

the committee, and I would merely request that we may await the recommendations of the Silk Board on the report, and Government's decision thereon, which would be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Export of Shoes

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\*1902. { Shri R. C. Majhi:  
Shri N. R. Munisamy:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri Anirudh Sinha:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1194 on the 12th September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the orders for the supply of shoes to Russia and Poland have since been complied with;

(b) if so, how many pairs of shoes have so far been exported to Russia and Poland this year;

(c) whether any repeat orders have been received from these countries and if so, for how many pairs and the value thereof;

(d) whether any negotiations are going on with any other countries for the supply of boots and shoes and if so, with whom; and

(e) the number of shoes to be supplied and the value thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Orders placed by Russia in 1956 and 1957 of about 9 lakh pairs of shoes have been mostly complied with except for a small quantity of about 6,000 pairs. Deliveries against the 1958 contract of roughly 2½ lakh pairs are yet to be made.

Against the order of about ½ a lakh pairs placed by Poland in 1957, one shipment of about 21,000 pairs has already been made and the balance of the order has been cancelled.

(c) Russia has placed a further order for 2½ lakh pairs of shoes recently. No orders have been placed by Poland in 1958.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Negotiations are in progress for the supply of shoes to G.D.R., Bulgaria and Yugoslavia to whom the samples have been sent for approval. A trial order of shoes valued roughly at Rs. 1½ lakhs has been placed by G.D.R. This contract also is under execution.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know what percentage of the orders was executed through the small-scale units?

Shri Kanungo: Roughly 50 per cent.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know whether the shoes that were returned from the USSR have been disposed of by the State Trading Corporation, if so, the loss incurred therein?

Shri Kanungo: Some shoes were rejected shoes, and they are being disposed of. The matter is under negotiation with other countries, and after the negotiations are completed, it will be settled whether they will be sold in the country or not.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know what steps have been taken by Government to overcome the shortcomings experienced by this corporation, and also whether it is a fact that the shoes that have been returned from Russia refer to cases of shoes for only one leg, that is, mispairing of shoes?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): If I might explain, the rejection of these shoes primarily was not as a result of any fall in quality or of any defects in the shoes themselves. Originally, the USSR wanted shoes of a certain type, and we tried to conform to it. But, later on, for certain varieties, they wanted another type, which we could not naturally produce at short notice. The Governments of both the countries have been fully co-operative, and helping us so that the small portion which has a standard different from the standard required by them could

be utilised in their own countries. At our end, we are trying to introduce the quality marking scheme in the small-scale industry, particularly, in centres like Agra, Kanpur and various other major centres producing leather goods and shoes on a small-scale industry basis, so that the standard quality is maintained in order to promote greater and greater exports of this very valuable foreign exchange earning commodity.

**Shri Anirudh Sinha:** May I know the number and value of the surplus stock of shoes with the National Small Industries Corporation as on 31st October last, and how they are proposed to be disposed of?

**Shri Kanungo:** There are shoes from various concerns and in the different contracts, shipments are still due. Whether there is any surplus or not will be decided when the 1958 contracts are completed.

**Shri Thimmalah:** May I know whether any facilities are provided to the co-operative societies to get these orders and comply with them?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is the intention of the Government to give greater and greater preference to and buy from the small-scale industries and particularly co-operative shoe manufacturers. Therefore I can assure the hon. Member that if any co-operative society came forward to sell its shoes to the STC or NSIC, we shall give them preference.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** What portion of the order now on hand will be executed through the small and cottage industries and what portion by the other industries?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Nothing can be anticipated in this respect. We always give preference to small industries and are giving larger and larger proportion. Even in the original contract, out of six lakhs pairs about 3½ to 4 lakhs have been purchased from the small-scale industries and only 2 to 2½ lakhs from the bigger producers.

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**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that the major part of the factory made shoes was from the Bata Shoe Company and if so what was the percentage?

