shifting of industries are not peculiar to West Bengal alone. The permission of the Central Government in such cases is given on the merits of each case.

## ANNEXURE

Name of applicant	Item of manufacture	State to which proposed to be shifted	Govt.'s decision/ present position
1967			
M/s. John Fowler India Ltd., Bangalore.	Internal Combustion Engines.	Mysore	Rejected.
Shri H. L. Somany, Calcutta	Glazed Tiles.	Haryana	Approved.
1968			
M/s. American Refrigerator Co. Ltd., Calcutta.	Industrial Blowers.	Maharashtra.	Approved.

?The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Debi-prasad Chattopadhyaya.

Name of applicant	Item of manufacture	State to which proposed to be shifted	Go decision/ present position
M/s. Hindustan Gas & Industries Ltd., Calcutta.	Miscellaneous Chemicals.	Haryana.	Rejected.
M/s. Navyoug Dye-Chem. Industries Ltd., Bombay.	Dye-stuffs.	Gujarat.	Rejected.
M/s. Shalimar Steel & Saws Ltd., Calcutta.	Small and Hand Tools	Rajasthan.	Rejected.
M/s. Bharat Barrel & Drum Mfg. Co. Pvt. Ltd.	Drums and Barrels.	Tamil Nadu.	Rejected.
1969			
M/s. Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., Calcutta.	Drums and Containers.	Tamil Nadu.	Rejected.
Shri A. C. Burman C/o M/s. Dabur (Dr. S. K. Burman) Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta.	Drugs and Pharmaceuticals.	Haryana.	Rejected.
M/s. Bharat Barrel & Drum Mfg. Co. Pvt. Ltd, Calcutta.	Drums and Barrels.	Maharashtra.	Under consideration.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On a point of order, is the hon. Minister, who openly defies the Council of Ministers with regard to privy purses entitled to answer questions?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: From the report laid on the Table, it is not clear whether Government has appreciated the gravity of the problem there. So, I would like to ask some specific questions. I want categorical answers. My first question is this. Is the hon. Minister in a position to confirm the well-known hypothesis that the main cause of some industrialists' unsupportable desire to shift industries from West Bengal to elsewhere is the extremely deplorable and insecure law and order situation, the unhealthy trade union movement and unfavourable industrial climate in the State? Will the hon. Minister kindly enlighten us on the Press report that as the Birlas have closed down one of their offices in Calcutta and are thinking of shifting some of their industrial units from West Bengal, the hon. Home Minister of West Bengal, Shri Jyoti Basu, has prayed to Mr. B. M. Birla not to

do so and that their secret negotiation and bargaining have come to naught?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please finish your question.

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have to put one more question. Are the Government of India aware that there are some industrial concerns in West Bengal, e.g., Jay Engineering Works and Bengal Lamp, who are not actually shifting their existing plants, but gradually investing more and more and expanding more and more their concerns outside West Bengal and thus depriving the unemployed youth of the State of possible employment, thus creating a really dangerous situation and making the gloomy employment prospect even gloomier?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will do.

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: Will the Government kindly think of refusing or reviewing permission to these industrialists who have their main units in West Bengal, but want to expand their newly-established units outside West Bengal?

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Even before my reply hon. Members are ready for asking other questions. So far as this question is concerned, it can be divided into two parts. The first is whether my attention has been drawn to some matters mentioned in the newspapers. I have said 'Yes.' Then, the question was whether some of the industries have shifted from Calcutta to other places. May I point out that so far as I am concerned I can only give information with regard to industrial units and undertakings which are licensed under the Industries (Development and Regulation Act). I have provided the information that during the last three years there were ten applications for shifting the undertakings from Calcutta to other places. Seven of them have been rejected. Two of them have been approved. One application, which was filed late in the year 1969, is still pending consideration. Now, my hon. friend has also put several questions which have more or less no relevance. I entirely agree with

him that the labour situation in West Bengal is in a condition deterrent to the growth and expansion of industries in the country. So far as the question of Birlas is concerned, I have seen it in the newspapers that the matter is under discussion between Mr. Birla and the Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal. So far as the shifting of industries from one place to another is concerned, that is a very complicated matter and generally this is not agreed to, unless and until it is applied for on technical grounds or economic grounds. There are also the views of the State Government needed. As will be obvious, out of ten applications seven have been rejected and only two have been approved on grounds of economy . . .

**SHRI ARJUN ARORA:** Which are the two?

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** The two, which have been approved, are:

Name of applicant	Item of manufacture	State to which proposed to be shifted
1. Shri H. L. Somany, Calcutta . . . . .	Glazed Tiles	Haryana
2. M/s. American Refrigerator Co. Ltd. Calcutta.	Industrial blowers	Maharashtra

These are the only two which have been approved.

**DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA:** One important question . . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You have already put three questions.

**DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA:** One important question he has not clarified. I have put a very important question. The hon. Minister has said it is irrelevant. The question is the industrialists are doing something very clever. There are

some industrial units in West Bengal and they have their other units outside West Bengal. They are doing one thing very clever. They are expanding outside West Bengal. The potential employment situation in West Bengal is becoming very gloomier because of the systematic . . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please put the question.

**DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA:** The question is what the hon. Minister is proposing to do to stop this bad practice of allowing the

industrialists to expand their industrial units outside West Bengal and stop the proposed expansion in West Bengal.

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I do not know how that question arises. The question of expansion in other places is considered on merits. If it is approved on merit, they are permitted to do so. I do not know how that arises here.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** May I know from the hon. Minister, firstly, what are the reasons for the rejection of the seven applications and what are the reasons for approval of two applications for shifting? May I also know whether it is a fact that one of the companies which applied for shifting is the Bharat Barrel and Drum Manufacturing Company and it is under the consideration of Government, whether it is not a fact that this Bharat Barrel and Drum Manufacturing Company was once a black-listed company, and whether the Government will bear this thing in mind before deciding the matter? The second question I want to ask is, if as some of our friends have made it out the climate for industrial investment in West Bengal has become bleak, and if the report on the joint stock companies and their investment is in indication, may I have the privilege of pointing out something that in accordance with the report it is said that the total number of companies at work in West Bengal on 31st March, 1969, was 9136 with a paid-up capital of Rs. 641 crores and the corresponding figure for 31st March 1968 is 9074 companies with a paid-up capital of Rs. 640.10 crores? Thus while the number of companies remained almost the same, the paid-up capital increased marginally by about Rs. 1 crore in 1969. The point has been sought to be made out that industrial climate is not as good as it was earlier in West Bengal, and that is one of the reasons which he has given. He has said that the condition of investment is bad due to unhealthy

trade union practices. My suggestions are . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I do not want your suggestions

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** Please listen to me. My figures suggest that the investment climate is not as bad as is being sought to be made out. Therefore, may I know whether it is a fact that some industrialists in West Bengal now want to shift their industrial units from West Bengal because the trade union movement there is demanding higher and legitimate wages? Only in order to avoid the question of giving legitimate higher wages certain industrialists are trying to shift their industries from West Bengal. If it is not so, what are the other reasons?

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** So far as the first part of the question is concerned, I have already indicated that out of ten applications made during the last three years seven have been rejected, two have been approved and one is under consideration. The application of Messrs. Bharat Barrel and Drum Manufacturing Company (Private) Limited is under consideration. He had also made an application in the year 1968 when it was rejected. He has again filed an application for shifting it from Calcutta to Maharashtra, and that matter is still under consideration. As for the reasons why some applications have been approved while other applications have been rejected, may I point out that the matter is a very complex one and generally such applications where the location is one of the reasons for which a licence is granted are not accepted for shifting from one place to another. But as I pointed out earlier, where that is not the condition and it is made on technical ground or on grounds of economy the application is considered and permission sought for the purpose of transfer, is given on merit after taking into consideration the views of the State Government.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** What are the specific grounds for the acceptance

of the two applications and the rejection of the seven applications?

SHRI C. D. PANDE: Sir, on a point of order. The hon. Minister has said it is his function to grant the licence, licence has to be granted by him. The question of law and order . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is no point of order.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: The point of order is, you cannot force any party and make it a condition that you must locate that there unless you can give him protection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. Mr. Ahmed, you finish your answer.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: May I say that the hon. Member has an entirely erroneous conception of all this licensing. What I pointed out is that where location is one of the reasons for which a licence to a particular party is given, if he applies for shifting, that application is not accepted. But where on grounds of economy . . .

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. Let him finish.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, I seek your protection. The question has been specific. What are the reasons for the rejection and what are the grounds for approval?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Where it is on grounds of economy or technical grounds, then the opinion of the State Government is also taken into consideration by the Licensing Committee, and after the Licensing Committee has gone into the matter the matter is also considered by the Ministry. Then only it is either approved or rejected. These are the bases on which either the applications are approved or rejected. So, far as the suggestion given by my hon. friend is

concerned, he has read from a paper. It is a matter of opinion. He can form his own opinion, and I have also indicated that during the last three years only ten applications were made for shifting out of which seven have been rejected and two granted. That is a normal feature not only in West Bengal but other places also that applications for shifting are made; but I have said that the situation in West Bengal is deterrent for the purpose of development and expansion.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: May I know the reasons mentioned in the application for shifting of industrial undertakings from West Bengal to other States? May I know whether the law and order situation going from bad to worse was one of the reasons?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I have already answered.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: My question has not been replied. My question was whether the law and order situation going from bad to worse was one of the reasons. He said he has replied. He has not replied.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: It is a matter of opinion. I have already said whatever I had to say.

