

India (Amdt.) Bill

With these words I express my grateful thanks to all the Members who have participated in this debate, and I hope that they will lend their support to the smooth passage of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:—

“That the Bill further to amend the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

“That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. SEPUTY-PEAKERD: The question is:

“That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE. I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

17.10 hrs.

ANDHRA SCIENTIFIC COMPANY
LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND
TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS)
BILL

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up the Andhra Scientific Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): I beg to move—

“That the Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer of the undertakings of the Andhra Scientific Company Limited, with a view to securing the proper management of such undertakings so as to subserve the interests of the general public by ensuring the continuity of production of scientific instruments which are vital to the needs of the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

The Andhra Scientific Co. Ltd., Machilipatnam in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh is engaged in the production of scientific instruments, a large number of which are meant for defence requirements. The Company was established as a partnership firm in 1926 and was incorporated as a public limited company in 1937. The authorised capital of the company is Rs. 100 lakhs of which Rs. 25 lakhs has been issued and Rs. 17.68 lakhs paid up.

The company had successfully developed a number of items required for defence which were earlier being imported. The Department of Defence Supplies had placed orders worth Rs. 52 lakhs on the company between the period 1966—71 but for various reasons the production of the company declined from Rs. 45 lakhs in

Moved with the recommendation of the President.

1967-68 to Rs. 9 lakhs in 1971-72 and the Company declared an indefinite lay-off in November, 1971. In order to protect the employment of about 850 workmen and to ensure the continued supply of critical defence stores the management of Andhra Scientific Co. Ltd. was taken over on 23rd June, 1972 under the provision of Section 18AA of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. The initial take-over was for a period of five years and has been extended from year to year and is currently valid up to 26th December, 1982.

With the take-over of the management, the production of the Company steadily increased from Rs. 40.44 lakhs in 1972-73 to an amount of Rs. 205.33 lakhs in 1981-82. An inter-Ministerial Committee, which was appointed to determine the future set-up of the Company, after examining various alternatives had recommended that the undertakings should be nationalised in order to consolidate the gains of change-over of management and to ensure an uninterrupted supply of critical items for defence. The recommendations of the Committee have been examined in the Government in consultation with the concerned Ministries and it is considered that nationalisation of the undertakings of the Company would be the most appropriate course. Nationalisation would also enable the Government to invest additional funds necessary for working capital and for the modernisation of its plant and machinery.

The Bill now before the House seeks to achieve the aforesaid object of nationalisation of the Company. Apart from providing for acquisition and transfer of the undertakings of the Company, the Bill also provides for the payment of an amount for such acquisition, vesting of the undertakings of the Company in a Government company, appointment of a Commissioner of Payments for the purpose of disbursing the amount payable to the Company and for other incidental and consequential matters.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer of the undertakings of the Andhra Scientific Company Limited, with a view to securing the proper management of such undertakings so as to subserve the interests of the general public by ensuring the continuity of production of scientific instruments which are vital to the needs of the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

SHRI HANAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): First of all, I think the hon. Minister for piloting this Bill for nationalisation of an important undertaking, which is engaged in manufacture of critical and scientific instruments for defence requirements.

In this Bill, Chapter 3, clause 7 and 8 provide for compensation. No factory owner sets up a factory with his own money. He takes the money from financial institutions and Government sources. After getting a lot of profit, he makes the industry sick and leaves it. In such circumstances, no compensation should be provided by the Government. But here the attitude of the Government is very clear. They are indulging in helping such persons by giving huge amounts as compensation; in this case, the amount is Rs. 224.10 lakhs. So, I oppose this clause, which gives huge amount to the company.

It is a good attempt on the part of the Government to save the unit, to guarantee the employment of the employees of this factory.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Government has expressed a pious hope that in view of the fact that the Company had a body of talented and dedicated scientists and engineers, it wants to help them. The intention is good, but the Government

[Shri Hanan Mollah]

is not at all sincere about this statement. We know that thousands of our scientists are not getting an opportunity or proper facilities for doing research work with the result that they are compelled to leave the country. This has been the curse of scientific development in our country. So, mere statements like this would not do. Government should be more serious and try to see how to implement those statements. The scientists should be provided sufficient opportunities and necessary facilities for doing research work. At the same time, their conditions of service, promotional avenues etc. should also be looked into.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons also refers to the modernisation of the plant and machinery. I would say that it is very much connected with self-reliance. Normally what happens is that Government bring in foreign technology in the name of modernisation. Import liberalisation is also used as a means to import technology. But when we import technology from the western and other capitalist and imperialist countries, they never give us the latest technology; rather, they give out-dated technology. So, we cannot modernise and develop our activity unless we give more emphasis on self-reliance. Our scientists should be given every opportunity and encouragement to develop their ideas so that we can utilize our own resources and have advanced indigenous technology. So, I would say that the modernisation of the factory has to be done with the help of our own scientists and engineers.

