

settled amicably between the two parties. That is the situation.

STATEMENT RE STARRED QUESTION  
NO. 506 ANSWERED ON THE 18th  
AUGUST, 1966

CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLY OF IRON ORE TO  
HINDUSTAN STEEL LIMITED, ROURKELA

THE MINISTER OF IRON AND STEEL  
(SHRI T. N. SINGH) : Mr. Vice-Chairman,  
Sir. In reply to parts (a) and (b) of  
Question No. 506, I have stated :

"Yes, Sir. In February, 1966, Hindustan Steel Limited, Rourkela, entered into two *ad hoc* contracts with M/s Patnaik and M/s Mishrilal Jain for supply of 130,000 tonnes and 100,000 tonnes of Iron Ore and 28,000 tonnes and 22,000 tonnes of Manganese Ore respectively. The contracts stipulated supplies at the base prices of Rs. 16 per tonne of iron ore and Rs. 25 per tonne of manganese ore. The contracts also provide that Hindustan Steel Limited would have the option to route the supplies against these contracts through the Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation."

I had informed the House then that I would be looking further into the details. On scrutiny of the available material, I find that the actual position is as follows :

On March 2, 1966 Hindustan Steel Limited, Rourkela, entered into two *ad hoc* contracts with Messrs B. Patnaik and Messrs Mishri Lal Jain for supply of 130,000 tonnes and 100,000 tonnes of iron ore and 28,000 tonnes and 22,000 tonnes of manganese ore respectively. The contracts stipulated supplies at the base price of Rs. 16.00 per tonne of iron ore and Rs. 25.00 per tonne of manganese ore. These contracts provide that their implementation should have no adverse effects on the supplies of iron ore and manganese ore to the Steel Plants under their contracts with the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : We now go to Mr. Dharia's resolution.

RESOLUTION RE APPOINTMENT OF  
A PERMANENT HIGH-POWER COM-  
MITTEE TO CONTROL THE PRICE  
LINE AND REGULATE DISTRIBUTION  
OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES—*contd.*

DR. D. R. GADGIL (Nominated) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, at this late stage I intervene merely to make a few points in order to put before the House a point of view regarding this question. From the way the resolution is framed it would appear that the question arises merely out of an emergency and can be dealt with largely by ordinances, by *ad hoc* Government action and by setting up advisory committees. I would suggest that the matter of holding the price line in a developing economy is a much more fundamental matter.

The necessity for holding the price line arises out of the very process of planned economic development which involves forcing the pace at which the economy normally functions, and such a forcing of the pace even without deficit financing creates inflationary pressures. I say quite deliberately even without deficit financing because the very characteristic of forcing the pace involves putting much more in the production of capital and intermediate goods, and this effort creates incomes but does not correspondingly create supply of consumer goods and such a disparity brings about a chronic sellers market in the economy. Now it is this problem that has to be dealt with and this problem can be dealt with only by having an integrated regulatory policy of which holding the price line is an important continuing part.

Sir, there was a large debate on devaluation. A lot of things were said. But unfortunately it has not been realised that the basic reason for which this Government had to resort to devaluation was its inability to hold the price line over a ten-year period. This inability to hold the price line over a ten-year period arose because it had not thought out the policy for holding the price line. Every time prices rose a little it appointed a Committee. It perhaps went into procurement, it set up a few consumer shops and every time the prices dropped a little, as will always happen, it forgot about the matter so that the next crisis always came from a higher point of departure and so on until in the last crisis, with the addition of a drought and a war, we got into

a position where we could be nothing about it. The last ten years also point to the futility of any fiscal and monetary measures to deal with this problem. You will remember, Sir, that the Finance Minister in the period since 1963 tried desperately to do a number of things. He raised the rate of interest. The Reserve Bank went into a policy of very drastic curtailment of credit. all that proved infructuous because in this effort at planned development you are caught between the devil and the deep sea in the sense that you cannot curb inflationary pressures except by doing things on the monetary and fiscal side, which also curb production. Therefore fiscal and monetary measures are inutile. You have to impose a regulatory frame on the economy. Even in western countries where the market forces are supposed to act with much greater efficiency, where the whole economies are much more integrated, we find that in recent decades the Governments are thinking in terms of such things as incomes policy. Now, an incomes policy is essentially a policy which looks after the distribution of incomes within society in relation to the working of the market forces, so that the broad investment pattern, the broad pattern of social security which gives a floor to the lowest incomes all these are looked after and market forces operate only within that structure. In India, an incomes policy is well-nigh impossible or a very effective incomes policy. I would suggest, for example, that the most effective incomes policy in India can stem only from the stabilisation of the agricultural prices because the stabilisation of agricultural prices is a part of the programme of stabilisation of agricultural incomes. And an incomes policy for all our agriculturists who are 50 per cent more or less of our working force is necessarily connected with the stabilisation of prices.

3 P.M.

The major effort that has to be made in this general field of price regulation is an effort that has to be directed towards consumer prices on the one hand and the intermediate and producer goods prices on the other. As has been discovered time and again, in this country you cannot control consumer prices by exhortations or by ap-

peals or by Ordinances or by even a number of prosecutions. What you must in fact do is to have a long-term basic programme of distribution of essential goods, widespread throughout the country, at reasonable prices throughout. And that involves not the opening of Super Bazaars in the cities, that involves a series of small retail shops in some type of public sector, some type of socialised sector, which deal in essential goods, which are mass goods of consumption. And we must have provision for proper distribution. That means procurement of supplies on the part of the Government and the stabilisation of agricultural prices is also connected very intimately with this procurement exercise. This is on the side of agricultural products.

On the side of the consumer goods of the manufacturing sorts, there is entirely another line, that is, our increased manufacturing capacity will be directed towards the production of mass consumption goods and not be frittered away in a lot of luxuries and semi-luxuries. This means standardisation. This means insistence on efficiency and cost aspect. This means, in effect, rather a large—in that sense of the word—regulatory regime. And so far as the intermediate and producer goods prices are concerned, the position was even worse in this country. During the inter-war years we had given protection to industries only in a measured manner for part of the time on the understanding that there would be efficiency and progress both in scales of operations and in techniques. Now we are giving blanket protection, especially with these quota restrictions, and we are creating huge monopolistic or oligopolistic sellers' markets for all these producers and we are not taking care at all. The State gets nothing out of it because you do not levy the tariffs. The consumer gets nothing out of it because the consumer does not get goods at the reduced price related to prices at which the privileged imports come in. The resulting large margin is a margin that the producer, the speculator and the trader divide among themselves, with the result that the quota policy is of no use to us at all. The inflationary pressures in this sector which ought to be under control still mount up and that is how we ran into these great difficulties in foreign trade during the last two years.

[Shri D. R. Gadgil.]

Sir, as I said, I do not want to take the time of the House. But what I want to insist on here is that we should take a view of this problem as a basic problem of integrated, regulatory governmental policy. It is not a problem which, however learned or however good we may be in a Committee of House of Parliament, we will be able to tackle. Any kind of propaganda effort will not do unless the Government realises that this is a matter of basic policy; if it does not give early attention to it, then a step-away to another devaluation is not far off. One thing I must frankly confess. The stress in the Finance Minister's speech yesterday was—I do not know how to describe it—the high level of complacency that he exhibited. He seems to be very much satisfied with what was going on and since devaluation, the Government's pronouncements that have been made do not show, to my mind, at least any real appreciation of this big problem of holding the price line of the consumers, the intermediates and the producers goods. In my opinion the policy is basic in the sense that it gives an element of stability which we urgently require in a developing economy to attain; because devaluation makes it quite clear that in the last two years just before devaluation there was a low rate of growth and that attempting development without stability is self-defeating.

