

मास्टर प्लान तैयार करने वाले अफसरान बर्गर रह को अपने कमिटमेंट्स और एशोरेंसिज भेजे या नहीं; अगर नहीं भेजे, तो क्यों नहीं।

شری اسحاق سمبھلی: میں یہ جانا چاہتا ہوں کہ جس وقت ماسٹر پلان تیار ہو رہا تھا، تو کیا اس وقت منسٹری نے ماسٹر پلان تیار کر لیے والے افسران وغیرہ کو ایسے کمیٹینٹس اور ایسورنس تو بھیجے یا نہیں اگر نہیں بھیجے تو کیوں نہیں

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : I am not in a position to say anything. In 1962 I was not in charge.

श्री इसहाक सम्भली : स्पीकर साहब, यह तो कोई जवाब नहीं है।

شری اسحاق سمبھلی: سپیکر صاحب یہ تو کوئی جواب نہیں ہے

MR. SPEAKER : Assurances given by Government continue, whichever Government may come to office. Government may change, but assurance continue.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : (Kanpur) Mr. Mehr Chand Khanna did not fulfil the assurances given and that is why he lost.

SHRI ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE : Even the recommendations of the Chanda Committee have not been implemented so far,

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : That is the left-over problem, which was referred to by the hon. Member.

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर कोई मिनिस्टर 1962 में मिनिस्टर नहीं था, जो डिपार्टमेंट तो उस समय भी था। इस लिए यह कहने का कोई अर्थ नहीं है कि यह उस समय मिनिस्टर नहीं थे।

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : I only said that I am not now in a position to say anything about it.

18:40 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA—
Contd.

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha :—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 5 Bill, 1968, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December, 1968, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 6 Bill, 1968, which was passed by the Lok

Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December 1968 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

18.41 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION Closed Textile Mills

MR. SPEAKER : The Half-an-Hour discussion is arising out of an answer given by the Minister about textile mills. Shri Kandappan raised it yesterday. I allowed him to do it and the Minister replied to it. Evidently, Shri Damani was not here yesterday. There is a subject which is coming up almost every month. Anyways, instead of spending half an hour over this, as Shri Sambhali cooperated, you also raise it in two minutes and the Minister will give you information if there is any.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI (Sholapur) : Sir, I am very grateful to you for allowing me to place the difficult position of the textile industry before the House. The textile industry is situated in nearly all parts of the country and the mills which are closed down at present are mostly in small towns. The spinning mills are also situated in mofussil areas. The economy of those small towns entirely depends on the employment given by textile mills. Therefore, those towns have suffered a great set-back due to the closure of those mills. As you have asked me to be very brief, I will not elaborate too much but I am going to touch some important points which have caused the difficult position of the textile industry.

The main reasons which have got the industry in a difficult position are firstly, substantial increase in the cost of production; secondly, heavy and irrational excise duty policy; thirdly, inadequate funds for modernisation; fourthly, competition from man made fibres; and fifthly, slackness in internal demand.

Regarding substantial increase in the cost of production, I would like to mention that the index number of cotton, which is the raw materials for yarn and cloth, in 1963 was 177 and it has gone up to 173

in 1968. That means there was an increase of 48 per cent in the price of cotton. Cotton constitutes fifty per cent in the price of cloth produced and this is reflected in an increase of 20 per cent in the price of cloth.

Coming to wages, wages constitute about 25 per cent of the cost of production of cloth and yarn. The increase in wages in the last five years in Bombay was 61 per cent, Ahmedabad 67 per cent, Madras 41 per cent, Kanpur 50 per cent, Delhi 64 per cent and Bengal 65 per cent. This has increased the cost of production of cloth by 15 to 16 per cent.

Twenty per cent increase in cotton prices and 15 to 16 per cent in wages, in total 36 per cent increases has taken place in the cost of production of cloth and yarn. Against this, the index number of cloth prices-whatever figures I am giving are from Government statistics-in 1963 was 132 and now in 1968 is 156. The increase in the sale price of cloth is twenty per cent against the rise of 36 to 40 per cent in the cost of production. That means, the industry has to absorb 15 to 16 per cent of the cost of production. That has brought the industry to this present condition. This is one substantial reason why the cost has gone up and the industry is suffering.

Secondly, I have mentioned excise duty as one of the main reasons which have put the industry in a difficult position. Excise duty in 1955-56 was only Rs. 28 crores; now it has gone up to Rs. 117 crores an increase of about 4 times whereas production has gone up only 25 per cent. So, this has also put a burden on the textile industry.

About the profitability, I would like to give the Reserve Bank figures which have been published recently. In 1960-61, the total production was 611 crores and profit before tax was about 45 crores. Now, in 1967-68, the production has gone up to 901 crores and profit has come down to only Rs. 17 crores. While the production has gone up, the profit has gone down. At that time, the percentage of profit was 7 per cent and now it has come down to 2 per cent only. The margin of profit has gone down.