**Shri Kanungo:** There was none from the Bata Shoe Company.

**Shri Mahagaonkar:** How many co-operative societies have so far supplied shoes to Russia?

**Shri Kanungo:** The contract is entered into by the National Small Industries Corporation. It obtains its goods from co-operative societies as well as other small producers in various centres. Therefore, it is not possible to give the break-up of the various sources from which shoes are purchased. The responsibility for purchasing and delivering the goods are taken by that Corporation which has been specially designed to help the co-operatives and small entrepreneurs.

**Shri K. N. Pandey:** May I know whether some of the big concerns which had undertaken this work of preparing shoes instead of preparing their own shoes have given them to some small shopkeepers to prepare them and that is why the quality has gone down and because of that most of the shoes have been refused by the Russians?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** If I may say so the inference is not quite correct. Firstly, as I have already said, the quality of the shoes was by and large not sub-standard. We take extraordinary precaution in relation to this as this is a promising line in which the exports could be accelerated. Therefore I should like to assure the House that no such thing is happening. If in some cases, the manufacturer whose shoes are purchased by the NSIC gives a sub-contract and gives us the standard goods, I would submit Sir that there is nothing wrong in it.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** May I know whether there is any negotiation going on between the Government of India



and the Russian Government in fixing the price since the prices of shoes are high in Russia?

**Shri Kanungo:** We sell shoes to any organisation which comes forward. We do not care what price they sell at.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I want to know why supplementaries are answered by one Minister once and by another Minister at another time. What is the division of labour between them?

**Mr. Speaker:** No, no. All the hon Members may expect to get information; generally, collectively and individually, the Ministers will answer.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** Sir, the hon Minister has been pleased to say that the Government is not interested in at what price the commodity we sell is sold elsewhere. Is that the economic policy of the Government?

**Shri Kanungo:** It is not the economic policy. There is the State Trading Corporation. If it is satisfied and if it gets a good price, it does not go into the question how matters are disposed of. The hon Members are aware that the retail trade in the purchasing country, the USSR is a monopolistic party. Therefore, we do not show any interest in it.

**Mr. Speaker:** What all the hon Member wants to know is this. If a higher price is got from that country, why not we have a share in it?

**Shri Kanungo:** It is an internal matter of that country where monopolistic trade is prevalent and we, therefore, do not show any interest in it because we are concerned with them as our customers.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then, why not the hon. Minister say that we cannot get a share of it? Next question.

### प्रीस परिषद् की स्थापना

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\*१००४. { श्री भक्त बर्मान :  
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क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री १४ नवम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६१ के उत्तर और उनके द्वारा ७ अप्रैल, १९५८ को सभा में दिये गये बयान के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि प्रीस परिषद् की स्थापना करने की विषय में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० कौस्तुभ) प्रीस कमिशन की स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में अभी आगे कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है ।

श्री भक्त बर्मान : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय इस बारे में जो स्थिति है, उसके आधार पर क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ढेर से ढेर कब तक इस बारे में फैसला हो सकेगा ?

डा० कौस्तुभ : इसके बारे में मैं कोई निश्चित बयान नहीं दे सकता । एक पिछले प्रश्न के जवाब में मैंने माननीय सदस्य को बताया था कि इस सम्बन्ध में जब तक जो दोनों दल हैं, प्रोपराइटर्स और वर्किंग जनरलिस्ट्स, उन में इस बारे में कोई एक राय होने की आशा नहीं है और जब तक उन दोनों में कोई समझौता नहीं हो जाता तब तक हम आगे कोई कदम नहीं उठावेंगे ।

श्री भक्त बर्मान : चूंकि समाचारपत्र जगत में यह जो दो विभिन्न दल हैं उनके बीच में कोई समझौता नहीं हो पा रहा है अतः मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इन दोनों दलों में आपस में समझौता कराने का कोई प्रयत्न किया गया है या प्रयत्न करने का विचार किया जा रहा है ?

डा० कौस्तुभ : अपने पिछले प्रयत्न में हम सफल नहीं हुए और अब हम और प्रयत्न करने की नहीं सोच रहे हैं ।