

are accepting payment, may I know whether payment, is made in India in a clandestine manner or in foreign exchange, which is deposited outside or brought to this country?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: If any foreign exchange is received and deposited outside, without Government's knowledge, I can say nothing about it. Within Government's knowledge there is nothing deposited. Within Government's knowledge, as I said, no foreign exchange has come. They are distributing news and features to About six newspapers. I do not know whether they come only from West Germany or from other countries also. I do not know all that, because I have not made such detailed enquiries about these matters. No payment has come from outside, at any rate no substantial payment has come. That is all that I can say.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: In view of the information given by Mr. Arora, will the hon. Minister hold an enquiry?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I cannot hold enquiries against every news agency. News agencies are from many countries.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: His information is that the particular press published a booklet saying something anti-national and they received money from a foreign country. In view of this very important information given in this House, will the hon. Minister please see that a proper enquiry is made into the matter?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: If the hon. Member shows to me what he thinks is being done, I shall certainly look into it.

श्री जगदम्बो प्रसाद यादव : मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी आपने छः प्रेस का रेफरेंस किया कि छः प्रेस के साथ इसने कार्यवाही की है, तब मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह छः प्रेस कौन हैं और कितने ऐसे प्रेस हैं जो विदेशी मुद्रा इस ढंग से, जैसा कि कहा गया है, कमाते हैं।

श्री मोरारजी आर० देसाई : छः प्रेसों ने ऐसी कार्यवाही की है, ऐसा मैंने नहीं कहा, मैंने यही कहा कि छः प्रेस का यह न्यूज सप्लाय करते हैं, यह तथ्य एजेंसी। ये हैं : डेली जागरण, डेली राजहंस, त्रिभात, जनरल एक्सप्रेस, मध्य भारत एक्सप्रेस और यंग लीडर।

श्री जगदम्बो प्रसाद यादव : हमारा दूसरा प्रश्न भी उसके साथ था।

(No reply.)

DELAYING OF PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

187. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: SHRI M. M. DHARIA: SHRI G. R. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to go ahead with any more public sector projects in view of the poor performance of some public sector units; and

(b) if so, what are the names of the projects that will be delayed as a result of this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) It is not possible to generalise on the question of performance of Public Enterprises. While the performance of some has been satisfactory, that of others has not been so. New projects in the public sector are undertaken after proper examination is made of likely demand, existing capacity in public and private sectors, etc.; procedures have also been laid down for the preparation and scrutiny of feasibility studies/detailed project reports, etc.

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri A. G. Kulkarni.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: May I know from the Government whether the delay in investment in public sector activities or the decision not to go ahead with some expansion of the public sector activities is due to the insistent propaganda made by certain vested interests in this country that the public sector has failed? In this connection may I know from the Government, when they are now rightly first taking up the feasibility study inclusive of project cost—and that is a proper procedure for starting big industries—whether it is any vested interest propaganda that has caused the Government to think over and to delay the action in expanding the public sector activity, to attain a proper *infra* structure for the growth of industries?

SHRI K. C. PANT: No, Sir. As a matter of fact the public undertakings are expanding in scope as well as in number and even in 1967-68 a number of new projects have been sanctioned in the public sector. I may mention a few of them; Haldia Refineries; the Petrochemical Complex in Gujarat; the Korba Aluminium Project; the Khetri Copper Complex; the Ajmer Machine Tools Unit, etc., etc.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Does not the Government think that investment in the public sector will also try to remove the recession in this country and give more opportunities for jobs? So in this connection also may I know whether the Government will implement the expansion of the public sector as desired?

SHRI K. C. PANT: It will help.

श्री गोडे मुराहरी: मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग का जो सबसे बड़ा रोग है, वह तो वहां का खर्चा है, जहां कि अफसरों के ऊपर होता है और जो कि तरह तरह के अर्गोनाइजेशन दी जाती है, उस पर होता है और उस का बड़ा बोझ पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स पर

पड़ जाता है। एक प्रश्न यहां पर गेस्ट हाउसेज के ऊपर पूछा गया था तो उसके ऊपर मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार यह उचित नहीं समझती कि सरकार की तरफ से जो गेस्ट हाउसेज हैं, वे फौरन बन्द कर दिये जायें और जो भी अफसर यहां दिल्ली में आते हैं वे वेस्टन कॉर्ट में या और जगह उधरें। जो उनका खर्च होता है, वह तो सरकार से वसूल करते ही हैं, आफिसर लोग एलाउंस लेते ही हैं तो फिर इनको यह सब सुविधाएँ देने की क्या जरूरत है। यह ताज्जुब की बात है कि पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स के गेस्ट हाउसेज यहां बनाते रहें और गेस्ट हाउसेज ही नहीं बड़े बड़े अफसरों के पहले तं. क्वार्टरें बनाये जाते हैं . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not the question.