Therefore, Sir, while I entirely agree with the proposer of the Resolution that this is a very important problem, I do not think that the steps that he suggests are very appropriate.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Mr. Somasundaram.

(Shri Somasundaram stood up. After a pause)

Are you not anxious to speak, Mr. Somasundaram? All right, the Minister.

SHRI G. MURAHARI (Uttar Pradesh) : I have given my name.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : I do not have your name here.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : I had given the name.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : But the records do not show.

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE (Maharashtra) : Sir, I want to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Let him reply first.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उनको, श्रीमान, बोलने दें।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : I have called the Minister. I am sorry. It is not here.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : This is a very unusual procedure, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : You should have ascertained whether your name is there.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : It was given in writing to the Secretary.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : I do not know. It is not here in any of the records.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : Three days back gave it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Let us hear him. If you are very anxious . . .

SHRI G. MURAHARI : Sir, I may . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : I have called the Minister. I am sorry.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : No, Sir. . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : He is only intervening. You can speak afterwards, not before that. I have called the Minister.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : Because he wants to go somewhere, you call him. That is what has happened.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : You are misinformed. I have called him for some other purpose.

श्री राजनारायण : यह उनकी इंटरव्यूिंग स्पीच है न।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : Sir, the Resolution is in the name of Shri Dharia and I am intervening. It is true.

I am glad, Sir, that the hon. Member through this Resolution has sought to focus attention on one of the very key aspects of our economic situation. A well-known and a distinguished economist that he is, the hon. Member who just now intervened before me, has laid stress on the problem and he has very well done it. I cannot improve upon his words that it is not through any Committee or Commission that we will be able to hold the price line. What is required is to have a fundamental approach, fundamental to the very basis of our economic policy. It is only through a sustained and continuous integrated regulatory economic policy itself that we can make any impact on the price situation. Price rise is not the cause of any economic malady but it is the result of something going wrong in the economy. Suppose a human being has high temperature. That itself is not the cause. It is due to something wrong in the system. It is the result of some serious infection present in the body, the whole apparatus. Therefore, in order to cure it, what we need is action on all fronts. It is true that the distributive system, management, control and the regulation of distributive system is the outward phenomenon. We have to regulate the prices, particularly of essential commodities. In an under-developed country like India, with a high rate of population growth and the Government playing a very big role not only in the expenditure which contributes to the big chunk of expenditure on the capital formation, it is through Budgetary resources that the bulk of capital formation is done. The Government can make an impact on the distributive system. But it is the distribution of incomes, particularly production of essential commodities like food, clothing and various other essential commodities, that will go to make a real impact on the price line.

Sir, the hon. Members who have intervened in the debate have tried to stress certain measures that should be taken. Some of them went to analyse the factors leading to the rise in prices while others have suggested remedial measures. I would like to go into all the three aspects broadly, aspects on which the hon'ble Members have chosen to offer their suggestions.

Take the first factor behind the abnormal rise in prices. Some have said that increase in the governmental expenditure or the de-

ficit financing has led to rise in prices. Others have said that there is a sharp increase in indirect taxes which has added on to the rises in prices. Yet another has said that it is the faulty planning that has led to the increase in prices. Some others have said that it is not the Plans but the implementation of them that has gone behind the rise in prices. Yet others have pointed out that it is the slow rate of growth.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL (Punjab) :  
Nobody is worried about profit motive.

SHRI B R BHAGAT : Unfortunately, nobody has referred to it. Somebody has gone on to point out that price rise is due to zones. Abolish the zones and the prices of foodgrains will equalise, he said. These are some of the factors that have been given as the causes for the rise in prices. Let me examine some of the bigger factors that have been suggested. For example, take the question of increase in governmental expenditure and deficit financing. In a developing economy, as I said, the Government has to play a very large role in capital formation. The rise in expenditure is not always a cause for increase in prices. Maybe other factors are also there such as purely non-developmental expenditure leading to deficit financing or putting inputs of resources without a real increase in savings.

Sir, it is true that there was the biggest epoch in deficit financing though even in earlier years it was there. Particularly after 1962, because of the war and various other factors, increase in defence and other governmental expenditure, there was a significant element of deficit financing. But this factor should be balanced with others. I want to point out for the benefit of hon'ble Members that this large expenditure has led to what is known as capital formation. Take for example the period of 10-15 years, the whole Plan period and take the Central expenditure. The Central expenditure in 1950-51, before the First Plan started was Rs. 487 crores. In 1966-67, that is 16 years later, it has risen by 600 per cent. That is the Central expenditure. Out of this take the capital formation. In 1950-51 the capital formation as a result of Central expenditure was only Rs. 99 crores. In 1966-67 the capital formation was Rs. 1,539 crores, that is, a rise of 1,400 per cent. Whereas the

[Shri B. R. Bhagat.]

Central expenditure went up by 600 per cent., the capital formation out of that went up by 1,400 per cent. So, as Dr. Gadgil pointed out, bringing down the rate of growth or the investment does not always mean that you will bring down the prices, because in that process you bring down the production also; you bring down the rate of growth also. At present you may be suffering as a result of high fever, but later on, as a result of serious stagnation the whole system might collapse, because there are other factors like the growth in population, unemployment and various other factors. These will not be held up. What will be held up will be dynamism of the economy, growth potential and such other factors. Therefore, it will be confusing the issue if you say that in a stage of high prices let us bring down the expenditure. Of course, you must bring down the unessential expenditure, administrative charges and various other factors which are unproductive in nature. And that is what we have tried to do recently. We have said that we are making every effort to check the increase in expenditure which is not going to produce in the near future. For example, the other day the Works, Housing and Urban Development Minister announced that there would be a hundred per cent. cut on any new building. Similarly, we are trying to cut down the staff. Do not have any more additional staff. Curtail the revenue expenditure. Let there be 3 to 5 per cent. cut in every Government expenditure, even in the capital expenditure of the Plan, even in the developmental expenditure. Have an overall 10—15 per cent. cut so that we are able to cut down the frills, as it is called, maintaining just the core, the nucleus; so that our dynamic growth of the economy is not impaired, because if that is done, we will get into a bigger type of stagnation and we will have many more problems including price rise.

I am not going into the question of indirect tax levy leading thereby to price increase. Obviously, indirect taxation, in a system like ours, not only plays an important role towards capital formation, it also restricts demands, creating more surpluses for export.

Then there is the question of inter-zonal restriction on the movement of foodgrains, a

point which was very much stressed by the hon'ble mover. It is true that if there was enough to go round the country, there would be no need of any restriction. Even the friends opposite, the Communist Members, will accede that if there is enough to go round, we would not like to have these regulatory measures. But there is not enough to go round.

In the urban economy, even when we have a better-off situation, some sort of a regulatory measure is needed. But we have not that happy situation. Not only enough is not there in foodgrains, even self-sufficiency is not there.

