

Motion moved:

“That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Assam to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1982, in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column thereof—

Demand Nos. 26, 30, 55 and 63.”

Supplementary Demands for Grants (Assam) 1981-82 submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

| No. of Demand | Name of Demand | Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House | |
|---------------|-------------------------|---|-------------|
| | | Revenue Rs. | Capital Rs. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 26. | Administrative Training | 2,34,000 | — |
| 30. | State Lotteries | 4,31,000 | — |
| 55. | Agriculture | 10,00,000 | — |
| 63. | Industries | — | 37,50,000 |

15.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee to speak.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, so far as this Resolution is concerned, it seeks to extend the draconian law against the workers in Assam. I oppose this Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, you may continue your speech afterwards because we have to take up the next item in the List of Business.

15.01 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTY-THIRD REPORT

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up the Private Members' Business.

Mr. P. Parthasarathy.

SHRI P. PARTHASARATHY (Rajampet): I beg to move:

“That this House do agree with the Thirty-third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th December, 1981.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is:

“That this House do agree with the Thirty-third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th December, 1981.”

The motion was adopted.

15.03 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE STEPS TO SET-UP INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS UNDER CENTRAL SECTOR IN WEST BENGAL—(Contd.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will take up further consideration of the following Resolution moved by Shri Chitta Basu on 11 September, 1981 :—

“This House recommends that urgent steps be taken to set up certain industrial projects under the Central Sector like petro-chemical complex at Haldia, as proposed by

[Dy. Speaker]

the Government of West Bengal, without further delay for the over-all industrial development of that State."

MR. CHITTA BASU : You may continue your speech. You have already taken 27 minutes.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, as you may remember, on the last occasion when I was speaking on the subject, I tried to highlight three basic questions in this House. The first one was that West Bengal has got a peculiar and particular problem to attend to. And this particular and specific problem is because of historical necessity. The historical necessity is that we should bear in mind that West Bengal's land area is only 3% of the total land mass of the country West Bengal has to support its entire population which works out to 8% of the total population of the country. West Bengal has to bear the burden of 27 lakhs of unemployed youth who form 20% of the total unemployed in the country. This is the significant factor which I wanted to drive home on the last occasion.

The second point which I wanted to highlight on the last occasion was that in order to meet the challenge and the situation, what is needed is the rapid industrialisation and diversification of the existing industrial base in the State of West Bengal. What I then sought to highlight was that the Government of India has not been taking much interest or a pragmatic view to pursue that policy but on the contrary they have adopted a policy of discrimination against this State. I cited certain examples on that occasion and I propose to cite more now:

As I mentioned earlier, let us look at the figure of the Central investment in the State. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI D. P. YADAV (Monghyr) : Bihar is also on the same footing.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur) : We do not want to divert an industry from your State to ours.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Why don't you support Rajasthan ?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : We are supporting. But while supporting that, it is also my duty to place the problem of my State before the House. I appreciate your problems and I want that more Members should stand up and put forth the problems of their States.

As regards the investment or per capita outlay, let us have a glance at the figures available with us. During the period of 1951 to 1979, the per capita plan outlay was Rs. 586 in West Bengal as against Rs. 1660 in Punjab, Rs. 1032 in Gujarat, Rs. 996 in Maharashtra, Rs. 768 in Karnataka and Rs. 660 in Tamil Nadu. I have no grudge against any of the States, but we want the House to appreciate that while the per capita outlay in the other States has been of that order, the per capita outlay in West Bengal has been only of the order of Rs. 586. It is a disparity and it should be removed.

As on 31st March, 1979, the total investment in the Central Public Sector Undertakings throughout the country was about Rs. 15666 crores, of which West Bengal accounts for Rs. 1085 crores representing only 6.9% of the total investment in the country. West Bengal occupies only 3% of the total land area of our country to support 8% of the total population of the country bearing the burden of 20% of the unemployed people. These are our specific problems and particular problems which you should take note of.

The Five-Year Plan is the only panacea for us. Let us see what the

6th Plan envisages about the Industrial development of the State of West Bengal. In the 6th Plan, during the period 1980-85, a total outlay of Rs. 19,800 crores has been provided for Central industrial and mineral projects under the industry, minerals, coal and petroleum sectors. These are vital and core sectors. Of this outlay, the West Bengal share is only Rs. 1098 crores, representing only 5.77% of the total outlay. As I told you, never has there been an occasion when the industrial development in West Bengal exceeded 5% during the whole period of planned economy. They continue to pursue a policy which is an unhelpful policy for the State of West Bengal.

Coming to the Central sector investment, as I said earlier, it has not been commensurate with the needs. Look at the question of per capita financial assistance distributed through the financial institutions. In West Bengal upto the end of March, 1980, it was 91.21 only; that is the assistance through the financial institutions, whereas it was 249.91 for Gujarat, Rs. 226.03 for Maharashtra, Rs. 142.13 for Haryana and Rs. 136.52 for Karnataka. West Bengal's share is Rs. 91.21 whereas other States share of the assistance from the Central institutions, is much higher, despite the fact that West Bengal needs more for industrialisation and diversification of the existing industrial base.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Basu, you should have also collected these figures from various states. Then it would have been easy for you to compare.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): Division of labour, that he is giving to me.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I think you can supply it. That is mutual collaboration.

The absence of headquarters of these financial institutions is one of the reasons because of which the entrepreneurs in West Bengal cannot take advantage of the financial institutions. Headquarters of most of the financial institutions are in Bombay and that provides an additional opportunity for the entrepreneurs of Western sector. I don't grudge it. But what I want to say is that the Regional Advisory Boards and Regional Advisory Committees of these institutions should include the representatives of the State Governments. As a matter of fact, the West Bengal Finance Minister has recently raised the question for the re-constitution of the Advisory Committee of the Reserve Bank of India. Reserve Bank of India's regional body does not take the representatives of the State Governments. Therefore, this problem is also there because headquarters of all the financial institutions are in Bombay. Therefore, the West Bengal Government has got no representation in the regional body. It has no voice. There is no relation between the RBI and the financial institutions and the State Government projects and the State Government's ideas of industrialisation. That creates unnecessarily a hinderance in the rapid industrialisation of the State.

Now look at the bank finances particularly. I think you understand what is meant by the credit-deposit ratio. The credit-deposit ratio in West Bengal was 59% as against 85% in the northern region. In the Southern region it is 79% and in the Western region it is 96%; Credit-deposits ratio in the Eastern region is smaller than the credit-deposit ratio of other regions of the country. This is another factor.

The most important cause of declining industrial base of the State is chronic and acute shortage of power, which is the basic input of growth of economy. Then you may accuse the Government of West Bengal for this.

[Shri Chitta Basu]

That is natural. What else is expected of them? But I want our friends to be informed critics. For their benefit I want to give certain information about the power position of West Bengal.

In West Bengal, the growth of power generation between 1970-71 and 1978-79 was only 1.6%. I think you will agree that during the period of 1970-71 and 1977 it was Mr. Siddhartha Shankar Ray or somebody of your party, who was in charge of the Government in West Bengal.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: You are talking of growth during that period?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Growth rate was 1.6% only. There was no addition in power generation capacity between 1971, 1974 and 1975, when Ghani Khan Chaudhuri was Power Minister there. When Mr. Ghani Khan Chaudhuri was there, there was no additional generation. Now we have started Kolaka and other projects. We have also given proposals for other projects, which have been rejected by the Central Electricity Authority. We have demanded a super-thermal plant.

There was a policy behind it. The *per capita* consumption of power during 1965-66 to 1979-80 declined from 114 KWs. to 113 KWs. in West Bengal, against the increase in Gujarat from 83 KW to 240 KW, in Maharashtra from 106 KW to 223 KW in Karnataka from 55 KW to 153 KW, and in Tamil Nadu from 89 KW to 181 KW. In the case of West Bengal, there has been a decline from 114 KW to 113 KW. This is the off-shoot or after-effect of the policy pursued by the Government.

Now about power planning. The Eastern region, of which West Bengal is a part, with 33% of the country's total population, had a share of 17% of the country's total generation

capacity of 29,000 MW. During the 6th Five-Year Plan, out of the additional generation of capacity of 17,000 MW., the eastern region will get only 3400 nett MW.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Improvement of energy position in each State is due to the efficiency of the State Government. Is it not so?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Not only that; it also depends upon the assistance from the Centre.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: But we have a very efficient Government in West Bengal.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Very much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When Tamil Nadu can raise, it from 80 KW to 180 KW, why was it not possible for West Bengal to raise it?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Because Government of India had no perspective planning for the eastern region.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: These are not matters of gimmicks.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I say it is good that the Government of India had a very wide perspective planning for the Southern, Western and Northern regions. This is what I am going to say: the West Bengal Government did not frame the 6th Five-Year Plan. I hope, Sir, you will agree with this.

West Bengal did not suggest the generation of projects during the 6th Plan. It was done by the Planning Commission, Government of India and by the Energy Ministry of the Government of India. What is their perspective? The perspective is to starve the region of power. Why do I say so? The facts say so.

