

becomes a success it would not be advisable to go in for another venture of a similar kind without acquiring enough experience.

**SHRI R. K. BIRLA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister just now said something about Kandla port. He said that the business is picking up there. I would like to ask him whether he knows that at the Kandla Port silting is developing so fast that after ten year's time it is not going to function at all.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Here the question is about the trade and not about silting.

**SHRI R. K. BIRLA :** When there is no port, how can the trade pick up at all ?

**SHRI S. KUNDU :** Mr. Speaker, is the Minister aware that the traders, particularly, from the South-Eastern countries, do not stick to specifications and also to the time or date of supply ? And therefore, there have been lots of protests regarding such dealings. And there are delays in replying to some of the queries made by the Indian traders and business men. I can give you a case of a small industry—M/s. Shiv Dayal and Sons.—who have written a letter to the Embassy there on 1-4-70 enquiring about certain export promotion cases. So far, they have not received any reply. You know, Sir, that the small industries who are exporting goods worth Rs. 30,000 to 35,000, face lot of difficulty.

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT :** We can certainly look into these individual cases. But, it is our policy that when a contract is entered into, that must be fulfilled. This is a very important thing both in terms of quality as well as in terms of delivery schedule. And there have been cases recently not only with this region but also with the other regions where a contract was entered into previously but because of the shortage of raw materials like steel, for example—this is an overall shortage—a number of export units have come to me, to the Ministry, saying that they are finding some difficulties in getting raw materials supply. We are trying to help them.

These are some of the difficulties coming in. But, it is very important that whenever a contract is entered into, it must be fulfilled and every effort should be made to fulfil that.

### Export of Lac

\*1748. **SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** Will the Minister for FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of lac exported during the last 3 years, year-wise ;

(b) the quantity and value of lac exported from Bihar and West Bengal during the last 3 years, year-wise ;

(c) whether the Indian Lac Development Council at its third meeting held at Ranchi (Bihar), recently, decided unanimously to recommend to Government to establish an agency to purchase all available Lac at minimum price by Government if and when prices start falling below the minimum price ; and

(d) if so, the action, if any, taken thereon ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) :** (a) Year-wise export figures for the last three years are given below :

Year	Quantity	Value
	(Tonnes)	(Rs. lakhs)
1966-67	15,856	589
1967-68	15,391	515
1968-69	17,714	505

(b) Statewise export figures are not maintained.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal is under the consideration of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** This lac industry brings a subsidiary income of Rs. 5 millions mostly through the tribals and other backward classes. And the foreign exchange earned through lac is declining from Rs. 8 crores to Rs. 5 crores due to the wonderful performance of this ministry.

May I therefore ask the hon. Minister whether in industrial items which are generally lac-based, the Government has any scheme for creation of such industries in this country ?

As per the recommendations of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics on lac, what are the numerous uses that are made out of lac ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) :** Lac is used for a number of items ranging from products like insulators and various other things. I do not have the list with me. But, if the hon. Member asks for such a list, we shall certainly give it at a later stage.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** You have missed my point. What steps are you taking to create such industries in this country so that lac can be consumed ?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT :** It is a very vital question. Actually, the reasons for the fall in our exports as well as in production are the competition from synthetics and various other things and also the fact that the bulk of the producers are tribal people and they have no holding capacity. That is one reason why the whole thing has to be organised. The marketing and other aspects have got to be strengthened, and through research and other things, certain product development should take place, and we are engaged in this. But I can appreciate the hon. Member's anxiety that in this respect we have not made much progress, but we hope that in the coming years, due to investments and research, we shall make progress in this direction.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** What about newer uses of lac ? He did not answer that part. That is the recommendation of the Lac Research Institute.

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT :** Firstly, the newer uses have to be discovered and tested and proved through research. Secondly, they have to be produced after investment. That was what I was dealing with.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** Nothing has been done. That has been proved now. The hon. Minister himself has admitted that nothing has been done.

Now, I shall put my second question.

**MR. SPEAKER :** I thought that he had put his second question already.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** No, it was only part (a) and part (b) of the first question. Today is the last day of the session, and we would not be worrying you for another two months.