Regarding the food zones, many of us may not like them but they have to be there because not only that we should have it for internal procurement in the surplus areas, but also we have to have it to procure and supply it in the deficit areas to supplement whatever we get from outside. That is the rationale behind the zones but the whole matter has been referred to a Foodgrains Policy Committee because of the obvious clash of interests, which is, according to me, not a genuine clash if it is implemented both by the surplus States and the deficit States evenly and there is a national consciousness. If the country is one, the need for feeding the people is also one, whether in the surplus area or in the deficit area but even then, because the feelings are very strong in the deficit States that the surplus States are not providing the surplus to them and the foodgrains do not reach them although their economy is producing such valuable things for export even if they do not get food at reasonable prices, the whole matter has gone before a committee.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY (Madras) :  
May I ask . . .

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : After I finish; otherwise it breaks the thread of the argument. It is a very technical matter. This matter is before the Foodgrains Policy Committee and we will be able to take a decision on this when the report of that Committee comes to us.

Various other things about the powers were mentioned. It was said that we are not doing enough to check the hoarders. I am not going to give the specific steps that we have taken. We have armed ourselves

with powers under the Essential Supplies Act either to force a producer to release the goods or to take over the stocks or to distribute them through socialised distribution channels. Then there is the question of providing incentives to the producers. In order to keep the prices at a particular level according to the needs of the country all these measures—a host of measures—are there and they are called the integrated regulatory measures.

I come to the second group of arguments that India has not done as well as many other countries. If you say, during the last three years particularly after 1962, it is true and the price itself is an indication. In the last 3 years the price rose to the extent of 30 per cent or 10 per cent per annum but if you take the period before that if you take the period 1950 to 1963 India had a record of stability which was not matched by many. In the first 13 years of planning the price in India rose only by 17 per cent per annum—because these comparisons are made so I am indulging in it—whereas in Australia it rose by 33 per cent per annum, in France, which is a developed country, by 47 per cent per annum, in West Germany by 21 per cent per annum and even in some of the Asian countries like the Philippines, Thailand, etc. the price was much higher than in India. Because in the last 3 or 4 years we have come across a rough patch in our economy it is true that the prices have gone up very high and the rate of growth has been smaller but it does not mean that we cannot do better or in comparison we are worse off because we have a record of price stability and sustained growth for 13 years and as Dr Gadgil pointed out, the war, drought and the overall growth of population have created a situation which not only called for devaluation but which called for much stronger measures not only to quicken the growth or stimulate the growth but also to prevent any further deterioration in the position. I can assure him—I do not know in what sense he said that he got the feeling of complacency in the speech of the Finance Minister but I can assure him—that we attach the greatest importance to the measures that have to be taken the follow-up measures namely the regulation of the prices, the need for producing more, particularly agricultural pro-

L113RS/66—5

duction and also stimulating the growth of industries, which has been very low last year, namely 3.8 per cent as against 7 per cent the previous year. The point is, we have laid emphasis in this year's plan as well as in the next year's plan that all the efforts have to be made whether in material terms or whatever the agricultural sector needs—in terms of money or resources or inputs like the fertilisers or water or in terms of men. According to me it is more important in terms of human resources, that is, providing incentives to the farmer and giving him encouragement. I agree with some hon. Members that the land tenures, land reforms and various other things are very important because the man behind the plough should have incentives, the man who cultivates must have all the incentives and unless we do that things will not improve. We are trying to implement it. Only to other day we reviewed the position. In Maharashtra there is already a break-through in rural development. In the UP we are trying to do it. In the UP they have sunk 92,000 wells in one year and it is one place where at least wherever possible every year they can go up to a million wells which would energise production.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA (Uttar Pradesh) : I leave some land for cultivation. Do not cover all the land with wells.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The hon. Member does not know about agriculture. I know it better. He knows about other things better. I concede but agriculture I know better.

In the follow-up measures, the most important thing is, we must stimulate the agricultural production. We have tried to do it by taking certain steps. The Ministry of Commerce is taking various other steps, in regard to the production in the industrial field.

श्री राज नारायण कास्ट प्राइम में कोई रेशियो होगा ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I agree with the hon. Member that there has to be parity. To the extent we are not able to establish price parity we are suffering. Therefore the most important follow-up measure in the near future is to stimulate the growth of the economy, stimulate the production of food, to produce more agricultural surplus for consumption and export. On the other side there are the distribution aspects. Look at

[Shri B. R. Bhagat.]

the vulnerable section of the society, the large middle classes, the weaker people who are suffering in the fixed earning group and the industrial workers who are suffering because of the high prices. We have to provide them with all the foodgrains or articles of essential needs at reasonable prices. Sometimes because the prices have gone up, therefore, whatever efforts we have made—some of the efforts have been very laudable—are not appreciated. Even planning is blamed as if planning is responsible for this. All the efforts we have made especially in the last 15 years are sought to be decried by saying that we have done nothing. The economy is much stronger today in the light of the fact that we have gone through the worst and only the steps that we have taken and those that we have to take in the coming months are bound to bear fruits. We know where the economy has gone wrong.

श्री राजनारायण : कंट्रोल प्राइस और अन-  
कंट्रोल प्राइस में क्या फर्क है ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : The hon. Member knows it. Therefore why does he ask ?

श्री राजनारायण : मैं जानता नहीं, इसी-  
लिये तो पूछ रहा हूँ ।

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : What I am saying is that, for example, there are the foodgrains and there we have introduced rationing in the six big cities, and if you see the total food made available to the people, through rationing etc. at reasonable controlled rates, it is 50 per cent of the marketable surplus, of imports plus the surplus through internal procurement. So 50 per cent. of the marketable surplus we are providing through rationing etc. Now that itself is a big thing. We talk rather cynically about the Super Market that is there, that one Super Market is not going to make an impact as one swallow does not make a summer. It is true that we should have done this. As the prices have gone on rising we have been saying, some of us, I am quite aware that my colleague, the Minister of Commerce, has been pressing this, that at least we must have a large number of these stores, that it must be in hundreds in every State. And therefore you know all this. More than the resources at least the co-operative organisations in the consumer trade have to make an impact in

this country. And, therefore, this Super Market is not an end; it is a beginning, and we must have very soon a large number of such stores. Already Government have announced that there are some which have come into existence and they are going in for more. I remember that the other day the Minister of Commerce said enough in the matter of production of cloth and he has done something for the production of cloth which goes into the requirements of the common man, production of the cloth of mass consumption. He has taken the steps to see that it is produced to a larger extent. Of course, it is true that by a stroke of the pen we cannot introduce it to meet the full demand. I know there are hundreds of varieties of cloth produced. Of course, that should have been done. But to bring it down to a few items at the moment and all of a sudden will mean many other problems including the closing down of some cloth mills and the consequent unemployment. It is true that next to food comes cloth and in going in for more production of the common varieties we must bring down their cost also. We must increase production so as to make available at cheaper rates all those varieties of cloth which are the requirements of the common people. Therefore, the situation today, although it is said that Pakistan has achieved a higher rate of growth, or Ceylon or Korea than India, is it not different what the case is there ? The public sector here is forgotten though it is true that one of the failings has been that the large investments in the public sector have not yielded the results. That is true, but it does not mean that we have to give it up. It is the base of our economy, and if there is no public sector, India cannot stand on its own legs either in its maintenance requirements or in the production of those articles which go for the building up of the industrial superstructure. Therefore, the need is to improve the public sector undertakings, to improve their functioning to realise the fruits of the investments that have been made there, and not to give them up or slow them down. And that is my quarrel with the hon. Member because, by that doing, we are trying ourselves to the apron strings of other industrially advanced countries, and surely this is not the way to progress for a great country like India which is trying to develop to stand on its own legs.