SHRI DALPAT SINGH: The Minister has said that such applications for shifting of industries are not from West Bengal alone. May I know from him from which State such applications are the largest in number?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: May I just point out that not only in West Bengal but in Maharashtra also from 1967 to 1969 ten applications were made for the purpose of shifting the industries from that State.

SHRI DALPAT SINGH: I want to know from which State he got the largest number of applications for shifting industries.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I said that during the period

in question the largest number is from West Bengal and Maharashtra.

**श्री प्रेम मनोहर :** श्रीमन्, क्या भारत सरकार को मालूम है कि जितनी ऐप्लीकेशन्स आपने कंसिडर की है उनसे कहीं अधिक ज्यादा कैसेज ऐसे हैं जिनमें कि वहां के प्रतिष्ठानों ने आपस में लेबर यूनियन्स से तय करके और उनसे अपनी सब शर्तें तय करके वहां से अपने आफिसर्स सिफ्ट कर रहे हैं। न वह आपको ऐप्लाई करते हैं, न कुछ करते हैं, वह सीक्रेटली लेबर यूनियन्स से बातचीत करके अपने आफिसर्स वहां से काफी सिफ्ट कर रहे हैं और उसका एक कारण यह है कि सुबह से शाम तक वहां नारेबाजी होती है और नारेबाजी की वजह से आफिस में कोई काम नहीं होता है और जो ऐग्जीक्यूटिव्स हैं वे अपने पोर्टफोलियो में अपने सारे पेपर्स रख करके सड़कों पर इंडेंट्स काटते हैं और सारे काम करते हैं। तो इस बात को रोकने के लिये क्या गवर्नमेंट कुछ विचार कर रही है ?

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN RLI AHMED:** Presumably, my hon. friend is referring to the units which are trading units. So far as those units are concerned, I have no information except what I have read in the newspapers, and it is not possible for me to go into the details of these matters.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** By the reply given by the hon. Minister, whom he is convincing in these matters, I do not understand. So, do not be like a cat closing eyes and drinking milk. You are being killed like anything and you are talking .... (Interruptions) Sir, I seek your protection. I have got a right to ask a question. I am asking in my own way.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You ask in the regular way.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** I want to know from the Government whether

it is not a fact? Apart from convincing on political grounds, you talk with diplomatic intensity; that you can do because you are expected to do it. You are the Central Government. You can do it. But is it not a fact that the contribution of West Bengal to the gross national product has got reduced during the last two or three years? And one of the reasons is the insecurity in West Bengal. It is a national loss that we are incurring. For heaven's sake, try to educate the West Bengal Government about the conditions which are required for the growth of industry. . . .

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** How is this concerned with providing security in West Bengal?

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** My question is, will the Minister of Industrial Development take concrete steps to convince the West Bengal Government about those steps to be taken to inculcate a feeling that there is insecurity in West Bengal and industries can grow and help the nation's economic growth only .... (Interruptions) Do not talk about the Shiv Sena. Then I will finish you.

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I am doing no more than placing the facts before this House, and I have already said that the situation in West Bengal is such as can be said to be deterrent for the purpose of economic growth and expansion of industries.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** Politically. . . .

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Now so far as the positive steps are concerned, we are already in touch with the West Bengal Government and they are taking up the matter to see how the situation can be improved.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** On a point of order. The hon. Minister has said that the situation is bad for in-

dustrial development and for industry there. On what basis does he make that statement?

(interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no Please. Please sit down Mr. Chitta Basu. Mr. Ramachandran.

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN: May I ask the hon. Minister whether there is anything in law as it stands today compelling an industrial unit to remain where it is when that unit is convinced that it cannot function efficiently there and, secondly, who has the final voice in the matter, is it the State Government or the Central Government?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: So far as the licensed undertakings are concerned, if any undertaking or unit wants to shift from one place to another, they have to make an application. The matter is considered by the Licensing Committee and with their recommendation it would be put up before the Central Government which takes the decision.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister, apart from the question of the labour situation being a deterrent, whether his attention has been drawn to the statement by the Chief Minister of West Bengal describing his Government as barbarous and uncivilised and to other statements that Calcutta has become a Vietnam and that life, security and property are in danger? May I ask him whether he has made enquiries from his own officers whether they are able to function satisfactorily there? He must have his own officers there. I want to ask him.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The statement made by the Chief Minister of West Bengal is known to the hon. friend and also to the other Members of this House.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: From the statement, it seems that the largest number of applications were received in 1968 when Mr. Dharma Vira, \* \* \* was creating a law and order.... (interruptions).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI A. D. MANI: You have been a Governor, Sir. Is that right?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Menon, you should not use that word. That word will be deleted.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: All right, Sir.