The eastern region with 33% of the country's population, has a share of only 17% of the country's total generating capacity of 29,000 MW. During the 6th Plan period, out of the additional capacity of 17,000 MW, the eastern region will get only 3400 MW, against 5,000 MW for Western, 4800 MW for the Northern and 4200 for the Southern regions.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can give some figures to Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have a lot of material.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The generation of power has been proposed to be increased only by 1,788 MW in West Bengal. Therefore, it is the power policy, it is the generation policy, it is the distorted outlook, it is the distorted policy which impedes the growth of power generation in the State of West Bengal, namely, the north-eastern region.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do you not have any State Planning Commission in West Bengal? We have got it in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: No.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We call it Board: and they function it without bank finance and without central aid.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The Government of India's measures for the equalisation of steel prices and telescopic freight rate deprived the eastern region of its locational and natural advantages. Is it necessary for me to explain it? I think the entire House knows that we have got locational facilities like the advantages of coal and steel; we are deprived of the locational advantages. Our coal and steel have got equal price all over the country. We are not opposed to it. When we have to

buy cotton, we have to buy it from your State not at equalised prices. If we have to buy cotton for our textile in West Bengal, we have to buy it from Gujarat and Maharashtra. Therefore, this very attitude, this very policy of equalising you are following in respect of only one or two items and not in respect of other raw-materials. Naturally, this deprives the Government of West Bengal, the people of West Bengal of the locational advantages. Therefore, it is necessary that the Central Government should revise its policy of equalisation of steel prices; and if they continue it, they will have to project that policy and extend it in respect of other industrial raw-materials which are used by the State of West Bengal.

Here is a discriminatory policy? Can you disown it? If you can do it, please do it. But these are hard facts; these are the realities of life. If you ignore it, you betray your ignorance. The State also finds difficulty in the matter of procurement of crucial raw materials like industrial alcohol, rectified spirit, industrial salt for which the State is dependent on other States. There is no machinery to handle it. In a way, West Bengal can get some advantage or benefit out of it. Discriminations also witnessed or found in the matter of distribution of other vital materials like cement, H.S.D. oil, E.C. grade aluminium etc. by the Centre to West Bengal compared to other States.

The importance of the Calcutta Port and airport is dwindling today. I am glad that Mr. Patilji is here. The Farakka Project commissioned in 1975 was intended to release a flow of 30,000 cusecs of water to improve the navigability in Bhagirathi-Hooghly river, but the promised water could not be made available pending settlement with Bangladesh. Inland river transport system via Farakka could not be developed. On the contrary, there is a conspiracy of delinking Haldia from Calcutta

[Shri Chitta Basu]

Port system. I have no time to explain it. I hope the Hon. Minister will choose sometime to make a statement to clarify the position. On many occasions I had raised this point. On many occasions, the members of this side had also raised this point. Therefore, he is keeping silent by saying that your ideas and your views will also be taken into consideration. I have given so many instances of discrimination. Now I ask in all humility and in all submissiveness from Mr. Chanana whether he would realise the specific and particular problems of the State of West Bengal in the context of this information which the House is being furnished today.

What we need is rapid industrialisation of the State. In order to have that, it is necessary first of all to arrest the decline. If you cannot do that, you cannot develop fast. What is happening in West Bengal is rapid decline and stagnation. What we need is more industrialisation. How can we have more industrialisation? Rapid industrialisation can be had only by larger investment in the central sector not by way of concessions to capitalists/monopolists or big tycoons. What does not help. That adds to the exploitation, agony, misery and hunger of the people. What we need is investment in the central sector, investment under the Government's own aegis. For that purpose, immediate steps are to be taken to arrest the decline and stagnation and to diversify the existing industrial units and strengthening them by further investment.

In this connection I would also like to mention certain projects which have been submitted by the Government of West Bengal. The Government of West Bengal has proposed to include the expansion of three integrated steel plants, expansion of oil refinery, setting up of a new coastal based steel plant, a Defence electronic unit. See the efficiency of the State Government. They have prepared

project reports of all the projects. But the Central Government is sitting tight over them. Other projects are: a ship-building yard and also the agreed ship repair complex, a drug unit of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., units of Hindustan Organic Chemicals, Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., a new factory for manufacture of electronic exchanges, an export processing zone, expansion and modernisation of taken over cotton textile mills. The project reports of all these projects have been sent to the Central Government. The State has also requested the Centre to consider a project for manufacture of synthetic crude oil and methanol from coal available in the Raniganj-Oncoal coal belt. The response from the Centre is regard to most of these proposals is not at all encouraging.

Lastly, in regard to the State sponsored petro-chemical complex project, the Government of West Bengal has already prepared the project report with an estimated investment of Rs. 428 crores. The State Government wants financial collaboration plus technical participation of the Government of India so that a petro-chemical complex can be built there. The latest position about that is that a committee is examining the proposal and it has been reported that they have suggested that further investment should be made in the project. The West Bengal Government would have no objection to larger investment, provided that investment comes from the Centre. The State of West Bengal is not in a position to make larger investment and, therefore, this request to the Government of India. This is an important project. I hope the Hon. Minister will clear all these projects so that firstly the industrial stagnation and industrial decline can be arrested; secondly, the industrial base can be diversified and, thirdly, more industrialisation can be taken up, not only in the interests of the State of West Bengal, but also in the interests of the nation as a whole.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास (भीलवाड़ा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय चित्त बसु ने जो प्रस्ताव रखा है वह सिर्फ एक स्टेट के बारे में रखा है कि वैंस्ट बंगाल को किस तरह बढ़ाया जाय। होना यह चाहिये था कि देश के जितने पिछड़े हुए राज्य हैं उनको किस तरह बढ़ाया जाए और रीजनल इम्बलेंसेज को किस तरह मिटाया जाय, ऐसा प्रस्ताव होता तो वह स्वागत योग्य होता। मगर इन्होंने केवल एक ही स्टेट को आगे बढ़ाने की बात कही है जो कि पहले से ही बढ़ी हुई है। आज से कुछ साल पहले बंगाल सब से ज्यादा इण्डस्ट्रियलाइज्ड थी। लेकिन जब से लेफ्ट फ्रंट सरकार वहां आयी है तब से वहां का इण्डस्ट्रियलाइजेशन समाप्त होने लगा है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you had moved an amendment to include "other States" alongwith West Bengal, they would have agreed to it.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास :

I am saying that West Bengal is more advanced than other States.

वैंस्ट बंगाल में मार्कसिस्ट सरकार जब से आयी है तब से वहां के इण्डस्ट्रियलाइजेशन में बड़ा अन्तर हो गया है और तब से मद्रास, गुजरात, तमिलनाडु और हरियाणा आगे बढ़े हैं। वरना पहले वैंस्ट बंगाल सब से ज्यादा आगे था। हम चाहते हैं कि जितनी भी पिछड़ी स्टेट्स हैं, खास करके राजस्थान जो सब से पिछड़ा हुआ है और जिसकी पर कैपिटा इन्कम सब से कम है, वहां भारत सरकार की औद्योगीकरण में जो इन्वेस्टमेंट हुआ है वह सब से कम है। इस प्रकार की स्टेट को प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिये, न कि वैंस्ट बंगाल को जो पहले से ही आगे है। हमारे यहां के तमाम पूंजीपति बंगाल

में बैठे हुए हैं और उन्होंने वहां उद्योग लगा रखे हैं। वह सारे उद्योग राजस्थान में आ जायें या पूंजीपति आ जायें तो हम उसका स्वागत करेंगे। यह लोग हमारे मारवाड़ी पूंजीपतियों को वहां खींच कर ले गये हैं, फिर भी भारत सरकार से कहते हैं कि वैंस्ट बंगाल की उपेक्षा हो रही है। भारत सरकार ने वैंस्ट बंगाल को आगे बढ़ाने में जितना प्रयत्न किया है वह स्वागत योग्य है। हमारी तो भारत सरकार से शिकायत है कि आपने वैंस्ट बंगाल को ज्यादा दिया है और दूसरे राज्य जैसे बिहार, यू० पी०, राजस्थान को पिछड़ा रखा है। अतः उनके विकास की ओर ज्यादा तवज्जह देनी चाहिए। राजस्थान में गरीबी की सतह से नीचे 50 प्रतिशत लोग हैं, जहां लगातार अकाल पड़ता है, वहां की हालत दयनीय है। वहां पर और ज्यादा इण्डस्ट्रियलाइजेशन होना चाहिए। अतः हमारी जो मांग है उसके सम्बन्ध में उद्योग मंत्री को खास तवज्जह देनी चाहिये। हमारी मांग है कि वहां पर जो खनिज पदार्थ पैदा होते हैं, खासतौर से जिक, जिसका भण्डार राजस्थान में इतना है जो दुनिया में कहीं नहीं है, मगर भारत सरकार ने उसके सम्बन्ध में अभी तक कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है। राजस्थान में आज तक भारत सरकार की तरफ से कोई बड़ी इंडस्ट्री नहीं लगी है, इसलिये हम चाहते हैं कि जब वहां 5 करोड़ टन जिक का भण्डार निकला है जिसमें से 12 प्रतिशत जिक प्राप्त होगा, इसका एक बड़ा भारी प्रोजेक्ट आप राजस्थान में लगा सकते हैं तो उसको वहां पर लगाया जाये। अगर उसको वहां नहीं लगाया जाता है, दूसरी जगह लोग खींचकर ले जाना चाहते हैं जो पहले से ही इण्डस्ट्रियलाइज्ड हैं, तो निश्चित

[श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास]

तौर पर राजस्थान पिछड़े का पिछड़ा प्रान्त रह जायेगा और दूसरी स्टेटों में और उसमें बहुत बड़ा अन्तर हो जायेगा। इसलिए इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था यहां करनी चाहिए।

राजस्थान में जो खनिज पदार्थ हैं, राक-फास्फेट है, जिंक है, पायराइट है। इनसे यहां पर खाद के कारखाने लग सकते हैं। अगर खाद के कारखाने यहां पर लगाये जायें तो राजस्थान उससे और अधिक प्रगति करेगा और यहां के जो अग्न-एम्पलायड लोग हैं, उनको ज्यादा से ज्यादा एम्पलायमेंट मिल सकेगी।

वहां पर लिग्नाइट का बहुत बड़ा भंडार नागौर, मेड़ता, वाड़मेर वगैरह अनेक स्थानों में हैं। वहां पर इसके जरिये पावर प्रोजेक्ट लगाना चाहिए जिससे वहां पर पावर पोर्टेशियेलिटी बढ़े जिससे राजस्थान प्रगति के पथ पर जाये। ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

आज हमारे यहां आर० ए० पी० पी० को लगा दिया है। इनके दो यूनिट लगाये गए हैं। यहां मार्क्सिस्ट कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी के लोग बैठे हैं, वहां पर इनकी सी-II की यूनियन है जो कि आर० ए० पी० पी० को चलने नहीं देती। हर 10, 15 दिन में हड़ताल करा देती है और जितना वहां प्रोडक्शन होता है, वह खत्म हो जाता है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Vyas, one request to you. Why can't you forget the Marxist Communist Party for some time ?

