

make enquiries or verify when there is any suspicion of benami transaction and then only action is taken.

श्री राम चरण : जैसा मेरे साथी शर्मा जी ने बताया कि यह फर्म नाम बदल कर लाइसेंस लेती है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस फर्म की तरफ से नाम बदल कर कितनी एप्लीकेशन आई हैं और कितनी संकशन हुई हैं ? आपके अफसरों को तो मालूम होगा ?

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : अगर कोई ऐसा केस आपको मालूम है, तो हम को बता दीजिये, हम उस की एन्क्वायरी कर लेंगे।

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Can the hon. Minister tell this House as to how many allied or associate firms are there working with the Aminchand Peareylal group and whether Government contemplates to take any action at any time against all the allied or associate firms or only against Messrs Aminchand Peareylal ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : If the hon. Member's purpose is to get the list, I can place it on the Table of the House; it is a long list.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha... Absent. Shri K. P. Singh Deo... Absent. Then, the next question has been transferred. Shri Shri Gopal Saboo... Absent. Shri Beni Shanker Sharma... Absent. Shri Bedabrata Barua.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not asking it. Shri Y. A. Prasad... Absent.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Shri Barua is there, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not asking it.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह नहीं हो सकता, अगर सदस्य उपस्थित हैं, तो पूछा जायेगा। अपनी मर्जी से वह नहीं कह सकते कि नहीं पूछता।

MR. SPEAKER : But has he no right to say that he is not asking it ?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : I am asking the question, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Very well, that should be the spirit.

SHRI PILOO MODY : That is why they say that second thoughts are better.

SOVIET-AIDED PROJECTS

*286. **SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :**
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO :
SHRI BENI SHANKER

SHARMA :

SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had discussions with Mr. Kosygin during the latter's recent visit to India about the unsatisfactory working of some of the Soviet-aided projects and the problem of enormous idle capacity in some projects;

(b) whether the U.S.S.R. Prime Minister has agreed to go into this problem and advise the authorities on better utilization of capacity in Soviet-aided projects; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof and the agreement arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATH REDDI) : (a) to (c). Discussions were held with the Soviet Authorities in Moscow in October, 1967 about the problems of the various Soviet assisted projects in India with particular reference to the idle capacity of the Heavy Machine Building Plant, Ranchi and the Coal Mining Machinery Project, Durgapur. The discussions with Mr. Kosygin were in the nature of follow-up of the discussions held in Moscow.

At the invitation of the Government of India, a team of Soviet experts has recently arrived to study in depth the problems of the two plants and formulate specific recommendations to improve productivity and to ensure better utilisation of capacity.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : So far as the Soviet assistance is concerned, we

can work on a barter basis and, therefore, we can certainly not allow the present position to continue. In some of the engineering industries, almost 60 to 70 per cent of the capacity is remaining idle. Under the circumstances, has the Government worked out, even if we sell at a lower cost in the local market or even if we sell at a lower cost outside, how much in addition to idle capacity, will be there as a loss to the country?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I would like the hon. Members to appreciate the correct position in regard to these two units, the Heavy Machine Building Plant at Ranchi and the Coal Mining Machinery Project at Durgapur. These two units were established and designed to produce capital goods for steel plant and for extraction of coal respectively. On account of recession and the shortage of resources, it has not been possible for us to expand the production of steel plant and coal whereby we can utilise all the equipment which can be manufactured by these two units.

So far as the work upto 1970-71 is concerned, there is sufficient work for these two units and we are already manufacturing capital equipment which will be required for the purpose of Bokaro plant. Our concern is that beyond 1970-71, there are no orders and these are the type of units where, unless orders are available three or four years in advance, it will not be possible for us to give those equipments immediately; if they are all of a sudden required. Therefore, we are examining to what extent they can be further utilised for the purpose for which they have been set up and, if there is an idle capacity, to what extent the idle capacity may be diversified and to what extent we can also manufacture goods for the purpose of exporting outside our country.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : May I know whether the Government has worked out the supply position or the market position in regard to other East European countries also and also in regard to certain aid projects in regard to Africa and other places, so that our idle capacity also gets utilised and we are not subject to market forces in the West which have kept our recession conditions at a very bad stage affecting our development?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : It is for all these purposes that a team was invited and it has come, at our request. It is already here and will spend some time in both these plants. I have had a preliminary discussion with them and after they have returned, we will further discuss to what extent the idle capacity can be utilised.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ कि हेवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन का चैयरमैन आपने श्री के० डी० मालवीय को बनाया है तो उनका क्या एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव एक्वीरिन्स था जिसकी वजह से आपने उनको चैयरमैन बनाया है या जो हारे हुए कैंडीडेट्स हैं उनको रिहैबिलिटेट करने के लिए आपने ऐसा किया है?

