

Shri M. K. Kumaran: May I know whether the Government of India have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala regarding the setting up of a corporation for the cashew industry?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This morning we had a conference with the Minister from Kerala, and we advised him that to start a corporation for cashew at the present moment is totally inadvisable. We shall assist them to the extent possible through the STC.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Warrior.

Shri Warrior: My question has been almost covered by that question, but may I know . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In the papers we have read that a certain amount of jute will be permitted to be exported. Is this export of jute to be permitted out of the IJMA buffer stock or directly through the Jute Balers' Association or any other private agency?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This is done by the private trade, and about one lakh bales will be exported to the East European countries and about one lakh to the other countries.

Shri Hem Barua: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Central Jute Committee Bulletin where it has been alleged that large-scale smuggling of jute to Pakistan, where an open market operates, takes place? If this is true, what steps do Government visualise to check this, if not allowing trading through the STC?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Smuggling of jute to Pakistan!—this is the first time I hear of it from the hon. Member. As a matter of fact, there is no allegation at all.

Shri Hem Barua: I have quoted from the Bulletin.

Mr. Speaker: Mostly he quotes from very reliable sources. Shri Naik.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether it is not a fact that in respect of jute, co-operative marketing has been advocated lately; if so, whether the interest of co-operative trading and STC will not clash?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is no clash of interests. In our mind, the agriculturist's interests are supreme. We want to give him a fair price. As the House is aware, round about Rs. 30 is the price we are trying to maintain. The buffer stock and various other operations have so worked that the prices have been well maintained throughout the last month.

Radio-active Experiments near Cochin Sea Coast

*1324. **Shri P. Kunhan:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Radio-active experiments are being carried out near the Cochin Sea Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Deputy Conservator has issued orders prohibiting the fishermen from fishing near the Cochin Sea Coast during these experiments?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). Yes, an experiment using the radio-tracer method was carried out in May 1962 near Cochin Port to determine a suitable site for dumping dredged silt.

Special scandium glass ground to simulate the Cochin silt and irradiated in the Canada India Reactor, Trombay, was dumped into the sea bed on the south side of the navigational channel of Cochin Port by means of a special remotely-operated injection apparatus. By following the radiation from the silt with the help of special electronic instruments, the movement of the silt was watched. Preliminary results of the experiment carried out show that the site presently used for dumping the dredged silt is not suitable. Further experiments are planned to determine a suitable site.

The entire experiment was planned and executed by the scientists of the Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay in collaboration with the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona, and the Cochin Port authorities.

(c) Yes, the Deputy Conservator has issued a notice prohibiting the plying of fishing vessels and other country crafts in the area upto 7th of June, 1962.

Shri P. Kunhan: How long will the experiments continue? Have Government any plan to help the fishermen who have been prevented from fishing in that locality?

Shri Dinesh Singh: This particular experiment is over now; and they had warned the ships not because of any danger to the ships but because that might disturb the experiment that was being carried on.

Shri P. Kunhan: I want to know whether Government have any plan to help the fishermen who are prevented from plying fishing vessels in that area.

Shri Dinesh Singh: What help, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Not by sympathy alone but by money. That is what he probably means.

Shri Dinesh Singh: This is a small area near the port; and they can go a little out into the sea and fish there.

Shri Umanath: May I know whether the effects of this experiment on the people in the surrounding area and the fish around had been ascertained before going into it? If it had been adverse, what protective measures Government took before getting into that?

Shri Dinesh Singh: The whole thing has been examined by the Health Physics Division of the Atomic Energy Establishment and it was considered quite safe.

Shri Warior: How long will the fish in that area be affected by radio active elements? How long will the effects continue?

Shri Dinesh Singh: It would not be effected to any dangerous extent.

Dr. K. L. Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that similar experiments were carried on in Bombay and Mangalore with absolute safety?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I could not follow, Sir.

Dr. K. L. Rao: May I know whether similar experiments were carried out at Mangalore and Bombay with absolute safety?

Mr. Speaker: Let us confine ourselves to this experiment.

Shri Dinesh Singh: Yes, Sir.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: For a country situated as India is, has any assessment or estimate been made as to whether power and fuel from conventional sources would be cheaper than from the atom in the foreseeable future?

Mr. Speaker: That is a very wider question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He can give an answer, Sir. We are thinking of developing power from the atom.

Mr. Speaker: The question was limited to the experiment that was carried on near Cochin, whether it was satisfactory or not etc.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Should we stop with the fish, Sir? Can we not go further?

Mr. Speaker: I think we should not go deeper into the sea now.

Chinese Protest alleging Indian Intrusion into Longju

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*1325. { **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has recently lodged a protest with the Government of India alleging violation of Chinese territorial integrity at Longju in NEFA; and