In 1968, when the Governor, Mr. Dharma Vira, was ruling the State on behalf of the President and when the monopoly Press in this country was saying that law and order had been re-established and that the people of West Bengal would vote for the Presidential rule, at that time the largest number of applications were received. May I know from this fact whether it is due to the improvement in the law and order situation in West Bengal in 1968 that the largest number of industrialists wanted to shift their enterprises from Calcutta and, secondly, whether all this *hullabaloo*, all the nightmare with which some of our friends are talking here about the breakdown of law and order is not a figment of their imagination to create.....

SHRI C. D. PANDE: We have got our eyes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put a question and finish.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: ... a bad impression about West Bengal?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I do not know what the hon. Member is trying to elicit from me, whether it is about the largest number of applications received for licensing or what.

\*\*\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON:** About shifting in 1968 when it was said that there was no law and order problem in West Bengal. So, I want to know whether the reason for shifting has any actual basis in the matter of law and order at all. It is independent of the basis of law and order.

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** It cannot be connected with the question of law and order, Sir, because I find that in the year 1968 not only the largest number of applications for transfer were received from West Bengal but from Maharashtra also. So, it cannot be correct.

**SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON:** May I know whether the law and order problem in Maharashtra...

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Pitamber Das. Last question.

**श्री राजनारायण :** श्रीमन्, बंगाल में जो जाकर डंडा खाये और बंगाल की हालत की विशेष जानकारी रखे उसको आप नहीं बुलायेंगे ना। मैं डंडा खाये हुये हूँ। सवाल पूछ सकता हूँ। कितना कत्ल हो रहा है, कितना महिलाओं के साथ बलात्कार हो रहा है।

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठिये। इस सवाल पर 22 मिनट ले लिया गया है।

**श्री राजनारायण :** मैं क्या करूँ, मैं साक्षी हूँ वहाँ के बारे में।

**SHRI KALYAN ROY:** I wanted to put one question, Sir. My name is not called.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please sit down.

**SHRI DALPAT SINGH:** You should allow some discussion on this, Sir.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I will consider, if a regular motion is made.

**श्री पीतांबर दास :** जिस आदमी को बंगाल के बारे में जानकारी है उसे कुछ पूछने की क्या आवश्यकता? मुझे जानकारी नहीं है इसलिये मुझे पूछना है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि मन् 1968 में और 1969 में जो अप्लीकेशन्स आई है उन अप्लीकेशन्स में रीजन्स क्या दिये हुये है शिफ्ट करने के लिये। I would like to know what are the reasons that they have given in their applications for shifting their industries.

**श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद :** मुझे जहाँ तक इल्म है, यह नहीं दिया हुआ है कि ला एण्ड आर्डर की वजह से शिफ्ट करना है। यह रीजन नहीं है।

**श्री पीतांबर दास :** यह तो नेगेटिव उत्तर है। यह बताइये कि रीजन्स है क्या?

**श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** जिस वजह से किया है वह तो बताइये। अगर कोई रीजन है तो वह क्या है? आप कोई उत्तर नहीं दे रहे हैं। आप भी उन्हीं की तरह से बोल रहे हैं।

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The question was: What are the reasons given by the applicants for shifting their industries?

**SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** As I pointed out, it is either on grounds of economy or on technical grounds that these applications have been made. I have not got the details. I can lay the details on the Table later on.

**SHRI GODEY MURAHARI:** I would like to know from the Government on what basis these rejections were made because from the statement it appears that they have approved in cases where it seems it would help

the ruling party. The statement shows:—

Mysoae	.	.	Rejected
Haryana	.	.	Approved
Maharashtra	.	.	"
Haryana	.	.	Rejected
Gujarat	.	.	"
Rajasthan	.	.	"
Tamil Nadu	.	.	"
Tamil Nadu	.	.	"
Haryana	.	.	"
Maharashtra	.	.	Under consideration

So from the rejections and the approvals and "Under consideration" it appears as though there has been some favouritism shown. Where they feel that it will help the ruling party it seems to have approved and in places where there is a doubt they have rejected. For example, there is Messrs. Bharat Barrel and Drum Mfg. Co. Private Ltd., Calcutta. They have applied for shifting it to Tamil Nadu. It is "under consideration". I would like to know the basis on which these rejections have been made or the basis on which approvals have been given.