We should be more and more self-reliant in our defence production. After nationalisation of these plants, we should have proper planning of the production of these units. I will give one example. One of the HAL units is functioning in Barrackpore of West Bengal. It was a very efficient unit. Now because of lack of orders, the production is at a standstill, the

labour is lying idle and the unit is facing a crisis, even though it is one of the oldest units. It is only afterwards that other units of HAL have come up in Bangalore and other places. I have repeatedly drawn the attention of the hon. Minister and even the Prime Minister to this aspect. In fact, the hon. Minister had assured me outside the House that he will look into the matter and give appropriate orders to this unit. So, I request him and remind him about it so that he can save the public sector unit. That is also a nationalised public sector unit.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Where is that?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Barrackpore in West Bengal.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Barrackpore.

I want to mention about another unit which is on the border of my constituency, that is, Industrial Plants Limited. Earlier it was run by Birlas. 80 per cent of the capital of this unit is supplied by Government and other financial institutions. But cent per cent of the orders are given by the Defence Ministry. They make supplies in response to the orders of the Defence Ministry. But for the last five years it is under lock-out. Time and again we have been requesting the Government—some high level technical committee also recommended that it is economically viable and it is helpful to the Defence industry and the money also is of the Government. But in spite of that, the Government is not doing anything to take over that unit. So, I request the Government to look into the matter.

Finally, I say that after nationalisation, there are provisions for the protection of the employees of this Andhra Scientific Company because 850 employees are there. They have been enjoying some facilities. So, I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter so that their rights and other facilities are properly safeguarded.

With these words, I support the measure and welcome the nationalisation of this unit.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this Bill and I wish to thank the Government for having at long last decided to take over this very important concern under the Defence Ministry.

The pity is that the Government has delayed taking this decision for so long a time. Now I am glad that they have decided to do it.

There are only less than a thousand people—850 scientists and their colleagues, who are employed—who will now come to have some security of service, but then there is a great need for the Government to expand this concern in order to fulfil not only the present objectives that they have placed before themselves from the Defence point of view, but also from the point of view of the earlier objective that the founders of this very valuable institution had before them, i.e., manufacturing and supplying the precision scientific instruments needed by our High Schools, Colleges and medical practitioners. The instruments which have been manufactured in this concern have become very famous all over India for their precision and for their expertise. But unfortunately they have not been able to make this concern a viable one. It was under the inspiration, I think, of Dr. Pattabhi, one of our veteran patriots, that this institution at that time was founded with great hopes. Like so many other national institutions that were industrially launched, it was started in those days and it had also come to have bad times because there was not sufficient support from the Government. I hope the Government will give some careful consideration to the need for starting a number of ordnance factories in the eastern coast of our country. Most of them which we have had till now are either in the West or in the Gangetic valley or towards Himachal Pradesh. So far as Orissa, Andhra and Tamil Nadu....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kerala.

PROF. N. G. RANGA:.....are concerned, there are very few ordnance factories. There are very few installations which the Defence Ministry have started and maintained. Therefore, I would like the Government to give some consideration to the need of this area and of these people. There are scientists. They have done really good work. There are more and more scientists who are being trained in our various scientific institutions. They need employment. The best possible service that we can get from them these days is for defence purposes. I trust that the Defence Ministry will give some thought to this—train and induce as many of our scientists as possible to come over to their own employment, accept employment in ordnance factories.

With these observations I extend my whole hearted support and congratulate the Government for having brought in this Bill.

श्री सत्य नारायण जटिया (उज्जैन) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आन्ध्र सांईटिफिक कंपनी लिमिटेड (उपक्रमों का अजैन और अन्तरण) विधेयक जो यहां पर प्रस्तुत किया गया है, मैं सोचता हूं कि यह एक सांईटिफिक कंपनी है लेकिन सांईटिफिक तरीके से इसका राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं किया गया। 1972 में यह पता लगा था कि प्रबंध में कमी के कारण इस उपक्रम को लेना जरूरी हो गया है लेकिन 10 साल के बाद 1982 में आज इसके ऊपर विचार किया जा रहा है। हिन्दुस्तान में वैज्ञानिक उपकरण बनाने के लिये कोई बहुत अच्छी संस्थायें हों—ऐसी बात भी मैं नहीं समझता हूं। बहुत से उपकरणों को आज भी हमें आयात करना पड़ता है ऐसी स्थिति में हमारे देश में जो वैज्ञानिक हैं और इस प्रकार की अच्छी कंपनियां

[श्री सत्य नारायण जाटिया]

हैं जो कि इस प्रकार के उपकरण तैयार करती हैं, उनको अवश्य ही प्रोटेक्शन किया जाना चाहिए।

