

(d) Continuous efforts are being made for the development of indigenous products and raw materials as substitutes for imported ones.

UNDER-CAPACITY PRODUCTION IN PUBLIC SECTOR STEEL PLANTS

296. SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Will the Minister of IRON AND STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is under-capacity production in any of the three public sector steel undertakings;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the measures taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF IRON AND STEEL (SHRI T. N. SINGH) ; (a) Yes Sir, to some extent.

(b) Mostly because of a fall in Railway orders, lack of orders for the Pipe Plant at Rourkela and for technical reasons in the Fertilizer Plant at Rourkela and the Wheel and Axle Plant at Durgapur.

(c) Where production has been or is likely to be affected for want of order-, possibility of export is being investigated and where production is affected for technical reasons suitable measures are being taken to overcome the technical difficulties

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

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TRICT OF ASSAM .BY ARMED MEMBER THE
MIZO NATIONAL FRONT

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA (Bihar) : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the reported raids on the 1st March, 1966, by armed members of the Mizo National Front on the Government treasuries and armouries at Aijal and Lungleh in the Mizo Hills district (if Assam).

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (Sunt GULARI LAL NANI>A) : Sir, we have been in touch with the Government of Assam in regard to certain serious incidents that have occurred in the night of February 28—1st March in the Mizo Hills district. The position as ascertained from the State Government, is that between

10.30 P.M. on the 28th February and 3 A.M. on the 1st March, some tribals resorted to acts of lawlessness and violence at Lungleh, Aijal, Eayrangte, „Chawingte and Chinluang their attempt to disrupt communications and overawe public servants. The total number who took part in all these places is about eight hundred to one thousand three hundred. There are reasonable grounds to believe that these tribals are led by extremist elements in the Mizo National Front. The first attack was at about 10.30 P.M. on the 28th February on the sub-treasury at Lungleh. A gang of five hundred to one thousand strong attacked a camp of Security Forces and an Assam Rifles post. This attack was beaten back and some of the attackers were stated to have been killed. On our side, two men of the Assam Rifles were killed and three wounded. The whereabouts of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Lungleh who was surrounded are still not known. The latest reports to reach from Lungleh indicate that some firing is going on at Lungleh. At about 2.00 a.m. on the 1st March, a number of persons attacked the Telephone Exchange at Aijal and an hour later the District Treasury was also attacked by about one hundred to one hundred and fifty persons who took away ten rifles, two bayonets, some rounds of 303 ammunition and cash from the single lock of the Treasury. They tried to break open the double lock but did not succeed. At about 1.30 a.m. on the 1st March, a gang of one hundred to one hundred and fifty people armed with lathis surrounded the Sub-Divisional Officer, P.W.D., at Eayrangte and asked to get out of the district. The mob took the key from the Chowkidar, and took over the departmental stores and the jeep. There were similar encounters at Chinluang and Chawingte at which a number of persons belonging to the Mizo National Front were killed. No fresh incidents have been reported from the morning of the 1st March but delayed reports of the rebels seizing two police stations on the 1st morning have been received. While full details of all these incidents are yet to be gathered. I learn from the Chief Minister that the situation at Aijal is now fully under control. The Commissioner of Silchar Division, the Inspector General of the Assam Rifles and a senior Army Officer have visited Aijal and made an on the spot assessment of the

[SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA]

situation. As a result of this, the Army has been asked to deal with the situation in Mizo Hill* District. Transport of troops to Aijal by helicopter has been going on this morning and troops are also moving by road to Aijal and are expected to reach there by noon today. The armed police forces have been placed under the operational control of the Army for dealing with the disturbances. The Army will be in charge of the operations for as long as necessary in support of the civil administration. Curfew has been imposed and intensive patrolling has been started. The State Government has issued a notification declaring Mizo Hill District as a disturbed area under the Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Disturbed Areas Act and under the Assam Disturbed Areas Act. This confers special powers on the Armed Forces and the State police. The report that a pirate radio is functioning inciting the Mizo tribals to declare independence and resort to lawlessness is being checked up. The Director General, AU India Radio is arranging to monitor the transmission if any of the pirate radio and steps are being taken to find out the location of the transmitter if in fact it exists. There is enough evidence to come to the conclusion that these acts are part of a campaign by misguided extremist elements in the Mizo National Front to back their demand for independence. Government are determined to put down the disturbances with the utmost firmness and speed, and to restore peace and order. They are confident that this will be achieved within a short period.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Sir, either Government had some inkling, some information that serious developments were to take place in that area or Government did not have any such information. If (hey did not have any such information, then its intelligence has failed. If they had, it does not speak well of the executive—I will not particularise whether the Central State, mostly it is the responsibility of the State. In (his connection, I would like to know what the particular intelligence set-up operating in that area, the Central intelligence set-up, is. Is it on the same pattern as in the other States where there are one or two officers operating on behalf of the Centre but usually drawn from the State cadre and stationed at the State head-

