

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 13th March, 1969/the 22nd
Phalgun, 1890 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*435. [The questioner (Shri A. D. Mani)
was absent. For answer, vide col. 3487-88 in
f.a.]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, on a
point of order. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, next question
436.

‘मिग’ इंजनों का उत्पादन

*436. श्री सुरज प्रसाद :

डा० भाई महावीर :†

सरदार राम सिंह :

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोरापुट तथा नासिक के ‘मिग’
कारखानों में मिग विमानों का निर्माण स्वतंत्र
रूप से किया जा रहा है अथवा दोनों कारखानों
में निर्मित पुर्जों को जोड़कर उनका निर्माण
किया जा रहा है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इस विमान के निर्माण
के लिए कुछ पुर्जों का आयात भी करती है और
यदि हां, तो वे पूरे कौन कौनसे हैं और
उनका देश में ही निर्माण करने के लिये सरकार
द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं और कब तक
ये पुर्जे देश में ही बनने लगेंगे ?

‡[PRODUCTION OF M.I.G. ENGINES

*436. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :
DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : †
SARDAR RAM SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be
pleased to state :

† The question was actually asked on
the floor of the House by Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

‡[] English translation

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(a) whether the MIG aircraft are being
manufactured independently in the MIG
workshops at Koraput and Nasik or
whether they are being assembled with
parts manufactured [at both the work-
shops; and

(b) whether Government also import
certain parts for the manufacture of this
aircraft; and if so, what steps are being
taken by Government to manufacture
them in the country itself and by when
they are likely to be manufactured in
the country ?]

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEF-
ENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N.
MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. The engines for the
MIG aircraft are being manufactured at the
factory in Koraput, the air-borne electro-
nic equipments at the factory in Hydera-
bad and the air-frame at the factory in
Nasik. The final assembly of the aircraft
is done at the factory in Nasik.

(b) Certain parts are imported, but
indigenous content is gradually increasing.
It will not be in public interest to disclose
further details.

‡[रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (रक्षा उत्पादन)
(श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र) : (क) जी नहीं ।
मिग विमानों के लिए इंजनों का निर्माण कोरापुट
फैक्टरी में हो रहा है, अन्तरिक्ष विहित इले-
क्ट्रॉनिकी साज-सामान का निर्माण हैदराबाद
की फैक्टरी में और विमान ढांचों का नासिक
में । विमानों का अन्तिम रूप से संयोजन नासिक
की फैक्टरी में होता है ।

(ख) कई अंश आयात किए जाते हैं, परन्तु
देशीय अंश क्रमशः बढ़ रहे हैं । अधिक विस्तार
प्रकट करना लोक हित में नहीं होगा ।]

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, I want
to ask. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : How can you come
in? There are three names there.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, on a
point of order. . .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : There is
no point of order here . . .

(Interruptions.)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I agree
there is no point of order. But Sir . . .

†[] Hindi translation.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: If you agree that there is no point of order, sit down. Please sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you kindly let us know, kindly enlighten us on the subject whether the Prime Minister's Secretariat comes under the Defence Ministry . . . (*Interruptions*) because the question is there . . .

(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Mahavir, do you not have any question to put?

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Yes, Sir, I am asking. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I was dealing with the privilege motion of which I have given notice . . . (*Interruption*) against the Congress Working Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, it is not before me. Let us go on with the question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, then I must give you an explanation as to why I wrongly stood up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am only concerned with the question. Dr. Mahavir you put your question.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Sir, may I know if the Government have decided upon any schedule of time as to at what speed the imported content of these aircraft would be reduced and, if so, by what time and how much of the percentage of the imported content would be brought down and to what level? If any such schedule has been fixed or has been decided upon, I would like to know that from the honourable Minister. Secondly, I would like to know as to how the agreement which was arrived at with the U. A. R. regarding complete production of aircraft in which the engines were to be produced by them and airframes were to be produced by us. . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: That is another question.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Yes, but in any case if that particular agreement stands even after the difficulties which the U.A.R. had after her trouble with Israel, if that agreement stands, is it working to the schedule or not?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Sir, so far as the programme for indigenous content is concerned, we have got a specific programme and by the year 1972 we will achieve more than 60 per cent indigenous content for the MIG aircraft. . .

