

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 7, 1991/*Shravana*
16, 1913 (*Saka*)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Industrial growth centres in Maharashtra and Gujarat

[Translation]

*326. SHRI VILASRAO NAG-NATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the State Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat for setting up industrial growth centres; and

(b) the action taken in regard thereto?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Under the new Growth Centre Scheme, Maharashtra and Gujarat have been allotted five and three centres, respectively. Based on the proposals received from the State Governments the following Growth Centres have been selected:

Maharashtra

Name of the Growth Centre	District
1. Dhule . . .	Dhule
2. Ratnagiri . . .	Ratnagiri
3. Nanded . . .	Nanded
4. Akola . . .	Akola
5. Chandrapur . . .	Chandrapur

Gujarat

Name of the Growth Centre	District
1. Palanpur . . .	Banaskantha
2. Vagra . . .	Bharuch
3. Gandhidham . . .	Kutch

The State Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat have yet to send the Project Reports in respect of the above mentioned Growth Centres.

[Translation]

SHRI G. VILASRAO GUNDEWAR (Hingoli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked a question about the details of the proposals given by Maharashtra and Gujarat Governments for Industrial Development Centres and at what places they have demanded these centres? The hon. Minister has

mentioned five places for those. I would like to know the number of places where these have been demanded and how many have been allotted?

[*English*]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, the Maharashtra Government has given eleven proposals. We are asking the State Government to supply twice the number of growth centres that are going to be allotted to the States. Five Growth Centres were allotted to the State of Maharashtra and therefore, we are asking for ten proposals. They have supplied us eleven proposals. If the Member would like I can read them out otherwise, I will supply him the details.

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH-
RAO GUNDEWAR: Yes, I am interested.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: The State Government had sent eleven names. They are: 1. Chandrapur, 2. Nanded, 3. Nasik, 4. Ratnagiri, 5. Ghajrali, 6. Akola, 7. R.V., 8. Ichalkaranji, 9. Yavatmal, 10. Dalwai, 11. Dhule.

Out of these Ratnagiri, Dhule, Nanded, Akola and Chandrapur were selected based on the priority indicated by the State Government as well as the adequacy of these places in respect of facilities relating to power and water.

[*Translation*]

SHRI G. VILASRAO GUNDEWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one centre is being opened in Nanded district and a centre of MIDC is already functioning there, so it should be opened at some other place like Kinwat. It will be helpful for the development of that area. Therefore, I would like to know the amount of the grant being sanctioned by the Central Government or whether central Government is directly setting up a big industry there or it is being offered to some big industrialist?

[*English*]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, hon. Member's interested place Nanded of course do have a tribal area. This has special consideration. I am happy to inform the Member that it has already been taken as one growth centre.

Therefore, the Government of India has a plan to spend almost Rs. 30 crores in that growth centre. Rs. 10 crores will be allocated from the Central Government directly, Rs. 5 crores will be the share of the State Government, Rs. 5 crores will be from the financial institutions and another Rs. 10 crores will be for market borrowings. Altogether, in this plan period, to develop the growth centre, we intend to spend Rs. 30 crores, that is in Nanded.

[*Translation*]

SHRI G. VILASRAO GUNDEWAR: There is naxalite menace in that area. It will be better to open this centre at Kinwat.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He says, instead of Nanded, you take it to Kinwat which is a place in his district.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: If that is a suggestion, let the hon. Member write to us and we will examine it.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: When was the decision of having the district industrial growth centres at these five places taken by the Central Government and when was it conveyed to the State Government? What will be the financial burden for each centre to be shared by the Centre and the State?

MR. SPEAKER: He is talking about Maharashtra and Gujarat.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: The decision to start growth centres was taken as early as in 1988. After a decision had been taken, it was conveyed to the State Government. As far as

Gujarat and Maharashtra are concerned, they had already sent their proposals in 1989-90.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: When was this decision conveyed to the State Government? How much the Central Government has to bear and how much the State Government has to bear?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: After selecting these centres, this decision was conveyed to the State Government. The State Governments are being addressed to send their Project Reports. We are waiting for their Project Reports. Once their Project Reports are received, there is an Appraisal Committee that will look into them. If the Appraisal Committee approves them, we will start releasing funds. But as far as Maharashtra and Gujarat States are concerned, we have not received their Project Reports.

MR. SPEAKER: They have to prepare their Project Reports.

[Translation]

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent the Kapadwanj area of Gujarat and my constituency is totally backward. It is not going to be benefited in anyway by Narmada Project in future and there is not even any possibility of its development also. My constituency comprises three districts. Two districts Sabarkantha and Banaskantha are totally backward.

MR. SPEAKER: You please ask the question.

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: My question is, whether you want to include backward tehsils of Sabarkantha and Kapadwanj in the growth centre or not?

[English]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: The Government will only be happy to in-

clude more places. But the hon. Member is aware of the financial constraints the Government is having. At present, our programme is to start 70 growth centres in this Plan; whether to increase their number or not is subject to the financial consideration; and the Planning Commission has to look into it.

