

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Now, they have also permitted me. I wanted to ask a question, with your permission, because I got a little confused by Mr. C. D. Pande's question. He has got many strong points ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put your question. This is the last supplementary.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : ... but economics is not one of them. I should like to know what percentage of Indian trade is accounted for by rupee trade or similar other agreements. Is it not a fact that on account of the rupee trade agreement we do not lose any foreign exchange which we earn by the export of our services and goods and that it is to the great advantage of the country that it helps foreign exchange accumulation, where as otherwise the foreign exchange would have to be spent ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : I do not have the figure at the moment of the percentage but I can say that the rupee trade in the last ten years with these countries has shown a much further growth than any other. Secondly, because the arrangement is that the exports and imports balance over a period of time, we have a trade balance with these countries, whereas with the other countries the free economy countries, our trade is heavily in deficit.

IMPLEMENTATION OF SCIENTIFIC POLICY RESOLUTION

*65a.DR. SALIGRAM:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : f
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee on Science and Technology has completed its study on the implementation of Scientific Policy Resolution ;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(c) what decisions have been taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY): (a) The Committee has recently submitted a Preliminary Report on Implementation of Scientific Policy.

■f The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kant.

(b) and (c) The Report is under consideration.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know when the final report will be submitted or will it not be submitted at all? The preliminary report has come after one year. May I know as regards the secretariat what is the present position regarding staff who should collect data, process data and analyse them ? A number of posts, I do not think, have been filled in, excepting one. What is the position about these three things ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : It is not possible to give a date when the final report will be submitted. I fully share the hon. Member's concern that it has taken so long to get even a preliminary report, but the subject is a very important and complex one and even this report has raised various questions. We have asked for clarification. As far as the staff is concerned, I do not think I have (the details here. I have the names of some of the posts filled. One is the Secretary for COST, then there is the Principal Scientific Officer, one Junior Analyst, stenographers, etc.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the Prime Minister whether she is really satisfied with the present number of posts filled, that they could take up such a big job as the implementation of the scientific policy and the annual science report ? With this lathargic way of working I do not know what the Prime Minister is going to do about it. May I know whether during their functioning last year they have studied any other subjects ? Have they given any other recommendations and what implementation has been done on them ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : With regard to other subjects, I have, on a previous occasion, given the names of the Study Groups and the Working Groups which have been set up ...

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: What has come out of them ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I have stated it on the floor of the House previously. It is rather a long list. I can go into it if you like. As far as satisfaction is concerned, I think this is an extremely difficult question because I do not think that the working is entirely dependent on the number of posts filled. It is true, as I said just now, that the work is going on

far more slowly than I would have desired or we consider necessary in today's increased pace of living and the country's needs. But as I said, the matter is such a complicated one that it is difficult also to rush them. We are trying to expedite all these matters, which are being looked into at different levels. I am also meeting senior scientists and others to see how we can fill in some of the gaps. I do not think that they are entirely dependent on these posts. It is a question of seeing how we can make up the deficiencies. Some of this is in the methods of functioning. It is not easy suddenly to change something which has been going on for a long time. I entirely share the Member's concern in this matter and we hope that we will be able to sort out these things.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : May I know from the Prime Minister—looking at the great agonies Mr. Krishan Kant is suffering for the last two years because of the delay on this scientific policy and other matters, and particularly in view of the necessity in this country of improving the technology because our production goes on in the same old bullock-cart method and new technology has to be developed and production cost has to be brought down—may I know whether the Prime Minister is seriously interested in this, and if she is interested, whether she will take energetic steps either through this Committee or through co-ordination of various organisations we have got so that we shall achieve our goal by injecting this technology in our outmoded policies and methods ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I fully share the hon. Member, Mr. Krishan Kant's as well as Mr. Kulkarni's agony in this matter. As I said in reply to the previous supplementary, we are in touch with different groups and are trying to do everything possible to expedite. But scientists are also human beings, and the question of how each should get on with the other and so on is the same here as it is in any other organisation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I would like to know whether the National Sample Survey which is under the Government of India comes within the scope of this resolution. According to me it does. If so, why the Government while thinking of separating the National Sample Survey from the Statistical Institute is not arranging for consultation between the employees' or workers' union and representatives of the Government of India,

representatives of the Institute and representatives of the Government of West Bengal.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : This is an entirely different question. As far as I know the National Sample Survey does not come under this.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : May I know if it is a fact that the Chairman of the COST who was appointed for the purpose of giving a new science policy for the country, has singularly failed to produce a science policy and whatever recommendations he gave have not been accepted by some of the highest scientists we have including the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and therefore he is anxious to leave that assignment and go to some other post on less remuneration ? If so, may I know whether the Government have any information on this ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : AU this information is entirely new to me. I have not heard of this.

PROF. SAIYID NURUL HASAN : I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether there is any proposal that once this report is available there would be consultation with the working scientist at various levels so that Government may become familiar with the thinking specially of the younger and very highly qualified scientists who are actually tackling the problem ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I have been meeting the younger as well as the older scientists in every city where I go, and many of them have also come to Delhi. But I agree with the hon. Member that we should involve them more and more not only in the formulation of policy but how to solve some of our difficulties.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

सुरक्षा परिषद् की बैठक बुलाने की मांग

*653. श्री राजनारायण : क्या वंदेशिक कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सुरक्षा परिषद् की बैठक बुलाने के लिये हाल में की गई मांग पर भारत ने हस्ताक्षर नहीं किये थे ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण थे ?