यह भी बताया गया है कि जो वहां पर वैज्ञानिक हैं या जो अन्य कर्मचारी हैं वे बहुत ही अच्छा काम करने वाले हैं परन्तु अच्छा प्रबन्धन न होने के कारण उनकी अच्छाई या प्रकट नहीं हो पाई है वहां पर प्रबन्ध की जो कमी रही है उसको दूर करने की दृष्टि से सरकार ने जो कदम उठाया है उसमें काफी विलम्ब हुआ है। यह भी बताया गया है कि पहले यह छोटी कम्पनी थी लेकिन बढ़ते बढ़ते इसका व्यापारिक टर्नओवर 45 लाख तक पहुंच गया है। स्पष्ट है कि इस कम्पनी को बढ़ाने में वहां के वैज्ञानिकों एवं अन्य कर्मचारियों का पूरा सहयोग रहा है परन्तु कम्पनी जो घाटे की स्थिति में आई, उसका मूल कारण कुप्रबन्ध ही है। 1967-68 में 1 लाख 51 हजार की हानि हुई थी और 1971-72 में बढ़ कर 25 लाख हो गई। उसके बाद सरकार ने इसके प्रबन्ध को अपने हाथ में लेने की बात सोची। लेकिन यह नहीं बताया गया कि 1972 से 1982 तक इन 10 वर्षों में इस कम्पनी की क्या स्थिति रही? वहां पर मुनाफा या घाटा की क्या स्थिति रही? मैं समझता हूं मंत्री जी इस संबंध में बताने की कृपा करेंगे।

इसके अतिरिक्त इस कम्पनी में 850 कर्मचारी काम कर रहे हैं उनको भी संतुष्ट करके राष्ट्र के हित में उनका सदुपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। उनकी सेवाओं को बचावे के लिये सरकार ने यह कदम उठाया है जोकि सराहनीय है लेकिन साथ ही मैं जानना चाहता हूं क्या

सरकार ने उन कर्मचारियों की सुविधाओं के बारे में उनके आवास के उनकी वर्किंग कंडीशन्स उनके शिफ्ट्स आलाउन्सस आदि के बारे में भी कुछ विचार कर रही है या नहीं? इस संबंध में भी मंत्री जी को यहां पर जानकारी देनी चाहिए। जो कंपनियां घाटे में जाती हैं, पहले कई साल सरकार इसका प्रबन्ध संभालती है, उसके बाद भी जब कोई लाभ नहीं होता तब मजबूरन इनका राष्ट्रीकरण अर्थात् सरकारीकरण किया जाता है। इसके बाद भी इनमें मुनाफा होगा, इस बात की कोई गारन्टी नहीं होती है।

आज हमारे देश में वैज्ञानिकों की क्या स्थिति है। सरकार उनकी शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण का सारा प्रबन्ध करती है, लेकिन उनका लाभ विदेशों को जाता है। मुझे दो प्रकरण याद हैं जब प्रधान मंत्री जी ने आह्वान किया था कि वैज्ञानिक देश में वापिस आ जायें, उनकी सेवाओं का ठीक से उपयोग किया जायेगा, लेकिन जो लोट कर आये, उनका कोई सदुपयोग नहीं हुआ, उनको निराशा ही हाथ लगी। इसलिये वैज्ञानिक उपकरण तैयार करने वाली कम्पनियों के बारे में सरकार चिन्ता करेगी, ऐसी मुझे आशा है। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह (फिरोजाबाद) : इस विवेक का मैं समर्थन करता हूं। बिल को पढ़ने से कुछ बातों के बारे में संशय पैदा होता है। इन्होंने कहा कि कंपनी प्रगतिशील वैज्ञानिक उपकरण बनाती है और एक बार 45 लाख का टर्नओवर भी दिखाया है। लेकिन 45 लाख का टर्नओवर कोई ज्यादा नहीं है। इस तरह की बहुत सी कम्पनियां इतना टर्नओवर दिखाती होंगी। इसलिये कुछ प्रश्न उत्पन्न होते हैं।

अभी जैसा कि जटिया साहब ने कहा कि 1972 में आपने इसका मैनेजमेंट अपने हाथ में ले लिया और इस अवधि में आप इसका इंतजाम करते रहे। इसके बावजूद हानि होती रही। इतना समय इंतजार क्यों किया गया। रक्षा मंत्री जी ने अभी अपने वक्तव्य में बताया कि यह कम्पनी खास रक्षा उत्पादन से संबंधित है और महत्वपूर्ण है, ऐसा उनका संकेत था। मेरे खयाल से 10 वर्ष व्यर्थ गवां दिये गये। अगर इसको इतना आवश्यक समझा गया था तो आपने पहले ही इसको क्यों नहीं नेशनलाइज कर दिया? ये बातें संशय पैदा करती हैं।