Then you see that the hon. Member—he is not there now—never fails in quoting Taiwan and say, “Look here, Taiwan has achieved such a high rate of growth.” He compares a very small country with a very big country like India with a large population. Even then he takes that example. They forget when they compare Taiwan or Israel with India the main thing is—we know and I know that the House is aware—that the other country does not want such large foreign aid but, even today, with all this India is one of the countries which has, *per capita*, the least amount of foreign aid than any other country. Take the year 1963 when the *per capita* aid in dollars was 1.8 dollars. When you compare Taiwan with India, there you will find that it is almost 6 dollars, to be exact 5.7. Then what was Israel's position by comparison? It was 23 dollars. So it is not as if they did not have sizeable foreign aid. Now do they want us to develop on those lines? Does the House want that we step up our aid requirements to five times? No, the comment in the House is that whatever it was, that even the Rs. 4,000 crores aid is a big amount. Therefore, we cannot have all the things all of a sudden, all the things which a small country has with a small population and a simpler economy. I am sure that if we pooled all our resources, agricultural, industrial and other, we will be able to achieve a rate of growth higher than achieved by Pakistan. But what will happen in the future? With a 2.2 per cent. population growth, with a big country to defend, with all this defence and other expenditure mounting up because of the need for defending our borders on our own, with the need to build defence industries on our own and the need to build a heavy industrial super-structure which can generate economy and which can pay for its own imports through exports and various other import substitutions, if you want to achieve all that, the remedy lies in and we have to go in the line which we are going.

The only trouble is that it has often been said that we have our crucial sector and we have not been performing our role in the public sector. Because of various other administrative and other bottlenecks even the investments have not yielded the results in the agricultural sector, in the vast agricultural sector. Because this is a diffused sector, we have not been able to co-ordinate all the

organisational and human agencies to bring about the best results. Therefore, it is not so much a question of money. The per-unit investment in agriculture was less, we have stepped it up, but all the same we will not be realising the fruits unless we co-ordinate all the organisational and administrative and human agencies. This is the need of the hour and we have to do it, and this is what the hon. Member, Dr. Gadgil, said, namely that we needed to have an integrated regulatory policy, that we have to improve it, that we have to make it sustained and continuous and improve it. We have to take care, in an economy like ours in a country which has a large population, of the needs of the people, and they become more complex and diversified as the economy progresses. The needs and requirements of the people change in a free economy, with democracy and everything. So we have to cater to their needs, to their demands, and provide at reasonable prices their basic requirements. Social securities have to be built up because the general masses are poorer people, and the cry on their behalf comes from everywhere. When the Fourth Five-year Plan was discussed, everybody demanded, “Give them water first. Talk of fertilisers and other things later on. At least there should be drinking water in every village. That is the major and immediate demand.” Now if you take a big country like ours, it means hundreds of millions of rupees. Yet we have to provide all this so as to make ours a viable economy, so as to achieve, what is called, the objective of development with stability, and to the extent that the development has not taken place along these lines, the stability is threatened, the democracy is threatened, the freedom is threatened, and to that extent the security and the very existence of India as an independent country is threatened. So it is a serious matter and I realise it; the Government realises it, and I am sure the House has given expression to this that it does not stop at pure economics but goes into various other realms, the realm of politics and various other factors, internal and external. Therefore the remedial measures can be only those which the Government can take. There I come to the operative part of the Resolution. I completely agree with the sentiments expressed in this Resolution. We have to take stern measures where such measures are required to control the prices and to control the acti-



[Shri B. R. Bhagat.]

vities of various kinds in the fields of production, distribution and in the direction of improving our efficiency. We have to take all suitable measures to improve the general efficiency of performance. We should be stern where the question is about action against anti-social elements, blackmarketeers and so on. We have to be stern and that is the duty of the Government. About that there is absolutely no difference of opinion.

So many suggestions have been offered. I submit that the Government is already taking those steps that have been suggested here. Some of them may seem half-hearted, as was stated here by some hon. Member. But it is not as if the passing of this Resolution will be the solution of the problems. All these steps have to be continued and all those powers that are there with the Government have to be there to take effective steps. But the main question is that a committee like the one suggested here—and that is the operative part of the Resolution—cannot discharge these functions which are really the functions of the Government. For example, the hon. Member quoted from the report of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee, presided over by the present planning Minister who was then in the opposition. He also referred to pure research bodies like the National Council of Applied Economic Research. But even Prof. Gadgil has just stated that a committee will not be able to do this work because it is the function of the Government. What will this committee do? You have to achieve stability of prices, you have to develop the economy where all kinds of forces and factors are operating and where demands are generated even before the income is generated. This is what happens.

The National Council of Applied Economic Research has suggested some measures. It is true and the hon. Member has referred to them. Let us see what are the steps that they have suggested. They have suggested that there should be a suitable agricultural price policy. They have also suggested that there should be an industrial price policy and also a wage policy. They have also suggested administrative, monetary, fiscal and commercial measures and so on. That means the whole gamut of govern-

mental machinery. This will be supplanting the Government itself. Therefore, what is necessary is that the Government must be clear-cut about the policy which it pursues for achieving its objective. The administrative system needs to be continuously re-oriented so as to achieve this purpose. There should be a strict evaluation as to how far our investments, how far our administrative processes, how far the various programmes whether in the agricultural sector or in the industrial sector or in the field of distribution or exports, are achieving the desired results. It is a question of the entire economic machinery of the Government and the functioning of the Government in order to make it more purposeful and oriented to achieve our objectives.

This is actually what is called the follow-up measures in the process of devaluation. There, as Dr. Gadgil has said, we require ruthless follow-up measures. Therefore our policy has to be ruthless and clear-cut. It is such a ruthless follow-up measure that will bring about results.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : It is neither clear-cut nor ruthless, you will admit.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : Perhaps my hon. friend under some influence seems to have lost his faculty of understanding. I don't know. The point is, there may be shortcomings here and there. But we are functioning towards that objective. I have no doubt that there is the necessary sense of seriousness on the part of the Government in regard to this matter, an awareness of the price situation, an awareness of the current economic situation. Where we have failed we have to make good and go forward. We should go ahead to make an impact and to stimulate the growth of the economy so as to solve the various problems. We know what we have to do. We have to follow it up. Therefore I would request the hon. Member that his purpose of inviting general attention to this important matter has been served and also the Government has expressed its serious concern and the Government appreciates and shares the sentiments which he and other hon. Members have voiced here. I can assure him that the Government is very keen and very serious and earnest in pursuing the follow-up measures so as to stimulate the growth of economy, to bring about a balance in