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इनसे बहुत मुहब्बत हो गई है, इनके लिए कहना पड़ता है। मैं इन से निवेदन कर रहा हूं कि इनकी पार्टी और जो इनकी ट्रेड यूनियन है उन्होंने किस

प्रकार की स्थिति आर० ए० पी० पी० की वहां पर रखी है? इसकी जो दो यूनिट वहां लगी हैं, जब वह दोनों यूनिट वहां चलती हैं तो हमको पूरी पावर मिलती है और जब वह यूनिट बन्द हो जाती हैं तो राजस्थान का सारा इंडस्ट्री और एग्रीकल्चरल काम ठप्प हो जाता है। इसलिए वहां इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये जिससे और ज्यादा पावर हमको मिले।

थर्मल की आपने कोटे में व्यवस्था की है, थर्मल प्रोजेक्ट वहां तैयार कर रहे हैं, उसकी एक यूनिट 1982 में तैयार हो जायेगी और एक 1984 में होगी। इस प्रकार की और भी यूनिटें तैयार होनी चाहियें जिससे और ज्यादा काम आगे बढ़े।

तांबे का कितना बड़ा भण्डार सिरोही और अन्य स्थानों में मिला है। बांसवाड़ा में संगमरमर के बहुत बड़े-बड़े भण्डार मिले हैं, कई प्रकार के पदार्थ आज राजस्थान में उपलब्ध हो रहे हैं। सीमेंट का बहुत बड़ा भण्डार कोटा, चित्तौड़, भीलवाड़ा, बूंदी, नीमच वगैरह में है। यहां इतना भण्डार है कि 7, 8 कारखाने सीमेंट के लग सकते हैं। वहां पर इन्वैस्ट करने की आवश्यकता है। भारत सरकार को ज्यादा से ज्यादा पैसा लगाकर उन स्थानों को आगे बढ़ाने की क्षयवस्था करनी चाहिए ताकि यह क्षेत्र आगे बढ़े जिससे हम हिन्दुस्तान को ज्यादा से ज्यादा व्यवस्था दे सकें।

आज राजस्थान कनाल के एक फेज का काम हो गया और दूसरा बन्द है पैसे के अभाव में। अगर वहां पैसा मिलता है तो राजस्थान कितना आगे बढ़ता है? हिन्दुस्तान में खाने-पीने के मामले में जब हम आत्मनिर्भरता की ओर आगे बढ़ें तो

अगर राजस्थान कनाल पूरी हो तो उससे काफी लाभ राजस्थान को हो सकता है। इस प्रकार के प्रोजेक्ट को हमको हाथ में लेना चाहिये।

यह पार्टीजन स्पिरिट से, दुर्भावना से जो प्रस्ताव इन्होंने यहां पर रखा है कि हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार हमारे साथ भेदभाव करती है, असल बात यह है कि भेदभाव तो आप हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार के साथ कर रहे हैं। हमारे प्रदेश को जो नहीं मिलता है, आप ज्यादा से ज्यादा ले रहे हैं फिर भी आप हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार की बुराई करते हैं। आपको क्या नहीं मिला है? आपके पावर प्रोजेक्ट में, इंडस्ट्रीज में किस प्रकार की कमी है? आपके अग्नी-कल्चर में क्या कमी है, मगर एक बात यह है कि आपकी जो मूवमेंट है, जिस प्रकार की व्यवस्था आप करना चाहते हैं, वह व्यवस्था हिन्दुस्तान के लायक नहीं है। आपकी उस अव्यवस्था की वजह से सारी स्थिति बिगड़ रही है। आपने हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों को, बंगाल के किसानों को बर्बाद कर दिया है, वहां के एग्नीकल्चर को ठप्प करने की कोशिश की है। आप सब जगह डंडे के जोर से बन्दूक और छुरे के जोर से अपनी ताकत दिखाना चाहते हैं, जिस प्रकार की हालत आपने बंगाल में या अन्य प्रान्तों में की है।

एक अखबार निकलता है "सालिडिटरी"। उसमें मैंने पढ़ा था कि वैंस्ट बंगाल के तमाम बैंक जो वहां पर चलते हैं, उनका पैसा, वैंस्ट बंगाल के बड़े-बड़े मार्क्सिस्ट कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी के लीडर लोग बैंकों से बन्दूक के जरिये ले लेते हैं। अगर कोई मैनेजर पैसा उनको सैंक्शन नहीं करता है तो बन्दूक के जरिये से पैसा प्राप्त करते हैं।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is Parliament of India, Lok Sabha, House of people. This type of speeches is being delivered! It is a nuisance.

Non-sense is un-parliamentary. But I have said nuisance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I had already requested him to forget Marxist Party for some time.

Anyway, I shall go through this.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : उन्होंने वहां पर इस प्रकार की स्थिति पैदा की है कि वे बैंकों को डरा-धमका कर पैसा लेते हैं, उससे इंडस्ट्री स्थापित करते हैं, उस इंडस्ट्री को बर्बाद कर देते हैं और बैंकों का पैसा वापस नहीं करते हैं। इस प्रकार की स्थिति उन्होंने वैंस्ट बंगाल, केरल और त्रिपुरा में पैदा की है। अगर अन्य प्रान्तों में भी ऐसी स्थिति होती है, तो हमारे देश को जिस प्रकार से आगे बढ़ना चाहिए, उस प्रकार से वह आगे नहीं बढ़ पाएगा।

मैं आपके जरिये से भारत सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि मार्क्सिस्ट पार्टी के लोगों ने जिस प्रकार की गड़बड़ी केरल, वैंस्ट बंगाल और त्रिपुरा में की है, उसकी जांच होनी चाहिए कि क्या उन्होंने इस देश के लोगों को आगे बढ़ाने का प्रयत्न किया है या इस देश के लोगों की कीमत पर अपनी पार्टी को मजबूत और सशक्त बनाने की कोशिश की है। ये लोग जब तक वहां पर रहेंगे, तब तक उस प्रदेश की हालत ठीक नहीं हो सकती, वह प्रदेश आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता, वह निश्चित रूप से नीचे जाएगा। इसलिए भारत सरकार को चाहिए कि उस सरकार को बर्खास्त कर के वहां पर प्रैजिडेंट्स रूल कायम किया जाए और सही व्यवस्था

[श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास]

की जाए, ताकि उस प्रदेश को भी आगे बढ़ने का मौका मिले।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का विरोध करता हूँ।

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I hope Prof. Ranga and Shri Sukhadia would seriously consider to make Shri Vyas the Chief Minister of Rajasthan. Whatever is left of that State will be soon gone.

I treat the usual fulminations against my party, against the State Government in West Bengal with the contempt they deserve. Therefore, I do not propose to waste either your time or my time in answering him. He has not given a single data. Only one thing—involuntarily he has agreed without knowing that he was helping me viz., that he has spoken of regional imbalance. He has said that there is regional imbalance in this country, for development, for progress. Now it is one of our main grievance. Our main grievance is that here we have all 'powerful Centre.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That, even if you say, he will not agree.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Now he will disagree. He will withdraw that. You are right.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : मेरा कहना तो यह है कि वैसे वंगाल को ज्यादा मदद दी गई है, राजस्थान को नहीं दी गई है।

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There is an all powerful Central Government. Your policy is to have a very strong Central Government. You have openly said as a policy of your party that you do not want to give extra or additional power to the States—power both political, constitutional as well as financial power. This is very very important.

Under the Constitution of India, you are aware there are certain central funds which are to be distributed among the States. It is known in this country whoever tries to apply a little non-partisan mind to the problem the people—not like Shri Vyas, he cannot think on that line, congenitally it is impossible for him, are aware that the State Government has very little source of revenue. Sukhadiaji was the Chief Minister for such a long time. Very limited sources of revenue are there—Sales Tax, Octroi, etc. Usual municipal taxes do not go to the State coffers. Excise duty not on Central excise, but excise duty on liquor, these are very very limited sources of revenue. It is known. In this country, therefore, our Constitution makers, the founding fathers provided that certain items of revenue like Central Excise, Customs, Income Tax etc., will be distributed amongst the State Governments for their financial support and utilisation.