एक प्रश्न और है। 850 लोगों के रोजगार का प्रश्न है, इसलिये मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ क्योंकि उनके रोजगार का प्रश्न है। वैसे भी आप नौकरियाँ नहीं दे पा रहे हैं। लेकिन पब्लिक सैक्टर के बारे में लोगों की धारणा अच्छी नहीं है। जहाँ कोई चीज पब्लिक सैक्टर में आई तो पोलिटिक्स और करप्शन शुरू हो जाता है। मेरी अपनी राय भी इनके बारे में अच्छी नहीं है। इसके बारे में छोटी सी बात कहना चाहूँगा। ब्यूरो आफ पब्लिक एंटरप्राइसेस की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 109 पब्लिक सैक्टर्स के अन्दर 35853.96 करोड़ का टर्न ओवर होगा और अगर आप मुनाफा देखें तो वह है 403.70 करोड़। इतना बड़ा व्यापार करने के बाद सिर्फ इतना मुनाफा है। यदि आप रक्षा के दृष्टिकोण से बात करते हैं तो मैं आपसे सहमत हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The present position is much improved than the old position.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH: I am telling about the last year figures—for 1980-81.

नेशनल टैक्सटाईल कारपोरेशन के बारे में आपको मालूम होगा। इनकी मिलें सौ करोड़ रुपए का घाटा देती हैं। इस घाटे की बात के लिए आपने नेशनलाइज करने की बात कही है, वह अच्छी नहीं लग रही है। अगर आप रक्षा के उत्पादनों को बढ़ाने की बात करने जा रहे हैं तो यह स्वागत-योग्य है क्योंकि यह देश की आवश्यकता है।

हमारे माननीय वरिष्ठ नेता प्रो० रंगा साहब फरमा रहे थे, उनकी बात भी सही है कि इसका लक्ष्य उत्पादनों का ही न बनकर कम से कम इसमें दृष्टिकोण यह लिया जाए कि छात्रों के लिए, जो पढ़ते हैं, जो वैज्ञानिक हैं, उनके लिए उन सामानों का जो संयंत्र माडर्नाइज करने जा रहे हैं, मशीनरी लगाने जा रहे हैं, यह लक्ष्य निर्धारित हो कि उनके लिए यह मुहैया हो सके। यही मेरा प्रश्न था। मान्यवर, रक्षा उत्पादन करने वाली बात से मैं पूर्णतः सहमत हूँ।

मजदूरों के सम्बन्ध में एक बात और कहना चाहूँगा। मैंने कुछ प्राविजन जल्दी में देखे हैं। जैसे प्राविडेंट फंड की बात है। यदि पिछली कम्पनी या अन्डरटेकिंग में कोई बकाया राशि हो तो उसके बारे में भी सरकार को अपनी जिम्मेदारी ले लेनी चाहिए। नेशनल हेरल्ड का फैसला हुआ था। प्राविडेंट फंड का, कुछ लोगों ने आज तक जमा नहीं किया।

मैं मिसाल के तौर पर कह रहा हूँ कि प्राइवेट कम्पनी और अन्डरटेकिंग की जो कल्याण निधि हैं उनकी सुविधाओं के बारे में भी बड़े गौर से नज़र रखनी चाहिए। जैसे ही सरकार नेशनलाइज करती है, उसकी जिम्मेदारी लेती है, उन लोगों को भी जिस दिन से सर्विस

[श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह]

में हैं, उस कम्पनी में सर्विस में लगाया जाए। जो नियम आपके होंगे उसे आप देखते हैं। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि जो उनके राइट्स हैं, जो उन्हें सुविधाएं मिलनी चाहिए उनके बारे में भी सरकार को बड़ी सहानुभूतिपूर्वक गौर करना चाहिए जिससे उनके हितों की रक्षा की जा सके।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा (पार्ली) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सरकार अपने कार्यालयों में कुछ बिल बनाकर रखती है और जब बिल का समय आता है, वही लैंग्वेज, वही भाषा रखकर के उसमें फिगर्स बदलकर पेश कर देते हैं।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : भाषा बदलवा दीजिए।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : उसमें कुछ नहीं है। यह जो बिल बनाते हैं, कई पढ़े-लिखे लोग हैं, उनमें फिगर्स बदलकर भेज देते हैं और ये टेक-ओवर कर लेते हैं।

श्री एन० के शेजवलकर : नाम बदलना पड़ता है।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : नाम बदल देते हैं। इसके अन्दर प्रतिभा पलायन होता है। के० पी० सिंह साहब सुनेंगे, इतनी दिरी से क्यों लिखा आपने इसको। 35 लाख जो बैंक का लोन था, उस पर आपने ब्याज दे दिया लेकिन 84.59 लाख पे करना है। आपने रुपया दे दिया और लोन कितना दिया, यह आपने कितने साल के बाद निर्णय लिया। सरकार का कोई काम खुद का काम नहीं होता। सरकार का काम सरकारी तरीके से ही

