

at the ECAFE meeting in Delhi beginning on the 22nd and the opening of the Asian development bank. For the first time as a measure of concrete aspirations of the Asians to expand trade relations between themselves, we have constituted a bank with R. 500 crores as liquid capital.

Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee: Apart from the traditional exports, has the government made any assessment of the sort of exports which could be absorbed by the ECM?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As far as I can say, I am saying this without fear of contradiction, everything that India produces can be absorbed and purchased by the European powers in the ECM. Unfortunately their illiberal policies of trade hinder that and they do not make a purposeful objective and intense effort to help some of the developing countries to expand their sales.

Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee: Sir, my question was this. We are sellers and therefore . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is another matter.

Shri Manubhai Shah: This is a question of competition and restriction, and tariff barriers.

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : कई पूरक प्रश्नों के बावजूद भी मैं विवरण से देखता हूँ कि 1963-64 और 1964-65 के वर्षों में जब अपने देश का निर्यात सिर्फ 7 करोड़ कम हुआ है तब आयात में 28 करोड़ की वृद्धि हुई है। क्या मन्त्री महोदय इस को कोई छोटी सी चीज समझते हैं, और इस गैप की पूर्ति के लिये वह क्या उपाय कर रहे हैं ?

श्री धनुभाई शाह : मैंने पांच साल के फिगर्स इसलिये दिये हैं कि एक साल के फिगर्स से कोई नतीजा नहीं मिलता है। इस साल भी छः महीने के फिगर्स हैं। तब तक हमने बतलाया कि 267.34 करोड़ का एक्सपोर्ट

हो जायेगा। इसलिये फिगर्स कुछ इंडिकेट नहीं करते हैं। हम ने तो अपनी श्राव प्रमोच बतलाई है। योरोपियन कामन मार्केट ने इतनी पाबन्दी लगा रखी है, कोटा रेस्ट्रिक्शन है, टैरिफ बैरियर्स हैं। इससे कुछ तय नहीं है कि कितना भेजा जाये। जैसा पहले माननीय सदस्य कह रही थीं, इसमें दिक्कत नहीं है जिससे हम बेचने की कोशिश करें। लेकिन जब तक हम को सहूलियत नहीं होती तब तक कैसे हम बेच सकते हैं।

Tea Finance Committee

+

*629. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations of the Tea Finance Committee which have already been accepted by Government and implemented;

(b) the manner in which the remaining recommendations are proposed to be dealt with; and

(c) whether the opinion of the Tea Board was invited about the recommendations?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5807/66].

(c) Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the Tea Finance Committee were considered in the 44th meeting of the Tea Board held on the 7th January, 1965.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any allied thing outside the purview of the terms of reference of the Committee was recommended by the Committee and, if so, whether those recommendations were considered and what was the decision taken?

Shri Shafi Qureshi: All the recommendations of the Committee have been incorporated and we are implementing those recommendations. Nothing beyond was brought to our notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the plantation labour housing scheme, on the lines of the industrial housing scheme, which was recommended by the Board will be taken up?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): Yes, Sir. The Cabinet has accepted this proposal that the planters will have to build houses for their labour, only yesterday.

Shri Subodh Hansda: I find from the statement that some of the recommendations have been accepted in principle, which concern the State Governments and are being implemented. I would like to know whether the State Governments' opinion was called for before acceptance of these recommendations.

Shri Shafi Qureshi: The Tea Finance Committee was formed under the Government orders, and representatives of the tea industry, trade, banking institutions, chambers of commerce, representatives of State Governments, Tea Board, Parliament, Planning Commission and the Government of India are associated with it.

Shri Subodh Hansda: My question was totally different.

Shri Manubhai Shah: We are not able to hear the hon. Member at any time.

Mr. Speaker: I shall ask the Leader of the House to allot another seat to Shri Subodh Hansda.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: There seems to be something wrong with the acoustics of the House. I think you should have it examined.

Mr. Speaker: I shall get it examined, but the hon. Member should speak a little more loudly.

Shri Subodh Hansda: I am speaking much loudly. If the Minister could not hear, I shall repeat it. *(Interruption)*. I also do not clearly hear him.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I also cannot hear.

Shri Subodh Hansda: Some of the recommendations have been accepted in principle, recommendations which concern the State Governments also, and the State Governments have been asked to implement all these recommendations. I would like to know whether the State Governments have been consulted before acceptance of these recommendations.

Shri Shafi Qureshi: I have already told the hon. Member that the Governments of the States—the State Governments—were also consulted.

Shri P. C. Borooah: This is a very important question so far as my State of Assam is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: What is the question?