श्री गोडे मुराहरी: इसलिये मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स का आप एक मज्जाक बनाना चाहते हैं और क्या इस तरह के खर्च का बोझ डाल कर के यह पब्लिक सेक्टर को बन्द करने का तरीका चल रहा है?

श्री के० सी० पन्त: पब्लिक सेक्टर का मज्जाक तो माननीय सदस्य बना रहे हैं कि पब्लिक सेक्टर की जनरल फंक्शनिंग के डिस्कशन में वह इस गेस्ट हाउस को इतनी अट्रैक्टिव दें कि इसकी वजह से ही यह सब नुकसान है, तो इससे बड़ा मज्जाक और क्या होगा?

श्री गोडे मुराहरी: यह तो एक मिसाल है। सारी व्यवस्था पब्लिक सेक्टर की इसी तरह है।

श्री के० सी० पन्त: और, सभापति महोदय, यह बात भी सही नहीं है कि जो अफसर वहां रहते हैं वे कुछ भी नहीं देते हैं। वे अपने रहने का पैसा देते हैं। कुछ न कुछ रिकवरी उनमें भी इसके लिये होती है।

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI: I seek your protection. Sir. He has not answered my question at all.

वह खर्चा देते हैं, तो कितना देते हैं यह भी आपको मालूम है और उनको कितना एलाउंस मिलता है, वह भी आपको मालूम है। कोई अफिर एक रुपया या दो रुपया गेस्ट हाउस में अहरने का देता है और उसकी जगह वह चारगुना या पांचगुना और कभी कभी दसगुना तक और कई जगह पचासगुना तक लेते हैं। तो मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि इस तरह की अमेनिटीज और सुविधा पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स में क्यों दी जाती है। सि : गेस्ट हाउसेज की बात हो नहीं है, पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स का जो खर्चा है, वह सारा का सारा इसी तरह का है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आपने पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग्स के खर्चों को कम करने की कोई व्यवस्था की है ?

श्री मोरारजी आर० देसाई : यह सिर्फ बातें हैं यह कहना कि पांचगुना या दसगुना ले लेते हैं और एक पचास या एक दसांश ही कटते हैं, यह बात सही नहीं है, यह मैं कह सकता हूं।

श्री गोडे मुराहरि : यह सही बात है।

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: The public sector undertakings have come under great criticism in this country. I would like to know the position. I want the hon. Minister to tell me what has happened to the Pyrites and Chemicals Corporation which was established six or seven or eight years ago. Its performance according to the report seems to be so awfully bad. I am illustrating this only to point out that the public sector undertakings have come under very severe criticism in this country because of their failure—they have not been making profits—failure in the sense that the return from the capital invested has been so poor. What steps are being taken by the Government to see that a prompt return comes from these public undertakings? I do understand that they are necessary, but I also under-

stand that there must be better return from these public undertakings.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I agree that there should be better returns from these public undertakings. I; is not a correct thing to say that they have all failed. If there are bad returns, there are bad returns even from privately owned companies also. A lot of textile mills are under difficulty. They are not public sector. There are various reasons for this matter. It has already been said sometimes here that the proper thing is being done about the public sector undertakings, that we are going into the various factors which can make them more profitable, and soon this will be finalised and then the results will be placed before the House.

श्री राजनारायण : मैं श्री पन्त जी से एक स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूं इस सवाल के जुरियें; क्योंकि उन्होंने आपसे कर दिया कि पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग्स का मज्जाक श्री गोडे मुराहरि या ऐसे लोग बना रहे हैं क्या पंत जी, क्या मोरारजी भाई नकलफ गवारा करो हमारे साथ चलने की, इस देश में, दिल्ली में ही नहीं, बरौनी में चले चलें, मिर्जापुर में चले चलें, इस दिल्ली में ही चले चलें। अभी मैं कल हिंमार गया था, वहां चले चलें। जहां जहां गवर्नमेंट के गेस्ट हाउसेज हैं, वहां पर बेथ्याये ले जाई जाती हैं, लड़कियां ले जाई जाती हैं, वहां पर शराब जाती है, वहां पर डे बड़े अफसर क्या क्या कुर्बान नहीं करते हैं, उसे पकड़वा कर दिखाने को तैयार हूं। मैं मोरारजी भाई से इसलिये कहना चाहता हूं; क्योंकि वह शराब-बन्दी के पक्षपाती हैं, मगर हमारे जितने पब्लिक सेक्टर के बंगलोज बने हुये हैं, उनमें आज ज़रदस्त शराब हो रही है ज़रदस्त बंद करेक्टर के लो ज़रदस्त हैं, ज़रदस्त चरित्रहीनता वहां पर होती है। इसलिये पब्लिक सेक्टर का कौन मज्जाक बना रहा है। पब्लिक सेक्टर का मज्जाक इस सरकार ने बना दिया है और पब्लिक

