

Shri Tyagi: The hon. Minister has stated that the manufacture of ammunition is in the public sector. May I know if one foreign firm known as the Imperial Chemicals or some thing does enjoy a monopoly in this manufacture and if it is in the public sector? It is in the private sector.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The hon. Member has slightly mixed up these things. What the ICI is doing is in regard to the pests, for agricultural purposes, and not for ammunition or any shotgun or cartridges. They have what is called detonators. But the question here is concerned with rifles and shot-guns and cartridges and their bores.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Are the Government aware that the foreign tourists who are encouraged to come to India for hunting face a great deal of difficulties in obtaining cartridges of their requirements here and, if so, what arrangements are the Government making to meet their requirements?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have already explained this.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether Govt. is aware that when sports—small and big games—are arranged for both Indian and foreign sportsmen, there is a shortage of these cartridges and whether arrangements will be made to provide the companies that organise and arrange sports with cartridges?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have already explained the position. As a matter of fact, the recent decisions taken between the Defence Ministry and our Ministry are to increase the production considerably in these sectors, so that not only the demands in India will be met, but in South-East Asia also, the demand for these rifles and shot-guns is very large. I am glad to say that the Defence Ministry has accepted the need for an accelerated production, so that a portion may be exported also.

डा० गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि खमरिया जबलपुर फैक्ट्री में यह उत्पादन हर साल बढ़ रहा है और कई प्रकार के नये कारतूस भी वहां बनाये गये हैं? और क्या यह आशा की जा सकती है, जैसा कि अभी मंत्री जी ने कहा, कि यह उत्पादन इतना बढ़ा जायेगा कि अगले एक या दो वर्षों में हम इस प्रकार का सामान बाहर भेज सकेंगे ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैं ने अभी बतलाया कि यह सही है ।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह जानकारी है कि एक तरफ तो इस तरह के कारतूस बाजार में साधारण लोगों को नहीं मिलते और दूसरी तरफ वह राइफल क्लब्स स्टेट्स में दिये जा रहे हैं और वे काले बाजार में उन्हें बेच रहे हैं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैं ने इस के संबंध में सब बात बतला दी हैं ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In the statement it is said that the demands of civil indentors would be adequately met by the production in the ordnance factories. I want to know to what extent imports have been reduced as a result of stepping up production?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is a total ban on imports of all cartridges, shot-guns, etc. In the case of those which are old and which have gone out of use, because we cannot take up all the lines of mass production, we will allow a small import quota of a restricted nature to put those guns into commission. For the rest, we want to be self-sufficient and also have some exports.

Import of Raw Cashewnuts

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{ **Shri Warrior:**
*622. { **Shri M. K. Kumaran:**
 { **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3208 on the 15th June, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the scheme to import raw cashewnuts from Africa has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Not yet, Sir. In the meantime the exporters are receiving their imported requirements without any difficulty.

Shri Warrior: Is it a fact that owing to the shortage of these raw nuts, so many factories are going to close down in our State?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir.

Shri Warrior: It is not a fact that because of the new agreement to supply these nuts to some of the foreign countries, STC is building stocks and that is why there is shortage?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is not a fact at all. What the Government and the STC are trying to do is to come to the aid of the small processors, who cannot lock up a lot of money in order to import extensive raw materials for enlarging their exports. For that, the STC may intercede and have a small buffer-stock. For the rest of the importers, they import their own raw materials against their own export entitlement. So, there has been no crisis at all.

Shri M. K. Kumaran: In reply to the question sometime back whether the Government of Kerala have submitted a scheme to set up a corporation on their own, the Minister said that they have asked the Government of Kerala not to proceed with the scheme for the present. May I know what is the present position?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes Sir; we told them not to proceed with the scheme, because no such corporation will assist either the exporters or the manufacturers. As I said STC was prepared to proceed to create a buffer-stock. That is under contemplation and it will be very soon established.

श्री तुलसीदास जाखव : गोम्रा में कितना आयरन और तैयार होता है और उस में से कितना देश में रहता है, और कितना बाहर जाता है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : इस प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध गोम्रा से है और वह आगे आयेगा ।

Dr. P. S. Beshmukh: What is the quantity of cashewnuts that has been imported during the last five years annually and what is the average?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The average is 1,10,000 tons.

Export of Petrol and Petroleum Products from Nepal to China

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*624. { **Shrimati Renuka Ray:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Nepal is re-exporting petrol and petroleum products received from India at low rates to China; and

(b) what steps have the Government of India taken to see that the Nepalese Government does not re-export to China, petrol and petroleum products received from India?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir, It is reported that Nepalese traders have been smuggling to Tibet petrol and petroleum products received from India. Very high prices are known to have been charged for these smuggled commodities in Tibet.

(b) The Government of Nepal have already taken steps to check this illicit trade. Orders were issued recently banning the re-export of petrol and petroleum products from Nepal to other countries. The Government of India are watching the situation closely. If the leak is not plugged effectively before long, suitable steps will be taken in consultation with the Government of Nepal.