

### Green Tea

\*236. {  $\dagger$   
 Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:  
 Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantity of green tea had accumulated in various plantations, unsold and unlifted in the Doon Valley in September, 1962;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) what measures were taken to clear the accumulation?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). About 15 lakh pounds of green tea from the Doon Valley tea plantations seem to have accumulated in September, 1962.

(c) Arrangements had been made to provide additional flights of air lifting tea meant for export to Afghanistan, and the Tea Board has been advising the traders to use the sea route via Korramshar.

Shri Hem Raj: Some time ago, it was said in answer to a question that there were only 2 million pounds of tea. Actually, the tea that had accumulated in Kangra and Amritsar was more than 5 million pounds. Formerly . . .

Mr. Speaker: Is it soliciting information or giving information?

Shri Hem Raj: Formerly, bigger aircraft had been provided. Now, dakotas have been provided.

Mr. Speaker: He ought not to make a speech. What is the simple question?

Shri Hem Raj: The simple question is whether formerly bigger aircraft had been provided for lifting of the green tea and now dakotas have been provided which has affected the export?

Shri Manubhai Shah: To correct the first part of the question, there are no 3 million pounds and 5 million pounds; only 3.7 lakhs pounds of one variety and 15 lakh pounds of the other variety. Millions and lakhs may not be confused. The real point is that we have tried to marshall as many aircraft as possible between India and Afghanistan to transport the tea. Their physical availability is still difficult and there is difficulty in procuring more because Air India cannot provide more aircraft than what has been commissioned. Our constant endeavour is to see that we procure more aircraft. The depression in price is likely as aircraft transportation is more expensive than either the land route or the sea route.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know to which countries is the Doon green tea exported and who are the main competitors?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The hon. Member knows more than myself as to where the tea goes. Principally it goes to Afghanistan, the Middle Eastern countries and some to Western European countries.

Shrimati Akkamma Devi: Stocks of common tea produced by small growers in the Nilgiris remain unsold. What steps are taken by the Government to improve the sad plight of these 6,000 small growers?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have all sympathy to the hon. Lady Member's question. Last time also she made this point. Firstly, they do not remain unsold as has been felt. It is true that the planters who are small in size require the sympathy of the Government and the House. We have offered to the South Indian as well as the Coonor and Doon Valley people any amount of loan assistance. I may request the hon. Lady Member who is so much interested in the small growers to organise some co-operative sort of factory which could cure as well as pack the tea.

Shri Tulsidas Jadhav: How much of green tea is produced in India and out

of that how much is exported and how much is used in India?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Most of the tea is exported. The good things are exported because it brings foreign exchange. It is about 3 to 3½ million pounds.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन :** जहां तक हरी चाय का सम्बन्ध है, चाहे वह कांगड़े इलाके का हो चाहे देहरादून का हो या उत्तर प्रदेश के और पर्वतीय जिलों की हो, प्रति वर्ष यह समस्या सामने आती है। तो क्या इस के लिये कोई स्थायी हल अर्थात् परमानेंट सोल्यूशन ढूँढने का प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** समस्या तो बहुत है। लेकिन दरअसल जो समस्या है वह यह है कि जितनी जमीन और बढ़ाने के लिये उन को चाहिये उतनी इस एरिया में मिल नहीं रही है क्योंकि जमीन पर बहुत चीजों को डिमांड है। जहां तक डेवेलपमेंट का सवाल है हम ने पंजाब सरकार को, मद्रास सरकार को और उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार को ऐसिस्टेंस दी है ताकि वह परमानेंट सोल्यूशन हो सके। छोटे छोटे ग्रोअर्स मिल कर एक, दो या तीन कम्पनियां बना लें या कोऑपरेटिव बना लें, उन को मशीन देने, लोन देने और अलग अलग किस्म के काम करने की, जिस से अच्छी टो बन सके, कोशिश की जा रही है।

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** May I know whether this difficulty in disposing of these accumulated stocks is mainly due to the air transport difficulties or due to the fact that competition in the West Asian countries, particularly from China and Japan which are subsidising their exports of green tea, is under-cutting us in these markets, and if that is the reason, what steps are we taking to go into

the cost structure of the tea industry?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** No, as far as Afghanistan is concerned, practically, we are the sole suppliers. I had been to Kabul only a few months back. Our tea is very highly appreciated there. The difficulty is due to the land route through Pakistan having been blocked due to the circumstances known to the House. That is the major trouble. We are trying to solve it through the Korramshar route and air-flights.

#### Dispersal of Industries

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\*231. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**  
**Shri Bishanchander Seth:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri Basumatari:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1001 on the 18th August, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Committee on dispersal of industries set up by Small Scale Industries Board have been examined by Government;

(b) if so, how many of their suggestions have been accepted; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to implement them?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) to (c). The recommendations of the Committee on dispersal of industries set up by Small Scale Industries Board are still under examination by Government to fit them in the programme of intensive Rural Industrialisation undertaken by the Planning Commission.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether it is a fact that Government have established small-scale industrial estates in different States in the country, and if so, the result of their working?