

Mr. Speaker: Deshmukh.

Shri Shivaji Rao Deshmukh: What action have Government taken in respect of the so-called brainwashed prisoners of our Armed Forces who were in Chinese hands and who are still members of our Armed Forces so that they do not suffer from any inferiority complex or a sense of isolation?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion given. Next question.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: No, Sir. It is information that I am wanting. What steps have Government taken to ensure that members of our Armed Forces who were Chinese prisoners do not suffer from any inferiority complex or sense of isolation?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I have said about the education course that was attempted by us. It was also meant for this particular purpose so that they need not feel any sense of isolation.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : मुख्तलिफ तारीखों में मुख्तलिफ तार बन्दियों के बारे में पहुंचे हैं। एक तार मिलता है जिसमें कहा जाता है "किल्ड", बीस दिन बाद दूसरा तार मिलता है जिसमें कहा जाता है "मिसिंग", फिर बीस दिन बाद तार पहुंचता है जिसमें कहा जाता है "नाट कनफर्म्ड"। इसके बारे में सरकार ने क्या निश्चय किया है, क्या इस बारे में कोई वक्तव्य सदन के सामने रखेगी, जिससे पता हो सके कि कौनसे किल्ड हैं और कौन से मिसिंग हैं और कौन ऐसे हैं जिनका पता नहीं लगाया जा सका ?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: In the course of the last year or so, we have given this information but if the hon. Members want this consolidated figures, I am prepared to give them.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: How many killed, how many wrongly declared killed but later found..

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I am prepared to give them but at the present I have not got it with me.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: After getting it, you may lay it on the Table of the House.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: We will.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the Minister will place on the Table of the House a statement showing how many of them have been taken back in the army and how many of them have not been registered in the army and what effort Government has made for the psychological rehabilitation of these ex-prisoners from China?

Shri D. R. Chavan: We can give the information also in that statement.

Newsprint-Policy

*378. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 16 on the 7th September, 1964 regarding the formulation of a comprehensive news print policy and state at what stage the matter stands now?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): The formulation of a comprehensive news print policy is largely dependent on the availability of foreign exchange for the import of adequate quantity of newsprint. As the foreign exchange position still continues to be difficult and indigenous production is small, it has not been possible to draw up a newsprint distribution policy.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि अंग्रेजी समाचार पत्रों के लिए ज्यादा कोटा मंजूर किया जाता है, जबकि प्रादेशिक भाषाओं के अखबारों के लिए नाकाफी कोटा मंजूर किया जाता है, खास कर हिन्दी के समाचार पत्रों के लिए ? यदि हों, तो इस कमी को दूर करने के लिए क्या कोशिश की जा रही है ?

श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी : जितना सरकु-
लेशन होता है उसी के हिसाब से न्यूजप्रिंट
दिया जाता है ?

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह भी सही है
कि अखबारी कागज ब्लैक मारकेट में बिक
रहा है ? यदि हाँ, तो इसको रोकने के लिए
क्या कोशिश की जा रही है ?

श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी : जब हमें पता
चलता है तो हम जांच करने की कोशिश करते
हैं, लेकिन जब तक कोई खास सबूत न मिले
तब तक कुछ नहीं हो सकता है ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या किसी केस में
किसी को सजा भी हुई ?

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know
what action Government is taking to
expand the production capacity of
these newsprint factories which are
producing newsprint here, keeping in
view the great scarcity of news-
print?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Actual-
ly today the Nepa mill has got a
targeted capacity of 30,000 tonnes, but
it is producing only about 25,000
tonnes now. We are hoping that it
will increase. We are also seeing to
it that more machinery is given. In
the third Plan, we have also licens-
ed three other corporations—
Rohtas Industries, Shree Gopal
Paper Mills and Birla-Gwalior in
U.P. But none of them has made
any headway. In the case of one of
them—Rohtas—the licence has been
cancelled.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : मैं जानना चाहता
हूँ कि क्या कुछ हिन्दी समाचार पत्रों ने सरकार
को यह भी लिखा है कि उनको काफी कोटा
नहीं मिलता इसलिए उनकी कापियाँ कम
छपने लगी हैं, जैसे "आज" बनारस ?

