

**Mr. Speaker:** Part (c) refers to commodities which are now under consideration for decontrol and part (b) relates to commodities decontrolled and it says 'with what effect'.

**Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri:** As I said already, two items that were decontrolled were pig iron and cement. There has been a slight rise in the price but goods are moving; they are being lifted and people are getting them. If the question had been made a little clearer, if he had asked what articles were decontrolled between this date and that date, I would have given the answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I adjourn it for another day?

**Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri:** If you be so kind to do it.....

**Mr. Speaker:** All right; I will take it up on some other day. Next question.

#### Delegation of Financial Powers to Ministries

+

\*179. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:**

**Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:**

**Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to effect greater devolution and delegation of financial powers to various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India to curtail the control at present exercised by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the manner in which this is proposed to be implemented?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri L. N. Mishra):** (a) and (b). It is the policy of Government to delegate adequate financial powers to the various implementing authorities. With this end in view, powers delegated have been reviewed from time to time over the last decade and increased where necessary. In 1962, when the last delegation of powers was made, the

basis was that the control of the Finance Ministry should be exercised mainly through pre-budget scrutiny and through random checks and work-studies. This scheme has continued to be in operation except for certain restrictions which were considered to be necessary since the Emergency of 1962 in regard to creation of posts and large civil works. It has now been decided in principle to withdraw these restrictions and detailed instructions are expected to issue shortly in order to regulate the exercise of delegated powers in accordance with the 1962 scheme.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** May I know whether the present Finance Minister has had occasion to examine the prevailing system of delegation and devolution of financial powers and the deficiencies which characterize the present system and whether he proposes to reform the present system in any significant way? I want to know whether the present Finance Minister has considered this matter.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** I might say that this question has been under constant examination and there have been modifications—

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** I am not interested in constant examination to which reference has been made. I want to know whether the present Finance Minister has had occasion to consider it.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** Recently also, after the 15th November, this matter has been examined. A committee of Secretaries under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary was set up to examine it and, as I have said earlier, we are going to modify it further, and the present Finance Minister has looked into it.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** May I know if the Finance Minister is aware that the inhibiting control exercised by the Finance Ministry in its preventive jurisdiction has led very often to a

crippling of administrative and developmental activities and sometimes this has led to almost a complete paralysis of administrative and developmental activities?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): I do not think there are any inhibiting limits or any inhibiting controls by the Finance Ministry. Since I do not accept that, I cannot say that there has been any paralysis anywhere as suggested by my good friend.

श्री जगदीश सिंह सिद्धान्ती : जब कि वित्त मंत्रालय का वित्तीय व्यय के सम्बन्ध में सब मन्त्रालयों से सम्बन्ध है, उनकी फाइलें वित्त मंत्रालय के पास आती हैं, तो फिर अपनी शक्ति को दूसरे मन्त्रियों को देने से क्या कुछ भ्रष्टाचार में वृद्धि नहीं होगी? यदि भ्रष्टाचार में वृद्धि होगी तो इसका क्या उपाय सरकार ने सोचा है?

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : भ्रष्टाचार में वृद्धि का प्रश्न नहीं है। यह इस लिये है कि उस पर रोकथाम के लिये वित्त मंत्रालय का थोड़ा सा अधिकार होना आवश्यक है। यदि यह न हो तो माननीय सदस्यों को शिकायत होगी कि हर जगह फजूलखर्ची होती है।

Shri Shinkre: Is it a fact that it is these differences between the last Finance Minister, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, and his colleagues in the Government over this delegation of financial powers that ultimately led to his resignation and, if that is not so, what is the exact nature of the differences?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: The first question was with regard to the differences; there is no difference. The matter is being examined, and it has to be constantly examined, and as has been already told to this hon.

House, the examination is being made by me personally now, at the moment.

