

Shri Basappa: May I know to what extent trade deficit is there because of these restrictive duties, and to what extent we have been benefited?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It will be difficult to parcel out the disadvantages and disabilities, but it is true that if these duties and the non-tariff barriers are removed, the trade gap can be much narrowed down.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the total export of these items at present, and what is the hon. Minister's anticipation of it because of the concessions?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The present exports of these items are about Rs. 19 crores. It is difficult to give an estimate of what will be the anticipation.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: What is the extent or dimension of the annual deficit in the trade balance with the ECM countries, and has it shown any sign of being reduced during the last one or two years when the Government and the hon. Minister have been trying to improve the position?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, but the gap is so wide that I cannot express any satisfaction at what is happening. We have narrowed it down by Rs. 25 crores, but the gap is of Rs. 150 crores.

श्री विभूति निम्ब : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ई० सी० एम० कंट्रीज़ में जूट गुड्स की क्या पोजीशन है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : उस पर भी बड़े प्रतिबन्ध लगाए गए हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि उन प्रतिबन्धों को हटाया जाए।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know what attempts will be made to introduce our textiles like handloom cloth, silks and all varieties of artificial silks, into these ECM countries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It falls into two divisions. As far as manufactured articles, where machines are used, are concerned, they are under

restraint, but handloom cloth and hand products have got a much freer access, and that is why handloom exports are looking up.

Public Sector Undertakings

***353. Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether a statement giving the changes or modifications made in the organisational set up and management apparatus of some of the public sector undertakings as envisaged in the statement regarding Management of Public Sector Enterprises made in Lok Sabha on the 20th September, 1963, will be laid on the Table; and

(b) whether the suggestions contained in the statement of 20th September, 1963 are going to be extended to other fields?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 428 dated 6th December 1963. The organisational set up and management apparatus of the undertakings under this Ministry is constantly under review and such changes as are considered necessary are being introduced.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: In the statement previously made by the hon. Minister it was indicated that this kind of integrated management practice would be applicable to Durgapur and Sindri as well. May I know whether this has been done?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): In Durgapur it has been done. Sindri is in charge of another Ministry and so a separate question might be put.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the integrated management practices applied to Hindustan Steel be applied to Bhopal Heavy Electricals?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Yes, Sir; that is under consideration.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know if administrative and financial powers have been delegated at the top level, medium level and low level of management and if so what has been the result so far?

Shri C. Subramaniam: At Durgapur it is not merely giving more powers to the general manager but that power has been delegated at various levels. That has been done. Hon. Members may be aware that in recent months Durgapur's performance has been very creditable.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: According to the new reorganisation plan will the general managers, particularly of the steel plants, have the final authority to determine the type and number of foreign technical personnel who are required in these plants?

Shri C. Subramaniam: That is a different matter it is discussed at the Ministry level and then decided.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Has the abolition of the Central Purchase Organisation resulted in economy or expedition in the matter of purchase by these units in the public sector?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Yes, Sir, it has led to greater expedition and therefore to economies also.

Shri R. G. Dubey: In introducing changes in management pattern of public undertakings, is consideration given to the participation of works in management?

Shri C. Subramaniam: That is a different question.

Export Price of Black Pepper

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*355. { **Shri Warior:**
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether export price of black pepper has fallen during the later months of 1963; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to get better prices?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir, The export prices of Indian Black Pepper during 1963 were lower than the prices in the previous year.

(b) In order to improve the exports of black pepper and their prices the following steps have been taken:—

- (1) Introduction of the Quality Control and Preshipment Inspection Scheme so as to ensure the right quality of pepper to the foreign buyers;
- (2) Inclusion of pepper as an export commodity from India in the bilateral Trade Agreements entered into with different countries;
- (3) Undertaking of various publicity measures in foreign countries; and
- (4) Examining the possibility of a selling agreement between India and other producing countries in South East Asia under the auspices of the E.C.A.F.E.

Shri Warior: In view of the falling prices will the Government ask STC to buy all the pepper available in the crop season and export it through the STC?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No such move is under contemplation.

Shri Warior: How far have the measures taken by the Government improved the situation in the price-level of pepper?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Our competitors are selling it at a low price and we are trying to have bilateral arrangements with producing countries and seeing whether we can support prices in a collective manner.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Hon. Minister said that quality control was being introduced. May I know whether