होता है और इससे सरकारी खजाने को जो नुकसान होता है, उसके जिम्मेदार कौन हैं? जब यह कंपनियां इतना रुपया लेने के बाद, इतना घाटा दिखाती हैं, आप कहते हैं इतनी अच्छी है, वैज्ञानिक काम करते हैं, उससे इतना अच्छा हमारा उत्पादन होता है। क्या आप कारण बताएंगे कि आपको इतना समय क्यों लगा? कमिशनर आप कब एप्वाइंट करेंगे? आपने कोई तारीख बिल में नहीं बताई है। क्या आप बता सकते हैं कि किस तारीख तक कमिशनर एप्वाइंट आप करेंगे? कम्पनीज को आप टेक ओवर कर लेते हैं लेकिन कमिशनर का एप्वाइंटमेंट एक एक दो दो साल तक नहीं होता है। मुकदमें चलते रहते हैं। पता ही नहीं चलता है कि प्रापर्टी कम्पनी की कितनी कीमत की है, मशीनरी तथा दूसरा सामान कितनी कीमत का है, बिल्डिंग कितने की है। आपको यह सारा कुछ बताना चाहिये।

मेरा यह भी कहना है कि जो आडिट है वह आडिटर जनरल द्वारा होना चाहिये। सरकार को इसकी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये। आडिटर जनरल की जो रिपोर्ट हो वह सदन में पेश होनी चाहिये। इस चीज को आपने प्रोवाइड नहीं किया है। यह रुपया खजाने में से जाएगा। इसके हिसाब किताब का हम को पता लचना चाहिये। आडिट रिपोर्ट सदन की मेज पर रखी जानी चाहिये। सरकारी करण हो गया है। जनता के हित में कम्पनी आपने ली है। आपने सैक्शन 15 में कहा है :

"The Central Government shall, for the purpose of disbursing the amounts payable to the Company under Sections 7 and 8, by Notification, appoint a Commissioner of Payments."

दो कम्पनियां आपने अभी ली है। दो साल हो गए। लेकिन कमिशनर एक्वाइट नहीं हुआ है। आप जो रेग्युलेशन बनाएँ उनका आप क्या करेंगे। रूलज जो आपने कह दिया है कि ले कर देंगे। लेकिन रेग्युलेशन का क्या होगा, इसका कुछ पता ही नहीं है। आपने कहा है कि 850 मजदूरों के हित के लिए आप काम कर रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितने सालों से यह कम्पनी घाटे में चल रही थी? दस दस साल आपको निर्णय लेने में लग जाते हैं। यह जो इंडिसिशन की स्थिति है यह मोस्ट डिसएक्वाइटिंग है। मालूम ऐसा होता है कि सरकार पर दबाव डाला गया और तब यह इसको ले रही है।

बैंकों ने कम्पनियों को लोन दे रखे थे। बैंक इनको वापिस क्यों नहीं ले रहा है और क्यों यह देख नहीं रहे थे कि कम्पनी घाटे में जा रही है और अपना पैसा उनको वसूल करना चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think India means indecision, according to you.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: I am thankful to you. That is more disappointing.

होता क्या है? ये कम्पनियां जब घाटे में जाती हैं और बन्द करने की नौबत आजाती है तो जो अच्छी मशीनरी होती है उसको किसी दूसरी जगह ले जाती है। जिस तरह से गाड़ियां डिस-पोजल के लिए पड़ी रहती हैं और उनका सामान गायब हो जाता है उसी तरह से इन कम्पनियों की अच्छी मशीनरी भी जब आप लेते हैं, उसको गायब कर दिया जाता है,

जब भी आप कोई बिल लाएं तो पूरी डिटेल्ज आपको हमें सप्लाइ करनी चाहिए

ताकि हम को मालूम हो सके कि इतने की मशीनरी है, इतनी कीमत की बिल्डिंग है, इतना हम को देना है। आठ साल के बाद आप बिल लाते हैं। जब आप टेक ओवर करते हैं इसका मतलब यह है कि खजाने से पैसा आप खर्च करने जा रहे हैं। खजाने के एक एक पैसे का हिसाब जनता हम से पूछेगी और उसका उत्तर हम को देना होगा। तब हम क्या उत्तर देंगे? आज होता यह है कि चार्ज्ड एकाउंटेंट से ये कम्पनियां आडिट करवा लेती हैं और उनके कोल्यूशन से गोलमाल करती हैं। हमारी मांग है कि आडिटर जनरल से आडिट इन कम्पनियों का करवाने की आप व्यवस्था करें। यहां भी 76 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ है।

ये सब चीजें जिन की तरफ आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिए।

SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA (Bangalore South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through this Bill, the Andhra Scientific Company Limited is being taken over by the Government of India, the Department of Defence. In the first instance I would say that I am sorry that Government is taking over a large number of concerns like this but have no laid down any fixed policy for this. First Maruti was taken over, then many textile mills have been taken over, then many jute mills have been taken over, many railways have been taken over and recently the Chandigarh edible oil mill has been taken over. I am sorry that Government has not so far decided on any fixed policy here. In one case they say that they are taking over for better management and at the same time in another case they say that they are acquiring it or purchasing it outright. Here I feel that something is hidden; I cannot understand how this Government is taking over without giving details. In the first instance this company was wor-

{Shri T. R. Shamanna}

king at a loss from the beginning. In 1967-68 the loss was Rs. 1.91 lakhs and in 1971-72 the loss went up to Rs. 25 lakhs; in the course of three years, the loss had gone upto Rs. 25 lakhs. There was something radically wrong as far this concern was concerned because it was a losing concern from the very beginning. The Defence Minister has said while moving this Bill that it manufactures scientific instruments for Defence Department. I know very well that the Andhra Scientific Company was supplying laboratory instruments to many high schools and colleges. I do not know how the Defence Department is interested in taking it over.