There is a Finance Commission which is set up every five years. You know, we find unseemly spectacle before the Finance Commission. Every State is trying to get as much money as possible, as is happening before the Planning Commission. I am trying not to speak with anger. I have no anger. No doubt, I am speaking in agony. I am happy that at least some top leaders of the other side are here. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industries is here. The unseemly race is going on before the Planning Commission. I am sure, Mr. Sukhadia as the then Chief Minister had to ask for more and more funds for Rajasthan. Every Chief Minister is doing that. This tussle is going on. But ultimately, the final authority is the Central Planning Commission. This Planning Commission, in its wisdom, distributes the amount to the States and within that financial parameters, the States have to function. The States have no practical financial strength of

their own because of our Constitutional set up. We have to toil within those parameters. So far as the States are concerned, I would like to know from Dr. Chanana, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industries, for our knowledge also, as to in this country during the last 34 years, how many State Government undertakings have been established in different States and how many Central Government undertakings established and in which States? This is very important. Before you accuse that we are finishing the State, you tell me. Sir, we have come only in 1977. We have become independent in 1947. After 30 years of Congress Rule, we have come in power. Then, today, no sane or right thinking person will say that industrial stagnation in West Bengal is due to Marxist Government or Left Front Government.

Secondly, this is not a new grievance. One of the very eminent journalists of this country, Shri Ranjit Ray wrote a book about 15 years ago, 'Agony of Bengal'. In this book he had given full details and full particulars. It was not his objective as it was not my objective to say that there should not be industrialisation of the other States. I wish to make it absolutely clear. That is not our grievance at all. But are we or are we not a part of India? Can the Hon. Industries Minister say that there has been any Central investment in West Bengal during the last 10 years? We thought that Siddhartha Shankar Ray was very close and very dear to the Prime Minister and a member of kitchen Cabinet. We thought during his chiefministership, we would be flooded with Central Government projects. There would be no dearth of money. But he learnt his lesson also. Except the project, which has finished the city of Calcutta, namely Metropolitan Railway Project, during the last 10 years, right from 1970, there is not a single Central investment in West Bengal. The

Metropolitan Railway Project which was of Rs. 200 crores, it has gone now to Rs. 500 crores. Funds are not available. The whole city of Calcutta has been dug up. Against the budgetary requirement of Rs. 400 or 500 crores, an annual allotment to the extent of Rs. 20 to 25 crores has been made. How long it will take to complete the project? If you kindly come to West Bengal, humbly we will try to welcome you to the best of our ability. You will see what is happening because of this Railway Metropolitan Project at Calcutta.

The other day, because of total mismanagement in the functioning of this project, the beams fell down on the main water pipes. The pipes burst. It took days to be repaired. It was for no fault of the Municipal authorities.

Apart from that, there is not a single investment worth the name in West Bengal. Why do we say that Central assistance is necessary? It is because you are controlling the funds.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) :
What about Durgapur project?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Kindly keep pace with the developments of history. For historical reasons, for commercial reasons, at one time, the then Bengal was in the vanguard of industrial production, industrial progress, for the simple reason that coal was available there, steel was available there because of the Tata Iron & Steel. The main ingredient coal was available in Bengal and Bihar. Calcutta port was a thriving port. The skilled labour was available. That is why industries concentrated in Bengal, near about Calcutta. It had not gone to eastern Bengal for the simple reason that these materials were available near about Calcutta. The Britishers selected the Calcutta port. They looked at it from the commercial point of view, from the greater profit point of view. Therefore, they selected Calcutta and its suburbs.

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

That locational advantage to which Shri Chitta Basu referred, namely, the proximity to the coal bearing areas and steel producing areas, was lost. How? Because of the price equalisation. We are not objecting to that in principle. Throughout India, coal should be available at one price; throughout India, steel should be available at one price. When steel goes from West Bengal to Madras, we do not want that you pay more than what we pay although it is nearer to us. We do not say that Maharashtra people pay more for coal than what we pay. We do not say that.

Sir, when the bank nationalisation came, we hailed it. We supported it and we congratulated the Prime Minister's action at that time for bank nationalisation. We also want that foreign banks should be nationalised. Other banks should also be nationalised. Because this is public wealth and it should be available through public sector organisation, for general public utility and for general public benefit.

Our definite charge and complaint is that West Bengal has been neglected in the matter of setting up industries. The details have been given by Shri Chitta Basu. I am not going into the statistics. If you kindly go through them, you will find Tamil Nadu is also a victim, not as much as we are.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Pollachi): Why?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Don't be so loyal. You do not know when you will be chucked out. Already, the process of chucking out has started. You have some patience. You do not know when the soil under your feet will go. You will not understand that: you will be completely surprised. So, you please have patience.

The nationalised banks became the biggest source of finance, as also LIC, as also IFCI, as also IDBI, as also ICICI—all these are financing institutions. Not only their locational

advantage was shifted, because they are all in Bombay, definite statistics are there which Shri Chitta Basu has given, namely, that the entire eastern region got the least, not only West Bengal. The Marxist Government was nowhere near the scene. Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray, Dr. B.C. Roy, Shri Profula Chandra Sen, and Shri Ajoy Mukherjee were the Chief Ministers. It was the complaint of Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray also that nationalised banks invested the least in the eastern region. Bihar is also a victim; Orissa is a victim; West Bengal is a victim. The entire North-eastern region of this country is a victim. Therefore, with more public funds being available in the rest of the country and the locational advantage being lost, there has been greater industrialisation in some other areas. This has been followed by another very important thing. We do not mind the price of coal and steel being equalised. But what about cotton? That is what we are crying every year. Mr. Siddhartha Shankar Ray cried for it. What did we say? Very well, you are getting steel and coal at the same price throughout India and you have brought it about by price equalisation. But what about cotton? How can the textile mills in West Bengal possibly compete with the Maharashtra mills or Gujarat mills or the Western India mills where cotton is grown. They do not have to spend much for getting cotton on account of there being no freight charges. But what about the freight in the case of West Bengal? Cotton has to be transported to Calcutta where the mills were set up by the British; some of the leading textile mills were set up in eastern India by the British and cotton was brought there. But now-a-days we have to pay extra freight for cotton which makes for the price difference between the cotton available to Maharashtra mills, Gujarat mills and Western India mills and the cotton available to the West Bengal mills. How does one compete then?

PROF. N.G. RANGA: Turn them over to jute.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You want all textile mills to be converted into jute mills! This is the solution given by Prof. Ranga! A solemn suggestion has come from Prof. Ranga that all textile mills should be changed into jute mills. Prof. Ranga, I thought you were listening to me with some attention. Therefore, we told the Central Government 'These difficulties are there; you have got the necessary funds, you have got the necessary expertise; if only you have the necessary political will and administrative will, you can invest in this area'. I am only trying to bring these to his notice because I want specific answers.

15.57 hrs.

[SHRI HARINATHA MISRA *in the Chair*.]

What we have been suggesting is this. The State Government having limited means, limited wherewithals, we can only come and request the Central Government to consider some important projects which can be set up in West Bengal. Do not think that you are only helping the Bengalis or the Marxists. Everybody knows what is the composition of the working population in West Bengal, in Calcutta and Greater Calcutta areas. We have a great satisfaction over that; we are proud that there is no feeling inside West Bengal about it. All are most welcome.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: That is why they are running away from Calcutta!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, you have an idea how many people from our neighbouring States are working there with full honour and dignity and with full facilities. In West Bengal we do not encourage casteism, we do not encourage provincialism, we do not encourage parochialism. That is our

glory and we are proud about it. I am sure everybody working for his living in West Bengal is proud about this and will agree with me.

These are some of the projects which we brought out, which we presented to the Central Government. Petro-chemical project. In India wherever any petro-chemical project has been set up, it has been in Central sector. Only so far as West Bengal is concerned, you want it to be in the State sector. You know that so much money, no State Government can possibly afford. When the letter of intent was given, we made a request, we said: "Very well, you want the State Government to do, you do not want it to be in the Central sector as in other States; no petro-chemical project is anywhere in the State sector; but you want us to start it; we cannot possibly bring out Rs. 500 crores, etc.; will you join us; we are agreeable to join with you". Come to a joint sector-joint in the sense of Centre and State. If you want, we can involve others in the private sector also, because it is a matter of life and death for our economy. How many months and how many visits have taken place from our Ministers, Chief Minister, Finance Minister, etc. When will this decision be taken, Sir? What more can the State Government do? We have tried to prepare reports and we have presented them before the Central Government. Discussions have taken place. Is it or is not an important project? Can we not ask the Central Government—will you please join with us in setting up this project? No final answer till to-day has been given although for months, months and months it is pending.

16. hrs.

Next is a very important project of a ship building repairing complex at Haldia. On principle they have agreed. We have been clamouring for a ship-building yard and we have

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

been clamouring since we have come to power in the State. We have been saying all the facilities are available for a ship-building yard, will you please set up a ship-building yard in West Bengal? No. But it was accepted that a ship repairing yard will be set up....

PROF. N.G. RANGA: It is not so cheap.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: To-day the role of Prof. Ranga for whom I have great respect is somewhat disappointing. You are negative in your attitude to-day.....

PROF. N.G. RANGA: We are obliged to go all the way to Japan. Instead of that we want to build it in Calcutta or in some other port of West Bengal. Is it a cheap one?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: You persuade him. That is where we agree.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This ship-repairing project, on principle they have agreed to, but not a stone has been turned for that....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Excuse me for interrupting you. When did they agree?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have not got that date. The Hon. Minister can give us. On principle the Government have agreed Sir. ...I will try to find out the date. ...He will give the date, it is very kind of him. I believe I have got the date.... Thank you for asking me.

