

Shri C. Subramaniam: There is not much of export of cement now.

Dr. K. L. Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that excellent materials for the manufacture of cement like limestone and coal are available in plenty in Andhra Pradesh and, if so, what steps Government are taking for the fuller utilisation of these materials for the manufacture of cement?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We have licensed some new cement projects for Andhra Pradesh and we hope that they would be implemented expeditiously.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि यह कट इमलिये किया गया है कि हमारे सीमेंट के प्रोडक्शन में कमी आ गई है ? यदि हाँ तो किस लिये ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : सीमेंट के उत्पादन में कमी उसकी मांग के हिसाब से है, और इसलिये २५ फी सदी की कटौती की गई थी। लेकिन उस कटौती में से कुछ रेस्टोर की गई है।

Shri Vishram Prasad: May I know the total shortage of cement due to the national emergency? Since the public is facing great difficulty in this matter, may I know whether Government are taking any steps to meet the requirements of the country?

Shri P. C. Sethi: The effective demand during 1961-62 was estimated to be 9.25 million tons while the production was about 8.28 million tons due to the emergency also we are feeling the shortage.

Shri Vishram Prasad: What steps are the Government taking to meet the shortage?

Shri P. C. Sethi: We are expediting the implementation of projects.

Co-ordination of Civil and Defence Production

*725. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Economic and

Defence Co-ordination be pleased to refer to part 'B' item (2) of the appendix attached to the Presidential Order dated the 15th November, 1962 and state:

(a) the other subjects which have been assigned to him during the last six months; and

(b) the improvements that have been effected in the sphere of co-ordination of civil and defence production and supplies during this period?

The Minister of Economic and Defence Co-ordination (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in the library, see No. LT-1072/63.*]

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The hon. Minister, while speaking to the meeting of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power gave expression to disappointment and distress which indicated that he was entirely dissatisfied with the way in which the work was proceeding including in his own Ministry. May I know if this impression of mine is correct? If so, what are the difficulties which the hon. Minister has encountered? Has he discussed them with the Prime Minister and tried to solve them?

Mr. Speaker: Is it possible to give all the answer for one question? The question is: what are the difficulties encountered by him? He might have experienced so many difficulties.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I have just given the context of the question also. It appears that the Minister is experiencing difficulties in the discharge of his job in respect of other Ministries as well as his own. What are the difficulties? How is he trying to get over them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, you were right in commenting that the orbit is very big. The very fact that I was able to mention that the projects which are undertaken by Government are not speedily executed was known to me merely because of this co-ordina-

tion unit where we get certain statistics of public sector projects and their working and, I suppose, to the extent that we have been able to tell the various Ministries and the public sector project managements of these difficulties we have served the purpose.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know if after working all these months the hon. Minister has come to a conclusion that certain radical changes are necessary if there is to be improvement and, if so, whether he has made any recommendation in that respect?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If there is any scrutiny into the working of the apparatus of Government in an economy like ours, which is expanding continuously and where considerable strain has been imposed by defence requirements, it certainly reveals gaps and these gaps are being continuously pointed out, not only to the Prime Minister but also the various Ministries.

Shri Tyagi: As the Ministry acts as the go-between so far as the civil and the Defence Ministry . . . (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: That word that is used for him should be used.

Shri Tyagi: I am sorry, Sir; but my knowledge of English is so poor. However, will it do if I say "acts as an intermediary"?

Mr. Speaker: The word 'co-ordination' is there for him. Why should he not use that word?

Shri Tyagi: Can I say, "As the Ministry acts as the co-ordinator"?

Mr. Speaker: We have very often seen the hon. Member coining new words.

Shri Raghunath Singh: That is Tyagi English.

Shri Tyagi: Has the hon. Minister been able to make a survey of the industries in the private sector with a view to find out as to which of the industries have a possible potential to

help defence production? Has any such survey been made all over India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Of the overall needs of defence production I have got only a general picture. The specific needs have got to be indicated to me by the Defence Ministry. In fact, for ten different items they have indicated to my Ministry that there should be created excess capacity. That matter is being looked into. Where a specific request comes from the Defence Ministry for development of capacity in the private sector in any direction, the matter is looked into.

Shri Tyagi: I wanted to know if a complete survey of potentiality in India has been made.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir; it is not possible to undertake that task because I do not know where it will begin and where it will end. To the extent that demands are made from time to time by the Defence Ministry we are endeavouring to find out the capacities that exist in the country, the balancing equipment that will have to be provided for increase of that capacity and make it adequately serve and also ask for increase in their technical services for that purpose. There have been ten different items which have been indicated to the Ministry of Economic and Defence Co-ordination and the matter is being looked into.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the level at which other ministries are consulted and how many times has the hon. Minister consulted these ministries with whom he is trying to co-ordinate his work?