Let us also know the ratio of approval from the Maharashtra region vis-a-vis the Calcutta region so that we could know whether the shifting from Calcutta is as a result of the West Bengal law and order situation. If the rate of applications for shifting is normal then, of course, we have nothing to worry. But if it is more than normal and if it is more than Maharashtra in proportion, then the question of law and order comes in. We would like to know from the Government the basis on which these things are done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the last question. I will then proceed to the next question.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I did not get the opportunity of putting my second supplementary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You were not here.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: It is such an important question concerning my State. One question at least, please.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have already taken half an hour.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On a point of order. His name is the first on the List. He should be allowed a second supplementary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. I will allow only one more question.

श्री राजनारायण : अरे, हमको ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Murahari has put it.

श्री राजनारायण : श्री मुराहरी ने जो क्वेश्चन किया था वह कितना वेलिड था, वह दूसरी शक्ल का था ।

श्री सभापति : इस तरह से करेंगे तो कैसे चलेगी गाड़ी ।

श्री राजनारायण : मैं उस कौन सी कला में महारत हासिल करूँ जिससे मैं आपकी आंखों को पकड़ सकूँ ।

श्री सभापति : मुझे आप नजर आते हैं लेकिन मुझे यह भी तो देखना है कि और को भी मौका मिले ।

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: So far as the question of shifting of undertakings is concerned, that cannot reflect the situation which the hon'ble Member has pointed out. As will be seen from the figures of the last three years, not only in West Bengal but in other places also the number of applications received for shifting the industries from one place to another is normal. And as I pointed out earlier where one of the reasons for giving a licence to a particular industry is location, shifting

is not permitted. If an application is made on technical and economic grounds, the matter is gone into by the Licensing Committee. And after the Licensing Committee have made their recommendation the Government takes a decision with regard to the acceptance or the rejection of the application. I deny the insinuation that anything has been done on the basis of consideration for any State and so on.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA: I rise on a point of order...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no question of point of order.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA: It is as a result of a strong campaign by Mr. Chandra Shekhar that the hon'ble Minister was compelled in the end to order an enquiry in the Birla concerns. Now the whole enquiry has been vitiated by the transfer of Birla firms from Calcutta so as to dispose of the evidence against them. I want the hon'ble Minister..

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA: How do you say that?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have ruled it out of order.

SHRI JOACHIM ALVA: You may rule it out of order. But you have to look into the point submitted. I am surprised at this.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, what is happening in Calcutta is due to the Central Government's failure to tackle the unemployment problem. I think the Minister would agree that the Birlas have shifted their ten offices during the last two weeks from Calcutta. The I.C.I. have shifted their office to Bombay. Karam Chand Thapar are shifting their offices to Delhi. And this is not possible unless they are in collusion with the Central Government.

Secondly, may I know, Sir, how many head offices and factories are contemplated to be shifted from Calcutta in this year? And in view of this serious situation which is developing because of the acute unemployment position in West Bengal, would the Minister assure the House that from now on no entrepreneur or industrialist, who has been issued a licence to build up a factory in West Bengal, will be allowed to shift to any other State? Secondly, the Central Government should see that the Haryana and Orissa Ministers do not go to Calcutta to tell the industrialists there that they should shift. That should be stopped. Thirdly...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

SHRI KALAYAN ROY: ...the Central Government should see that West Bengal should get at least some more public sector Industries.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I shall divide the question of the hon'ble Member into two parts. One is the question of the shifting of head offices and of companies. With that the Central Government or my Department have nothing to do....

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Birlas.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: That is entirely their internal matter.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On a point of order. This shifting of head offices has surely something rent to do with them. When permission is given to shift, surely it affects the industries, the employment and all that. How does he say that they are not concerned? Head offices have been shifted to other places. This is not the right way of answering the question. The coal mines cannot be taken away on one's head to Bombay. Coal mines remain where they are. Tea gardens remain where they are...

(Interruption by Shri C. D. Pande).

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no.

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.

[Interruption 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 आफ़ आर्डर है ।

श्री सभापति : क्वेश्चन आवर में प्वाइन्ट आफ़ आर्डर नहीं हुआ करता ।

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 : अच्छा, इस वक्त आपका कहना मान लिये है । आइन्दा आप मानियेगा ।

#### SEAMLESS TUBES AND GAS CYLINDERS

\*154. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: 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