Here the Bill provides for payment in cash of an amount of Rs. 224 lakhs for acquiring the concern, for acquiring the right, title and interest of the Company in relation to its undertakings. Then the Government has to pay Rs. 35 lakhs towards bank loan — the pre-take-over loans given by nationalised banks and financial institutions to the company. Here a wonderful thing is that the bank loan is Rs. 35 lakhs and the interest is about Rs. 50 lakhs. The total amount payable will be Rs. 224 + Rs. 85 lakhs, that is, about Rs. 309 lakhs. Actually it is not only Rs. 224 lakhs. You have to add up some more. According to this Bill, a further amount calculated at the rate of Rs. 10,000 per annum is payable for the deprivation of the Company of the management of its undertakings; it is estimated that this amount will be of the order of Rs. 90,000. The Bill also provides for payment of a further amount in consideration of the retrospective operation of the provisions of clauses 3, 4 and 5, calculated at the rate of Rs. 10,000 per annum; this amount will be of the order of Rs. 11,000. The Government has also agreed to pay a sum of Rs. 75,000 as simple interest at the rate of four per cent per annum. All these put together

come to a sizable amount as payable. Then for acquisition you pay Rs. 224 lakhs to the company and they have agreed to pay Rs. 85 lakhs for the bank loans. So Rs. 309 lakhs is the amount they have to pay for the outright purchase. Further more they have agreed to pay to the management Rs. 10,000 per year and on the whole it will come to Rs. 90,000. They have to pay Rs. 75 lakhs for interest. This concern is losing heavily and at this stage they are paying such a large amount. It would have been better that some explanation was given as to on what basis this Rs. 224 lakhs is payable to the company. It is very necessary that details are given about the assets and liabilities so that we know how much the Government is paying towards the scientific concern and how much is paid for the bank loan. If all these details had been given, it would have given us an idea as to how the concern is sought to be taken over.

Concerns are taken when there is financial loss. When there is mismanagement, then also we take the concern. Then if it is a concern of national importance, then also we take it over. Also to safeguard the interests of employees we try to take over concerns. So many considerations arise. In future also concerns may be taken over. Therefore, I urge upon the Government and it is very necessary also, that some broad policies are laid down for acquisition of concerns. Going through the financial details, I feel somehow that there is something fishy in this. If proper accounts are given, there would not have been any reason for doubt. So I urge upon the Government to lay down a policy as to which concerns are taken over for acquisition, which concerns are taken over for management and which concerns are taken over for outright purchase, etc. This is very necessary. Otherwise, it will be very difficult for us to give consent for taking over such concerns.

प्रो० अजित कुमार मेहता : (समस्ती-
पुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, साधारणतया
इस विधेयक का मैं स्वागत ही करूंगा।
सरकार ने 850 कर्मचारियों, समर्पित
वैज्ञानिकों और इंजीनियरों की जीविका
के सवाल पर सहानुभूतिपूर्ण रुख रखा
है, इसकी मुझे प्रसन्नता है, लेकिन समझ
में नहीं आता कि यह सहृदयता और
जगहों व और मामलों में क्यों नहीं
है ?

बहुत सी बातें कही जा चुकी हैं
इसलिए मैं इनकी डिटेल् में नहीं जाऊंगा।
मैं जल्दी जल्दी कुछ प्रश्न आपसे करूंगा
और उसी में मेरी सारी बातें आ जायेंगी,
आशा है आप उनका उत्तर कृपा कर अवश्य
देंगे ?

(1) यदि रक्षा उत्पादन से यह
उपक्रम, कंपनी संबंधित है तो उसमें
1972 के बाद 10 वर्षों का विलम्ब
क्यों लगाया है ?

(2) 1972 में ही इसका प्रबन्ध
अपने हाथ में लेने के बाद कोई सुधार
इस में नहीं दिखाया, आपके उद्देश्य के कथन
से स्पष्ट है। पैराग्राफ 2 में आपने कहा
है—

“Though the Central Govern-
ment was advancing some amounts
.... Funds are also required for mo-
dernisation of the plant and mac-
hinery.”