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: How much?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: More than 60 per cent by the year 1972-73. So far as the second question is concerned, it does not relate to MiGs. This question is about MiGs. But I might say we sent our team. They saw the engines made by them and also conducted two or three flights and they were successful.

SHRI DALPAT SINGH: May I know from the honourable Minister as to what is the cost of production of these MiG aircraft now and what will it be by using all the indigenous parts? By how much the cost will go-down?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I would not like to disclose in public interest the cost of the MiG aircraft. But I might say we will use indigenous parts progressively, and the prices will be brought down.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Sir, how can he say that in public interest. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have noted your name. You will come afterwards.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Sir, may I know if it is not a fact that the Koraput Division of the MiG Project has lagged behind and the fact that it has lagged behind and has not adhered to the schedule is responsible for the low indigenous content of the MiGs being produced at Nasik?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: Koraput has not lagged behind and production of MiGs has been going in this country according to the schedule. In some cases we are ahead of the schedule. There has been no set-back so far as production side is concerned.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Sir, I will raise that point now for your kind decision. I want to know whether the disclosure of the cost of MiGs to this House or to this country is not in public interest. Why should it not be disclosed? Is there any defence secret in that? We purchase these things from America and other countries. What is the thing to be protected that the price should not be told to us? I want your ruling on this. Secondly, may I know if the Government's agreement with the Russians provides that any new things brought out in MiG manufacture by research and development should be given to the Government of India to improve that in our country? Secondly, may I know. . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Say thirdly.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Are they in constant touch with the various types of MiGs which the Russian Government has given to Pakistan? Various types of improvements are being made in Russia. May I know whether we are getting regularly the improvements in research and development made by Russia in MiG aircraft? What improvements have been covered by them till now?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : So far as improvements and modifications are concerned, we get information from Moscow and we adopt these improvements and modifications here also. As regards the price, exactly for the same reason I did not like to disclose the figure because we have to purchase plans from other countries also, and it would not be in public interest to give out the cost of MiGs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now Mr. Kulkarni.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, my question has been asked by him.

†MANUFACTURE OF STAINLESS STEEL
UTENSILS

*247. SHRI M. M. DHARIA : ‡

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether as a result of the Indo-Nepal Agreement in November 1968, the indigenous stainless steel utensils manufacturers have resumed full production; and

(b) what is the effect of this agreement in prices of stainless steel utensils ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Separate figures for production of stainless steel utensils are not available. Because of the comparative import priority, the Government have not been encouraging import of stainless steel for manufacture of utensils. In view of the heavy demand in India, restriction on import of stainless steel manufacturers

from Nepal is not likely to result in any significant change in the prices of utensils in India.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, is the Government aware that there are no factories in Nepal which manufacture steel articles? And all the smuggled articles from China and other countries are smuggled into this country because of this agreement, and they have adversely affected the indigenous industry manufacturing steel articles in this country.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : As far as the import of third country goods through Nepal into India is concerned, it is in the agreement itself; Sir, it is banned. It is true that there are goods from China coming through Nepal into India. It is mainly because there is a big open border, although we are trying to check it. But in our recent discussions with the Nepalese Government we have taken up this matter with them and they have agreed that third country goods coming to Nepal should be for the consumption of Nepal and should not be brought to India. And we are watching the situation. As for the stainless steel, it is true they may not have a rolling mill or a big manufacturing company, but as the honourable Member knows, there are 600 small units in India which manufacture stainless steel utensils and it requires very elementary machinery to just mould it into some shape and to make utensils.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like the honourable Minister to enquire into the matter. So far as the Indian industry which manufactures these steel articles is concerned, it is adversely affected. He can call for the figures from the industry. I would like to state in this House today that in Nepal these goods are not being manufactured today, and even then undue advantage of the agreement is being taken and all these articles are smuggled through this agreement into this country. Will the honourable Minister immediately speak to the Ambassadors concerned and see that it is immediately prevented?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : That is the reason why we took up this matter with them, that is a (a) third country goods to Nepal should not come to India, and (b) they have also agreed to restrict the licences. Whatever licences they have given till 1967-68, more than that they will not give

† Transferred from the 3rd March, 1969

‡ The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. M. Dharia.