The location of a ship-building yard at Haldia was a long standing demand of the people of West Bengal. As a matter of fact, since 1971 several committees set up by the Government of India strongly recommended the proposal as Haldia was an ideally suitable site for location of a ship-building yard both from technical and

economic angles of view. But in 1974, the Government of India commissioned some foreign technical expert teams of Yugoslavia and the United Kingdom to prepare feasibility reports for building different sizes of ships and to identify locations therefor, after visiting different sites in India including Haldia. Reports of those teams were not made available to the State Government. However, the State Government was informed by the Central Government that it was decided to set up a ship repairing complex, instead of a shipyard, at Haldia at an estimated cost of Rs. 50-60 crores. In July, 1979, M/s. Garden Reach Ship-builders & Engineers Ltd. got prepared a project report by M/s. Engineers India Ltd., for setting up a ship-repair-cum-off-shore yard at Haldia.

Thereafter, at the instance of the Ministry of Shipping & Transport, Government of India, a supplementary report containing proposal for only ship-repair complex was also prepared and sent to the Ministry by GRSE. Recently a team of experts from West Germany, M/s. Vlohm & Voss AG. Hamburg, backup consultants of M/s. Engineers India Ltd., who have been commissioned by the Government of India to prepare a 15 year perspective plan for ship repair facilities in India visited the State and were extended all facilities to visit Haldia and other suitable sites.

The State Government is anxious for immediate clearance of the proposal. ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has not been cleared?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It has not been cleared. I may say with all sense of responsibility. I remember one day I was coming to Delhi and in the plane the former Chief Minister, Mr. Siddhartha Shankar Ray was also there. He asked me, 'Why don't you speak for the ship

repair yard on the floor of the House once more ? This was the position.

The next project we asked for was a defence electronics unit in Salt Lake area. We have made 100 acres of land available to the Central Government free of cost in the Salt Lake area. You may be aware this is one of the most developed areas of Calcutta. We have assured no break in the power supply to the extent of 5 MW to 132 KV line from a special feeder from the sub-station.

Then, we have made all arrangements for the supply of water ; we have made all arrangements for providing accommodation for one thousand workers for the new Defence Electronics Unit. But, what is the reaction of the Government ? Rejection—why? This is a border State. This is an utterly ridiculous plea.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I have understood you aright, it is still under consideration.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is an electronics unit and they have rejected it although all facilities were given by us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is another project.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is a border State. Nothing has been done. What about Ghaziabad? (*Interruptions*) I do not know why they are fighting shy? The people there do not know whether the ICBM will reach them. They are playing with the representatives of the people of the Eastern region of this country. We cannot have an electronics unit—defence-oriented unit—in the Border State.

No response is there specifically about Petro-Chemical project and, so far as other projects are concerned, we have requested them for the expansion of the capacity of the Indian

Oil Corporation refinery at Haldia. These are all Central Projects. Nobody can say that this is a State subject. This is the demand from the State Government. We have asked for the expansion of the capacity of the integrated steel plant, namely, the Durgapur Steel Projects and the Indian Iron & Steel Company which is now a Government of India Undertaking, in Central Sector—no reaction, no response.

Sir, we have requested that the Government should take a final decision with regard to the scheme for installation of a cinder plant of Indian Oil Company—no response. We have asked for a coal-based steel plant at Haldia—no response. We have asked for setting up a drug unit under the I.D.P.L. The other day I put a question. The answer given is: 'No'. We have no such proposal to set up any unit in West Bengal'.

Sir, we have asked for setting up a unit by the Hindustan Petro-chemicals Ltd. They are yet to give a clearance to the proposal for the establishment of a drug and pharmaceutical unit as a joint venture in the State of West Bengal—no response. We have asked for a decision of the Government for a loan for export-processing unit in West Bengal—no response.

Sir, there are some other interesting things. I am sure you will be interested, if not, shocked to hear what is happening. We have been requesting for a Bharat Electronics Ltd.'s unit. They said 'no' specifically. They are not starting any new project for so many years. I am a citizen of India. My State Government is lawfully constituted Government. The people of the eastern region—West Bengal—have their fundamental rights. As citizens they have their own rights.

I have come here on my own right. I have chosen this highest forum of the country to express my feelings.

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

These are our problems and these are our outstanding issues which require solutions. Why does not the Central Government do it? Why are you rejecting all the proposals? Why are you procrastinating this for months and months.

Shri Tewary when he became the Industry Minister wanted to have an idea of what the proposals we have for the expansion of major public undertakings in West Bengal which are under the administrative control of the Industry Ministry. Sir, our Finance Minister sent him a letter saying that if you do not consider our request for setting up these new undertakings then there are some most important institutions in the country like Jessop, Braithwaite, Burn Standard and Bharat Brakes and Valves. All of them have become sick not because of us. Their sickness was much earlier than even the left Front was constituted. Majority shares in Jessops are owned by Central Government. Braithwaite and Burn Standard are also under Central management. We have been requesting the Central Government for their proper revival. Jessop has a long background in fabrication, in cast iron foundry and in the manufacture of transmission equipment for road rollers, crawlers, dozers, dumpers, cranes, etc. Braithwaite has an excellent cast iron foundry, besides facilities for fabricating ferrous forging. With some modernisation and some coordination in the placing of orders between the different public sector units, Burn could contribute significantly in such metallurgical activities as steel casting; cast iron foundry, ferrous forging besides, it has considerable unutilised capacity for wagon-building, spring making and fabrication and refractories. Bharat Brakes and Valves is ideally suited to provide key components for rolling stock and for other purposes. To these units we can also add the Bird group of companies; which the Government has taken over. It has

parallel expertise and capacity in the manufacture of machinery and equipment. Sir, what was our proposal. Our proposal was that to kindly set-up a commercial vehicle unit in the public sector in the West Bengal for which we promised all possible assistance. They are not agreeable. Then we said why don't you utilise the unutilised capacity of Jessop, Braithwaite and Burn Standard. Our suggestion was that these three giant engineering companies, in collaboration with one public sector unit belonging to the Government of West Westinghouse Bengal Saxby Farmer could take the lead in setting up a truck manufacturing unit to be located at Durgapur for which land will be provided by the State Government. We had also indicated that such a project could be presented for collaboration arrangements to the French industrial group, Berliet. A commercial vehicle can be easily broken up into constituents, a majority of which could be manufactured by the units mentioned, and subsequently assembled. That way, they will be saved from the problem of fluctuating demand from the Railways which has been a major problem since the mid-sixties, and the additional investment called for will be of a much lesser order than in the case of an altogether new unit. Unfortunately, nothing has been heard from your Ministry and about the matter in recent months.

Sir, we have been asking for proper steps for the revival of the sick industries. Nothing has happened. Sir, we want progress and advancement of India as a whole but you cannot leave any part of the country as backward. If by doing that you think the country as a whole can progress then this Government is not doing justice. Sir, they want a strong Centre and at the same time they want to control industrialisation. You want to control the strings of the purse. All the financial institutions are under your

control. Banks are in the hands of the Central Government ; LIC, IFC, ICICI, IDBI—all these are in your hands. All these are controlled by the Central Government. And our unfortunate experience is this: These Bank Managers say this to the Ministers and Secretaries in West Bengal that these are all under the control of the Central Government ; they are not bound to listen to us. This is our experience. This is our experience in this vital sphere. I don't want to go into the details of these statistics. Mr. Vyas, in his exuberance, attacked us but he made references to regional imbalance. Sir, this is not a demand since 1977. This demand has been therefor a long time. This is a long-standing demand. In a matter like this kindly forget politics. You cannot deny legitimate rights to the State, to any region, of the country. I am not only talking about West Bengal. I am also talking about Bihar, Orissa, and the entire North-Eastern Region.....

SHRI CHITTA BASU: And Assam also.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Definitely ; Assam is very much there ; it is becoming a graveyard of their political game as a result of their actions. Therefore I would request you to kindly consider the case of this entire north-eastern region as a whole ; why should this area of our country be stagnating industrially, although this area was at the top at one time ? Merely abusing us and accusing us for everything will not do. Let us know what they are going to do about it. If we have done anything wrong, the people of West Bengal will teach us a lesson. But if you try to throw us out—constitutionally and legally you cannot do it— I don't think you will advance the cause of West Bengal. You had been ruling the State for years and years for decades. What is it that the people of West Bengal are expecting from you ? What has Mr. Ranajit Ray stated in his book which was published ? Sir, I thought at least

some of the Members of the Ruling Party belonging to West Bengal would be present. But none of them are here. I would have then come to know whether they support this resolution or they do not support. Mr. Vyas coming from Rajasthan has opposed ; but he has said about regional imbalance. What we are demanding is in respect of the entire north-eastern region and we are making this demand with all seriousness. We request the Central Government to face these issues squarely and take timely decisions. Mr. Chitta Basu's resolution is regarding Central Investment. It is investment in the Central Sector. It is the Central Government which has got to play a vital role here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chatterjee: May I give you one small suggestion ? I don't think it would be going out of the way. Not at all. You have brought in the names of a number of firms situated in Calcutta which had become sick and the Union Government took them over ; and it is their responsibility to cure the sick mills. On enquiry by me, you have stated or you have confessed that they continue to be hospitalised, almost like indoor patients. Now, when they have taken them over, why not draw up a blue-print and suggest various measures ? This is mainly your concern. But certainly the people of West Bengal and the people of other neighbouring States would be benefited. Why not you take steps in order to cure the disease ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am really obliged to you, Sir, for the valuable suggestion. We have blue-print and we can give it. We can give them red-print. And they are fond of blue-blood, and I can give them blue-print. We have gone to Dr. Chanana for this purpose and he will bear me out. If they believe in blue-print we shall give them blue-print. Sir, I am obliged to you because you have raised a pertinent point. What is Dr. Chanana's latest brain child ? He says

