

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether experiments have been made or will be made now to grow cashewnut in such areas where they have not been grown so far?

Mr. Speaker: Where they would not grow?

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Where they have not been grown so far.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Goa is a new place where already we are trying to grow cashewnuts because the climate there is somewhat like that of Kerala and there is heavy rainfall also; so also in Orissa. So, it is a question of rainfall, climate and soil, whether it is suitable for the purpose.

Steel Re-rolling Industry

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 *989. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri D. J. Naik:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been appointed to study the problems of steel re-rolling industry in the country;

(b) if so, its constitution and terms of reference; and

(c) whether any definite period is stipulated for submission of the Committee's report?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Mines (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition of the Committee is as follows:

Shri S.C. Mukherjee,
 Dy. Iron & Steel Controller . Chairman

Shri Viren J. Shah,
 The Steel Re-rolling Mills
 Association of India . Member

Shri M. Panje,
 Chief Supdt. Rolling Mills,
 Bhilai . Member

The Committee will—

(a) assess the capacity of re-rolling mills whether working on billet or scrap;

(b) recommend what types of merchant products the re-rolling mills can role economically; and

(c) indicate what un-tarred out dated and/or un-economic

(c) By the end of August, 1965.

Shri Subodh Hansda: As I understand from the reply of the Minister, due to the shortage of billets this committee has been formed. I would like to know as to what is the basis of distribution of billets at the moment to meet the existing capacity of the re-rolling mills.

Shri P. C. Sethi: The basis of distribution is based on the year 1960-61 when billets supply was quite in abundance and the re-rollers were asked to indent as much as they could. On that basis the present supply has been distributed.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether it is a fact that the licensing for further establishment of re-rolling mills has recently been banned; if that is so, is it a fact that some licences have already been issued in 1963 and, if so, what was the basis on which all these licences were issued?

Shri P. C. Sethi: The Government have withdrawn the relaxation from June 1963 but they had agreed to the establishment of certain re-rolling mills in backward areas; to that extent they are being allowed.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that a portion of scrap iron is also exported? May I know whether this export will be stopped and will be used in these mills for re-rolling purposes?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): There is not much difficulty with regard to scrap, but some rolling mills which are based only on scrap, are now demanding billets.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि कब तक हम इस मामले में सैल्फ सफिशिएंट हो जायेंगे ।

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : अभी तुरन्त सैल्फ सफिशिएंट होने की सम्भावना नहीं है । लेकिन हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना में कुछ कमी पूरी हो जाये ।

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether it is a fact that the acute shortage of scrap, inordinate delay in delivery of the quotas and discriminating railhead prices have put the re-rolling units in the remotest parts of the country like Assam to the point of extinction and whether any arrangement has been made to ensure regular and adequate supply of scrap as also for making uniformity in the railhead prices of scrap?

Shri P. C. Sethi: Now the Government has decontrolled scrap in order to increase its availability.

श्री रामेश्वर टांटिया : क्या यह सही है कि 1964 में बहुत सी रिरोलिंग स्टील मिलों को काम करना पड़ा क्योंकि उन्हें इतगाट्स काफी मात्रा में उपलब्ध नहीं हो सके ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : जी हाँ, यह बात सही है ।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: From a statement recently submitted by the Ministry, it is obvious that quite a few States have been completely starved and they are very low in the matter of re-rolling mills and so also the small-scale industry and this possibly is due to the stagnant attitude of the Government by tying everything to the base of 1960-61. May I know whether the Government has a fresh approach in the matter and would do justice to the States and the small-scale industry.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: If the position of raw materials improves, certainly we shall consider giving a little

