

below Rs. 40. To that extent, the interests of the growers will be protected.

SHRI P. G. SEN: Is it not a fact there is no buyer in the market? Neither the mill-owners nor the S.T.C. is buying raw jute.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: This is a beginning of many strikes of this kind and the Government has a machinery and all these things are determined by adjudication at a legal level. I would like to ask the Government whether they are aware that the price of jute is going to be raised and of other commodities also in consequence and, if so, why do they not go in for adjudication.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: There has been no increase in the price of jute. As for the process of adjudication or arbitration or negotiation, in any strike, that matter is gone into right since the strike begins.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I presume that the Government is as interested in earning foreign exchange as the industry is in selling its goods and earning profit. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he feels that there is any substance in the industry's longstanding complaint that it is precisely because of the high level of export duty that they are losing their markets abroad and if they are losing markets, the Government is also losing foreign exchange. What is the Government's view of this? Do they consider the prevailing level of export duty to be so high that it is for that reason we are losing our jute market abroad.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: In the last Budget, this question was considered and to the extent the export duty was coming in the way of its competitiveness, a corrective action was taken. Even today, there is a difference between the cost structure as given by the Jute Mills' Association and the Jute Commissioner. Secondly, the main factor that is coming in the way is the competitiveness that is offered by the synthetics in the American markets.

To that extent, the jute products which are exported have to be competitive and, from that point of view, since there is a difference in the Jute Mills' Association and the Jute Commissioner's cost statistics, the whole matter is being looked into by the Tariff Commission. We can have the whole picture of it only when the report comes.

Restrictions on Stock of Cotton held by Cotton Mills

+
*634. **SHRI G. C. NAIK:**
SHRI S. XAVIER:
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:
SHRI R. K. AMIN:
SHRI J. MOHAMMED IMAM:
SHRI D. R. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down any rules in regard to the stock holding and purchase of cotton by the various textile mills in the country:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether reports have been received that certain mills are not adhering to these rules:

(d) whether Government have established contacts with the Indian Cotton Mills Federation in this regard with a view to ensuring that mills do not hold stocks of cotton in excess of the prescribed limit; and

(e) whether these curbs have given rise to certain difficulties for the textile industry and resulted in lay-off of workers and if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Cotton Control Order, 1955 contains provisions empowering the Textile Commissioner to regulate purchases and stocking of cotton. While Textile Commissioner has not prescribed any limits or conditions for purchase of cotton, he has fixed stock limits for cotton.

(b) There is considerable fluctuation in the level of cotton production giving rise to variations in the availability and prices of cotton. Statutory provisions for the regulation of stock holding and purchases of cotton help in the orderly marketing and equitable distribution of the available quantities of cotton at reasonable prices.

(c) No complaints have been received recently.

(d) It has not been found necessary to make contracts with I.C.M.F. for enforcement of cotton stock limits.

(e) No, Sir.

SHRI G. C. NAIK: May I know what is the total stock position of cotton with the textile mills as of today, what is the total installed capacity of various textile mills, what is the percentage of utilisation of installed capacity and why there is no utilisation of the installed capacity? I would like to know from the Minister whether it is due to the availability of cotton or otherwise.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This question involves collection of statistics. If the hon. Member gives me notice, I will collect the information and supply it.

MR. SPEAKER: There are six names clubbed together for this question. I see that a number of other friends also are very anxious to ask questions. What to do in such cases? This is a problem. . .

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Let those six be called first (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not deny them the right to ask questions. I see Mr. Banerjee and some other friends getting up. I would advise them not to get up till the list is finished.

Mr. Naik may ask his second question. He is asking questions calling for too many statistics. I would request him to ask a question which is relevant to the main question.

SHRI G. C. NAIK: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been invited to a survey on

cotton textile manufacturing companies for the year 1967-68 as published in the *Economic Times* of 30th May 1969 wherein it has been brought out that as many as eighty textile mills closed down and another thirty per cent of the total installed capacity remained unutilised and that the profits of textile mills in general have considerably dwindled in the recent past, and if so, the reasons therefor?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is a fact that a number of mills closed down. We have given the number of such mills repeatedly in this House. The spindles may be unutilised. But I can tell the hon. Member that any allocation of cotton, particularly the global cotton, is done on a systematic basis; the spindle capacity is taken into consideration in allocating the cotton which is imported from outside.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: May I know whether it is a fact that the limit prescribed for stock holding does not allow the mills to ensure adequate stock to meet the requirements between the end of a season and the beginning of a new season. As you say, you do not allow them to hold stock and purchase beyond the limit prescribed. Does it lead to the mills purchasing and allowing the stock to remain with the traders?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have received complaints that certain mills, particularly the mills which are more affluent, which can afford, keep their stocks with traders. But as this is an informal arrangement, we cannot trace it, how actually the position stands. But this is quite possible.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: What about the first part of my question? The limit prescribed does not allow the mills to ensure adequate stock between the end of the season and the beginning of the new season.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: At a particular moment they can keep the stock that is prescribed—upto 2 1/2 months or four months.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: That does not ensure them between the end of the season and the beginning of the new season.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: For that I will have to look into the chart of every mill at the end and at the beginning.

SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM: If the textile industry is to survive, if the textile mills are to survive, it is necessary that each mill keeps sufficient quantity of cotton. It is admitted that there is shortage of cotton in the country and it is necessary to import cotton from other countries. May I know what arrangements have been made to supplement the production of cotton in India with imported cotton and from which country they have been obtaining this cotton and what arrangements have been made?

