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Shri Manubhai Shah: Generally, no cloth can be made for human apparel from jute. We are certainly trying to diversify so that goods of the type such as upholstery, covers and various types of hanging curtains are made of jute. But today we are not surplus in jute in that respect. We can still export more and also meet the domestic requirements of hessian and sacking which are increasing.

Dr. Ranen Sen: May I know if the Government of India is aware that the Jute Enquiry Committee set up by the Government of West Bengal fixed the minimum price of raw jute at Rs. 35 per maund, and if so, what is the reason of the Government of India for lowering the price?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am afraid there was no such price fixed. There have been different committees which have recommended, from different sectional interests, the price of raw jute. As an hon. Member earlier on said, the industry thinks that this price is too high; the growers interests in the past put up the prices at different levels. But, after consideration, the Government decided the policy which was announced last year, and that was that the price should be Rs. 30 per maund. That operational price continues today for the current season and there is no change.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: The minimum price of Rs. 30 hardly reaches the grower and it reaches only the middle purchaser. If that is so, may I know what steps are the Government taking to see that that price reaches the grower?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what I explained: the co-operative societies are being strengthened now. The Natural Co-operative Marketing Federation is also entering the market for purchase. The State Trading Corporation will be the overall agency to hold this buffer-stock in co-operation with the Indian Jute Mills Association over and above their own JBSA. The entire scheme of things is to ensure that the grower gets the maximum benefit of the operational price.

Oral Answers

सेठ प्रचल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जिस तरीके से काक्तकारों के लिए कैंश केडिट प्राप्त करने के लिए ग्रानाज के लिए गोडाउन खोले गए हैं. क्या उसी तरह जूट के लिए भी गोडाउन खोले गए हैं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाहः जी हां ।

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Since the agency which was set up for buildingup buffer-stock has not worked satisfactorily, is it the intention of the Government to utilise the co-operatives in the building up of bufferstocks?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes.

G Export of Films to Pakistan

*852. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the effect, if any, the total Pakistan ban on the import of films from India has had on the Indian Film Industry?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): The curbs on the import of Indian films into Pakistan began to be placed by the Pakistan Government about the year 1954, with the result that Indian earnings from this source declined from about Rs. 15 lakhs in 1954 to about Rs. 3.3 lakhs in 1961. The total earnings from Indian films sent abroad. however, rose from about Rs. 97 lakhs in 1954 to about Rs. 163 lakhs in 1961. Thus, although the income of about Rs. 3.3 lakhs is likely to be affected as a result of the total ban imposed recently, it does not form a significant part of our total export earnings. The film industry in Bengal will be specially affected because their films had a good market in East Pakistan.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: May l know what further steps are being

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taken to establish other foreign markets for our film?

Shri Sham Nath: Our efforts in this regard are always continuing.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any reasons have been given for the total ban on the import of our Indian films there?

Shri Sham Nath: No reasons are given, but the reasons are obvious. As a matter of fact, a committee was appointed—Film Fact-finding Committee by the Pakistan Government which recommended that there should be a total ban on the import of Indian films into Pakistan.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Does the Government propose to give any subsidy to Indian producers to dub Indian films in Arabic and Persian so that they may find a good market in the eastern countries?

Shri Sham Nath: That is a different matter. But whatever encouragement we can possibly give to Indian producers, we are always willing to give.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन : क्या इस संबंध में पाकिस्तान सरकार से कोई पत्र-व्यवहार किया गया था ; यदि हा. तो उन्होंने इस संबंध में क्या उत्तर दिया था?

श्री शाम नाथ : जिस वक्त जनवरी के महीने में यह बैन लगाया गया, तो इंडियन हाई कमिञ्नर ने पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट को प्रोटेस्ट किया और मार्ब के महींने में एक ऐड मेम्बार (aide memoire) भी उन को दिया । उस के बाद ब्रसल्ज में हमारे ट्रेड रिप्रेजन्टेटिव ने पाकिस्तान के रिप्रेजेन्टेटिव से बातचीत की और उन्होंने यह कहा कि हम इस मामले को देखेंगे ।

श्वी रघुनाय सिंह: मैं यह जानना चाहता हं कि पाकिस्तान ने सिर्फ हिन्दुस्तान की फ़िल्मों को ही बैन किया है या ब्रोर देशों की फ़िलमों को भो बैन किया है ? Shri Sham Nath: I am not aware about this, but I think they want to protect their own industry and because Indian films compete with their films, therefore probably the ban has been imposed on the import of Indian films only.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May 1 know what are the African countries which are importing our films and whether Pakistan has put some ban on the export of films to African countries?

Shri Sham Nath: I am not aware of that.

Indian Fishermen Killed by Pakistani

*853. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 297 on the 14th August, 1962 and state:

(a) whether any monetary compensation has been demanded from the Government of Pakistan for the family members of the two fishermen who were killed by Pakistan border Forces by firing on or about the 28th July, 1962, and

(b) whether any reply has been received from the Government of Pakistan to this demand for compensation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Adequate compensation has been formally demanded on behalf of the fishermen killed and injured from the Pakistan Government. Their reply is still awaited, and we are continuing to press the Pakistan Government in the matter.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: In view of the fact that many of our protests about these shootings and demands for compensation have remained unreplied to till now, may I know whether Government are thinking of taking some steps on our side of the border, particularly in the riverine