the foreign exchange situation, to improve our exports and to produce more agricultural commodities both for home consumption and for exports and to improve our industrial production. All this will make an impact on prices. In the meantime we will take regulatory measures to supply food, and we will take action against hoarding so as to bring about a change in the situation so that the present mood of frustration or the mood of depression that our economy is not doing well, will change into a picture of optimism, a picture of robust optimism that our economy will be better and is going to be better. With these words, I request the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : Sir, the hon. Minister was kind enough to say that the zonal system and the cordoning arrangement are in the interest of the poor people. May I ask the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, whether as a result of this zonal system, he is sure there is enough food left with the villagers ? Does the hon. Minister know that this procurement takes away all the foodgrains from the peasant even the stock that he retains for his seeds ? That is number one. Secondly, does he know that in the name of stopping foodgrain movements the village economy is very badly affected ? To give an example, recently as the peasants were bringing grain—that is uncontrolled—to the village shandy in their carts in Coimbatore from where our Food Minister hails, all those grains in the carts were taken away with the result that there was a near-panic situation created and important and prominent persons like one of our Members, Shri Sundaram, and others including Congress M.L.A.s had to get in touch with the Collector and the Collector assured them that he would intervene and do something about it. These two things, the procurement system and the zonal arrangement have become a curse to the village people and they are at the root of all the corruption and food shortage that we have and unless you do away with the zonal system the country will never solve the problem. And their inflationary policy and deficit financing, I submit, Sir, . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Mr. Mariswamy, you cannot make a second speech now.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : I am not making a second speech, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : You can seek clarification. But you are expressing your views on the zonal system and so on.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : I am concluding.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Concluding or no concluding, if you want to seek any clarification, please do so.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : I will come to my last point. Does the hon. Minister know that deficit financing and the inflationary policy, if they are not stopped now, then the malady that we are experiencing today will be there permanently and the sooner they are done away with the better for the country ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Now, Mr. Arjun Arora. The Minister can answer both of them together.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he admits or does not admit that during the last two years or so prices have risen by 26 per cent. in spite of all those steps that he has enumerated ? That being so there must be something wrong with those steps. Does he or does he not admit that after devaluation there has been a new spurt in the price rise ? I have received news from Kanpur this morning that the cost of living index has touched 752 compared to 100 which is the figure for 1939. This is unprecedented. And thirdly . . .

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह) : थोड़ा पुराने ज़माने में चले गए ।

श्री अर्जुन अरोड़ा : बेस तो वही है ।

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : The base now is 1949.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : In Kanpur, it is still 1939 that is taken as the base and as being more scientific, as Prof. Gadgil will tell you. The 1949 figures are all wrong.

Thirdly, I want to know when will an effective procurement policy be finalised. Will it be finalised before the next *kharif* crop is harvested next month ? And fourthly, I want to know whether the Government is evolving or proposes to evolve a

[Shri Arjun Arora.]

policy of providing manufactured goods produced by industry, to cultivators at controlled rates? And fifthly, I would like to know whether the Government has learnt the lesson of the cement decontrol and so will not repeat that mistake in any other industry, particularly in the case of sugar?

**श्री राजनारायण :** जहां तक पालिसी की बात है उसके सम्बन्ध में मैंने जो निवेदन किया था उसका कोई जवाब माननीय मंत्री जी ने नहीं दिया कि एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोड्यूस और इन्डस्ट्रियल प्रोड्यूस में कोई पैरिटी सरकार बनायेगी या नहीं, जो एमेंशियल कमोडिटीज है इंडस्ट्रियल उनकी कास्ट प्राइस और सेल प्राइस में कोई रेशो सरकार रखेगी या नहीं। हमने सुझाव दिया था कि किसी चीज पर एक रुपया खर्च आए तो डेढ़ रुपए तक की बिके। इसके अलावा चार पैसे फी मेर से ज्यादा फर्क किसान की बेच में और दुकान की बेच में न हो। यह हमने अपनी ओर से सुझाव दिया था, लेकिन सरकार ने कोई उत्तर नहीं दिया कि इस पर सरकार कोई नीति निर्धारित करेगी या नहीं। अब मनुभाई शाह साहब जरा हमको भी सुनिये।

**वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री एम० शफी कुरेशी) :** आप कहिये, आप कहिये।

**श्री राजनारायण :** दूसरी बात मैं आपके द्वारा मनुभाई शाह साहब से कहना चाहता हूं और श्री भगत जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि पालिसी एक अलग चीज है लेकिन जो भ्रष्टाचार है, जो भ्रष्टाचार की धारा बहाई जा रही है जिसमें कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं उसके लिये सरकार ने कोई योजना बनाई है या नहीं। उदाहरण के लिये मैं आपको एक बोतल दिखा रहा हूं। इस बोतल में 85 से 90 परसेंट अल्कोहल है और यह होम्योपैथिक मेडिसिन का सैम्पल है और यह ऐसी जगह पर बेच रहे हैं जहां पर कि शराब-बन्दी योजना है, महाराष्ट्र के इलाके में। इसलिये मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि सरकार के पास क्या गारंटी है कि इस तरह से न हो।

शराब पिलाई जा रही है 85 से ले कर 90 परसेंट अल्कोहल मिलाकर, और जहां तक मेरी जानकारी हुई है यह मध्य प्रदेश का है।

**श्री शीलभद्र याजी (बिहार) :** यह आपने कैसे मालूम किया कि शराब है, क्या आपने देखा है पी कर।

**श्री राजनारायण :** यह सैम्पल है, इन दोनों को हम लाये हैं, इसको देखा जाय। जहां तक मुझे मालूम है इसका जो कारखाना है वह किसी एक कांग्रेसी एम० पी० का है जो कि इस समय लोक सभा के सदस्य हैं। ऐसे एरिया में जहां पर कि शराब-बन्दी है वहां पर 90 परसेंट अल्कोहल मिला करके एक दवा के नाम पर, एक होम्योपैथिक मेडिसिन के नाम पर, इसको बाकायदा दुकानों पर बेचा जा रहा है।

**श्री ए० डी० मणि (मध्य प्रदेश) :** नाम बता दीजिये।

**श्री राजनारायण :** नहीं। इसी तरह से एक लैबेंडर है यह। इस लैबेंडर को भी देखिये, यह सील वगैरह सब कुछ है, इसमें कितना परसेंट अल्कोहल है। तो जो भ्रष्टाचार के साधन हैं उन भ्रष्टाचार के साधनों पर रोक लगाने के लिये सरकार के पास क्या योजना है। मैं चाहूंगा कि चाहे मनुभाई शाह बतायें, चाहे हमारे भगत जी बतायें कि जो रूलिंग पार्टी या जो राजनैतिक गुट और बड़े बड़े व्यापारियों का गुट और पुलिस का गुट आज मिल करके सारे दामो को बढ़ाये चला जा रहा है उसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या नीति है और इसको कैसे रोकियेगा।

**श्री शीलभद्र याजी :** ये दोनों बोतले टेबिल पर रखी जायें।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री महावीर प्रसाद भार्गव) :** नहीं रखी जायेगी।

SHRI K. SUNDARAM (Madras) : On a point of clarification. The Minister was kind enough to tell us that they were try-

ing to keep the price line. At the same time they want to give incentives to the cultivators. Now, I would like to know in respect of cotton, rubber and tea what are the incentives that they are contemplating. For instance, with respect to cotton there is a ceiling price but whenever the ceiling prices were pierced the official ceiling rates were increased. You had been following the market rate and there was never a fixed ceiling rate.