श्री फल्लसहीन अली अहमद : जहाँ तक एप्वाइन्टमेंट का ताल्लुक है, हम किसी बाहरी मशिवरे से एप्वाइन्टमेंट वगैरह नहीं करते हैं। अगर किसी का ऐसा ख्याल है तो बिल्कुल गलत ख्याल है। हमने उनको इसलिए चैयरमैन बनाया है कि उनको इन्डस्ट्रीज चलाने का काफी एक्सपीरिन्स है। जब वे यहाँ मिनिस्टर थे तो उन्होंने आयल मिनिस्ट्री में काम अच्छी तरह किया था और अपनी लियाकत और तजरबा से उस इन्डस्ट्री को काफी आगे बढ़ाया था।

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : जो मिनिस्टर हार जायेगा वही चैयरमैन बनेगा, यह बड़ी गलत चीज है।

MR. SPEAKER : That has nothing to do with this.

Now the Lady Member.

SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE : The hon. Minister has just said that a Team has come to examine in depth as to what are the various possibilities to improve productivity. The Heavy Engineering Plant at Ranchi is supposed to be the most sophisticated and best equipped plant in Asia. Is the Team going to suggest as to what machinery this plant should manu-

facture? Do we not have any idea as to what machinery we are capable of manufacturing? Are we depending on the foreign Team which has come here to tell us as to what sort of machinery we should manufacture?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: The Team has been invited for two or three purposes: one is as regards advice how to improve of the working and efficiency by overcoming the shortcomings of the present working of the unit; and the second is, in case we have the idle capacity and there is no order to manufacture equipment required for steel plants, to what extent we can diversify with a little more addition or by balancing the equipment. Because this machinery has been supplied by them, we thought that they were the best people to give this advice. Moreover, they have the experience to diversify production to such extent in their own country during the time of war. So, we are taking their advice. In what particular manner we can put it to use, will depend on what is required in our own country and to what extent, if there is a surplus, there is the possibility of marketing these goods in Soviet Russia and other countries.

SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE: Who is going to design these things? Are we having our own designers or are we depending on Russian designers.

SHRI F. A. AHMED: In the case of certain things, we have our own designers, but in others of a very sophisticated nature where we do not have the technical know-how, we will certainly take advantage of their help.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The hon. Minister should be more careful in giving information to the House. I was really surprised to hear him say in his original reply that both these Plants, at Ranchi and at Durgapur, were designed in order to produce capital goods for our steel plants. May I know from him whether it is not a fact that the MAMC was not set up in order to provide machinery for steel plants but for coal-mines, for mining machinery. I want to know whether it is not a fact that that particular plant has run into difficulties because it was contracted for and set up just at the time, when long before

the present recession even, it was possible to see that the production and consumption of coal would go down because of dieselisation and use of other fuel, with the result that no mines are coming forward to purchase machinery now. What do they propose to do by lumping together the two different plants altogether?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: I do not know why the hon. Member is drawing such a fine distinction. So far as extraction of coal is concerned, that is very closely connected with the production of steel.... (Interruptions).

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: The steel plant is quite a different thing from coal. He cannot distinguish between these two things!

SHRI F. A. AHMED: Coal is also required for the production of steel, the production of steel.... (Interruptions). If the demand goes down there, the demand for coal will also go down. It is true that so far as the production of coal is concerned, it will be in addition to the requirement for the steel plants. All these factors have to be taken into consideration. I have said that there is fear of idle capacity because of the recession, because of our inability to put in resources to extract coal and supply. Therefore, it has become necessary for us to know how the idle capacity can be used.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: There is an impression that there is pyramiding of idle capacity in industries, and while the existing idle capacity is not fully utilised, further capacity is added to it. Could the hon. Minister kindly tell us the basis on which this idle capacity is increased without the existing capacity being fully utilised? Who estimates the projected demands? Why does such expansion take place and why is further investment made which often proves to be unremunerative?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: These matters are now thoroughly being discussed with the Planning Commission, namely the extent to which we have already established capacity and to what extent the idle capacity which is there can be fully utilised. Very likely, the hon. Member has in view that while there is idle capacity we keep on establishing other units. It is the policy

of Government that as long as the units which have been established are not fully utilised, we shall very seriously consider whether new units should come up or not.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : May I know whether this idle capacity is due to the non-completion of the third phase or whether it is due to the fact that some of the public undertakings are not placing orders on this public undertaking?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : As I have said, it is due to the fact that so far as Ranchi is concerned, we have no orders after 1970-71, and, therefore, we are apprehending that unless orders are placed there may be idle capacity and if no diversification is made now, there will be further trouble for this engineering plants.