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: In view of the new industrial policy, whether these growth centres are going to be developed in this fashion, because, just now he read out 11 places for Maharashtra; at least, four of them are already growth centres having all sorts of infrastructural facilities. The idea of developing these growth centres is to create more infrastructural facilities in such places where there are no such facilities. In view of the new industrial policy, I would like to know, whether this policy of having more growth centres will be continued or not.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: The growth centres are intended to attract more industries to the backward areas. The new industrial policy will enable the entrepreneurs to select their own location. But the Government would like to have more industries in backward areas and give encouragement to backward areas. So, the growth centres will be in the backward areas and there we provide all infrastructural facilities. Therefore, industries will be attracted to that place; and this scheme will be continued in order to have more industries attracted towards backward areas.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The Minister, while replying to the supplementaries, has told that the idea is to take the industries to the backward areas. But, actually, whatever I know of Maharashtra, all these five centres which have been suggested are district places having industrial areas, MIDC and all that. So, was there a suggestion from the side of the Centre that you should locate these growth centres at places which are

lacking in all industrial activity and facilities?

MR. SPEAKER: Even for running the centre they need some facilities. They have taken that into consideration.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: If the Centre thinks that the industry has to be taken to the backward areas, then all these centres are having industrial facilities of a different nature. So, was there a suggestion from the side of the Centre that you locate them at such places which are totally backward and lacking in industrial activity? Have you suggested like that?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: You cannot have an industry unless there is some infrastructure. For example, you cannot set up an industry where there is no road.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I am not talking of infrastructure. They are having their industrial estates. Still they are asking for these growth centres. Then, what is your suggestion?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: For selecting these locations there have been certain criteria laid down. They were laid down in 1988 by a Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission. For the benefit of the Hon. Member, I will read out the criteria. They are: (1) Population, (2) Area, and (3) Industrial backwardness. The sum total of all this is taken into account.

In addition to that, there should be some basic infrastructure available. Then only the growth centre can be located. We provide infrastructure inside the growth centre. Once a growth centre is located, inside the growth centre we provide the necessary infrastructure. But to take the growth centre to a particular place certain infrastructure is needed. Therefore, just on the basis of backwardness alone you cannot locate a

growth centre and even if you locate one, the growth centre will not work.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI SINGH CHAVDA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, in the reply given by the hon. Minister it has been stated that by the Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Don't mix them.

SHRI HARI SINGH CHAVDA: He has said that Gujarat Government had to open centres. He has mentioned about three criteria for that. What are the suggestions or proposals given by the Gujarat Government and whether it will be opened in our District or not?

[*English*]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: As far as the State of Gujarat is concerned, the State was allotted three growth centres for the selection of which the State Government had suggested four places, namely, Palampur, Gagra, Gandhigram and Surendranagar.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Probably an impression is being created by some Members that these growth centres which have been earmarked are really developed. That is far from the truth. The Ratnagiri area is totally undeveloped and there are no infrastructure facilities. That is why the development is not taking place.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask a question.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I am asking a question. There was for setting up some industries in the Ratnagiri area which was discontinued. The problem is of disbursement of loans.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not using the time given to you.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: The question is, the growth centres will

incorporate quick disbursement of finances and secondly, I would like to know whether they are going to give some subsidy, at least subsidy for transport for the growth centres which are earmarked.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: With regard to the financial loan facilities, they are planning to have banking facilities in the growth centres itself. There will be banking facility and it is for the entrepreneur and the banks to have a liaison.

With regard to subsidy this question does not concern subsidy and the growth centre does not envisage any subsidy.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the scheme was introduced in 1988 as stated by the Minister. Now we are in 1991 and three years have passed. The scheme is running with tortoise speed and in three years nothing concrete has been done. So far, the Maharashtra Government has not sent the project reports. We want this to be done at jet speed so that improvement can take place early.

In view of the delay, will the Minister call the Industry Minister of Maharashtra here, have a discussion with him and see that the Maharashtra proposals are passed early?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, it is the intention of the Government of India to see that all proposals are cleared as early as possible. As regards Maharashtra proposal, the growth centres were selected in 1989 in Maharashtra and we are awaiting the project reports.

I have no objection in addressing to the Maharashtra Minister again to send the proposals as early as possible and I can assure the Member that as soon as the proposals satisfying the conditions thereon are received, we will certainly clear them.

Vacancies in Public Sector Undertaking

*327. **SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given directions to all Public Sector Undertakings to fill up the back-log of vacancies as early as possible;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up any committee for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Public Sector Undertakings were directed to fill up the back-log vacancies reserved for SCs and STs through Special Recruitment Drives launched in 1989 and 1990. As a result, in 1989, 11,000 vacancies were identified in the Central PSUs out of which 8,125 could be filled. Under the Special Recruitment Drive in 1990, 10,461 vacancies were identified out of which 6,316 have been filled.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1989, 11,000 vacancies were identified, out of which 8,125 have been filled. So, the number of vacancies pending in 1989 was 2,875. In 1990, 10,461 vacancies were identified, out of which 6,316 have been filled. The number of pending vacancies in 1990 was 4,145. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the vacancies identified in 1990 were inclusive of... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order on this reply.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order in Question Hour.