In the case of rubber, which is also in short supply just like cotton in the country, the price is ruling double today. There has been no ceiling whatsoever, nor any distributive system.

In tea after devaluation the tea producers are able to get a higher price so that for internal consumption they will be able to reduce their price but you have taxed them by an export duty thereby preventing the lowering of the prices. Now, these three commodities are getting three different treatments. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister what their policy is with regard to the follow-up measures in respect of these three agricultural commodities.

There is another point. There is no use talking about our capital investments, their shortcomings and what not. We would like to know from the Minister precisely at what stage our economy is. Is it according to Dr. Rostov's term in the take-off stage or flying off stage or crashlanding stage? We would like to know where our economy stands at the moment.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमान्, मैं इसको क्या करूँ, दे दूँ आपके द्वारा सरकार को ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री महाबीर प्रसाद भार्गव) : आप अपने पास रखिये ।

श्री राजनारायण : हम क्या करेंगे, हम इसके शौकीन तो हैं नहीं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री महाबीर प्रसाद भार्गव) : जिस लिये लाये हैं उसको करेंगे ।

श्री राजनारायण : यह दुर्ग, एम० पी०, मध्य प्रदेश, का है श्रीमान् ।

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Madras) : The Minister said that a thousand wells were

sunk in U.P. in one year. Did I catch him rightly ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : 92,000 wells; not one thousand.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY : 92,000 wells in one year. It sounds like a fairy tale.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : The hon. Member opposite asked me two questions. One was about deficit financing, whether it was going to be stopped or not. I can only say that the Finance Minister has already announced that there will be no deficit financing henceforth. The second question is about the zones, whether they are in the interests of the farmers. If it is not, then particularly the surplus States would not have wanted it. The logic behind the zone is that it makes it easier for procuring food-grains in the surplus States. There is no question of draining them, as he says, of everything, even the seeds. It is not true.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : I can prove it; it is a fact.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : In individual cases, I do not know.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : It is not any individual case; I can give you a hundred cases.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : On an issue like this, on a forum like this an instance among a population of 50 crores will not make any strong point.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : I am not quoting any individual case. I know it is a very small matter. It is a general thing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : Mr. Mariswamy, you have had your say. Now, let him reply.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : I heard him patiently but he does not hear me. This is not the way. What I am saying is this. A surplus area can be drained of the surplus food if there is an adjoining highly deficit area. If the zones are abolished all that surplus can be sucked in by that. That is why many of the surplus States fear that there will be an enormous rise in prices and it may hurt them. But I said that this matter as well as the matter of procurement and other things is before the high-power

[Shri B R Bhagat]

reviewing committee. The report will be coming and in the light of that we will take decisions and make suitable adjustments in the policies

The hon Member there asked whether there was any parity between industrial and agricultural prices. The hon. Member knows that we have an Agricultural Prices Commission and that fixes the rates particularly of all agricultural commodities. They go not only into the incentives but also into all the other relevant matters including the prices of non-agricultural commodities. At least that is one agency that goes into that. There is, therefore, this agency and if necessary we can improve upon it to see that there is a suitable parity in industrial and agricultural prices.

Then, he asked whether we know the difference between the black market price and the controlled price or the price at which the producer produces and the price at which the consumer gets it and about the element of middlemen's profits. That obviously varies from commodity to commodity and there are different commodities, luxury commodities, scarcity commodities and so on. In the case of luxury commodities the difference is very much but it does not apply to controlled commodities where effort is made to see that the consumer gets them at controlled rates. It does not apply, for example, to rationed articles. But there are certain sectors which are decontrolled and there it is the market forces that operate. Therefore, to say that we should fix this parity is unrealistic

Then the hon Member asked about procurement. I think that report will come soon. Let us wait for that.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : I asked many other questions also

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : That is why I am beginning from the last. He asked me whether I did not know that there was a rise of 26 per cent. in the last three years. I started by saying that every year there was a rise of 10 per cent. . . .

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : What implication does it have on your policies ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : I have spelt out the implications and I have narrated the

causes and the various factors. If the hon. Members want me to repeat I can do so but I do not think the House desires me to do that. The point is, a consistent effort has to be made on all sides to stabilise the prices. I have already dealt with the various factors involved

Then there was the question about rubber, tea and cotton and my hon. colleague who deals with them will appropriately answer at some time, because I do not have the details about these individual commodities

With these words, I conclude

श्री गोडे मुराहरि : उपन्यास महोदय, वैसे मैं भी क्लेरिफिकेशन की तार पर पूछ लेना तो शायद अच्छा होगा।

यह प्रस्ताव जो हमारे सामने है, मुझे मालूम है कि इस प्रस्ताव से कुछ नहीं होगा क्योंकि मेरे बोलने के बाद शायद मोहन धारिया साहब अपने प्रस्ताव को वापस कर लेंगे जैसा कि हमेशा होता आया है कि कोई कांग्रेसी अगर गैरसरकारी प्रस्ताव लाते हैं तो उसका नतीजा यही होता है कि उसको वापस कर लेते हैं। तो इस प्रस्ताव से कुछ होने का नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रस्ताव में जो यह कहा गया है कि एक कमेटी बनायी जाय जो दामों की बढ़ोत्तरी के बारे में कुछ टोन कदम सरकार के सामने लाकर अपने निर्णय को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये कोशिश करे। मेरा तो कहना यह है कि सरकार की जो पिछले 20 साल से नीति चली आई है उसके फलस्वरूप कोई ऐसी योजना नहीं हो सकती कि जिससे हिन्दुस्तान में दाम का बढ़ना संभव हो सकता है क्योंकि अगर सिर्फ यह दाम के बढ़ने का मामला अलग से लिया जाय तो दाम कभी बढ़ेंगे नहीं, जैसा मंत्री जी ने फर्माया कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान की फिस्कल पालिसी, टैक्सेशन पालिसी, प्लानिंग और सारी चीजों को लेकर उसमें अगर कोई तब्दीली की गई तभी जाकर इसमें असर पड़ सकता है। यह उन्होंने खुद मान लिया। इसलिये मेरा कहना है कि जहाँ