श्री अब्दुल गनी दार : क्या वजीर साहब फरमायेंगे कि यह जो लोहे के तीन बड़े कारखाने पब्लिक सेंटर में लगाये गये हैं इन के लगाने से पहले कोई आखिरी स्कीम बनी होगी तो उस में से कितनी इन्प्लीमेंट हुई है और आज तक हम ने इस में कितना फायदा उठाया है या कितना नुकसान उठाया है, अगर फायदा उठाया तो यह क्या मालवीय जी के चेअरमैन बनने से और बढ़ जायगा और अगर नुकसान उठाया तो कितने करोड़ का है और आया उस में कमी आ पायेगी ऐसा वह फरमायेंगे ? कुछ स्कीम बनी थी तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो स्कीम बनी थी वह कितनी इम्प्लीमेंट हुई ?

[किया وزیر صاحب فرمائیں گے کہ یہ جو لوہے کے تین بڑے کارخانے پبلک سیکٹر میں لگائے گئے ہیں ان کے لگانے سے پہلے کوئی آخری اسکیم بنی ہو گی تو اس میں سے کتنی امپلیمنٹ ہوئی ہے اور آج تک ہم نے اس میں کتنا فائدہ اٹھایا ہے یا کتنا نقصان اٹھایا ہے۔ اگر فائدہ اٹھایا تو وہ کیا مالویہ۔ جی کے چیرمین بننے سے اور بڑھ جائیگا

اور اگر نقصان اٹھایا تو کتنے کروڑ کا ہے اور آیا اس میں کمی آ پائیگی ایسا وہ فرمائیں گے۔ کچھ اسکیم بنی تھی تو میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو اسکیم بنی تھی وہ کتنی امپلیمنٹ ہوئی۔]

श्री फलहरहीन अली अहमद : मैं पहले एक सवाल के जवाब में कह चुका हूँ कि यह प्लांट्स ऐसे हैं जो कैप्टिल गुड्स बनाने के लिए डिजाइन बनाये गये हैं उनके जरिये से एक मिलियन टन के स्टील प्लांट को हर साल कैप्टिल गुड्स दिये जा सकते हैं। प्रोडक्शन अभी शुरू हुई है। अभी हमारे पास काम है और कैप्टिल गुड्स वगैरह अभी निकलने शुरू हुए हैं। यह इस किस्म के प्लांट्स हैं जिन में फायदा और नुकसान का अन्दाजा दो, तीन वर्ष में नहीं किया जा सकता है बल्कि कई वर्ष तक प्रोडक्शन के बाद कि इस में फायदा हो रहा है या नहीं का अन्दाजा हो सकता है। लेकिन मैं आप को बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि इन प्लांट्स के होने की वजह से जो चीजें हम बाहर में इम्पोर्ट करते थे वह हमारा मुल्क बना रहा है। इस से काफी फौरन एक्सचेंज बचेगा और उस से काफी फायदा होगा।

श्री अब्दुल गनी दार : स्पीकर साहब, मेरा सवाल बड़ा सीधा था। हर काम जो चलता है उस का सालाना लेखा जोखा बनता है, नफ़ा, नुकसान देखा जाता है। मिनिस्टर साहब फरमाते हैं कि वर्षों बाद इसका जा कर पता चलेगा कि देश को इस का कितना फायदा हुआ है या नुकसान हुआ है तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मान के साल उस का हिसाब किताब नहीं होता और उस की क्या आप को इत्तिना नहीं मिनती कि इतना करोड़ रुपया नुकसान हो गया देश का या देश को इतने करोड़ रुपया बतौर फायदे के मिला ?

(असिक्कर صاحب - मिरा सोल बूटा सिद्धा तहा - हर काम जो चला है उस का सालाना लिकना जो कहा जाता है - नफ़ा व त्फ़ान दिक्ना जाता है - मन्सूर साब फ़रमाते हैं कि वरसों बाद अस का जा कर प्ते चलिगा कि दिश को अस का कतना फ़ान्दे एवा है बा त्फ़ान एवा है तो मिन ये - बाना चाहा हूँ कि क्सा साल के साल अस का हासब कताब न्हीं एरता और अस की क्सा अप को अलाए न्हीं मली कि अतना करुड रोपिह त्फ़ान एवा ग्ना दिश का, या दिश को अतने करुड रोपिह ब्ज़ुर फ़ान्दे के मला -]

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : उस की वकिंग की वह सारी ऐनुवल रिपोर्ट हाउस के सामने रख दी गई है।

SHRI R. BARUA : The present indications are that the consumption of coal is going down and it will go down further. That being so, may I know whether Government are having any definite plan to divert the capacity for manufacturing coal-mining machinery for manufacture of machinery for some other industry?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : This is what I have already stated, namely that in both these plants we have under consideration the question of diversification.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY : In view of the fact that there is a demand for the erection of small steel plants in the south, may I know from the hon. Minister....

