

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 15, 1993/
Agrahayana 24, 1915 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

RE : DUNKEL PROPOSALS

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly)
: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government has decided to sign the Dunkel proposals. Today, throughout the country, the people, in the factories and in the fields, are protesting against it. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA
(Bankura) : Sir, they are compromising our national sovereignty. We cannot allow this. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today is a very important day for the country. We understand, Sir, today is the day when the Dunkel proposals are going to be accepted by our Government. The

Cabinet has already approved it. In spite of the reservations expressed by the Commerce Minister on the floor of the House, in spite of the serious reservations expressed by the Members of the ruling party, these anti-people, anti-national proposals are going to be accepted and this Government is selling this country to the American imperialists and the foreign multinationals. (Interruptions)

Sir, in this House we cannot sit idle today and watch our national interests being bartered away. Our self-reliance is completely given a go-by. Even some European countries, Japan, Korea and other developing countries, apart from developed countries, are expressing serious misgivings. Even today, in the B.B.C. we heard that many countries are expressing reservations. It is only the American bloc and some countries in the E.E.C. who are supporting this. Others have been forced to sign. They are threatening the developing countries and ordering them to sign. Are we going to barter away our independence ? Without economic independence, what is this country ? Our principles of self-reliance are given a go-by. We repeatedly told the Government to sit with us and tell us what they are going to do. The clarifications that we wanted to have were not forthcoming.

Sir, this House represents the country and we cannot, Sir, sit here and see this country's prestige being given a go-by, by this Government which has completely sur-

rendered to the American imperialists and the foreign multinationals. (*Interruptions*). Even the so-called important industrialists have also expressed their reservations today. They say, they will be swept away and they will be eaten up by these multinationals who are coming here. In which areas are they coming? They are coming in the consumer industry in a big way.

Sir, we would like to know which section of the people of this country, whether the farmers, peasants, small industrialists, big industrialists and agriculturists, have accepted the Dunkel proposals unreservedly.

Why are we not even trying to get changes made? No satisfactory clarification, no satisfactory answer was given by the Commerce Minister.

What has happened to this country? Mr. Speaker, Sir, we demand that this Government must come out today. The Prime Minister should come. This is a matter concerning the country as a whole. He must come and tell us what is the benefit that is going to come to this country by signing the Dunkel Proposal. Even the Standing Committee on Commerce has given its report, has expressed serious reservations about it. Are we not entitled to discuss that?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Somnathji, I will allow you to raise this immediately after the Question Hour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : May I submit, the Standing Committee has given its reporting expressing reservations? We want the Prime Minister to come

to the House. The House cannot go on until the Prime Minister comes and gives the clarification.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (*Barh*) : During the debate we had also consulted you

MR. SPEAKER : I allotted you an eleven hour debate period and even today I am ready to give more time (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : But what was its result?

MR. SPEAKER : You can utilise Question Hour also.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will give time immediately after the Question Hour.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government had submitted that it would try its level best to get some concessions. It had promised consultations with members of the opposition party and experts also..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : This is such an important issue and commerce Minister and other Minister is not present

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : How would they know that they are to be present here.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Today all the farmers are observing black day because Government has not fulfilled its promise. The Government had promised consultations *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Is it good that the same type of opinion should be recorded in the House ? You two should express your views on the same. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The meeting of the Ministry of Defence is still due but the Cabinet has already accorded its approval to it. If the Cabinet has accorded its approval, there is no scope left for any amendment. The Minister had stated that the issue would be discussed at the meeting of the Commerce Ministers in April but even before convening of the meeting, approval of the Cabinet has been accorded *(Interruptions)*

The Standing Committee of Commerce has given an adverse report, but their views have been given a go-by. It was presented but the views of both the House and the Committee were ignored and the Cabinet approval was given in a hasty manner. This clearly indicates that either we are compromising with the interests of the country or *(Interruptions)* therefore Mr. Speaker, Sir, Question Hour should be suspended and the Prime Minister should be called here. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Cabinet Sub-Committee has approved this proposal despite reservations expressed by the Members of the House. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Any response from

the Government side ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We cannot allow the country's sovereignty to be surrendered. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India has played a fraud with the people of the country. This is breach of Parliament — *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Today is a Question Hour day for the Prime Minister, where is he ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The Prime Minister should be called *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : The Standing Committee constituted by Parliament has submitted its report. Under the Chairmanship of Shri Gujral, the Committee has stated in the report that it does not agree with the proposed Dunkel Proposals and a basic change in the draft is required. When the Committee has submitted its report which has been published in the newspapers, Mr. Speaker, where is the dignity of the House?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We cannot allow this. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : We are not con-

cerned with clarifications. (*Interruptions*)

11.11 hrs.

At this stage, Prof. Susanta Chakraborty and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 0' clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

R & D in Industrial Sector

* 181 SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment in R&D in the country at present and the share of the public and private sectors therein ;

(b) the total share of R&D in industrial sector vis-a-vis share of other developing countries; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the share of R&D in the industrial sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH

CHATURVEDI) : (a) Total investments in R&D in the country during 1991-92 is estimated to be Rs. 4830 crores; the share of public and private sector industry therein is estimated to be about 23%.

(b) The percentage share of R&D by industrial sector in the developing countries is in the range of 5 or 25% of the national investment in R&D.

(c) Government have evolved fiscal incentives and other support measures to encourage industry to increase investments in R&D.

Public Sector Undertakings in Gujarat

*182 SHRI DILEEPBHAI SANGHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made in each public sector undertaking in Gujarat, till date;

(b) the annual production of these undertakings and profits earned and losses incurred during the last three years by each of them;

(c) whether the Government propose to hand over any of these undertakings to private sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) There are two Central Public Sector Undertakings with their registered office in Gujarat, namely, the Indian Petrochemi-