इससे स्पष्ट है कि आपके द्वारा उसका
प्रबंध अपने हाथ में लेने के बावजूद
भी उसकी स्थिति में कोई सुधार नहीं
हुआ। क्या आपने इस का विश्लेषण
किया है कि दोष कहां है। आखिर
कहां कमी है। क्योंकि कंपनी जब शुरू

हुई थी तो उसको पहले साल दो लाख
रुपए का मुनाफा हुआ था स. 1965-66
में। लेकिन उसके बाद 1971-72 में
25 लाख 62 हजार रुपए का घाटा हुआ
है। क्या आपने इस का विश्लेषण किया
कि क्यों मुनाफा घाटे में बदल गया और
इसके क्या कारण हैं। कहीं प्रबन्ध में
क्षमता तो नहीं है, पूंजी का अभाव तो
नहीं है। यदि है तो कहां पर क्या सुधार
लाने की आवश्यकता है। क्या आपने
उसके अनुरूप कोई पग उठाये। उसके
क्या कारण स्पष्ट हुए। जब से
आपने उस कंपनी को अपने हाथ में
लिया है, उसकी स्थिति में कितना सुधार
हुआ। यदि उसमें पूंजी का अभाव था
तो आप इतने दिनों तक क्या करते
रहे।

मेरा अगला प्रश्न है कि आप की
प्रवृत्ति ही ऐसी बन गई है कि आप
सिक इंडस्ट्रीज का सरकारीकरण कर
देते हैं। होता क्या है कि इंडस्ट्रीज के
मालिक फाइनेन्सियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस से
कर्ज ले लेते हैं, वह कर्ज बहुत बड़ा होता
है और उसमें उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ोत्तरी होती
जाती है। कहीं वे उस पैसे को किसी
दूसरी जगह डाइवर्ट कर देते हैं जिसके
कारण वह इंडस्ट्री सिक हो जाती है।
सिक हो जाने के बाद उसको सरकार
के मत्थे मढ़ दिया जाता है। फिर इस
प्रकार उस उद्योग पर बकाया राशि का
भुगतान सरकार को करना पड़ता है।
इस तरह जब भी किसी इंडस्ट्रीज का
सरकारीकरण होता है तो उसके जरिए
सार्वजनिक धन का अपव्यय होता है।
क्या आपने इस पर विचार किया है।

[प्रो० अजित कुमार मेहता]

मेरा अगला प्रश्न यह है कि एक तो पहले ही सरकारी उपक्रमों की हालत अच्छ नहीं है, उसके ऊपर आप और सिक इण्डस्ट्रीज को अपने हाथ में लेकर क्या उन की क्षमता और उपयोगिता को बढ़ा पायेंगे। मुझे तो ऐसा ही लगता है कि कहीं आए मियां मंगतू... द्वारे दर्वेश वाली हालत तो आपकी नहीं कि एक तो पहले ही आपकी हालत खस्ता है ऊपर से आप और कम्पनियों को हाथ में ले कर उनमें सुधार लाने की बात कर रहे हैं। आपका कथन कहां तक जायज है, आप किस तरह से उनमें सुधार लाने की बात सोचते हैं। खाली स्वामित्व बदल देने से तो उपचार नहीं हो जाएगा।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MENTA : Sir, I have three more questions to ask.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your questions are too long. Cut short.

प्रो० अजित कुमार मेहता : चैप्टर 3 में आपने रकमों के संदाय के बारे में व्यवस्था की है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि धारा 7 और 8 के खण्ड 1 और 2 में आपने 224 लाख रु० और 10 हजार रु० प्रतिवर्ष की संगणना की है, उसका आधार क्या है? मैं उसको जानना चाहूंगा।

इसके बाद मैं यह निवेदन करूंगा और सवाल भी करूंगा कि आपने शैड्यूल में pre-taken over अवधि के कर्मचारियों के बकाया को प्रवर्ग 5 में रखा है, वह किस तरह से जायज है। क्योंकि कर्मचारियों का जो बकाया है उनकी कमाई है वह तो उन की प्राथमिकता के आधार पर मिलना चाहिए। इसलिए उसकी पांचवें शैड्यूल के प्रवर्ग में रखने की बात समझ में नहीं आती।

अंत में मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि सरकार द्वारा कम्पनी का प्रबन्ध अपने हाथ में लेने के बाद, अर्थात् 1972 से, कर्मचारियों के प्रोविडेंट फण्ड को क्या आपके प्रबन्धक ने जमा किया है या नहीं। मैं आशा करता हूं कि मेरे इन प्रश्नों का उत्तर माननीय मंत्री जो अवश्य देंगे।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Minister will reply.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while moving this Bill; the hon. Raksha Mantri gave the objectives and reasons of this Bill. They are very clear. This company had been engaged or has been engaged in the production and manufacture of scientific instruments of which, some are critical in nature and also are pertaining to Defence.

18.00 hrs.

From its turn-over of 45 lakhs in 1965-66, the value of sales started dropping and the Company incurred a loss of 1.91 lakhs in 1967-68 which increased to 25.62 lakhs in 1971-72.