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“Well, sick industries have to close down unless you take them over”. He says that the State Government should find out money for running those sick mills. Otherwise they go to liquidation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I find that you are closer to him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : For our survival, we have to go to him. Sir, he said “either the State Government takes them over or close them down if they are not viable”. If they can give us power also to print notes and mint coins, we can go ahead. But we have no power to do so. They say “you spend money on them”. Sir, Mohini Mills have been taken over by the Central Government under the I.D.R. Act. Two months have already passed, but it has not been started working so far. The workers have completed the cleaning operation because it was lying closed for days and days together. Wages have not been paid to the workers. The officers have fled. The banks say that they are not responsible for paying them any money. But the Central Government has taken over the control and responsibility. There is no response at all. They say “See no evil, speak no evil and hear no evil”. They have reached ‘Nirvana’. They cannot even complete a fly-over. They are falling down. They are only concerned with beautifying Delhi. Crores and crores of rupees have been spent. But in regard to States, either they want to topple the Government or purchase the M.L.As for which budgetary grants may be provided. This is happening in this country.

Sir, with your permission I can lay this on the Table of this House. This booklet will show the sincere endeavour that has been made by the present Government of West Bengal in bringing to the notice of the Prime Minister and in bringing to the notice of other Ministers on how many occasions, how many times and on what specific projects they have written to

the Central Government, they have sought the Central Ministers’ sanction and they have sought the Prime Minister’s sanction. This is now published in this form of booklet. We have therefore to tell the people what has happened and what attempts have been made.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): You lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I will lay* it on the table with your permission. The position is this. We do not want any confrontation here because it is a very vital issue for us. I am not at all in a mood of Confrontation. When I am expressing my agony and anguish, I may be understood to be in confrontation with the Government. But that is not my intention. But I am only saying that we have got this opportunity of placing it on the highest forum of this country. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister to reciprocate with the same spirit in which we have brought this forward before this august House. If it is believed that they will play politics for ever with West Bengal, so far as development is concerned, so far as progress is concerned, so far as its aspirations, urges and requirements are concerned, I can tell that it would not be taken lying down for ever. People of West Bengal are mature enough. They know how things are happening. Even if they are in complete control at Delhi, let there be no illusion that they can pass on the buck to Shri Jyoti Bosu and come to power by such means. The people will decide for themselves.

I earnestly request them to forget the politics for the time being. Kindly consider that West Bengal is a very vital area of the country. We are as

*The Speaker not having subsequently accorded the necessary permission, the paper was not treated as laid on the Table

much responsible citizens, as much patriots, as anybody else. We have fought for the freedom of the country. Nobody can say that we have lagged behind in our contribution. People have seen how in every type of national disaster and calamity, we have come forward and contributed our mite. We want to contribute to the overall development and progress of this country. We do not want to monopolise. These undertakings will not become undertakings of the State; these will be Central Government undertakings. We shall not become the owners; Jyoti Bosu will not become the Chairman or the Managing Director of these Undertakings. With the infrastructural advancement and facilities, some job opportunities will be there for the people. We do not want jobs for us only, we do not say that. However, the entire area is deprived of this investment.

We very strongly request and demand that the discrimination which has been practised so far should be ended as soon as possible. The sooner the better, so that we can all stand united, and join with the Centre for the progress of the country. We believe in that. The Centre and all the States should stand united, so that we can increase the pace of progress in this country, and we fully believe in that. The people should not have a feeling that they are being kept in darkness; in that case, you cannot have the best out of the people.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, already a lot of facts have been placed before this House on this question and some concrete suggestions have also been made. I support the Resolution whole-heartedly. I remember, when Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray was specially put in charge of West Bengal, probably with the designation, Minister for West Bengal Affairs, the first pronouncement that he made was that he would provide employment to

one lakh people on permanent basis in Haldia. That was his first pronouncement, probably in 1971. Now, we have reached 1982 and so far as I know, Haldia is nowhere near that permanent employment, and nowhere near that figure of employment. In these ten years, two Governments have been there. One is there in power, and another has gone; these two Governments are of two different political views. This should be taken note of. The question that is being raised should be seriously thought over by those who are in power. I want to stress one very important point that we are not fighting only for the people of West Bengal, that is Bengalis nor are we fighting for the left-minded Bengalis. This question does not arise. West Bengal is not only a part of India, it is a very significant part of India from very many points of views. If West Bengal today is in this peculiar predicament with regard to the development of industries, one of the principal reasons is that our industries, that were developed by the British and later on by some Indian monopoly houses in collaboration, were based on a very backward technique. They were external market-oriented in the main. Naturally this in today's circumstances has created a very special problem in the State of West Bengal which is not there in any other States. Not in Maharashtra even; not in Gujarat. So, here is one State where the necessity of modern industries is absolutely a must, without which it will be choked. Sir, you yourself are in the Chair. Here is my friend, Ram Dulariji, Hon. Minister and my other friends are also here. I would request them to just think of the industrial scene of Calcutta. Who are they? Are they only Bengalis? They are Bengalis, Biharis, Oriyas, Assamese workers. Even as industrialists? How much money has flown from West Bengal to the Rajasthani industrialists? I do not want to raise all this, because, it is not my contention. What I want to say is that if for the working population

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in West Bengal, there is a serious trouble, then that will affect not only our State, that will affect Bihar, that will affect Orissa, that will affect many other States, where money orders go from West Bengal. That is why there is the question of West Bengal. I feel there should be no controversy about that as if West Bengal is not India or West Bengal is against India or India is against West Bengal. That is not our contention. Every state has the right to choose its own representative. That is the guarantee given by the Constitution. There is no doubt about that. But from the feeling point of view if those who are in the Treasury benches think that they can regain West Bengal for them by this, they are wrong. That is not the way. From 1971 I started with saying to Siddhartha Shankar Ray, because how much hope he pinned for the help and that was where he was let down. That was not a Marxist Government. That was the Congress Government. So, if the West Bengal starts feeling that they are not getting the proper share, then will that feeling bring any gain for the ruling Party or for the integrity of the country as a whole? In this State people from many States come. That is why I also very much agree with the Hon. Member, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, when he says that we do not want confrontation on this question. It is not a question of confrontation or making a political capital. It is a question really of very much common concern and it is a very great necessity because of historical reasons that there should be domestic market-oriented modern industries started in West Bengal through the Central initiative. This will again open up new floodgates of opportunities for normal intrepeneurs of that region. There is a need for lot of capital in West Bengal and the monopolists and multinationals are not interested there at the moment. So, there is need for a pioneering role once again from the Central sector. The projects proposed by

West Bengal all come under the modern industry, so that new vistas can be opened for West Bengal's further industrialization, and a new phase of industrialization can start. I hope this Government will seriously consider giving clearance to the Central projects that are proposed, and also take initiative themselves.

There is another problem relating to this Haldia Petro-chemicals. Earlier, West Bengal Government was proceeding on the basis of some understanding regarding the time by which it will be sanctioned. To my knowledge, they contracted several firms from outside, and there was a time-bound contract with them, to the effect that if certain things were done by such-and-such a time, a particular amount would be payable, and that otherwise, it would be increased. It was all the time being said: "We are going to grant it". Even in the last session, there was a solemn promise; but the time-lag has cost West Bengal twice the money it had stipulated. If the Centre does not go in for this joint investment, this will really, for all practical purposes, fall through. This delay itself has caused a lot of trouble for West Bengal and for the Government there, for which the Central Government should quickly compensate and come to its aid with regard to these Rs. 428 crores.

I will not take much time. I hope that the Central Government will dispassionately think it over and come to the conclusion that it is necessary to open a new avenue for modern industries in the whole of eastern region; and for this purpose, West Bengal should get all these projects.

It will help West Bengal in erecting these projects and help open new vistas. Not only that. In addition to West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam also will be benefitted. I hope the Central Government will act, keeping this in view.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chanana, do you want to give a reply now ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: I think they want me to give a reply. I will do as you direct me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't find any other speaker. It means you have to give a reply now. However, there is one point before you begin your speech. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee wanted to lay on the Table of the House a publication or a report published by the West Bengal Government. I have consulted the people concerned. I can assure you that it will be put up to the Speaker. He will then take a decision.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There is nothing explosive about it. It is only a publication containing copies of correspondence with the Central Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the Minister can reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): I must appreciate one thing that the Hon. Members on the other side had been talking of facts which were theoretically true, but the most unfortunate thing is that they had been feeding their statements with the wrong figures or with figures which suited them for the sake of argument. The only gap which was there was filled up by Mr. Vyas ; and probably they wanted quietly to listen to that. (Interruptions) I am taking of your statement. Your statement was fed with figures which suited you, with figures which were to be amended ; your statement was incomplete. There was only one thing which Vyasji fed and he did it rightly ; he took that out of the philosophy in which you believe that probably the solution of many things lie in creating crisis, in generating crisis. You know the crisis in Marxism.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: That is what is your approach.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA : No, that is not our approach. That is your philosophy. That is not our approach at all.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: All right, an endeavour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Excuse me, you are in possession of the facts. So, on the basis of that, how he was wrong, where he was wrong should have been left to you to point out and not to Vyasji.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA : I must appreciate the statements made by them, for example, that in all those areas where the industrialisation is slow, it must be accelerated ; and it must be done in areas which are industrially backward, where the Centre and States together have to play an important role. In fact, the Centre, according to the latest Industrial Policy Statement of July, 1980, lays a special emphasis on generating industrialisation in industrially backward areas and the State of West Bengal, in fact, enjoys a special privilege ; and that privilege is: barring the districts of Calcutta, Howrah and 24 Parganas, the whole of the State has been declared as industrially backward.