quarters ? In that case, well, the Central intelligence is really intelligence of the States operating in the districts. May I know if that is the pattern in that State or, because of the sensitivity of the area, you have set up some special agency ? If you, have, then did you or did you not have prior information about this ?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : Sir, the question is whether there was information about the possible developments and what actually occurred. I can say definitely that we had been in touch with the course of developments there which have led up to this situation and the preparation on the part of some elements of the Mizo National Front was known. So far as the question of action is concerned, action was also being taken. It had been taken in certain directions and some more was actually in hand, that is, action was in progress. So far as the intelligence arrangements are concerned, both of the Centre and the State, there is a special element in the intelligence introduced in that area.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: When such a situation arises the first problem is re-establishing authority in such an area and the next step is some political adjustments if necessary and proper.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAIPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh) : What adjustments ! You cannot have adjustments.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : I am equally anxious as you are and as much a patriot but I am not a Jan Sanghaite.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAIPAYEE : This is not the time to talk of adjustments, especially when you are dealing with the rebels.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Let me put my question.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAIPAYEE : You are going to let down your own Government.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Let me put my question. I will make this quite clear. I do not know why he gets impatient for nothing. I have not read of any such character in any novel, Sir.

The first thing is the establishment of authority, or normalcy and then political adjustments if proper and necessary. May I know if Government are in a position to assure this House at this stage that they

shall not think of political adjustments even if necessary and proper unless the authority of the Indian Union is fully established in that region? If they do not do that, they shall fall into the same error into which they fell in Nagaland and create incessant trouble throughout the whole border region of this country.

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : Sir, the position is very clear in this matter. So far as the latter part of the question is concerned, about adjustments, there can be no thought even remotest of any kind of adjustment with the people like this in this or any such situation. We have already a policy and a programme in this connection. There is a Commission dealing with this whole question of the tribals in that area and nothing further can be done and can be thought of. So far as the authority of the Government is concerned, it is very obvious, from what I have said, that everything possible is being done to assert and establish authority in such a manner that it will not be challenged again.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA (Bihar) : Sir, the hon. Minister has made a statement which is rather disturbing. He has said that arms were also used on a large-scale. He also said that a pirate transmitter is working. I would like to know, whether the Government is aware of any foreign aid that is given to these people in respect of arms, ammunition or transmitter?

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : Sir, I must inform hon. Members of this House that there has been some kind of, what should I say, complicity, assistance or some arrangement with a foreign Power, with Pakistan, and that was not recent. That has been—I must explain—not after the Tashkent Agreement; that has been earlier. We know all the facts about it.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति जी, कल के अखबारों में यह छपा था, कि 10,000 लोगों ने हथमला किया, लेकिन मंत्री महोदय ने कहीं बताया कि यह तादाद 10,000 नहीं है यह 2,000 है।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : नहीं, 1,300।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : कल वहं 2,000 थी और आज 1,300 रह गई है।

में यह जानना चाहूंगा कि इतनी बड़ी संख्या में लोग मिलिटरी ट्रेनिंग प्राप्त करते रहे, हथियार इकट्ठे करते रहे और पाकिस्तान में जाकर भी शिक्षा लेते रहे और केन्द्रीय सरकार को या असम सरकार को इस बात का पता नहीं लगा कि मोजी हिल्स में भी आगे गड़बड़ होने की आशंका है। मंत्री महोदय ने जो उत्तर दिया है कि उन्हें जानकारी थी वह हमें संतोष नहीं दे सकता क्योंकि अगर जानकारी थी तो इस प्रकार के उपद्रवों को रोकने के लिये पहले कदम क्यों नहीं उठाया गया।

एक बात और। क्या यह सच नहीं है कि जिस तरह से हम नागा विद्रोहियों के साथ व्यवहार कर रहे हैं, उन्हें बातचीत के लिये दिल्ली बुला रहे हैं, उनसे मीठी-मीठी बातें कर रहे हैं, उन्हें दावतें दे रहे हैं उससे मिजो हिल्स में जो एक्सट्रीमिस्ट अतिरेकवादी हैं उनके मन में यह धारण पैदा हुई है कि नई दिल्ली को झुकाया जा सकता है अगर हथियार ले कर खड़े हो जायें। क्या सरकार का दिमाग इस बात पर साफ है कि जो भी बगावत करेगा उसे कुचल दिया जायेगा चाहे वह नागालैण्ड से आए, चाहे देश के किसी भी हिस्से से आए?