Mr. Speaker: The first part of the question might be answered, not the second.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The machinery for the purpose of consultation happens to be three committees, two Secretaries' Committees,—the Production Committee and the Services Committee and a Special Cabinet Committee for the purpose of consultation between the Defence Ministry

and the Ministry of Economic and Defence Co-ordination. Most of the items and subjects that arise from time to time are considered in these committees and, naturally, information is passed on to me as what work has been done in these committees.

Shri Daji: The hon. Minister has been at this work for about a year. I would like to know whether he can point out any significant change of omission or commission as a result of the working of the Department in his own Department, in the general administration or in any other department which can be claimed as a result of his advice, work or suggestion.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Identifying of problems is not easy..... (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: I wonder whether such questions should be put in this form and whether we can arrive at any conclusion in such circumstances.

Shri Kapur Singh: The hon. Minister cannot be a judge of his own cause.

Mr. Speaker: That is also right. Such questions do not lead us anywhere. If really hon. Members desire that they ought to have some discussion on the Ministry, that would be a different thing altogether.

Shri Daji: I would put it differently.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The information supplied in answer to these questions will lead to a proper discussion of the Demands of this Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: No, no; during the Question Hour we cannot have such enlarged and detailed discussion.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow any further questions. If hon. Members desire that the answer is not adequate and they want further dis-

ussion on it, they have other remedies.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: We are not desirous of further discussion.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: On the basis of... (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: I am not allowing any further questions. Shri Maheswar Naik.

Shri Maheswar Naik: Question No. 726.

Shri Tyagi: It is our misfortune that we could not have the hon. Minister to answer a question at all. It is for the first time that he is on the anvil... (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: Of course, he can ask for a discussion and if the notice is in order, certainly I will allow it.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I do not want a discussion. But in the Question Hour there are certain things which have got to be elicited.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, there are. But the hon. Members must realise I have given ten minutes to this Question. Then the estimates of the Ministry are also coming up, I suppose. They will have an opportunity there. I will give them an hour more when the allotment for that Ministry is taken up.

Shri Maheswar Naik.

Shri Daji: Without any material we will not be able to discuss it properly.

Mr. Speaker: You find the material from somewhere else.

Shri Maheswar Naik.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: No report has come from that Ministry. And we do not even get replies to questions.

Mr. Speaker: Is there no report of the Ministry?

The Minister of Supply in the Ministry of Economic and Defence Co-ordination (Shri Hath): It has been circulated.

Mr. Speaker: The report has been supplied.

Shri Tyagi: A small report has been given.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: If you read that report, you will find that there is no information available.

Mr. Speaker: That is a different thing. That should be taken up at that moment.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: If you had permitted one question, it would have clarified many things. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Next Question. Shri Maheswar Naik.

Cotton Consumption by Mills

*726. **Shri Maheswar Naik:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that consumption of cotton by the mill industry has recorded a sharp decline in recent months;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any action in the matter?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). There are minor fluctuations of small reduction or small increase in consumption of cotton as per the production from month to month of the cotton textile industry of India.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether it is a fact that the stocks held by the textile mills have considerably gone down and that has resulted in a sort of slump in the cotton market?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is no slump in the cotton market. But after the aggression, as the House is fully aware, there was a little set back in the consumption of cotton textiles, like other commodities. To that extent, for a few months the off-take of consump-

tion of cotton was less. Again it is picking up. The normal production is continuing.

Shri Meheswar Naik: May I know whether it is a fact that the textile mills are according preferential consideration for imported cotton over the indigenous supplies?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I can tell the figures for the information of the honourable House that as against 24 lakh bales in the first five months of 1961-62, we consumed 23,40,000 bales in the corresponding period of 1962-63 and maybe in a few months we will catch up and even increase it.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब मिल वाले रुई का कपड़ा बना ही रहे है तो क्यों रुई का दाम गिर गया ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : कहां गिर गया है, वह तो आसमान पर जा रहा है ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : पहले गिर गया था ।

Shri Manubhai Shah: If the hon. Member checks up the spot price of cotton, as also the forward contracts, he will find that the jarilla variety pierces the ceiling.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know by what time we will be able to achieve self-sufficiency so far as the production of cotton is concerned in this country?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Not in the foreseeable future because the consumption of cotton in this country, being a tropical country, increases and the production is not correspondingly catching up.

श्री कछवाय : क्या गये साल में कपड़ा मिलों में कपड़े का उत्पादन कम हुआ ? यदि हाँ, तो कितना ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैंने बताया कि ४६४.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर आर्डर ।