Now the Hon. Member has talked about the Central investment in West Bengal. I would like them to restrict themselves only to West Bengal. If they want me to refer to the eastern zone, that will go against their statements. First of all, the Central investment in the State of West Bengal ranks No. 3 in the whole country State-wise. (Interruptions) On 31st March, 1971, the total investment in the Central sector for West Bengal was Rs. 473.70 crores. It has been raised to Rs. 1,540 crores.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I have not said so.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Then kindly work out the rate of growth.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He is misleading. I said it comes to only 5.77 per cent of the total investment during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: I am coming to each and every point of yours. First of all, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee specially pointed out to this date: between the year 1971 and the year 1980. I have said that the investment has increased from Rs. 473.70 crores in 1971 to Rs. 1,540 crores..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would respectfully suggest that you may try to meet all the points that have been advanced by Mr. Chitta Basu.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: I am referring to the symptoms of the industrialisation in their State which they have mentioned. I am only referring to them. I have to correct the data and the interpretation also.

As far as per capita Statewise central investment on the basis of 1971 census is concerned, the State of West Bengal has been number six in the country. It is Rs. 281.20. I would have appreciated if the Hon. Member at that time could have talked about the States like U.P. where the per capita investment is Rs. 77.22, Punjab—Rs. 229.59, Maharashtra Rs. 219.69.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He indicates the figures as in the year 1971. That was my point. Upto the Third Five Year Plan, the industrial growth of West Bengal was very high. The decline and stagnation started after the Third Plan. That is my grievance.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: If the Hon. Member wants

figures yearwise, they are like this:

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 31-3-1971 | Rs. 473.70 |
| 31-3-1972 | Rs. 518.00 |
| 31-3-1973 | Rs. 588.40 |
| 31-3-1974 | Rs. 650.20 |
| 31-3-1975 | Rs. 785.30 |
| 31-3-1976 | Rs. 760.00 |
| 31-3-1977 | Rs. 768.30 |
| 31-3-1978 | Rs. 1058.83 |
| 31-3-1979 | Rs. 1082.88 |
| 31-3-1980 | Rs. 1540.39 |

If the Hon. Member adds all these figures and then divide them into planwise, he will have to correct his statement.

I have quoted the 1971 figures because that is the latest data available. The Hon. Member is talking on a theory where he is not relating population with investment. If the Hon. Member takes the per capita investment as on 31-3-1981, then he will have to change his statement and say that the Central Government is discriminating against States like U.P. where per capita investment is Rs. 77.22, Rajasthan where it is Rs. 103.41. But I would repeat that this is not the indicator. If the Hon. Member takes this as an indicator, then he will have to correct his statement and States like U.P. and Rajasthan must get top priority as far as investment is concerned.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He puts something in my mouth and then goes away.

आचार्य भगवान देव (अजमेर) : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य बार-बार खड़े होते हैं। क्या वह इस तरह बार-बार खड़े होते रहेंगे ?

सभापति महोदय : मिनिस्टर साहब जबाब दे रहे हैं, लेकिन कभी-कभी ऐसा होता है कि बीच-बीच में

आचार्य भगवान देव : कभी कभी ? यह तो शुरू से ही चल रहा है। आप उनसे अपने चित्त को बस में करने के लिए कहें।

सभापति महोदय : श्री चित्त बसु को जवाब देने का अवसर मिलेगा।

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Hon. Members have talked about the Sixth Plan data. Between 1980-85, the Central industrial and mineral projects, including coal and petroleum, State-wise allocation and outlays, they will have to work out the percentages once again, because here the percentage for West Bengal is 5.68. If I start comparing this percentage with the State of Punjab, the figure there is 0.36, Haryana 0.7.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am a layman. But, I for one, think that this question of percentage, for whatever it may be worth, though meant for the consumption of all concerned, is somewhat irrelevant. For instance, so far as the Industries run and controlled by the Union Government are concerned, the position of Bihar may probably be the second or third. Yet, the State is steeped in naked poverty. Therefore, that cannot be the criterion for measuring the prosperity of a State or region.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: I appreciate your argument. I only request you to pass on this argument to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I said it for the consumption of all concerned.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: The location of a Central investment project is based basically on the economic viability and feasibility of a project. Hon. Members have mentioned a number of projects. I do not have the details of those projects here. Of course, I can supply them. A project is assessed only on the basis of the technical feasibility and economic viability. As far as Haldia is concerned, I would say that the project is under consideration, so much so, that a team of experts, including the Secretary of the Petroleum Ministry and a representative of the Prime Minister's Secretariat visited West Bengal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They recommended it, I believe.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: The Ministry is seized of it. The Government always decide about the location of projects according to the economic viability and technical feasibility of the project.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: So far as the Haldia Petrochemical Project is concerned, the Central Government has accepted it on principle, the location and everything. The only question is who will contribute the finance. So, the problem is not of location, but of finance. While all the Petrochemical Projects are in the Central sector, here you are wanting the State sector to come in. But we are unable to bear the financial commitment. Please help us.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: The Hon. Member must appreciate that I am talking of economic viability.

For the process of industrialisation, as has been brought to the notice of the West Bengal State Government, including the Chief Minister and the Industries Minister of the State, the most important thing is the revitalisation of the Central investments in the State. Those industrial units, which were already in the Central sector, which were inherited by us in 1976, they had started taking off. But in 1980-81 we found those units again to be incurring heavy losses and, Sir, they must appreciate one thing that most of the units with a few exceptions like Braithwait for example, have started taking off and all that has to be done with the help of, firstly, the Central Government and secondly, the Central Government public sector corporations in reply to the...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have they left the ground or are they in the air?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: No, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said that they are in the process.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, they are limping.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Sir, the take-off on the runway of economics is different from the take-off at the airport. I am talking of the industrial runway as the Hon. Members are talking of.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. I am referring to that.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: As on 31-12-1979 the Reserve Bank of India conducted a survey into the performance of the industrial units in the country with special reference to the sick units and it is a very unfortunate thing that West Bengal here was one of the top States in the country and here, I appreciate the agony of the people of the State of West Bengal.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Maharashtra is the second.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: That agony we appreciate, but we do not want that to be there at all. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Excuse me. There was a period when it used to be said 'What Bengal thinks today the rest of India thinks tomorrow'. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Bengal and Bihar together.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: We are talking of only yesterdays.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We are talking of tomorrows.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: You must talk of tomorrows with us. You will see that tomorrows are brighter.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You want to take us back.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: We are promoting a take-off. The take-off is always for tomorrow and tomorrow is likely to be brighter.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They say, public sector should keep the position of commanding heights and this is the way they are doing.

MR. CHAIRMAN . Let him say.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: 23 per cent of the large scale industrial units in the State of West Bengal were sick, they might be healthier after the year 1979, after we came into power. (*Interruptions*). Sorry, probably the Hon. Member is wanting to correct me because our Government only played the promotional role. The State Government has a higher role to play. I might be wrong. They might have added to the illness of the units. I do not have the data. The data with me is only of 1979.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Here the patient is under your care. How do you allow others to interfere, adding to the complications and all that ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: As far as the industry is concerned, your goodness knows it better that it does not fall in the Union List.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, none of our relevant questions have been answered.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: In the State of West Bengal there are 20,841 units which form 33 per cent of the small scale industrial units. Our policy is to render help to these units to revitalise the dead units or the sick units all over the country with special reference to the State of West Bengal because the State of West Bengal has a very high potential. Day before yesterday, it had a very

high industrial culture ; we do not want the environment there to be spoilt at all. We would like, in fact, the industrial revitalisation of all those areas with special reference to the areas where general potential was there.

Now the Hon. Member is talking of the headquarters of the financial institutions. The Hon. Member has talked about the assistance from the financial institutions going into it. The Hon. Member must appreciate that the assistance is of two types—one is financial institution. Then the major part of State of West Bengal which is declared as industrially backward has the right to demand Central subsidy also. Then you have to generate investment climate. That cannot be imported from outside, from any other State—neither from Bihar, Orissa nor from Assam.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Development does not depend on this analysis.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Central subsidy is co-related. In the industrially backward area if a small unit goes, it is entitled to central subsidy. You will have to work out the arithmetics of it and that arithmetic would tell you the data, the statment that you are making—that should be withdrawn. That is better. I was wanting to say, it should be corrected. But, no they may have to withdraw because the whole of that has to be changed. The Central Government from 1967-68 onwards first of all identified areas as industrially backward areas. Then they introduced the basket of incentives to generate investment in those areas. The most unfortunate thing is that even after revitalising the whole thing, we have started a new process of setting up task force and telling the State Government to come and start movement in their industrially backward areas. We are giving all of them

central subsidies. The Hon. Members must impress upon the State Government and the Industries Department, all the departments concerned to generate the environment and promote investment. First of all they should create savings habit in the people, then convert savings into investment. That would be the industrialisation. The Central Government plays the promotional role. The Central Government plays the role of promoting nucleus plants in the industrially backward area so that the whole area is industrialised. The Hon. Member has mentioned about certain projects. As far as BHEL is concerned, I have replied to one of the questions also that BHEL has not yet decided about the break-up of the investment, the location of the investment and BHEL has not written of the State of West Bengal at all. All the states of the country with special reference to the industrially backward areas in the country are within the purview of their future investment. So is the case for all the future investments in the country. Project by project I would not be able to reply to you right now. I would only like you to impress upon the State of West Bengal to be honest enough to generate investment climate in that State. The Hon. Member was saying, people want to shift. The financial institutions do not have their headquarters there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Not a single one.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: You must do all that to attract more investment in your State, to generate investment climate rather than push it out.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We cannot attract the Central Government. What shall I have to give them, I do not know ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Do you want me to repeat the data to tell them that,.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is no use repeating. What has been your attitude.....