तक दाम के बढ़ने का सवाल है, हिन्दुस्तान में जो भी प्लानिंग के संबंध में, फिस्कल के संबंध में और भी कई बातों में जो नीति सरकार की है, अर्थ नीति है, उन सबका नतीजा है कि हमारे यहां इस तरह की एक परिस्थिति पैदा हुई। केवल यह कह देना कि हम आज दाम को किसी एक स्तर पर रोक देंगे यह बिल्कुल बेवकूफी होगी और सरकार भी पिछले कुछ साल से कहती आई है कि अब हम दाम को बाध देंगे, अब हम प्राइम स्टेबिलाइजेशन कर देंगे, इस लेवल पर रख देंगे, लेकिन ऐसा कर नहीं पाये हैं। और वह करना भी कुछ बेवकूफी की बात थी क्योंकि यह संभव ही नहीं था। असल में सरकार के सामने अगर कोई नीति होती दाम के बारे में तब जाकर, उसके फलस्वरूप, कोई ऐसी परिस्थिति हम पैदा कर सकते थे लेकिन मेरा कहना है कि सरकार के सामने इस बारे में कोई नीति नहीं है। नीति क्या हो सकती है इसमें बारे में सोचना चाहिये क्योंकि अभी मंत्री महोदय ने खुद माना है कि जब तक पैरिटी नहीं होगी एग्रिकलचरल प्राइसेज में और मैनूफेक्चर्ड गुड्स की प्राइसेज में और जब तक कि हम कोई एक स्थायी नीति नहीं बनाते हैं दामों के बारे में, किस तरह से उनका निर्धारण हो कि एक मैनूफेक्चरिंग के यहां से कोई प्रोडक्ट निकलता है उसके बाद जब बाजार में बिकने लगता है तो उसके बीच में कितना परसेन्टेज प्राफिट में जायेगा, कितना परसेन्टेज टैक्सेशन में जायेगा और जब तक हम इस संबंध में एक स्थायी नीति नहीं बनाने वाले हैं तब तक इसका कोई मतलब नहीं निकलने वाला है और सरकार की जो अभी नीतियां निकल रही हैं उनसे भी यही मालूम होता है कि आगे जाकर भी सरकार दामों को नहीं रोक पायेगी क्योंकि एक दलील हमको दी गई थी डिबेल्यूएशन के वक्त कि डिबेल्यूएशन से दाम नहीं बढ़ेंगे लेकिन बिल्कुल उल्टा साबित हुआ क्योंकि जो परिस्थिति हिन्दुस्तान में होनी चाहिये थी, जिसके रहते

हुए डिबेल्यूएशन करते और डिबेल्यूएशन का फल यह होता कि दाम नहीं बढ़ते, वह परिस्थिति हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं हुई क्योंकि डिबेल्यूएशन की भी एक परिस्थिति होती है जिसके रहते डिबेल्यूएशन का सही मतलब निकल सकता था और सरकार भी इस चीज को ध्यान में रखती कि जब डिबेल्यूएशन करेंगे तो हिन्दुस्तान में वह परिस्थिति आयेगी कि नहीं। यह कहना कि हम एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ा देंगे, कुछ नान-ट्रेडिशनल आइटम्स का एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ जायेगा इसलिए हमको फायदा होगा, ये सब गलत साबित होंगे और वे गलत साबित हो रहे हैं क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान की अर्थव्यवस्था ऐसी है कि इन सब चीजों का जवाब हमारे पास नहीं है और यह कहना बार बार कि डिबेल्यूएशन के बाद दाम कभी बढ़ें नहीं हैं और श्री भगत ने भी कही पर फर्माया कि यह कहना गलत है कि डिबेल्यूएशन के बाद दामों की बढ़ोतरी नहीं हुई . . .

श्री बी० आर० भगत : क्या कहा ?

श्री गोडे मुराहरि : आपने कहा, डिबेल्यूएशन से दाम नहीं बढ़ें।

श्री बी० आर० भगत : मैंने क्या कहा, कहां कहा ?

श्री गोडे मुराहरि : अखबारों में था।

श्री बी० आर० भगत : अखबार वालों ने क्या छपा ?

श्री गोडे मुराहरि : अखबार में छपा था और आपका अपनी पार्टी में जो भाषण हुआ उसमें आपने कुछ जवाब भी दिया। इसलिये आप यह कह देते हैं, कभी कभी यह कह देने हैं, कि दाम में बढ़ोतरी नहीं होती है। लेकिन हम पिछले बीस साल से देखते आए हैं कि दाम कम से कम पाचगुने बढ़े हैं और अभी भी बढ़ने वाले हैं। उदाहरण के लिये मैं आपको दिखाना चाहूंगा कि किस तरह सरकार की नीति बनती है। जब सरकार कंट्रोल प्राइम की बात कहती है और कभी

[ श्री गोडे मुराहरी ]

कभी किसी आइटम पर कंट्रोल की मोहर लगाती है उसके बाद भी जो मैन्युफैक्चरर्स होते हैं या बिक्री करने वाले होते हैं वे उसके जरिये करप्शन का रास्ता निकाल लेते हैं। उमका एक उदाहरण मैं देना चाहूंगा ये तीन कपड़े हैं, तीनों कपड़ों की एक ही क्वालिटी है, तीनों लांग क्लाथ हैं, एक का दाम है 2 रुपये 50 पैसे, दूसरे का दाम है 1 रुपया 90 पैसे और तीसरे का दाम है 2 रुपये 57 पैसे। तीनों एक ही क्वालिटी के हैं लेकिन चालाकी की जाती है कि लिख दिया जाता है कि लांग क्लाथ मीडियम "ए", किसी पर लिख दिया जाता है लांग क्लाथ "ए" ब्लिचड और किसी पर लिख दिया जाता है . . .

AN HON. MEMBER : Has he tested it in the laboratory ?

SHRI G. MURAHARI : These are all of the same count. They, however, put a different marking. They say 'A', 'B', 'C' or 'D' and then mark different prices on the cloth.

लेकिन यह टेक्सटाइल की बात मैं कह रहा हूँ। हर चीज में यही काम होता है। एक तरफ मनुभाई शाह साहब कह देंगे हमने तो टेक्सटाइल में कंट्रोल प्राइस निर्धारित कर दिये हैं और सब कपड़ों को कंट्रोल्ड रेट पर बेचा जा रहा है, इसमें हमने फिक्स कर दिया है कितना एक्साइज टैक्स होगा, क्या होगा लेकिन जब नतीजा देखा जाता है तो डम तरह का नतीजा निकलता है जैसा मैंने अभी बताया। एक ही क्वालिटी का कपड़ा है लेकिन तीन अलग-अलग दामों में बेचते हैं, कोई कम में, कोई ज्यादा में और जो ज्यादा चालाक होता है वह उसको और ज्यादा में बेचता है। वे उसमें डिफरेंट मार्किंग डाल देते हैं। इस तरह से हिन्दुस्तान में दामों की लूट चल रही है और उसका उत्तर सरकार के पास क्या है। सुपर मार्केट के बारे में अभी चार, पांच दिन पहले एक नेशनल सैम्पल सर्वे की रिपोर्ट निकली जिसमें यह कहा था