Shri Daji: Is it not a fact that the checks and counter-checks by the Finance Ministry are sometimes too much, and have been also duplicated? For example, in the case of the P&T Board, there is the Financial Adviser on the Board, and after scrutiny and report from him, again, the Finance Ministry screens it and scrutinises it. Even to the extent of, say, the appointment of one more telephone operator, it has to be screened, or, for one more telegraph peon or telephone peon who is required, it is first screened by the P & T Board and then again it is scrutinised by the Finance Ministry. Will the Government see to it that there is no such duplication of work?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: It is a matter of difference of opinion between me and my good friend as to whether there is too much control or too little control, but if my good friend tells me that this is the position and if he points out a few things which need to be looked into, I will examine them and introduce any changes that may be necessary.

Shri A. P. Sharma: In view of the fact that the Railway Ministry has got a separate financial arrangement and a separate budget also is presented to this House, and in view of the fact that till 1924-25, the Railway Ministry had a separate financial arrangement, independent of the Finance Ministry, may I ask the Finance Minister what is the difficulty in the way of the Finance Ministry to permit the Railway Ministry to function within its overall financial resources independent of the control of the Finance Ministry?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: As far as I can make out, my hon. friend is referring to its history, from 1924-25 onwards. We are in the year of grace 1966. Therefore, there have been changes; the amount of money

which is available to the railways is very much larger; the expansion schemes undertaken by the railways are very much more to the benefit of the country.

At each step there has to be a careful check to see that the taxpayers' money is properly used. If there is a second check, I do not see any harm in it, as long as that does not impinge on the progress of the railways.

**Shri A. P. Sharma:** I have referred about the separate budget of the railways.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is too wide a question—a question of policy—which I cannot allow in the question Hour.

दिल्ली में एक ज्योतिषी के घर पर छापा

\* 180. श्री मधु लिमये : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आय-कर विभाग के अधिकारियों ने पिछले वर्ष एक प्रसिद्ध ज्योतिषी के घर जा मारा था ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उस ज्योतिषी ने कतनी कर राशि का अपवचन किया था ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री ब० रा० भगत) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरा प्रश्न गृह मंत्री जी के अनुचित व्यवहार तथा अन्य महकमों में उनके द्वारा गैर कानूनी ढंग से जो हस्तक्षेप होता है, उसके बारे में है । विदेशी व्यापार में विदेशी मुद्रा की चोरी करने वाली एक कम्पनी में नन्दा साहब के ज्योतिषी हबली राम का पुख काम

करता है और ये छापे एनफोर्समेंट बांच के लोगों ने—

**Shri K. N. Tiwary:** On a point of order, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yesterday also probably Mr. A. P. Sharma wanted to raise this very point of order and I said it could not be raised in a vacuum. This tendency is growing. We have to inform the minister first that during the speeches—I am talking of speeches first—we want to refer to some particular person who is not a member of the House or who is not present. Unless that notice is given in advance so that the minister is ready with those facts, this reference should not be made.

Secondly, the question was whether any astrologer's house was searched. Only because it was in connection with the finding out of unaccounted money, therefore it was allowed. Otherwise, a question on a personal individual case should not have been allowed; that should have been rejected. Then too I allowed it because it was in continuance of this finding out of unaccounted money. When the answer is that no astrologer's house has been searched, how can he refer to one particular person and impute certain other things also?

श्री मधु लिमये : मुझे अप सुन लीजिये । प्रश्न मेरा है । इस वास्ते पहले धाप मुझे सुन लीजिये ।

आपने कहा है कि अगर किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति का सम्बन्ध आता है जो कि सदन का सदस्य नहीं है तो उसका नोटिस चाहिये । इसी प्रश्न के सम्बन्ध में लोक सभा सचिवालय ने मुझे से सफाई माँगी थी और मैंने इस व्यक्ति का नाम अपनी सफाई में उनके पास भेज दिया था । अब मंत्री इत्यादि से पत्र-व्यवहार करना उनका कर्तव्य हो जाता है ।