Secondly, how is this imported cotton distributed among the various mills? Is it being done on a judicious and equitable manner?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: According to the estimate of the Food and Agriculture Ministry upto date this year's indigenous cotton production will be higher than last year's by 3-4 lakhs bales. Even then we are arranging import of about 4 lakhs bales of global cotton and 2.5 lakhs bales of PL 480 cotton if the latter is available and is authorised by the United States Government.

SHRI RANGA: What about the distribution? He has put a question—is there any system by which there would be equitable distribution between the various cotton mills in the different parts of India?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: About the distribution of global cotton that is imported, the policy has been announced. It is on the spindleship basis. Then there is a special allocation for co-operative mills. All that policy has been announced. It is on the same basis as for the last year.

As for the indigenous cotton, the mills can buy and keep stock; that is permissible.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would like to know whether it is within the knowledge of the hon Minister that most of the textile mills which are producing medium and coarse yarn are in the grip of a crisis; if so, some of the mills which were closed have to be taken over by the Textile Corporation. I would like to know whether any steps have been taken to see that these mills are taken over by the Textile Corporation and if so, the number of mills which have been taken over.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have given that information earlier—the number of mills which are closed and which are weak.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: That is long ago.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: If the hon. Member puts a question, I can give the information again. But I do not have the exact number as to how many. I can give the number subject to correction, if the hon. Member wants, 15 mills are under the Authorised Controllers before the Corporation came. 4 Mills have been taken over by the Corporation. 7 are under consideration. This is the present position. This may change as per the report of the Investigation Commission.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नैस्ट क्वेश्चन ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कलुबाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रारम्भ में ही खड़ा हो रहा हूँ, लेकिन आप ने मुझे मौका नहीं दिया। इस प्रश्न से मेरा सम्बन्ध है।

MR. SPEAKER: What can the Chair do? Six members club into one and then a number of members from outside this bracket also ask questions. I have been hardly able to do 4 questions a day.

श्री हुकम बन्द कड़वाय : आप ने अन्य सदस्यों को भी बुलाया है। मैं तो शुरू से ही खड़ा हो रहा हूँ।

संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में तिब्बत का मामला उठाया जाना

+

636. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :

श्री शिवकुमार शास्त्री :

श्री बेनी शंकर शर्मा :

क्या बंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या तिब्बत के मामले को संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में उठाने के बारे में कुछ समय पूर्व प्राप्त हुए प्रस्तावों पर सरकार ने इस बीच विचार कर लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में क्या निर्णय किया गया है ; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इस बारे में निर्णय न लिये जाने के कारण तिब्बतियों की संस्कृति, सभ्यता और धर्म पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ रहा है ?

बंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री विनेश सिंह) :

(क) और (ख) - तिब्बत में मानवाधिकार के दमन के प्रश्न को भारत को संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा के अगले अधिवेशन में उठाना चाहिए या नहीं, इस बारे में सरकार विचार कर रही है।

(ग) तिब्बत में तिब्बती लोगों की संस्कृति, सभ्यता और धर्म की रक्षा करने का दायित्व तिब्बत के लोगों और चीन लोक गणराज्य की सरकार पर है। हमें यह जानकर बड़ा दुःख हुआ है कि तिब्बती लोगों के अधिकारों का हनन किया जा रहा है और हमें उनसे सहानुभूति है।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सत्य है जैसा

मंत्री महोदय ने अभी कहा कि वहाँ भ्रष्टाचार पराकाष्ठा को पहुँच गया है और शायद इसी का परिणाम यह है कि श्री पच्छेन लामा जिन के बारे में किसी प्रकार की कोई जानकारी नहीं है, क्या उन की मृत्यु कर दी गई है अथवा उन को किसी ऐसी जगह पर ले जा कर रख दिया गया है जहाँ में उन के बारे में किसी को कोई जानकारी न हो सके ? और दूसरी बात — जैसा अभी आपने कहा कि संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघ के अगले अधिवेशन में इस सवाल को उठाया जाये इस प्रश्न पर भारत सरकार अभी विचार कर रही है तो इतनी टाँकरें खाने के बाद सरकार कब तक विचार करती रहेगी ? क्या सरकार की नीति में कोई परिवर्तन होने की संभावना है ?

श्री विनेश सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पच्छेन लामा के संबंध में कोई निश्चित सूचना हमारे पास नहीं है। यह हम ने अवश्य सुना है कि वह चीन में जहाँ पर नजरबन्द थे वहाँ से वह बाहर कहीं निकल गए हैं लेकिन वह कहाँ गए हैं इस के बारे में सरकार को कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सवाल तो बिल्कुल स्पष्ट था कि जो इन्होंने कहा था कि अगले अधिवेशन में तिब्बत के सवाल को संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघ में उठाने के संबंध में भारत सरकार विचार कर रही है तो क्या दृष्टिकोण भारत सरकार के रास्ते में अभी भी ऐसी है कि जो सरकार विचार ही कर रही है और मानवाधिकार के प्रश्न को भी वहाँ नहीं उठा सकती ?

श्री विनेश सिंह : माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं कि कई सालों से यह मामला संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में उठा नहीं है और जब तक कि काफी देर उस के लिए तैयार न हो कि यह मामला उठाया जाय और इस के बारे में बहस हो तब तक खाली हमारे ... (व्यवधान) ...