The Third Plan proposed to have 112 State brood-lac farms. How many of them have been created, and if the full number has not been created, what is the reason for it ? I would also like to know whether Government are going to nationalise the marketing trade in lac ?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT :** I need notice of the question.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** I think we made a mistake by giving them the budget grants. They are doing nothing at all. They are sitting in Delhi with cool comforts and are doing nothing at all. The others are getting ruined thereby. The hon. Minister himself comes from Bihar, and he knows that the whole thing is in the hands of the tribals and the backward classes, and those people are being ruined altogether. Shame on this Government !

**श्री क० ना० तिवारी :** क्या यह सही है कि लाख इंडस्ट्री बिहार और बंगाल में है जिस से गरीब लोग अपनी आजीविका पैदा करते हैं, लेकिन वह लोग अपने पेड़ों को काट रहे हैं क्यों कि इन की कीमत बहुत ज्यादा गिर गयी है। इसलिये इस के भाव न गिरें और वह गरीब लोग पैसा कमा सकें इसके लिये सरकार क्या इतजाम कर रही है। और क्या बेज प्राइसेज निश्चित करने के बारे में भी सरकार विचार करेगी ?

**श्री ब० रा० भगत :** जी हां, यह दिक्कत वहां है, खास कर गरीब आदिवासी उस में काम करते हैं, उनके सामने यह दिक्कत थी। तो फूड ऐंड ऐग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री ने एक कमेटी बैठायी, हाई पावर कमेटी...

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :** What are the nationalised banks doing ?

**श्री ब० रा० भगत :** हाई पावर कमेटी बैठायी थी ताकि उनकी जो कीमत मिलायी

चाहिए वह सही मिलनी चाहिये और वह कीमत रेग्यूलरेटिव हो। यह भी कहा गया कि बफर स्टॉक लाख का बनाना चाहिये ताकि उचित कीमत पर उन से ले कर बफर स्टॉक बनायें। बफर स्टॉक के बारे में उन की सिफारिश है। इन सब बातों पर खाद्य तथा कृषि मन्त्रालय विचार कर रहा है और उस को लागू करने की कोशिश कर रहा है।

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the marketing in lac in the district of Purulia in West Bengal and the adjacent areas of Bihar is dominated entirely by middle-men who fleece the poor producers and deprive them of economic prices. The hon. Minister has said that the matter of setting up a purchasing agency which will purchase at economic prices is under consideration. We would like to know from him whether Government have in mind that the S.T.C. should enter this field of marketing of lac or whether they are thinking of any other type of purchasing agency and if so, by when such an agency will be set up and whether the profiteering role of the middle-men will be eliminated.

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT :** All this was considered by the committee which was appointed by the Food and Agriculture Ministry and some of the recommendations of that committee are on the lines of what the hon. Member has said, such, as middle-men should be eliminated, lac producers capacity should be increased and they should be given remunerative prices, purchasing and marketing structure should be strengthened and so on. These are all being considered by the Food and Agriculture Ministry.

#### अन्नक सलाहकार समिति

1749. श्री रामाबलार शास्त्री : क्या बेंबेशिक व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अन्नक का निर्यात बढ़ाने तथा इस उद्योग का विकास करने की दृष्टि से सरकार ने अन्नक सलाहकार समिति गठित की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस समिति के कितने सदस्य है ब्रथा उनके नाम क्या हैं ;

(ग) क्या उपरोक्त समिति ने इस सम्बन्ध में कोई कार्यक्रम तैयार किया है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ङ) उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

बेंबेशिक व्यापार मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री राम सेवक) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है।

(ग) से (ङ). समिति के प्रतिवेदन की प्रतीक्षा है।

#### विवरण

- |    |                           |         |
|----|---------------------------|---------|
| 1. | श्री सी० एम० मोडावल,      | अध्यक्ष |
|    | निदेशक, गुण नियन्त्रण,    |         |
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| 2. | खान तथा धातु विभाग        | सदस्य   |
|    | का प्रतिनिधि              |         |
| 3. | खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार     | "       |
|    | निगम का प्रतिनिधि         |         |
| 4. | श्री एस० बी० राय, उप-     |         |
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|    | गवेषणा संस्थान, याववपुर   |         |
|    | विश्वविद्यालय, कलकत्ता    | "       |
| 5. | श्री धार० जी० धरवाल,      |         |
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|    | हजारी बाग, बिहार।         | "       |
| 6. | श्री एम० धार० रेड्डी,     |         |
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|    | नेलोर, आन्ध्र प्रदेश।     | "       |
| 7. | श्री एस० एस० मानसिंहका    |         |
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|    | बिष्वाच।                  | "       |