

Corporation imports milk under P. L. 480 from the United States. Import from other sources is prohibited. The State Trading Corporation has devised a machinery of distribution whereby importers are formed into an association and stocks are released as and when they are unloaded, and that is the best check on prices that we can put.

Messrs Plywood Products, Sitapur (U.P.)

*245. { Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a licence for about Rs. 5 lakhs has been granted to Messrs Plywood Products, Sitapur, U.P. for the import of secondhand machinery; and

(b) if so, whether Government have satisfied themselves of the quality and necessity of the machinery to be imported?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: I would like to know whether Government have received any complaint to the effect that there is some swindle involved in the purchase of this machinery and that this secondhand machinery is mere scrap?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir. We have taken care to see that competent experts in the U.K. have inspected the machinery completely, and our own experts are also satisfied, and only then we have allowed its import.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: My question was whether the Government has received any complaint and whether they have gone into the matter.

Shri Manubhai Shah: We have received no complaint either from the buyer or the supplier or anybody else.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether one Mr. Mohamed Ismail who was one of the partners of this concern just before partition managed to set fire to this factory and go away to England, and if he is in England?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have no information about the gentleman the hon. Member has referred to, but I can say this is one of the very good factories and makes first class decorative plywoods also, and is perhaps the best decorative varieties in the country.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether almost at the same time any other licences for the import of new machinery for the expansion of the capacity of plywood factories in Kerala have been disallowed?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is not a fact. The whole position now in regard to the import of capital goods is that unless a firm brings a deferred payment arrangement, even for a small sum like Rs. 4,75,000, a licence is not issued. The firm has managed a contract of six annual instalments. If anybody brings similar deferred payment arrangements, we shall certainly consider them.

Portuguese Possessions in India

Shri H. N. Mukerjee:

*246. { Shri M. Elias:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the replies given to supplementaries on the Short Notice Question No. 23 on the 5th September, 1957 and state whether the Government of India has taken up at the diplomatic level the question of support by certain powers, particularly in the Commonwealth of Portuguese colonialism in India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): The Government of India have recently again brought to the notice of some Governments their views regarding the situation inside the Portuguese possessions in India.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if the channels of inter-Commonwealth communication were utilised by Government to indicate our reaction on such symbolic occasions as the visit of the British Queen, who is the Head of the Commonwealth, to Lisbon?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): No, Sir. As far as I remember, no communication was sent on that particular occasion. That was about a year ago, I think. We would not normally send communications of this type approving or disapproving of actions taken by the head of another State.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Could I know how far our studied patience over Portugal's long-continued provocation has so far produced any notable, tangible effect on the attitude of certain Great Powers?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a question of measuring mental attitudes. I am quite unable to say anything definite about it, but I am quite sure that large numbers of people have been influenced by our attitude.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister has not replied to the question whether the Government of India has taken up the question of support by certain Powers in the Commonwealth to Portuguese colonialism. We want to know specifically whether this question was taken up with any Commonwealth country at the diplomatic level?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The reply says that we have raised this question with a number of countries not only of the Commonwealth but many other countries. Naturally when we raise it with a country we try to explain our attitude to them, we try to

press for their support to that attitude.

Shri Joachim Alva: When the Indian satyagrahis planned to enter Goa, the British High Commissioner called at our External Affairs Ministry, and perhaps protested against it. May I know whether the British Government has made any observations in regard to the unabashed and unashamed manner in which the last Prime Minister of Pakistan, before he assumed office and after, entered Goa and Portugal? And now again the President of Pakistan has also gone there.

Mr. Speaker: Is it necessary to use all these expressions? Hon. Members should not embarrass the House or the Prime Minister or inconvenience ourselves. Questions are intended only for eliciting some information when remarks of this kind are unnecessary. Without any prelude, epilogue or prologue and without any comments a straight question can be put.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member referred to some visit of the U.K. High Commissioner to the Foreign Office here—I did not quite catch on what occasion. He comes frequently, but what has that got to do with Goa I do not know. I have no recollection of the U.K. High Commissioner visiting the External Affairs Ministry on the question of Goa at all.

As for the other matter, namely the visits of the Prime Minister and the President of Pakistan to Portugal, surely, it is not for me to reply or to judge of their motives in doing so, or to justify or not to justify them. As is well known, we are not in tune with Pakistan's policy.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government have received the views of any Government who have been approached in this regard, and if so, the nature of the replies received?

Mr. Speaker: Any reactions of the other Governments who have been approached?

Shri Tyagi: It is asking for too much.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These replies which are normally given are orally indicated to us by their representatives.

Shri Hem Barua: In the face of Dr. Salazaar's vitriolic attack at election time against this country, and Major General Iskander Mirza's and the Pakistan Prime Minister's whispering campaign in Portugal over Goa and Kashmir, may I know whether Government propose to adopt drastic measures by taking possession of these Indian territories immediately?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Second Five Year Plan

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*248. { Shri Harish Chandra Mathur
Shri Rup Narain:
Shri Badha Raman:
Shri Morarka:
Shri Nathwanl:
Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri Sanganna:
Shri Damani:
Shri Jhulan Sinha:
Shri Naushir Bharucha:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of rearrangement of priorities of the projects and programme in the Second Five Year Plan has been completed; and

(b) which of the major projects have been delayed or postponed for the present due to paucity of funds including foreign exchange?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) The Planning Commission is

engaged in reviewing projects included in the Second Five Year Plan, especially those on which a start has already been made, with a view to determining priorities among them from the point of view of foreign exchange.

(b) Projects which might be affected by shortage of foreign exchange can be indicated after discussions regarding the Development Plan for 1958-59 have concluded.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether instructions have already been issued to all the State Governments to cut down their budget provisions for this year for developmental schemes by 20 per cent?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Not to my knowledge. Whatever instructions have been issued to the State Governments have been referred to by me during the last week in this House.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether the State Governments are free to adopt their budgets for this year as they were, and whether the shortfall during the first year will be permitted to be made up?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The State Governments submit their annual plans to the Planning Commission, and there is discussion between the State Governments, the Planning Commission and the Ministries concerned. When the annual plans are approved, the State Governments go ahead with those plans, and that procedure will be followed during the next year also.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether any project on which work has already been started is likely to be postponed or delayed for want of foreign exchange?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Every scheme is being examined and the Planning Commission is at work. It is difficult to say at this stage which of the projects will be delayed or postponed.