

Marketing has completed its deliberations and submitted any report to Government; and.

(b) if so, to what extent the Government have accepted the recommendations contained therein?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: I presume that the Expert Committee was appointed by the Coffee Board because there are some problems of marketing as far as coffee is concerned. If that is the case, may I know why the coffee houses were closed before such an enquiry was made?

Shri Kanungo: This Committee is appointed principally for the export market—export of coffee—and not for the internal market.

Sports Goods Industry

*668. Shri R. C. Majhi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sports Goods Industry is experiencing considerable difficulty in getting the willow and mulberry goods from Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The Jammu and Kashmir Government are unable to spare willow timber as the quantity available is not enough to meet even the requirements of the Kashmir State Government's Sports Goods Factory. Mulberry is preserved by the State Government for silk worm rearing and is also not available.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(i) Steps have been taken by the Jammu and Kashmir State Government to grow more English Willow in the Kashmir State with a view to improving the raw material supply.

(ii) Governments of Punjab and U.P. have started plantation of willow and mulberry trees in different parts of their States. Other State Governments have been advised to devise ways and means of increasing the production of mulberry wood in their areas.

(iii) Efforts are being made to see if mulberry and willow are available in Assam.

(iv) Studies are also being conducted to find out the suitability of other kinds of woods for the manufacture of sports goods.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know what is the total requirement of willow and mulberry wood by the sports goods industry, and how much of it is met by Kashmir?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I have already indicated in the answer, the Kashmir Government is investigating into the whole matter. There was a feeling that in the past all willow and mulberry wood was coming from Kashmir. It was not so. It was the Lahore area of Western Pakistan from which the whole industry of Punjab sports goods was receiving willow and mulberry. We are now trying to grow more willow and mulberry in Kashmir, Punjab and other hill stations. The Kashmir Government is unable to give any mulberry to our industry here.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Has the Exports Promotion Council suggested any steps to promote the export of sports goods?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir; several steps like drawing back of duty, currency retention for import of raw materials, organising emporia and exhibitions in foreign countries

and here, and all other relevant steps.

श्री ज० ब० सारिक जो कुछ अभी करमाया गया है उस सिलसिले में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार की सरकार हकूमत काश्मीर की विलो बुड को डिडेलेप करने में क्या मदद कर रही है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह जो मदद तो जैरी हम हर एक चीज में देते हैं "सही दो जाती है जैसे लोन हम देते हैं, ग्रांट देते हैं वगैरह। हमें आशा है कि काश्मीर को इन्स्ट्रुमेंटों में इस समय काफी बढ़ रही है और वहां विलो काफी बढ़ रही है। लेकिन सिर्फ काश्मीर पर ही निर्भर रहना ठीक नहीं होगा क्योंकि हर एक स्टेट में विलो और मलबेरी को और बढ़ाया जा सकता है। इसलिए उत्तर प्रदेश में पंजाब में और दूसरी स्टेट्स में भी हम मदद कर रहे हैं।

Shri Jadhav: May I know the amount of foreign exchange earned by export of sports goods?

Shri Manubhai Shah: In 1957—Rs. 24 lakhs and in 1958, in eight months—Rs. 21 lakhs It is on the increase

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know if the Exports Promotion Council also recommend that there should be a reduction in postal rates; if so, has any decision been taken?

Shri Manubhai Shah: They did recommend, and we are in correspondence with the Ministry. We hope, because there is much substance in the argument that postal rates should be reduced, that something will come out of that.

Shri Dasappa: In the statement it is stated that efforts are being made to see if mulberry and willow are available in Assam. I do not really understand what is meant by saying that efforts are being made to see that they are available.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It should not be "available"; it should be "produced".

Natural Essential Oils

*668. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the value of the Natural Essential Oils imported every year; and

(b) what steps are being taken to develop Essential Oils producing industry in the country?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The import of essential vegetable oils in the past was as follows:—

1957—Rs 74,32,000

1958—(January-Aug)—

Rs. 32,15,000

(b) The Central Government renders assistance to the industry in the matter of procurement of requisite raw materials, packing materials, protection against competition from abroad, and facilities for export. The Essential Oil Research Committee of C.S.I.R. is sponsoring research work for the development of this industry and is giving technical guidance and financial assistance for such schemes.

Besides, State Governments are rendering assistance by way of obtaining finance, land and imports of improved type of seeds etc.

Shri Damani: May I know by what time the production of essential oils will be developed to such an extent so as to meet our requirements?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This is a very fast developing industry and it is not merely good to aim at self-sufficiency. We go on producing more different types of essential oils, develop their uses and export the finished goods, even if we have to import something from outside.