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: What has been your attitude ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: It has been most positive.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And sympathetic also.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Positive is higher than that. Their attitude is below zero. Our attitude is above zero. What they have to do is to react also and the reaction is always in the shape of generating climate for investment. The Central Government does everything and the Central Government is concerned about.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They want Congress (I) Ministry...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: My first sentence was that Hon. Chatterjee sometimes makes statements which are theoretically correct. But sometimes he makes statements which are in fact of right diagnosis, one diagnosis he has himself given. I never said that Congress (I) Government should be there. I have only said that if you see your period, you have generated minus points.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Now the cat is out of the bag.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The humour is inseparable so far as the working of parliamentary democracy is concerned. You should take it in that way. If I could understand you correctly, speaking on behalf of the Union Government, you assured that if they are helpful or earnest in creating a favourable climate and their Government does play its expected role, you will also not lag behind and reciprocate. Is that the attitude ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: No, Sir. I would like to clarify with your permission. That is meant for the private investment. As far as the Central investment is concerned, I have already said that West Bengal is No. 3. It is already enjoying a preferential treatment. So the Central Government might be dubbed as being discriminatory and in favour of the State of West Bengal. I have already given those data.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur) : May I ask the Hon. Minister as to what is the amount of Central investment from 1971 to 1981 ? Can you give this figure ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: I am telling from 1971 to 1981 about the amount of Central investment and other particulars. We are only to take 473.70 out of Rs. 1540.39 crores. I am only talking about West Bengal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Where it was invested and in what projects ? Was it M.T.P. ? We wanted to know.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: The Hon. Member asked me a question as to what was the investment in West Bengal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I said, "Would you kindly tell us what is the Central investment in different States during the last 10 years and in West Bengal". What was the amount these State Governments spent ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA : Sir, as far as the State Government is concerned, that is not the question. I am replying on behalf of the Central Government. I have said that as on 31st March, 1980, in West Bengal.....*(Interruptions)* The list of projects is not with me.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Let him assure us.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA : I only advise the Hon. Member to go to the Library and see Four Volumes of the publications known as the "Public Sector Under takings in India", and he will get all the data—not only for 1980 but for all these years.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is a dangerous thing. I want your protection. Specifically pertaining to the Resolution, I asked something. He is asking me to go to the Library. Is this an answer to the debate? Then, let us all go to the Library and find out. No question need be put and answered here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the materials are not readily available.....

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Sir, it is a public document. I have given all the details.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But referring to the Library is somewhat not...
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your own time and then you supply.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA : The Hon. Member may not go to the Library at all. The Hon. Member may not have to take the trouble of going to the Library. These Four Volumes are distributed to the Members of Parliament. They are also available in my own Library. I will lend them to him also. All the details about Central Government Undertakings are given in Four Volumes.

I have already replied to each and every point raised by the Hon. Member. I have clarified the data quoted by them and corrected the data. In view of all that, I would

suggest that they would withdraw the Resolution.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry that the Hon. Minister could not really realise the spirit in which I moved the resolution. As has been amply made clear, my intention was not of a confrontation but merely to persuade the Government of India as to the need for having a new policy towards West Bengal and other States having regard to the special nature of problems that they are facing today. But the reply is not only unsympathetic, unhelpful, perfunctory but positively hostile.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time will you take?

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I shall conclude by 5.25 P.M. I am also very much interested in the next resolution to be moved.

The Hon. Minister has said that he has got in his possession certain very relevant facts and statistics to counter my allegations. I never used the word "allegation" earlier. Now I am saying that these are not only allegations and charges but the Government of India has got nothing to counter those charges. As for example, let us see the *per capita* investment in West Bengal during the Sixth Five Year Plan. Here is the reply given by the Minister of Planning. It has been admitted that during the year 1981-82, the *per capita* planning assistance from the Centre is Rs. 46 to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 41 to Gujarat, Rs. 46 to Haryana, Rs. 57 to Karnataka, Rs. 35 to Maharashtra, Rs. 47 to Punjab, Rs. 48 to Rajasthan, Rs. 45 to Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 32 to West Bengal.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: This is planning assistance.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: They have agreed; this is the reply given. He

[Shri Chitta Basu]

was assuming that West Bengal has not been done any injustice, rather it has been given a favourable treatment. Does this figure prove it? I have not collected this figure nor I am required to go to the Library. I very often to the Library. In preparing my notes, I have gone to the Library and gone through the available publications of the Government.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Since he became a Minister, he has stopped reading anything except those things which are prepared for him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has got his own library.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They are prepared and given to him. He only reads them out.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He has got his own library, his own statistics; he has got his own method of giving it.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He has got his own press to print them.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He did not meet any of the points. I have mentioned 14 instances of discrimination; I am prepared to give them to him the 14 specific instances of discrimination by the Government of India in the policy matter with regard to West Bengal. Apart from hostile and unsympathetic attitude towards the particular projects submitted by the Government of West Bengal, what have they done? Not a word has been said about those, and he does not care to know about those. For a long period of time, for more than three months, they could not even collect the figures, to give proper information to the House. Had I been furnished with cogent argu-

ments and statistics and figures, I could have gone to the people of my State saying, "This is the state of affairs; this is the policy thrust; now you decide whether it is for your benefit or not". But he has chosen not to reply anything. He has mentioned about the Central investment in the State. My charge is that—let them take note of it—during the period 1971-1981, there has been no Central investment in the State of West Bengal except the Metropolitan Transport Project and that also to the tune of, as far as I remember, not more than Rs. 129 crores—the project estimate was Rs. 500 crores and it is likely to escalate to Rs. 1000 crores. (*Interruptions*) I ask them: would they place on the Table of the House a list of the Central sector project investment which has been done in the State of West Bengal during the period 1971-81? Do you accept it? My charge is that there has been no investment except Rs. 129 crores in M.T.P.

He has referred to sickness. Sickness has not been the result of the policy pursued by the Government of West Bengal. The present West Bengal Government came to power in 1977. Would he kindly furnish the House with figures how many of these 20,000 small units in West Bengal fell sick before 1977?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many were closed and how many we have opened since then.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: As a matter of fact, as far as I remember—let us be miserly in our estimate—more than fifty units which were sick have been restored to health by the State Government of West Bengal without their assistance.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: All of them are functioning well.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I want to ask—what is sickness due to? I say

that sickness in big industries is due to the mismanagement.

Who operates the Company Law ?

Is it the State Government or the Central Government which operates the Company Law ? (*Interruptions*)

श्री सोमनाथ चटर्जी : टेप-रिकार्डर चला दोजिये ।

सभापति महोदय : यहां तो टेप-रिकार्डर प्लाउड नहीं है ।

श्री सोमनाथ चटर्जी : मि० व्यास टेप-रिकार्डर हैं ।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : सारी इंडस्ट्रीज भाग रही हैं, इनकी गलती से ।

श्री सोमनाथ चटर्जी : एक भी नहीं भागा ।

SHRICHITA BASU: Why don't you take any preventive action against such mismanagement of the big industrial houses? Why have you failed to modernise the industries? Why have you allowed the jute barons to divert their capital to other industries—industries other than jute? Mr. Jyoti Basu is not in a position to do anything. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is for the third time that we hear. It seems Mr. Vyas is a friend of the jute barons.

हमसे जो पैसा ले जाते हैं ।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : गलत है यह गलत है ।

SHRICHITA BASU: Therefore, Sir, the sickness of industries in West Bengal is not due to the policy of West Bengal Government but due to the deliberate policy of the Government of India. Sir, before I conclude.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Say, in conclusion.

SHRI CHITA BASU: Sir, in conclusion, I see that the Government of India continues to follow the policy of discrimination and hostility towards the Government of West Bengal and I warn them that unless they change their attitude, it is the people of West Bengal who will teach them a proper lesson at the appropriate time.

I am here not to beg from you. I am not here as a sycophant. I am here in my own right in this august House to place before you and the Government, the agencies of West Bengal and I have done. It is for you to decide as to how you will respond. It is for you to choose but, if you choose the path of insensitiveness, you will have to pay for it; if you respond, West Bengal people will also respond to you.

Sir, the choice lies with you and not with me. Let them decide upon the choice. Thank you.

I now commend my Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Resolution to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"This House recommends that urgent steps be taken to set up certain industrial projects under the Central Sector like petrochemical complex at Haldia, as proposed by the Government of West Bengal, without further delay for the overall industrial development of that State."

The motion was negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the Resolution by Shri Lawrence.