श्री गुलजारीलाल नन्दा : इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं हो सकता कि कोई भी बगावत करेगा तो उसके साथ वही सलूक होगा जो होना चाहिये और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है। मैं नागालैण्ड के बारे में इस वक्त बात नहीं लाना चाहता क्योंकि एक पालिसी के आधार पर बात चल रही है जिसके संबंध में कुछ हमारे पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर्स भी गये थे और रिपोर्ट लाये थे कि उसका लाभ हुआ है, कुछ फायदा हुआ है, उसमें कम्परेटिव्हली फायदा नुकसान की बात है। मगर क्यों हुआ, रोक क्यों नहीं गया, यह जो पाकिस्तान से कुछ लोग ट्रेनिंग लेकर आए—यह दिसम्बर के किसी हिस्से में था—और उसी वक्त यहां काफी देर से मिजो नेशनल फ्रण्ट जिनकी इन्डिपेन्डेन्स की आवाज है, उसमें ज्यादातर हिस्सा उन लोगों का था जिनको यह समझा जाता था

[श्री गुलजारी लाल नन्दा]

कि जो अब तक उनकी नीति रही यही रही कि वे इलेक्शन में भी हिस्सा लेते थे और वे बात करते थे वही लोग कन्ट्रोल में हैं और ये जो दूसरे, जिन्होंने अब यह शुरू किया, ये थोड़े हैं लेकिन यह देखा जा रहा था कि अब वह उनके हाथों से निकल रहे हैं तो उसी वक्त आम्स जहां-जहां थे, उनको लेने के लिये, पता करने के लिये, सारी चीज आरम्भ कर दी गई और फोर्सेज ज्यादा मूव करने लग गई। यही वजह थी कि जिससे यह काम प्रेसिप्टेड भी हुआ उनकी तरफ से हम जानते थे कि वह तैयारी हो रही है लेकिन जैसे उन्होंने देखा हमारी फोर्सेज ज्यादा आने लगी है उस वक्त वे ज्यादा जल्दी उठ खड़े हुए और अब हम उसको 'फेस' कर रहे हैं।

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Madras): This is another instance of this Government becoming very wise after the event. I am sure the army that has been sent there will restore order in that area but, surely, Sir, Mizo land is within the area of potential disturbance and should not the Government have supplied some military protection to these civilian officers who were in camp? Our intelligence service seems to have failed; they seem to have had no idea of what was coming on. This is what has happened all along the north-eastern border. I am sure any Government worthy of its name, knowing the conditions in that area of disturbance, would have taken all the necessary precautions and provided military assistance to help the civilian officers so as to prevent such a disturbance. Our Intelligence service should have been much more intelligent than it has been. I hope no such further event will occur under the auspices of this Government.

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA : There is possibly no limit to the improvement of intelligence and the Intelligence system but I can say that we have not been taken by surprise in this matter. The only question would be, what did we do about it. Two battalions of the Assam Rifles were there. They were there and more are being inducted. Things have moved and we are coping with the situation.

SHRI A. THANGLURA (Assam): As

a man hailing from that district I would like to put a couple of questions. Firstly, I would like to know if it had been brought to the notice of the Government by the so-called Intelligence that the Chief Minister of Assam and the Chief Secretary—who have been quite lenient with these people—have been advised by Mr. K. Sehga), former Deputy Commissioner of Mizo Hills to be lenient with the subversive elements of the Mizo National Front in order to gain cheap popularity and that on his advice the post of Superintendent of Police had been abolished thereby rendering the Police Department absolutely defunct. That is the first question. The second question is, there is a daily paper entitled *Aijal Daily News*, edited and published by one Mr. Paul Zakhuma, Political Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner. During the conflict with Pakistan that paper and this particular man took full liberty in publishing news that had been broadcast from Radio Pakistan. Although this particular gentleman has been placed under suspension for insubordination and on various other charges he is still catering to the public with all sorts of sensational news, mainly anti-Indian news. The present position and the situation being such, I wonder if the Government will make it a point to ban this paper and at the same time take drastic action against this gentleman.

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA ; Regarding the question whether the Government of Assam has adopted a policy of deliberate leniency, if the suggestion is that it was complacent, I would rebut that. The Government of Assam, the Chief Minister, had a certain view of the situation, of those elements which were the larger part of that force and that party, and he was dealing with it in a certain way and he was hoping that that the policy would succeed. Well, as things developed in a different way, another course of action was adopted. Now, about those things, the local colour, I cannot straightway answer in detail, but certainly strong action will be taken against anybody who is misbehaving in this manner.

(Hon. Members stood up) MR.

CHAIRMAN : I may not be able to satisfy you all.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : The hon. Minister said that the post of Superintendent of Police has been abolished. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : He said he would find out.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Did he say it ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA : I will have to find out.