weightage to the States where the re-rolling industry is not well developed. To add to the existing number of re-rolling mills now would mean that the shortage of raw materials will be further aggravated.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: That is not my question. The small-scale industry and the re-rolling mills are already there. But the raw material is not there.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: Even in the small-scale section re-rolling mills are there and some of them are based on scrap which is decontrolled, available billets are being distributed to units entitled to work on billets. The Committee's purpose is to go into the whole matter and find out the capacity of the re-rolling mills so that the distribution could be done on an equitable basis. That is the exact purpose of the Committee. Everybody is claiming capacity and the capacity of re-rolling mills, both small and big has been put up very high. Therefore, the purpose of the Committee is to give a correct picture so that distribution could be done on an equitable basis.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The hon. Minister said that some of the re-rolling machinery had become obsolete. I think that is so in most of the cases. May I know if the Government intends to give some loan, some aid or some grant to re-rolling mills so that they can become up-to-date and work for the good of the country.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: It is not as if we are short of re-rolling mills. Just at present, I do not think we are contemplating giving loans for re-rolling mills. We are not able to supply raw materials even to the existing mills.

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : यह केन्द्रीय सरकार खूब जानती है कि औद्योगिक कार्य के अन्दर पंजाब राज्य अच्छा आगे बढ़ा हुआ है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस सभिति में पंजाब राज्य के भी कोई सदस्य शामिल हैं ? अगर हैं, तो उनके नाम क्या हैं ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : पंजाब राज्य के कोई सदस्य समिति में शामिल नहीं हैं, लेकिन जो सदस्य हैं वे काफी प्रामाणिक और महत्वपूर्ण हैं ।

Shri M. R. Krishna: The hon. Deputy Minister said that in backward areas, licences have been given to start re-rolling mills. May I know whether the Government are assisting them so that these mills go into production unhampered?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: The licences were given when the billet position was a little easy. Now, no new licence is being given. It is only after the assessment of the Committee and after the full picture is before us that we can take further action.

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan: Re-rollable scrap is being exported and the mills want billets. What is the difference between the price of the re-rollable scrap and the billets?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I want notice for that.

Industrial Collaboration with Afghanistan

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*991. { **Shri K. N. Tiwary:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Afghanistan and India have agreed upon a programme of industrial collaboration and provision of facilities for the training of Afghan nationals; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the agreement?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The question of sending a delegation of leading industrialists to Afghanistan for exploring the possibility of industrial collaboration and Economic Co-operation with Afghanistan for joint venture and other industries being

established there has been referred to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. We hope to send a delegation to Afghanistan very soon.

We have also offered to the Royal Afghan Government all facilities for training Afghan nationals in different technologies and other subjects in Indian institutions, Universities and Organisations.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : क्या अफगान गवर्नमेंट ने कोई टर्मस दी हैं जिन पर यह कोलेबोरेशन होगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : इसमें टर्मस नहीं हैं । टर्मस तो प्रोजेक्ट टू प्रोजेक्ट होंगी, क्या टर्मस उनको मंजूर हैं, क्या टर्मस हमकी सुविधाजनक लगती हैं यह तो बाद में विचार किया जाएगा । आज भी जितनी जवाइंट कोलेबोरेशन के काम अफगानिस्तान के साथ चल रहे हैं वे इसी आधार पर चल रहे हैं ।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : कौन सी इंडस्ट्रीज के लिए कोलेबोरेशन की बातचीत हो रही हैं, और जो अफगानिस्तान के नेशनल्स यहां ट्रेनिंग के लिए आवेंगे उनको क्या सुविधाएं दी जाएंगी, और क्या हिन्दुस्तान से भी कोई ट्रेनीज अफगानिस्तान ट्रेनिंग के लिए भेजे जावेंगे ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जो इंडस्ट्रीज पहले वहां लग सकती हैं वे ये हैं :

Textiles, cigarette-making, furniture-making, cycles and light engineering products. Recently, soap and perfumeries have also been added. The Royal Afghan Government, when the Prime Minister of Afghanistan was here, had also expressed their keen desire to extend the area of co-operation. So, in response to all the developments that have taken place between the two countries during the last two years, we are proposing to send a high-powered delegation to Kabul to discuss further.