

पहले खादी पहनना अनिवार्य था लेकिन कुछ दिनों से यह अनिवार्यता हटा दी गई है ? यदि हा, तो इसका क्या कारण है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जहाँ तक मुझे मालूम है अनिवार्यता जितनी थी उतनी चालू है। हम तो इसे और बढ़ा रहे हैं कि जहाँ जहाँ हो सके सरकारी दफ्तरो में खादी का उपयोग और बढ़ाया जाये। लेकिन चूँकि मेम्बर साहब ने पूछा है, मैं इस बारे में छानबीन करूँगा और मेम्बर साहब को बताऊँगा।

Mr Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether it is a fact that they have removed the insistence upon wearing of khadi or supply of khadi uniforms etc

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): In fact, uniform was prescribed for certain categories. It was not prescribed for all the workers and all the staff of the Posts and Telegraphs Department or the Railways. I remember that in one case, it was definitely found that the colour of the cloth was not fast, and, therefore, it was suggested by the Railway Ministry that they would, for the time being, drop the using of that cloth for that particular category of staff, and they said that if they were able to get the quantity and quality of the cloth they required, they would again start using khadi. So, it has not been dropped, but in certain cases, certain relaxations are made for a short period.

Shri Assar: May I know whether the spinners and the weavers in this khadi industry ultimately get wages lower than the bare minimum wages?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is true. It is an integral part of the scheme. We want higher technology to develop along with the gradual progress to better and better payment of wages.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: From the statement it appears that about Rs 22 to 23 crores have so far been invested in this industry. May I know what

part of this amount is being directly spent by the Khadi Commission and what part has been given to other organisations?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Most of the funnelling of the amount is done through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, which is a statutory commission, but they operate in two ways; one is through the State statutory boards, wherever statutes exist in the States; the other is where the statute does not exist, in which case, they recognise certain voluntary institutions which accept the principle underlying the khadi movement and give the grants and the various loans to them.

Border Incidents

*666. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to his statement of 12th September, 1958 and state—

(a) whether any Indian Nationals were taken prisoners by the Pakistani forces during the July-August border incidents; and

(b) if so, their number and how many of them have since been released by the Pakistan authorities?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri J. N. Hazarika): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Five Indian nationals were taken prisoners by the East Pakistan forces during border incidents in July and August, 1958. All of them have been released.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know the trend of these incidents after the military regime took over in Pakistan, whether they are on the decrease or increase?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I laid a paper on the Table of the House some days ago giving a list of such incidents—I think it was on the 19th or 20th November—which indicated an increase in trend.

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: As the hon. Prime Minister has stated that they are on the increase, what steps are we contemplating to have a check on them?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These incidents take place for various reasons. This particular season is a season of incidents, apart from others, the reason being that when harvest or something in connection with fields takes place, there is a quarrel between the peasantry on either side of the border, that is, some peasants on that side own or claim to own some fields on this side and so they want to come and harvest. Then there is trouble and then they are supported by their respective police. That is one reason. Then 'char' lands appear which, again, are a source of dispute—about the ownership of the land.

As to what steps we take, the only step we can take in the nature of things is to follow the procedure laid down, that is, protest, inquiry, the two parties meeting; in minor cases, the two District Magistrates or Commissioners meet and normally come to some decision, or sometimes the matter is referred to Governments.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it a fact that two Indians who were recently kidnapped by Pakistan police, are still in the custody of the Pakistan Government and all attempts made by the Assam Government at the Secretaries' Conference to get them released have proved futile? Is it also a fact that a boat was recently captured by Pakistan nationals in the Kushiyara river and property worth Rs. 400 was taken away?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am handing in a statement. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 60], bringing this information up to date, that is, the various cases that have occurred since the 19th or 20th November till the 6th December.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly look into the statement.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Some cases have occurred including, I believe, the one mentioned.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chandhuri: Has the clause in the agreement between the two Prime Ministers relating to the release of kidnapped persons been brought into operation or has the attention of the Pakistan Government been drawn to that clause in respect of these subsequent kidnappings also?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes. These are matters brought to notice. I cannot precisely say if there is any kidnapped person who has not been released. Normally after two days or a few days, they do come back.

Shri Hem Barua: At least there are two.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am sorry I cannot say. If the hon. Member indicates precisely in a slip of paper, I shall be able to tell him tomorrow.

Shri Hem Barua: All right.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Since we have got military and the police to protect the border, how many of the people who come to raid, and kidnap our people have been apprehended by our police and military?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is a general question. From time to time, they are apprehended. Normally, nobody is likely to commit a raid when he sees the military about. It is only when they are not about, that raid is committed.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Re-union of the two Bengals will be the only remedy.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it a fact that our police and military are less equipped and poorer in number—and consequently there is less vigilance—than what they have on the other side of the border?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say. I cannot compare it. But I think they are adequately present at important points.

As regards the two persons, about whom the hon. Member asked, the

report we have received is that they are untraceable, whatever that might mean.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it the information supplied by the Government of Pakistan or is it our own finding?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: According to the Pakistan Government's report, they know nothing about them. They cannot trace them.

Shri Hem Barua: They have evaporated!

Shri Vajpayee: Is it a fact that our police and army have been ordered not to return fire even if they are fired at from the other side?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, there is no such order or direction. They have been ordered not to fire, that is, not to start firing, but if they are attacked, they certainly have to return the fire in defence.

Shri Hem Barua: Shri Goray and myself had been to the Indo-Pakistan border and we have seen it. Are Government aware of the fact that they are building reinforced concrete bunkers on the Pakistan border whereas we have only mud and earth bunkers?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have had some such reports in some places. I do not think it makes very much difference. These things—bunkers and others—count in a state of acute hostility, not otherwise.

Shri B. Das Gupta rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member always rises late.

Shri B. Das Gupta: When I rise, I am not given an opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: No, I always give opportunity.

Shri B. Das Gupta: May I know whether there was an incident regarding a survey officer of West Bengal who was assaulted by the military personnel of Pakistan, as a result of which officers are refusing to go to

the border of Pakistan in order to settle border areas?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Since the hon. Member has asked me that question, I shall gladly answer it now; I would have dealt with it anyhow later on. There was this question of our Deputy Director of Surveys, Shri B. N. Chatterjee, who when returning from Pakistan was stopped on the border and searched. It was a regrettable incident. The account that appeared in the Press was much more than what, according to facts pointed out by the West Bengal Government, occurred. In the original Press account, it was stated that he had been mal-treated and man-handled and all that, but I think the West Bengal Government itself issued a denial of this yesterday. It said that there had been no manhandling and mal-treatment, but he was searched with great thoroughness. Of course, that search itself was hardly justified. He was a person doing official work with the Pakistani people in regard to survey. In fact, we have protested about it. Now I understand the Pakistan Government itself has asked us about the facts. These things are done on the border by some petty officials. The petty officials normally perhaps are not very much in control there; more especially, since martial law came in, some petty army officer functions in a way he should not function.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: While the hon. Prime Minister is in such a generous mood, may I ask him a question? What does he think about the nationalism of Bengal? Can we promote nationalism of Bengal, because the nationalism of Bengal can unite both Bengals?

Expert Committee on Coffee Marketing

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Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri N. Keshava:
Shri Warrior:
Shri Subbiah Ambalam:

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

(a) whether the Expert Committee of the Coffee Board on the Coffee