(Hon. Members stood up)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is very difficult. I cannot possibly allow about twenty Members to put questions.

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: My colleague, Mr. Ahmed, has knowledge of the events and, therefore, he will be able to tell us something about the police.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, on a point of order,

SHRI A. THANGLURA: One more question. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On a point of order, .

SHRI A. THANGLURA : I have a question

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I will allow you another question, if you sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am on a point of order. The point of order is we are not making enquiries from the Assam Government! We are making enquires from the Government of India in the Home Ministry.

(Interruptions)

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Just a minute, I realise it. Here he has been asked to speak about the Assam Government. *(Interruptions)*. The Home Minister should tell us. The Assam Government may have known it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the point of order ? Order, order, please.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Does the Home Minister .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I hope this House retains its reputation for orderly proceedings.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I say that it is for the Home Minister to tell us whether he has this information or not. L/M22RS/66-4

SHRI BAHARUL ISLAM (Assam) : On a point of order, Sir. Mr. Ahmed is a Member of the Rajya Sabha and he comes from Assam. He has every right to make a statement.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): Sir, so far as the question of abolition of the post of Superintendent is concerned, the post of Superintendent of Police has not been abolished. It has been the practice that the Deputy Commissioner of the District functions as the Superintendent of Police, but when his work increased he took the assistance of one of the officers of the Assam Police. But later on when this work was entrusted to the Assam Rifles, . it was considered not necessary to have assistance from that particular officer. The Deputy Commissioner, who has been for a very long time, the Superintendent of Police, is also functioning and he has been given technical assistance of a very competent officer of the Assam Rifles.

SHRI A. THANGLURA: Shall I reply to the Minister first ? I want to know whether the Government is aware that the Station Director, All India Radio, Mr. J. | D. Baveja, who is at the same time the I Ofilcer-in-charge of the Tribal programme in Assam is a rebel and at the same time ! the brain behind the movement of the Mizo National Front. I want to know whether I the Government is aware of it or not.

SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA: My reply is that though the hon. Member may be well informed regarding some matters, he is not so in this respect.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: This is my last question. My information is that while the Government of India were all the t'me aware of the happenings that were going to occur—and they suggested a certain line of action—the Government of Assam and the Governor of Assam always counselled toleration and told them that they would be able to control the situation. I want the Government of India to tell us if the position is correct. If this position is correct, then would it not be proper for the Government of India to directly take over operations in this area till our rule is hundred per cent established in that area ?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA : I do j not know how the hon. Member thinks that it is a very proper question. The State

is functioning. We are assisting and we give help wherever required. There may be an expert assessment and interchange of views, but ultimately the policy is the policy of that Government.

SHRI BAHARUL ISLAM : May I know whether it is a fact that the State Government of Assam anticipated troubles in the Mizo Hills district and had sent a battalion of Assam Rifles three weeks ago, prior to the occurrences ? Otherwise the situation would have been worse.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a piece of information.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(1) REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS (1964-65) OF THE INSTRUMENTATION LIMITED, KOTA AND RELATED PAPERS

(2) ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1964-65) OF THE NATIONAL SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED AND RELATED PAPERS.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956:— J. (i) Report and Accounts of the Instrumentation Limited, Kota, for the period 21st March, 1964 to 31st March, 1965, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India thereon. (ii) Review by Government on the

Working of the Company. I Placed in Library. See No. LT-5683/ 66 for (i) & (ii).] II. A copy of the Tenth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited for the year 1964-65, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5684/66.]

(1) ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1964-65) OF THE KERALA STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED AND RELATED PAPERS.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1964-65) OF THE FOREST INDUSTRIES (TRAVANCORE) LIMITED ALWAYS AND RELATED PAPERS.

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA : Sir, I also lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

I. (i) Fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation limited, for the year 1964-65, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Corporation.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT-5577/ 66 for (i) & (ii).]

II. (i) Nineteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Forest Industries (Travancore) Limited, Alwaye, for the year ended the 31st March, 1965, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

i ii I Review by Government on the Working of the Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5685/66 for (i) & (ii).]

REPORT (1963) OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION ON THE FAIR SELLING PRICES OF SAFETY MATCHES AND RELATED PAPERS

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA : Sir, I also lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951 :—

(i) Report (1963) of the Tariff Commission on the fair selling prices of safety matches.

(ii) Government Resolution No. 37 (D/64-L, Ind. (ii), dated the 27th November, 1965, on the above Report.

(iii) Statement under the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, explaining the reasons why the documents referred to at (i) and (ii) above could not be laid within the period mentioned in that subsection.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT 5686/66 for (i) to (iii).]