

will have to pay about Rs. 25 per annum which, I submit, is really inconsiderable. It comes to about Rs. 2 a month, whereas each powerloom will be making a profit of Rs. 500 per month.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: The hon. Deputy Minister in his answer to a supplementary question said that the powerloom industry being given free licences will affect the handloom industry. If so, may I know whether the export varieties will be affected more than the home-consumption varieties and what steps are the Government going to take to give subsidies so that the export drive could be promoted?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: This question of export varieties being affected has not been analysed. But, by and large, any free licensing of powerlooms is certainly bound to affect the handloom industry.

Shri Kandappan: The handloom industry cannot compete with the powerloom industry and the handloom weavers are therefore willing to go into the powerloom industry. After all, it is the handloom weavers that are being put to trouble. They are suffering for want of finance. Therefore, my question is this. Will Government work out a scheme of assistance to the weavers whereby they will switch on to the powerloom industry with the necessary financial assistance from the Centre and the States.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The point seems to be whether any assistance will be given to the handloom weavers to shift over to powerlooms. The main point is whether this should be in the private sector or co-operative sector. By and large the Ministry is in favour of Co-operative Sector, which the State Government can finance.

Shri S. Kandappan: Can't the weavers be helped by the Government so that they can join together?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The co-operatives are there. The State Government will look after that.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether it is a fact that these powerlooms are asked to pay some tax or fee at the rate of Rs. 20 per month?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is Rs. 25 per annum per loom.

Shri Ranga: For what purpose is it being imposed? Is it for the benefit of the handloom industry or for the powerloom industry or for Government?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The reasons seem to be that there was large-scale evasion of excise duty as a result of exemption given to 4 powerlooms and below, because in a huge shed having say 50 powerlooms, for every four powerlooms different names would be put in order to evade the tax. To prevent this loophole, the Finance Minister has thought it fit to levy Rs. 25 per annum for each loom, whatever the number.

Export of Sports Goods

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*484. { **Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:**
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Sammani:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of sports goods declined during the Third Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether the import of materials required for the manufacture of sports goods has increased as compared to that in the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(c) whether the indigenous raw materials are not being utilised properly for increasing the export of sports goods?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir. The exports

of sports goods during the first four years of the Third Five Year Plan amount to Rs. 2.16 crores as compared to the total exports during the Second Five Year Plan of Rs. 1.71 crores.

(b) and (c). Not much Sir. Apart from exports, the internal production, demand and consumption are continuously increasing, and therefore only those few types of items not made or available in India are allowed to be imported. The Sports Goods Industry is largely based on indigenous materials.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: May I know what steps have been taken by Government to utilise the indigenous raw materials produced in the State of Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: For sports goods, certain types of timber like mulberry, ash, beech, willow, etc. are necessary. All those have gone to West Pakistan. But we are trying to develop mulberry in Jammu and Kashmir. I am glad to say that the Jammu and Kashmir Government have agreed to spare enough mulberry for the sports goods.

Shri Abdul Ghani Goni: May I know whether the production of raw materials is increasing year by year, but on the other hand the conversion of the raw materials into goods is decreasing instead of increasing and whether Government is of the opinion that some more factories are to be opened in Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: First of all, we must have the raw materials. So far as mulberry is concerned, Jammu and Kashmir Government have agreed. With regard to other types of wood like ash, beech and willow, we have asked the Inspector General of Forests to develop these trees in order to supply the necessary materials to the sports goods industry.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: The Minister has given the export figure during the first four years of the Third plan. May

I know the export figure in the second and third year of the Third plan?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I am sorry I am not able to give that now.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether the Government is aware that quality willow is supposed to be the best wood for manufacture of bats, whether it is available in the country or outside. May I know whether it has been possible to grow that quality willow. In the country by now and if not, what steps are going to be taken to get this willow for manufacture of bats?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It can be imported. As yet, willow has not yet been fully developed in the forests of our country. That is why I submitted that we have requested the I.G. of Forests to look into it.

Shri Jaipal Singh: The hon. Minister stated that only those items that cannot be obtained indigenously were imported. May I know what are the raw materials that are not available in this country that have to be imported?

Mr. Speaker: He has already mentioned them.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Chemical adhesives, resin etc., have to be imported, apart from the wood.

श्री यशपाल सिंह: क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि क्या पिछली योजना की तुलना में हम रा मँटीरियल के सम्बन्ध में सैल्फ सफिशेंट होते जा रहे हैं या अब तक दूसरे देशों पर निर्भर करते हैं ?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Partly we are importing and partly we are developing our own indigenous goods.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Which are the main countries which are at present importing these goods from India . . .

Mr. Speaker: Shri Yashpal Singh's question was whether we are racing towards becoming self-sufficient.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: We are partly becoming self-sufficient and we are partly importing.

Mr. Speaker: That means we are progressing, towards self-sufficiency.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Which are the main countries that are importing these sports goods from India and may I know whether Government has any plan to explore the possibilities of other market also?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I have here a list of about 17 countries. The United Kingdom, in 1963, imported Rs. 11 lakhs worth of these goods. Malaya-Singapore imported Rs. 9 lakhs worth of these goods. East Germany Rs. 6 lakhs.

Mr. Speaker: Only the names of the countries need be mentioned.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: These are the three main countries.

सूत की मिलें

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* 486. { श्री रामेश्वर टांटिया :
श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरबा :
श्री चाण्डक :
श्री प्र० च० बहग्रा :
श्रीमती मैसूना सुल्तान :
श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्र यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार सरकारी और सहकारी क्षेत्रों में सूत की पचपन नई मिलें खोलने के किसी प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में कितनी कितनी मिलें खोली जायेंगी ;

(ग) सरकार गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को क्या सहायता देगी ; और

(घ) ये मिलें कब और किन राज्यों में खोली जायेंगी ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal envisages that 20 to 25 mills should be set up in the public sector and the rest in the co-operative sector.

(c) Any assistance that the co-operative sector may require will be given to the extent possible.

(d) These mills are intended to be set up during the Fourth and Fifth Plan periods in areas which will be decided in consultation with the Planning Commission, preference being given to backward areas.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know how many licences are lying unutilised and whether Government have enquired about the reason for it and what steps Government are going to take against those persons who are holding those licences for a long time without doing anything?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: This is a general question. We have licensed about 600 and odd units. The total comes to about six million spindles. Of these, about 3,50,000 spindles have come up and another 3,90,000 is coming up. There are very many difficulties in the way like shortage of machinery, restrictions of import of machinery, financial difficulties and so on.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: What is the break-up of the components, on a percentage basis of the Indian machinery and imported machinery in a spinning mill?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Roughly, the imported machinery will be about 25 per cent, and 75 per cent will be indigenous.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: The hon. Minister said that they are going to