श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी : उसकी विशेष
सूचना इस समय मेरे पास नहीं है ।

श्री ज्वा० प्र० ज्योतिषी : क्या शासन
के पास एसी मॅगिशनरी है जो इस बात की
तफतीश करती हो कि कुछ अखबार न्यूज प्रिंट
की ब्लैक मारकेट पर ही जिन्दा हैं ?

श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी : यह सवाल तो
पूछा जा चुका है । अफवाहें एसी आती हैं
लेकिन हम को कुछ सबूत नहीं मिल रहा है ।

Shri Ranga: The Deputy Minister
just now said that one of the licences
is likely to be cancelled and the other
two are expected to start their fac-
tories. May I know what active
steps Government are taking to see
that in the place of the licence which
is going to be cancelled, some other
firm would be encouraged to come
forward to ask for a licence obtain it
and start a factory? What steps
also are Government going to take to
enable the other two firms to start
their factories and production of
newsprint?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Actual-
ly the Planning Commission have
been very liberal in the matter of
licensing or recommending licences
for paper mills. As I said, the
licence of Rohtas has already been
cancelled. The other two are there.
Attempts are made not only to have
more paper mills, but also exploit
raw materials like bagasse from
sugarcane.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: In view of
the fact that small newspapers are
facing great difficulties regarding
newsprint, may I know what steps
Government propose to take to re-
move their difficulties?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Ac-
tually today there is a committee
headed by Shri Diwaker for small
and medium-sized papers. They are
investigating that problem. Apart
from that, they are keeping in mind
the fact that medium and small-
sized papers are hard hit and as far
as possible they should make con-
cessions in their favour.

श्री प्रकाशचौर शास्त्री : जनता के विचार सरकार तक और सरकार की नीतियां जनता तक पहुंचाने के लिए जितना उत्तम कार्य देशी भाषाओं के समाचार पत्र कर रहे हैं उतना विदेशी भाषा के पत्र नहीं कर रहे। तो क्या सरकार इन देशी भाषाओं के समाचार पत्रों की आवश्यकता को अनुभव करते हुए उनको अखबारी कागज का ज्यादा कोटा देने के बारे में उदार नीति अपनाने पर विचार कर रही है ?

श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी : जैसा कि अभी श्री पट्टाभि रमन जी ने कहा, एक कमेटी नियुक्त हुई है और वह इन सब विषयों पर विचार कर रही है।

Dr. Sarojini Mahishi: May I know how the newsprint received by India from other countries by way of donation is being utilized in the country and on what basis the allocation to the different States is made?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Actually there is no such allocation to the different States. Today on account of the shortage of newsprint Government has more or less a monopoly and without infringing the fundamental rights we have a set rules for giving quotas to various newspapers. The idea was to increase it by 10 per cent every year. But, on account of the foreign exchange difficulty we find that the Finance Ministry is not able to give us more foreign exchange. Therefore, there is restriction on the allotment of quota.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether in formulating the policy for distribution of newsprint the Central Government associate the States Governments so that there are no complaints that there is unequal distribution between various States?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: There is a Registrar of Newspapers who visits all the States in India and he keeps in mind the regional imbalance also while distributing newsprint.

But the fact remains that the newsprint position being what it is, it is very difficult for a new newspaper to get any newsprint.

Cost of Living Index

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*379. { **Shri Vishram Prasad:**
Shri Bagri:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Dr. Saradish Roy:
Dr. Ranen Sen:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the basis for compiling the All India Consumer Price Index for workers in view of the findings of the Committee appointed by the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour and Employment (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) and (b). The Expert Committee appointed by the Government of Maharashtra recommended rectification of Consumer Price Index Nos. for four centres in Maharashtra namely, Bombay, Sholapur, Nagpur and Jalgaon which are included for the purpose of compiling the All-India Interim Series (base 1949). The Director, Labour Bureau has taken into consideration the corrected indices in compiling the All India Interim Series (base 1949). The question of revising the basis of compilation of All India (Interim) Consumer Price Index Number in view of findings of Expert Committee set up by Maharashtra Government does not arise now as it has already been incorporated in the present All India Interim Index.

The Director, Labour Bureau is now compiling the new series of Consumer Price Index with 1960-100 as base for 50 centres. On the basis of these 50 new series the Director, Labour Bureau is also compiling All-India New Series which will be published in due course replacing the present All-India (Interim) Series.