

[Shri Akhtar Hussain.]

the management and the establishment of our companies to carry on industries and work our factories, then the best people would not come. Therefore, in order to attract the best talent in the country—and I need hardly point out that at this stage of our nation's development it is essential that for purposes of improving the standard of living of our people the very best men should be attracted to our industry—the amount of remuneration that is fixed should not be disproportionate to the return that the particular individual may be able to get for his intellect in other walks of life. Sometimes the establishment of a company necessitates the investment of large sums of money and a very big risk is taken that if the enterprise fails the entire investment will be lost and will be wasted. Therefore, in order to persuade the capitalist and the enterprising businessman to invest his money in industries and in business and in the flotation of companies, there should not be any undue restriction on the amount that is to be paid to him as remuneration, because we all know that in the first few years the income from companies would be very small indeed. And to fix any percentage during the formative period or during the earlier stages of the existence of a company would not be very attractive for prospective businessmen. Sir, we can point out to our own countrymen the advantages of plain living and high thinking and being content with very small remuneration. But what about businessmen from other countries? If we are going to place the same restrictions on businessmen from foreign countries or industrialists from foreign countries, is it likely that foreign talent or capital would be attracted to our country when they know that they can earn very much more, in some other country of the world where such restrictions are not in force? If they can earn a larger dividend or a larger return or a larger remuneration for their own particular services elsewhere, why should they come to our country? Therefore, I believe

that the placing of these restrictions on the remuneration that has to be paid to businessmen for the management of companies is not likely to attract the very best men either in our own country or from other countries abroad. If Company law has been developed in other countries to such an extent that experts in management in those countries who have vast experience if invited to our country would be helpful in promoting companies here or in carrying on the affairs of our companies, there is absolutely no reason why we should place such restrictions as would discourage them from coming to give of their best to our own country. Of course, as I said before, I have no personal experience of these matters, nor any intimate knowledge. But to me it appears that if these restrictions are not enforced in other countries against their own citizens, there is absolutely no reason why we should press hard for restricting the remuneration to be paid to experts for management. And I think it is a salutary provision to leave that to the discretion of the Central Government, to fix the amount as it may deem expedient in particular cases.

Then, Sir, the next point on which I would beg to address the House is the theory of my Communist friends that labour should be associated with the management of companies. Now, I do not wish to be.....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Now, I wish to make one point clear. It is not our standpoint that labour should be taken on the Board of Directors of private companies. Some misgiving has arisen from a speech in the other House. So, I make it very clear for my party.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: Then, I am very glad to get this assurance from the leader of the Communist Party.....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is not an assurance; it is a statement of our position.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: Then he should not press that representatives of employees and labour should be brought on the directorate. Is that clear? I hope I have understood him correctly.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We do not demand that labour should be represented on the Board of Directors in the joint stock private companies, because we think this is one of the ways of corrupting labour and it serves no useful purpose.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: Very well. The conclusion which both myself and the hon. leader of the Communist Party have arrived at is the same, although our reasoning is different. My reasoning is that if labour is associated with the management, then they would cease to work even as hard as they are working now, because there is a general complaint that our labour is not giving of its best towards the industrial development of our country. If they had only worked harder, if they had been more interested in developing our country than in getting wages, then probably the amount of work that we have done during these seven years of independence would have been about twice as much, if labour had played its part well. However, I am greatly assured by the view expressed by the Leader of the Communist Party.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I assure you that we will not allow you to corrupt workers.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: We did not ask for labour to be associated with the management. It was only the followers of the Communist creed who put forward that point of view and I am very glad to get this assurance from the Leader of the Communist Party here.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND (Hyderabad): Why did you make a demand that labour should be associated with the management?

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: I have not been able to follow exactly the

point that has been put forward by my hon. friend. But is it necessary for me and him to bandy words on this matter when the Leader of the Communist Party has repudiated that suggestion. That should be the end of the matter. We should stop at that.

I was just reminded of the claim of the I.N.T.U.C. I am told that they have also made a demand that Labour should be associated with the management. I wonder whether my friend was there when Mr. Malviya was speaking, when the demand was put forward and I mean.....

(Interruption.)

I have met their argument. I am sorry I should have yielded as the hon. Leader of the Communist Party wanted to.....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I understand reference is being made to a certain demand that was put across in the other House that representatives of Labour should be there on the Board of Directors. Our point of view is, as far as the Joint Stock Companies, the capitalists, are concerned, we do not stand for Labour being sent there on the Board of Directors because we think it is absolutely useless. It is a device for corrupting labour, as is done in some countries.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: I am only making general remarks from the point of view of the average citizen who looks at these matters in the interests of the company and not as a partisan either of labour or of capital. I am only putting forward the point of view of the average citizen who wants the industrial development of the country to be carried on as expeditiously as possible and to the best advantage of the country. I do not wish to say anything that would enable any of my friends on the opposite side to suggest that I am acting as either the partisan of labour or of capital. I just want this matter to be considered very calmly and coolly purely in the inte-