

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yarn is available in plenty and more and more mills are coming. As a matter of fact, the increase in the price of mill made cloth is an indirect protection to the power and handloom cloth because they become relatively cheaper.

**Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:** But the price of yarn has increased along with the increase in the cost of cloth.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yarn is a de-controlled item. Handloom and powerloom weavers in 1961 said to the Government: please decontrol yarn because we are having great hardship in the administration of the control. Since then it has been working satisfactorily and no complaints have arisen on account of that.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** The Minister referred to the price of controlled cloth. I would like to ask him whether he is satisfied with the rise in prices of controlled cloth to the extent of 8-9 per cent. What further steps are being taken to see that this continuous rise in the price of controlled cloth does not take place in future?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** In a period of two years this increase has taken place and I think we cannot escape it because of various factors. The growers have to be paid a remunerative price for the raw materials so that they can produce more cotton in this country; that will have to be taken into account. Wages and bonus have to be paid.

**Shri Ranga:** What about inflation?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The freight and other charges are going up. We can try to keep it at the minimum.

**Shri R. S. Pandey:** Apart from the rise in prices here, is it true that we are losing foreign market because the export prices are going up?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is true.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Government use the All India Radio for broadcasting the price of essential commodities. May I know if the Government is aware that the prices that are announced by the radio do not bear any resemblance to the prices that are obtaining in the market and, if so, may I know what the Government is going to do so that the All India Radio becomes a more truthful organ of the Government and does not remain an organ of Government which broadcasts things which have no reality in them.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This question has been raised several times and at one stage we thought we may discontinue these broadcasts. They were discontinued for a while, and again the demand came from the listeners saying that the prices were giving an index and guidance to consumers who are listening to them and asking, "Please therefore continue them." There are two sets of opinion. I agree with the hon. Member; one set of opinion says that the price broadcasts do not have correlation to the realities and the other powerful opinion is that they are very important and they have very close resemblance and so "please continue; they are guiding the consumers." Therefore, we are in the hands of the people, and we are continuing the broadcasts.

#### Import of Newsprint from Canada

\*97. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri H. C. Linga Reddy:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Subodh Hanada:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been made between India and Canada to import newsprint from Canada;

(b) if so, the terms thereof;

(c) the total quantity of newsprint which will be imported from Canada; and

(d) when such newsprint will be imported?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

During the current year newsprint from Canada is being imported under the following three heads:

- (i) Commercial imports;
- (ii) Colombo Plan Assistance of one million Canadian dollars; and
- (iii) Canadian Development Assistance of two million Canadian dollars.

The position with regard to each is as under:

#### (i) Commercial Imports:

The STC has concluded an agreement with the Abitibi Paper Sales Ltd., Toronto for the import of 25,000 m. tones of Newsprint at C\$ 160.77 per m. ton CIF, Indian Ports.

#### (ii) Colombo Plan Loan Assistance:

The STC has finalized arrangements for the import of 7,660 m. tons of Newsprint, as detailed below, under the Assistance Programme:

6460 m. tons — C\$ 131 per m. ton FAS  
1200 m. tons — C\$ 128.10 per m. ton FAS

#### (iii) Canadian Development Assistance

STC has issued tenders for import of 16000 m. tons, on 7th October, 1966, under this head. A quantity of 7,660 m. tons and another of 25,000 m. tons is expected to be received by the end of November, 1966 and March, 1967 respectively.

**श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय :** माननीय मन्त्री महोदय ने जो विवरण कॅनेडा के अखबारी कागज के सम्बन्ध में प्रस्तुत किया है, उसके

सन्दर्भ में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस अखबारी कागज का आयात कॅनेडा से किया जायगा, क्या उससे देश की आवश्यकता की पूर्ति हो जायगी ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** उसकी कोई 17 परसेन्ट तक की पूर्ति हो जायगी, बाकी स्वीडन से आ रहा है, रूस से आ रहा है और भी कण्ट्रीज से आ रहा है ।

**श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय :** मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि देश में अखबारी कागज की कमी है और विदेशों से मंगाने का प्रयत्न हमारे मन्त्री महोदय कर रहे हैं, उस कमी की पूर्ति करने के लिये, क्या देश में ही कोई कदम ऐसा उठाया जायगा, जिससे देश में ही उसका निर्माण हो सके और उसकी पूर्ति हो जाय ? क्या सरकार इस पर विचार कर रही है ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** यह सवाल इस सदन के सामने सैकड़ों दफा आ चुका है । हिन्दुस्तान में पाइन-फीर ट्रीज ज्यादा तादाद में नहीं होते हैं, जिसमें लॉग स्टेपल न्यूज़-प्रिन्ट बन सकता है । फिर भी नेपा का कारखाना डबल कर रहे हैं, पंजाब का कारखाना जो कॅनेडा की मदद से लगा रहे हैं, उसकी निज़ाद बढ़ा रहे हैं । फारेन में जो इस किसम के ट्रीज हैं, उनको यहाँ ओ कर सकें, ऐसा प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है, फिर भी इसमें 10 साल लगेंगे ।

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether Government's efforts to manufacture newsprint from bagasse has been successful and, if so, how far it will help in lessening the imports?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The hon. Member is right. In recent weeks, we received information from the United States and Latin America that a new process has been invented to use bagasse; we are following it up and if we find it successful, a project on that basis will be launched here.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** I am surprised to see from the statement that the STC has issued tenders for the import of 16,000 million tons of paper under the Canadian Development Assistance and also 7,660 million tons which are expected to be received, and so on. I would like to know why, when the STC is itself an exporting and importing agency, it has asked for tenders. What is the reason?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The tender is to receive offers because even if the STC is the purchasing agent itself, it has to get offers from various sources throughout the world including India. Therefore they tender.