During this period, the Ministry of Defence had placed orders worth Rs. 52 lakhs on the Company for a variety of instruments of Defence use, which were till then imported.

Therefore, the Government took up the Management of the Andhra Scientific Company Limited under Section 18AA of the Industries Act, which enabled it to provide necessary sound and competent Management.

The take-over of the Management of the Company was initially for 5 years and it was extended from year to year.

Sir, I will give you the figures which will indicate how the Company fared from 1965-66.

In 1965-66, the production was 46 lakhs. The sale was 45.52 lakhs.

In 1966-67, the production was 40 lakhs. Sale was 39.36 lakhs.

In 1967-68, the production was 33 lakhs. Sale was 32.79 lakhs. There was loss of 1.91 lakhs.

In 1968-69 the production was 33 lakhs. Sale was 33.06 lakhs. The loss was 3.32 lakhs.

In 1969-70, the production was 27 lakhs and the sale was 26.61 lakhs and the loss amounted to 23.89 lakhs.

In 1970-71, the production was 25 lakhs; sale was 24.51 lakhs; the loss was 22.04 lakhs.

In 1971-72, the production was 9 lakhs. Sale was 9.15 lakhs. The loss was 25.62 lakhs.

Therefore, Sir, it was thought fit to take over the Management and provide financial assistance from time to time by way of loan.

The total amount of loans with interest as on 30-6-81 was Rs. 176.20 lakhs. Production and Sales picked up after June, 1972 which is reflected in the working Results which I will give you just now.

In 1972-73 the production was 40.44 lakhs Sale was 26.2 lakhs. There was loss of 10.30 lakhs. In 1973-74 the production was 72.28 lakhs and the sale was 72.16 lakhs and there was profit of 15.44 lakhs. In 1974-75 the production was 91.48 lakhs and the sale was 99.78 lakhs and a profit of 16.27 lakhs. In 1975-76 the production was 110.29 lakhs; the sale was 106.21 lakhs and the profit was 16.98 lakhs. In 1976-77, the production was

92.62 lakhs; the sales was 100.63 lakhs. In 1977-78, the production was 96.12 lakhs; the sale was 100.39 lakhs. Like this, upto 1981-82, with the improvement in the performance of the Company, they could meet the requirements of Defence Services, which were imported and which were critical items.

Hon. Members have practically referred to the same points. One hon. Member referred to Compensation. I think Mr. Mollah referred to the same point. Here, the total liabilities are Rs. 334.98 lakhs, but the amount of compensation which is sought to be paid is 224.10 lakhs which is equal to the value of assets. Prof. Mehta wanted to know what is the exact break-up of this 224.10 lakhs. Most of the payments out of this are for the repayment of Central Government loans and the dues of the employees. The full report is with me, but, I think it is not necessary for me now to go into all the details. Out of this nothing is being paid to the previous owners at all. It is only the compensation for the assets, that is being paid.

Prof. Ranga raised the question of expansion of the unit; some other hon. Members also referred to Barrackpore, HAL and the backward regions. Although backwardness of an area is also a consideration, the prime consideration for establishment of a defence undertaking or a defence industry is the strategic requirements. It is on the basis of this that the defence undertakings and units are located. Therefore, we cannot say that a particular unit should be located at a particular place. If it meets the strategic requirements, definitely such an undertaking or critical unit will be established there depending on the strategic points.

[Shri K. P. Singh Deo]

The question of expansion of the unit was referred to by Shri Prof. Ranga. Nationalisation would enable further investments by the Government to maintain the tempo of increased production which will lead to further expansion, as the undertaking improves in its performance.

A point was raised by Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh that the turnover of this undertaking is Rs. 45 lakhs. This was in 1965-66; it has now risen to 223 lakhs in 1981-82, and the object of the Bill is to continue this tempo of increased production and meet the critical needs of defence and scientific opticals and instruments which were being imported. Therefore, our policy of achievement of self-reliance, self-sufficiency and indigenisation and imports substitution is sought to be met by this.

Many of the hon. Members have said why there was delay of 10 years, from 1971-72 to 1982 in nationalisation. I would like to bring it to their notice that the company was under Government management since 1972 under the relevant Act. There was an inter-ministerial Committee which was constituted to suggest the future course of action for this undertaking. This Committee had recommended nationalisation in September, 1976. Issues relating to the pre-takeover liabilities and back loans took time to be examined. The company's working in the past four years has shown continuous improvement and therefore, the Government has come forward with this Bill.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for their unstinted support and welcoming this Bill. I commend this Bill to the hon. House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer of the undertakings of the Andhra Scientific Company Limited, with a view to securing the proper management of such undertakings so as to subserve the interests of the general public by ensuring the continuity of production of scientific instruments which are vital to the needs of the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration. The question is:

"That Clauses 2 to 32 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 32 and the Schedule were added to the Bill. Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.