

the condition that whatever increase has been allowed will be utilised for the purpose of development. In the same way this has been placed in the priority list and all facilities are given to private industries for the purpose of increasing production.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the Government has any control over the money earned by the private sector cement industry as a result of the enormous rise sanctioned by the Government two years back and, if the Government has any control over it, may I know how the Government has exercised that control to ensure that the money so earned by the industry is really spent on development and not frittered away?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The matter is examined from time to time and we shall see that whatever increase has been allowed in the price of cement is utilised for the purpose of development.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: May I draw your kind attention to the fact that when cement was decontrolled, it was assured by the Government that more and more investment from the private sources would follow in the private sector? The Government had also assured that the position would be scrutinised and examined and, if necessary, a detailed report would be placed here. May we know from the hon. Minister whether more and more private capital has been invested since decontrol whether there is any increase in production, as was assured by private capitalists and industrialists in the cement industry and, if so, what are the results? Is it not a fact that the assurance that was given by the industrialists has not been observed, as was assured in this House

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: It is a general observation made by the hon. Member that the assurances given by the industry has not been observed. But so far as the information available with us is concerned, we know that they have taken certain steps resulting in the increased pro-

duction of cement. Anyway, I shall see that the amount given to them is actually utilised for the purpose of development.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, it is not a question of seeing only. This matter was raised in this House and the other House and we were given a clear assurance that in order that certain objectives specifically laid down could be fulfilled, certain concessions had been given. Later on, the Government made a statement saying that the cement industry had not behaved according to expectations. This statement came from the official sources. May I know *pro rata* in what manner, during the period of one year or so, the assurances given by the cement industry, before wresting concessions from the Government, had been fulfilled in regard to investment in regard to increased production and also in regard to prices?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: The prices fixed by the Government so far as the industry is concerned, have been adhered to, except in one case which was brought to my notice where on account of railway freight some increase had to be given to the industry, and that matter also is under consideration. And we have seen from their various development programmes that the benefits, which they have derived from the increase in price, are being utilised for the development of this industry.

RECRUITMENT AND PROMOTION RULES OF S.T.C. EMPLOYEES

*170. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No 604 in the Rajya Sabha on 8th December, 1966 and state:

(a) whether rules for recruitment, promotion, seniority etc. have since been approved by Government; and

(b) if so, when did the Government issue its approval?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) The approval of rules for recruitment, promotion, seniority, etc. of the State Trading Corporation is expected to be issued shortly.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, how long STC has been in existence and how is the delay or absence of the approval of the rules explained?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: So far as the question of the rules is concerned, these were approved by STC in May, 1961. I deeply regret the delay that has taken place in its formalisation. But I would like the House to note that this has not prevented the good working of the STC because on a provisional basis these rules were introduced in June, 1961.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether the approval of these rules has been deliberately withheld to protect those officers who were irregularly recruited or is it now being done so that some more irregular appointments can be made?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I would not say that. I said in the very beginning that although these rules have not been formally adopted, they are being used since June, 1961.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether the hon Minister is in a position to give an assurance to this House that by such and such date these rules will be approved?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I hope that within a month these rules will be finally approved.

SHRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI: May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will entrust the recruitment and promotion to the UPSC?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: No, Sir. That is not provided in the rules.

SHRI D. THENGARI: Is the Government aware of cases of violation of even these provisional rules in the course of these five years?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I cannot say off-hand. If there was any violation, I am sure it would have been looked into. If the hon. Member is thinking of any particular case, I shall be very glad to look into it.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: These rules were supposed to have come into force in 1961 and they have not yet come into force even in 1967. May I know if the Minister is in a position to say that he will consider the advisability of going through personally all those appointments made since 1961 and see that all of them conform to the rules now coming into force and take suitable action in cases where they do not so conform?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I quite appreciate the anxiety in the hon. Member's mind that there might have been some irregularity, but I think that his premise is not quite correct because these rules are being applied on a provisional basis from June, 1961 onwards.

श्री राजनारायण : क्या सरकार उन कारणों को बताएगी कि जब 1961 में यह रूल बने और उनके मुताबिक काम हो रहे हैं तो उनको कायदे के मुताबिक एप्रूव करने में सरकार को क्या कठिनाई थी ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : कई कठिनाइयां आईं सभापति महोदय । एस० टी० सी० के कायदे के हिमाब से जो इस तरह के उनके नियम बनते हैं वे सरकार के पास आते हैं । उम बीच में दो-तीन बातें हमने चाहीं कि और हो जायें । शेड्यूलड कास्ट के लिये कुछ था । उसको उन्होंने मंजूर किया, फिर हमारे पास भेजा । इस बीच में माडेल रिक्रूटमेंट रूलम गवर्नमेंट ने बनाए जो सब पबलिक ग्रैंडर टेकिंग्स के लिये लागू होंगे, तो हमने कहा