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो कागज स्वीडन से इम्पोर्ट करते हैं और अब जो कॅनेडा से करेंगे, इन दोनों की प्राइसेज में क्या अन्तर है, तथा इसे मंगाने में कुल कितना रुपया हमें कॅनेडा को अधिक पे करना पड़ेगा, जबकि स्वीडन से मंगाने तो क्या कम देना पड़ता ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** मार्केट में प्राइसेज की सीक्रेसी होती है, मैं भानतीय सदस्य से विनती करूंगा कि अलग अलग कन्ट्रीज के दामों के अन्दर न जायें ;

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** How far do the prices of newsprint compare with the prices of the newsprint imported from Canada before devaluation? How has it affected the prices?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The point is simple. Devaluation affected all countries; not one country. Therefore, whatever the disparity from time to time, it is bound to be there.

**श्री अ० प्र० शर्मा :** भिन्न भिन्न देशों से हम जो न्यूज़प्रिण्ट मंगाते हैं, क्या उन सबकी क्वालिटी एक है, या किसी की अच्छी है और किसी की बुरी है ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** हम ऐसी क्वालिटी चाहते हैं जो न्यूज़ पेपर वाले इस्तेमाल कर सकें ।

**Shri R. S. Pandey:** Whatever production we have indigenously, the quality is rough. May I know whether the Government is thinking of devising measures so as to improve the quality of our newsprint?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, Sir, this is very true. In NEPA, we are changing the process from the cold process to the alkaloid process in order to see that the liquid content is down, the yellow colour vanishes and it becomes more bright, but there are limitations to such improvement.

**श्री बड़ै :** नेपा नगर के कागज की जो कौस्ट पड़ती है उससे आस्ट्रेलियन पेपर जो आयेगा उसमें कितना फर्क होगा और क्या उससे नेपा का जो कागज का धंधा है उसको हानि पहुंचेगी क्योंकि वह खराब निकलता है तो उसको कोई मंजूर नहीं करेगा और बाहर का इम्पोर्टेड कागज सब मंजूर करेंगे ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** प्राइस के बारे में मैंने बतला दिया है और प्राइस के हिसाब से डिफ़रेंस सब जगह है ।

**श्री क० ना० तिवारी :** गवर्नमेंट ने बहुत सी स्कीम्स अपने देश में कागज बनाने के लिए न्यूज़ प्रिंट बनाने के लिए मंजूर की थीं तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह किस स्टेज में हैं, उसमें क्या प्रोग्रेस हुई है और कब तक हग इस बारे में सैलफ सफिशिएंट हो जायेंगे ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** मैंने उसका विवरण बतला दिया है । नेपा का कागज का कारखाना है और वह कॅनेडा के साथ कोलैबरेशन की कोशिश कर रहा है और हम चाहते हैं कि जल्द से जल्द वह हो जाय लेकिन जैसा मैंने बतलाया हर एक चीज के अन्दर देश स्वावलम्बी हो यह जो हमारा ख्याल है वह बिल्कुल सही नहीं है क्योंकि जिस चीज के लिए हमारे पास रा मैटेरियल होगा उसमें ही हम स्वावलम्बी हो सकेंगे ।

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** Many years back it was examined whether bagasse produced in some of the Andhra sugar factories could be used for newsprint and it was found that bagasse could be used for that purpose. May I know why it is that the Ministry is waiting for getting some information from the United States of America when this experience is already available?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** What the hon. Member refers to is the factory of paper in Andhra. That factory is making writing paper. It can be used for newspapers but the cost is very high, the rotaries cannot adjust it properly because it is a heavy paper. What is required is real long staple newsprint for the newspapers at a cheap cost. The two are not the same. The one already existing is producing printing paper and what we propose to produce is newsprint.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** May I know if there is any proposal with the Government of India to have a newsprint factory in the public sector at Bodhan for making use of bagasse?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** If this process, which the other hon. Member referred to, comes out successful, we will certainly consider it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next Question—Shri B. K. Das—absent—Dr. M. M. Das—

**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:** Sir, I suggest that Question No. 102 may also be taken along with this.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. Minister is prepared to answer both of them together let him do so.

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Metals (Shri Mehdi):** I will answer them together

#### **Airborne Geophysical Wing for Geological Survey of India**

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98. **Dr. M. M. Das:**

**Shri B. K. Das:**

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:**

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**

**Shri S. C. Samanta:**

**Shri Subodh Hansda:**

**Dr. P. N. Khan:**

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

(a) whether the decision has been taken to provide the Geological Survey of India with an airborne Geophysical Wing on a permanent basis;

(b) if so, what will be the functions of the Wing and what will be the expenditure for setting it up; and

(c) whether technical and financial foreign assistance will be necessary for the purpose?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Metals (Shri Mehdi):**

(a) and (b). No such decision has yet been taken.

(c) In the event of Government deciding to set up such a unit in Geological Survey of India, some assistance involving equipment and expertise from abroad may become necessary.

#### **American Aid for Aerial Geological Survey**

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\*102. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**

**Shri Subodh Hansda:**

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:**

**Shri P. C. Borooah:**

**Dr. M. M. Das:**

**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**

**Shri J. B. S. Bist:**

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:**

**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

**Dr. P. N. Khan:**

**Shri Karni Singhji:**

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

(a) whether the 'Operation hard rock', the countrywide aerial survey to locate non-ferrous metal deposits promised to be undertaken by an American firm of contractors has materialised;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement with the American Firm;