Shri P. C. Borooah: For achieving the tea production target of 1,000 million pounds in the Fourth Plan period, an expansion at the rate of 24,000 acres per annum of new extension of tea area was considered a "must" by the Tea Finance Committee. Is it a fact that during the last four years, our expansion is only to the extent of 8,900 acres instead of 24,000 acres per annum and, if so, what is the reason for this alarmingly small increase and slow progress?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The figures are somewhat different. But the real problem is we do not get land either from the State Governments or from the plantations for extending the tea acreage. There is competition between housing and other agricultural crops and the Defence Ministry's requirements in these areas. Whatever acreage is required is not easily available.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : पेज नं० 2 की रिफरेंस नं० 2 पर लिखा हुआ है कि डेबेलमेंट प्रलाउन्स 50 प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है लेकिन एक लागू होगा दो साल के बाद प्लैन्टिंग के और दूसरा चार साल के बाद । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह फं० क्यों किया गया है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : यह तो मामूली बात है क्योंकि परसेंटेज बढ़ गया । माननीय सदस्य ने देखा होगा कि फाइनेंस बिल में फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब ने कुछ रियायतें दी हैं । जब मंत्र की राय यह हुई कि इसको एक साथ न किया जाये बल्कि एक को दो साल के बाद किया जाये और दूसरे को चार साल के बाद किया जाये तो इसको मान लिया गया ।

श्री भागवत झा छाजाब : विवरण से स्पष्ट है कि अधिकांश सिफारिशों पर आवश्यक प्रादेश दिये गये हैं और कुछ के सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकारों की दृष्टि भाविका की गई है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन प्रादेशों को जारी करने के बाद क्या यह भी देखा गया है कि उसके अन्दर कहां तक सफलता हो पाई है ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : पहले तो मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहता हूँ कि 80 प्रतिशत रिफरेंस सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की हैं । उनके बारे में मैं एश्योर कर सकता हूँ कि उनको इम्प्लैमेंट किया जायेगा । जो 20 परसेंट स्टेट की रिफरेंस हैं उनके बारे में डॉ० मिनिस्टर के साथ बातचीत चल रही है । लेकिन मैं नहीं कह सकता हूँ कि हर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट उनको इम्प्लैमेंट करेगी या नहीं ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप : माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने प्रश्न के उत्तर में बतलाया कि बागान के कर्मचारियों के लिये हाउसिंग की व्यवस्था की जा रही है । मैं जानना

चाहता हूँ कि इसको लागू करने में कितना समय लगेगा और क्या उन्हें ऋण वगैरह दे कर घरने महान बनाने देने की व्यवस्था की जा रही है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : हम सदन के सामने एक बिल ला रहे हैं जिसके द्वारा प्लैन्टेशन क्षेत्र हाउसिंग एक्ट को दरमीम करके हर एक प्लैन्टर से कहा जायेगा कि उनके लिये मकानात बनाये । इसके लिये कितना हाया दिया जायेगा और क्या प्रोग्राम होगा यह जब धारा पास हो जायेगी तब दिये जायेगा ।

Shri Basappa: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to help the small plantations of 4 or 5 acres also and if so, what action has been taken to help them?

Shri Manubhai Shah: On small plantations, we have given special concessions. Firstly, they are charged much lower excise and in some cases exempted, as compared to big plantations. Secondly, we establish co-operative tea factories for smaller plantations. In Madras already 6 factories are under operation and some of our members are taking interest in them. In Punjab also, we want 2 or 3 factories to come up.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Expansion of plantation of quality tea has been recommended by the Tea Finance Committee. The hon. Minister said a little earlier that there is competition for land with the Housing Department. But the area where tea is to be planted being a little different, may I know what steps are being taken in order to provide and for expanding plantation of quality tea?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The areas are the same; I do not know which areas are different. In Assam—the Minister from Assam is here—and in Bengal also, the areas for various things are the same. It is very difficult to get extra areas. Even for a few thousand acres, we have to write personal

letters. To the extent land is made available, we shall give preference to plantation expansion. Wherever forest areas have been made available in Madras or Mysore, we have increased the plantations.

**Heavy Engineering Corporation,
Ranchi**

*636. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi to change its pattern of production in order to cut down imports;

(b) whether similar orders have been issued to other public sector undertakings to diversify their production to meet not only the requirements of the public sector but also of the private sector;

(c) whether these units have taken steps to look for substitutes within the country; and

(d) the results achieved so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) and (b). While no instructions to change or diversify the production programmes as such have been issued to Public Sector Undertakings, the need for cutting down imports by substitution of indigenous material, developing ancillary industries and reducing inventories to the absolute minimum has been stressed.

(c) Yes, Sir; some have made a beginning.

(d) So far H.E.C. has effected savings of the order of Rs. 1.16 crores and Hindustan Machine Tools Rs. 1.58 crores. Information on other projects is being collected.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: While appreciating the fact that changing of pattern of production involves a good

deal of research and analytic study, may I know whether the Government have advised them to set up some research cells for this purpose?

Shri Bibudhendra Misra: This public sector undertaking, I am told, has its own, apart from the collaboration, research cell.

Shri Ranga: That is not what the hon. Member wanted to know. He wanted to know whether this unified research centre has been started anywhere in order to study the possibilities of import substitution?

Shri Bibudhendra Misra: These public sector undertakings vary in their production programmes, they vary in their items of manufacture. Therefore, they have set up their own research cells, they have their own experts.

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): Sir, a few days ago I answered a question here. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research met and they divided themselves into 15 committees. Those committees are specifically going into this question of import substitution. Their reports would have been made available on 8th March. So the reports are with us and we will certainly take decisions on them.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know what special facilities have been made available to these undertakings, both public and private, to promote research and also requisition the services of eminent scientists who are working at the university level?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: We always avail of the facilities and talents available in the universities. We invite them for discussions at conferences and in that way we utilise them.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: May I know whether any of the import substitutions are to be classified and categorised for public sector and private sector separately; if so, whether Government has taken up the matter with