कि वे बाजार से ठीक दाम पर बेचते हैं। मैं जानता हूँ कुछ आइटम्स हैं जो वहाँ पर कम दाम पर बेचे जाते हैं लेकिन कितना कम यह देखना पड़ेगा। कौन जाकर खरीदते हैं कनाट प्लेस में। ऐसी जगह पर एक सुपर मार्केट बनाकर आप दिल्ली की जनता को कह दें कि दिल्ली में जो दाम हैं उनको हम बांधने वाले हैं तो इसका कोई नतीजा निकलने वाला है नहीं क्योंकि कौन झुग्गी झोंपड़ी में रहने वाला आदमी सुपर मार्केट में जाकर खरीदेगा, इसको भी देखना पड़ेगा और जो वहाँ पर जाते हैं वे कुछ फैशनेबल औरते होंगी जो अपनी कार में अपने खानसामाओं को भी बैठाकर, आया को भी बैठाकर जाती होंगी, जो वहाँ पर दस, पन्द्रह की खरीद करती होंगी और फिर कैफेटेरिया जो वहाँ पर है वहाँ जाकर 'कोकाकोला' भी पी लिया और जब वहाँ से लौटे तो पेट्रोल पर तीन चार रुपये खर्च हो गये। इस पर कहें कि हमने बहुत मुनाफा कर लिया, चार रुपये की वस्तु हमने 3 रुपये 90 पैसे में खरीद ली तो इस तरह से प्राइस कंट्रोल मेजर करने से सरकार से कुछ नहीं होगा। तो मैं यही चाहूंगा कि अगर सरकार को दाम निर्धारित करना है तो उसका एक ही तरीका है और वह यह है कि उसके बारे में नीति बनाई जानी चाहिये। वह नीति सिर्फ यही हो सकती है कि आप मैन्युफैक्चरर्स के बाद प्राइसेज फिक्स कर दे कि इस भाव पर बाजार में चीजे बिक्री की जायेंगी चाहे वह किसी तरह की वस्तु क्यों न हों। इस प्राइस के अन्दर जितने टैक्सेस हैं वे सब परसेन्टेज के अन्दर आ जाने चाहियें जो कि आप मैन्युफैक्चरर्स के बाद जो माल बाहर आयेगा उस पर फिक्स करेंगे। अगर आप इस तरह की नीति बनायेंगे तब ही सारे देश में प्राइस कंट्रोल हो सकता है। यह बात तब ही हो सकती है जब कि आप अपनी अर्थ-व्यवस्था को बदलें। जिस ढंग से आजकल हिन्दुस्तान में चीजों का मैन्युफैक्चर हो रहा है उस पर नियंत्रण होना चाहिये और यह देखना चाहिये कि आपने जो प्राइस उस

चीज की फ़िस्स कर दी है उसमे तो कोई गड़बड़ नहीं है। अगर आप इस तरह की चीजे करेगे तब जाकर कोई चीज इस तरह की हो सकती है और इसवे अलावा कोई दूसरे रास्ता नहीं है।

SHRI M. M. DHARIA (Maharashtra) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, when I moved the resolution, I was not aware that the resolution of mine would create this sort of lively interest in this House. We have been discussing this resolution for nearly three days and I am thankful to all the participants—they not only spoke on the resolution but they expressed their sentiments and they had also given several concrete ideas for the consideration of the Government. I have gone through all the speeches and I would have been indeed happy to reply to the speeches made by my colleagues one by one. Unfortunately time is running very short. I am also interested in the other resolution of my colleague, Shri Chandra Shekhar. So I will not take more time of the House.

I have listened to the speech of the hon. Minister very carefully. I do appreciate the views that are expressed by the hon. Minister. I would like to urge upon him again that this is a problem which is indeed a very serious problem. Every common citizen in India is agitated over this issue because no sooner he goes to the market, he sees that every day somewhere the prices have risen, and it has indeed made the life of the common people very difficult. They cannot meet both ends and so I would like to appeal that a scientific approach in this matter as has been stated by Dr. Gadgil and also by the hon. Minister is absolutely necessary.

Sir, we have been stating all the while of our socialist approach, but whenever we look at the implementation, many times it is found lacking. The time has come in the life of our country when we should not only speak of socialist ideals but we shall have to implement them with a ruthless method. Socialism is not merely a matter of philosophy. It is our way of life. If it is our way of life, implementation, perfect implementation, sincere implementation is absolutely essential. In this context I would like to appeal to the Government that

they should consider the various suggestions that have come forward, and particularly having regard to the after-effects of devaluation the matters are more complicated. We shall have to follow the various measures very strictly. In that direction I would like to invite your attention to the various suggestions particularly the one regarding the abolition of zones. When we say abolish zones, if we have to procure foodgrains, every village, every unit will become a zone. But because of the present system of these artificial zones it has caused great harm not only to the distribution of foodgrains but it has also caused great harm to the cause of national integration and also of unity. Sir, I would, therefore, appeal that the Government should take serious note of the various suggestions particularly with regard to our policy regarding procurement, our policy regarding storage, our policy regarding distribution and our policy regarding imports and exports. Everything shall have to be valued in that direction and, therefore, I feel that such sort of measures as were suggested in my resolution are absolutely necessary. However, I am also aware of the various constitutional difficulties. We have accepted a federal form of structure. We have our own unitary Government at the Central level. We have also our various States at the State level. Naturally, we have to go along with the States. We have to respect the feelings of the States, the representatives of the States, and if we have to find a way out, the way out is by taking the people into confidence and not by divorcing the people from the goal that we intend to achieve.

Therefore, I would not take more time. I am really thankful to all friends who have participated in the debate. I am also thankful to the hon. Minister for taking note of the suggestions because it was in that context that the resolution was moved. Otherwise if the resolution is passed in the House, we have the experience of one resolution that was passed here of Shri Bobdey regarding the cinema industry, we see that it has not yet been implemented. It is not the passing of the resolution that is material. It is the sincerity from the Government side to implement the resolution or the ideas that is more material. The hon. Minister has given an assurance—I believe it is a sincere assurance and an honest assurance . . .



SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : It is sincere.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : On that assurance I would like to beg of the House—we have discussed a lot, we have conveyed our feelings, we have also expressed the feelings of the common man in this country—I would like to appeal to the House to allow me to withdraw the Resolution, in view of the assurance given by the hon. Minister. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : The question is :

1. "That in line 2, after the word 'commodities' the words 'and their continued upward trend' be inserted."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : The question is :

2. "That in line 3 of sub-paragraph (2) for the word 'regulate' the word 'ensure' be substituted."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : The question is :

3. "That at the end of the Resolution, after the words 'throughout the country' the words 'at reasonably cheap prices by increasing the pace of socialisation of trade' be added."

*The motion was negatived.*

SHRI SUNDAR SINGH BHANDARI (Rajasthan) : Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

*\*Amendment No. 4 was, by leave, withdrawn.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : The question is :

5. "That for sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) the following be substituted, namely :—

(1) fix the price of all essential commodities which affect the standard of living of the common man;

(2) take stern and drastic steps against the hoarders and profiteers; and

(3) streamline the machinery of distribution and rationing of all essential commodities throughout the country in

consultation with the State Governments."

*The motion was negatived.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) : The question is :

6. "That in line 2 of sub-paragraph (2), after the word 'prices' the words 'to the level prevailing in the year 1955' be inserted."

*The motion was negatived.*

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

#### RESOLUTION RE CONSTITUTION OF A COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND EXPERTS TO EXAMINE THE EXPORT-IMPORT POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT AND TO REPORT THEREON

श्री चन्द्र शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से निम्नलिखित संकल्प सदन के समक्ष उपस्थित करता हूँ .

"इस सभा की यह सम्मति है कि सरकार की निर्यात-आयात नीति पर विचार करके उस पर एक प्रतिवेदन देने के लिये संसद् सदस्यों तथा विशेषज्ञों की समिति का गठन किया जाना चाहिये।"

†["The House is of opinion that a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament and experts should be constituted to examine the export-import policy of the Government and to submit a report thereon.]."

महोदय, आज देश के सामने जो आर्थिक संकट है और जिस का जिक्र इस सदन में और सदन के बाहर बारबार हुआ है उसको देखते हुये मैंने यह आवश्यक समझा कि इस विषय पर विचार करने के लिये सदन को प्रेरित करें। इस बात की प्रेरणा कि इस प्रस्ताव को मैं आपके समक्ष और सदन के

\*For text of the amendment vide cols. 803 *supra*.

\*For text of the amendment vide col. 803 *supra*.