MR. SPEAKER : The main question has nothing to do with the south.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY : It relates to your State also, Sir. May I know whether Government have pursued the project for locating a plant for producing steel plants with one million tonnes capacity, and if so, the cost of the one million tonne steel plant?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : These matters are under the consideration of the Steel Ministry and the Planning Commission.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : This project is really in a mess. Perhaps Government are not aware whether it is sinking or swimming. They have been giving all sorts of explanations as to the position of this project.

MR. SPEAKER : What is the question?

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : This HMBP is supposed to produce 80,000 tonnes of machines annually when it goes into full production. By now 90 per cent of the equipments have been laid out. It is supposed to go into full production by 1970-72.

MR. SPEAKER : He is giving information, not seeking any.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : Now it is producing to the extent of 15,000 tonnes out of which 10,000 tonnes are structurals which are not within its ambit. Out of the balance of 5,000 tonnes, 50 per cent are imported components that means that it is producing only 2,500—3000 tonnes of machinery annually.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shinkre.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : I would like to know what steps have Government taken to investigate the causes of this state of affairs? Have they gone into the question whether there should be a change of the Chairman with different and more powers or there should be streamlining of the staff? Government must come out with some statement as to what they propose to do to rectify this situation.

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. Shri Shinkre.

श्री शिंकरे : आइडिल कैपेसिटी के बारे में बहुत कुछ कहा गया है लेकिन मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि जिस कैपेसिटी का उपयोग किया गया है और उपयोग करने के बाद जो फ़ाल्टी मैटीरियल और स्कैप की हाई परसेंटेज उस कारखाने में बेकार दिखाई जाती है उस परसेंटेज को कम करने के बारे में सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I could not hear the question.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : To what extent inefficiency of the administration and also continued labour unrest contributed to this idle capacity? Also to what extent has lack of imagination on the part of the project authorities to have perspective planning for diversification anticipating that a recession was likely to take place in course of time been responsible?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I have already pointed out that beyond 1970-71 we have no orders. Therefore, the question of bad management or good management does not arise. As regards the present production, I have no hesitation in telling the House that it is 30 per cent less than what was indicated in the project report. That is due to various factors, regard being had to the fact that the productivity of labour has also not been according to our expectations, there have been strikes and other labour troubles and there are also an insufficient number of trained people, for which we are taking steps to see that they get an adequate number of trained persons to operate the project.

RAIDS ON BIRLA GROUP OF COTTON MILLS

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*287. **SHRI VISWANATHA MENON :**
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :
SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 413 on the 1st December, 1967 and state;

(a) whether Government have since scrutinised and examined the document seized in a raid on cotton mills belonging to the Birla Group;

(b) if so, details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the time by which the scrutiny is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (c). On the basis of scrutiny of documents completed so far, charge sheets have been filed in court in respect of two cotton textile mills. Efforts are continuing to complete the scrutiny of others as early as possible.

SHRI VISWANATHA MENON : Will the Minister be pleased to state what is the nature of the documents seized?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : There are, according to the information I have here, about 12,000 items of documents that have been seized. It is difficult for me to say anything the nature of the documents, but they are in connection with the charges that were made about Birla Mills.

SHRI VISWANATHA MENON : In view of the existence of a Birla empire in this country, I want a categorical assurance from the Government that no pressure from the Birlas will influence the prosecution launched by the Government.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : The facts have established that there is no need for any further assurance. Of course, they will be looked into.

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त तक जांच के जो नतीजे निकले हैं उन में बिरला ग्रुप काटन मिलों में एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट के मामले में ओवर-इन्वॉयसिंग और अन्डर-इन्वॉयसिंग कर के कितनी रकम का धोखा सरकार को दिया है।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : सदन को मालूम है कि इस समय जो जांच बिरला ग्रुप के खिलाफ हो रही है वह जो काम उन्होंने टेक्स्टाइल कंट्रोल आर्डर के खिलाफ किये हैं उन के सम्बन्ध में हो रही है। ओवर-इन्वॉयसिंग और अन्डर-इन्वॉयसिंग के बारे में मैं एक दम से कुछ नहीं कह सकता कि क्या नतीजा निकलेगा। जो कैसे देखे जा रहे हैं उन में यह बातें निकाली और इन की जांच हो रही है।

श्री रबी राय : मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिन काटन मिलों के सिलसिले में बिरला के खिलाफ जांच हो रही है उन में बिरला के विरुद्ध क्या इत्जाम लगाये गये हैं।