सेक्टर का भ्रष्टाचार इतनी दूर तक बढ़ गया है कि पब्लिक सेक्टर के नाम पर लोग घृणा करने लगे हैं। यह सरकार जानबूझ कर बिग कैपिटलिज्म से मिली हुई है ताकि लोग पब्लिक सेक्टर से घृणा करके इंडिविजुअल सेक्टर में, प्राइवेट सेक्टर में, जाने के लिये ज्यादा दमकित हों। इस समय मैं आपके ज़खिये से इतना ही जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मोरारजी साई देसाई या हमारे मित्र पंत हमारे साथ चलने के लिये तैयार हैं। हम इनको पकड़वा देंगे।

श्री मोरारजी आर० देसाई : अगर माननीय सदस्य को इस बात का है तो बहर देवें सबको प्रोर मुझे हक दे दें। मैं उनके साथ ऐसे काम में जाने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ।

श्री राजनारायण : यदि हमारे साथ पकड़ने के लिये जाने को तैयार नहीं हैं, मगर उन अकारों के साथ जाने के लिये तैयार हैं, जो ऐसे कामों में लगे हुए हैं।

श्री अश्वरूप खन्ना : आप जाते हैं ?

श्री राजनारायण : हम सब जाते हैं, तो ऐसा देखते हैं। हमें पकड़ लेते हैं।

SHRI LOKANATH MTSRA: Sir, the public sector undertakings have come to be known in the country as white elephants. They are sources of great expenditure without any return, without the possibility of any return in the near future. Having gained that experience and having listened to all our so-called socialist friends in this House, may I ask whether the Government would kindly go into the matter of finding out in how many cases the public sector undertakings have not been commissioned during the target dates and if they have not been commissioned during the target dates, who have been found responsible for that and in how many cases people have been taken to task because of wrong dates given as target

dates and because of the enormous delay which has added to further expenditure and further losses to these public sector undertakings? Have Government taken any action against anybody, any individual, in the public sector undertakings during these seven or eight or ten years when they have taken up these undertakings and during which time there has been inordinate delay in the functioning of these undertakings?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: The hon. Member's question is swallowed in the remarks that he has made. That is usual with him. When the public sector question comes up, he and his friends always believe that they have gone out and they are finished. That is not true. It is also not true that all the public sector undertakings are not giving profit, there are several which are giving profit. All these facts have been given to the House. But if my hon. friend does not want to appreciate truth as usually he does what can be done? We can go on supplying him with information again and again. If the hon. Member further asks the question, I will certainly supply this information.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: For the progress of socialism in this country it is essential that the performance of the public sector should be satisfactory; otherwise, it would create doubts in the minds of the people about the progress of socialism and people like Shri Lokanath Misra will always raise their voice against the public sector in this House. Sir, in view of this fact, is it not necessary that the performance of the public sector should be above suspicion and should be most satisfactory? The hon. Minister has just now said that the performance of some public sector undertakings is satisfactory. Perhaps there are certain exceptional units like the Hindustan Machine Tools and one or two others which are showing good performance and making good progress. But the other units have not made any progress. In view of this fact and experience

about the public sector units in this country, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is taking any concrete steps so that their performance is more satisfactory and that instead of incurring losses they show substantial gain and profit?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: A few minutes ago I said that all these factors are being gone into by the Cabinet itself and that the result will be placed before this honourable House.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no question of any person who believes or who has some stake in the welfare of the Country ridiculing the public sector undertakings. But then the way in which the public sector undertakings are being managed leaves a great doubt as to the bona fides of the Ministry itself. We are prompted often to doubt whether the Ministry concerned really wants to make . . .

'MR. CHAIRMAN: Put a question. Do not make any deductions.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: . . . the public sector undertakings prosper.

My question is this: In view of the loss being incurred by several public sector undertakings as the hon. Finance Minister has just now admitted and in view of the further fact that the public sector undertakings in many sectors are not being managed properly, will the hon. Finance Minister assure this House that he will look to the personnel at the head of these undertakings who are, rightly, often suspected to be the agents of big businessmen and who have wormed their way into the public sector undertakings in order to create disruption there? This is my specific question.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: This is the third time that the same question has been put in another manner, and I refer to the hon. Member to the reply that I have already given.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: Sir, I seek your protection. This is not the way in which the Finance Minister should treat the question of an hon. Member of this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many times you would like to have . . .

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: This is a specific question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not allow it.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: If anybody wants the protection of the Chair in this House from the hon. Member, it is the Minister.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: I can only have pity and sympathy for the Finance Minister.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I do not require your pity.

CENTRAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATES

♦188. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: whether there is any principle governing the allocation of total Central assistance to the States; if so, what is the principle; and whether the said principle was followed by Government for the allocation of the Central assistance for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission have adopted the following general principles for distributing the Central assistance for State Plans:

(i) Every State should receive first a quantum of 70 per cent of the total amount to be distributed, in proportion to its population.