

operations in other companies are being investigated by the Commission

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Has Government observed that these concerns adopt quick change methods, namely, when we start an investigation they transfer the ownership of the company to somebody else, as has been done in the case of the *Times of India*? Has Government also observed that the *Pakistan Times* has been seized by Pakistan Government and new directors have been appointed thereon?

**Shri Kanungo:** These points are for the Commission to consider

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** May I know whether Government have received any request for investigation into Swadesh Nirman Limited?

**Shri Kanungo:** No Government have not yet received any request about the Swadesh Nirman Company

#### Nepa Newsprint

\*2309. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the price of Nepa Newsprint was raised during the last year, and

(b) if so, what was this increase and on what basis it was effected?

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

(b) The prices were raised with effect from 1st May, 1958 from 425 nP per lb FOR Napanagar to 475 nP per lb FOR Napanagar. This excludes the excise duty of 10 nP per lb. The price had to be increased because of increase in cost of raw materials, coal, steam and freight charges

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** What was the total production of the Nepa factory during 1957-58 and what were the results of the profit and loss accounts?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The House will be glad to know that since we took over the management of Nepa, the production, which was only 2,863 tons in 1956, has raised itself in 1958 to 22,000 tons

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** May I know whether it is a fact that the quality of Nepa papers is inferior to the imported paper? If so, what improvements are proposed?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is true that the quality is not as satisfactory as it is desired to be, but it has much improved in the last two years

**Shri Jaganatha Rao:** When is this Nepa Paper Mill to reach the original target of 30,000 tons?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Now we seem to have turned the corner. With the installation of the Chandni power house, for which orders are being placed, I think next year we should reach the target

सेठ अचल सिंह क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह मान्य है कि बाजार में जो न्यूजप्रिंट का कंट्रोल्ड दाम है उसमें बहुत ज्यादा दाम पर वह ब्लैक मार्केट में बिक रहा है?

श्री मनुभाई शाह इस प्रश्न में इस बात का सीधा सम्बन्ध नहीं है। लेकिन हाजम को यह पता है कि इस बारे में सरकार ने काफी कदम उठाये हैं। काटा दिया जा रहा है और एम० टी० सी० की मारफन न्यूजप्रिंट माया जा रहा है। इसलिए ब्लैक मार्केट का सीका अब कम है।

**Shri Braj Baj Singh:** Has it been brought to the notice of Government that even at this increased price people are not getting paper from the Nepa Mills?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That is partly true, because the demand is going up very fast and in spite of the fact—as I stated in the other House—that we have exceeded the target in paper production this year and last year, the demand has gone up and is more than

our estimated demand. Therefore, we have licensed almost one lakh tons extra over the Second Five Year Plan target.

**Shri Vajpayee:** Is it not a fact that in spite of the increase in price of newsprint, the Nepa Mills are running at a heavy loss?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** No, Sir. I am glad to inform the House that in 1958-59 we expect to make some profit after meeting some of the depreciation and writing off of a part of the old losses.

**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:** The hon. Minister just now stated that there is very little room for misuse and black-marketing. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a photostat facsimile of a letter that was written by one of the Directors of a big Newspaper in Madras to his Assistant Manager which shows what gross misuse is being made of the newsprint quota:

"We will have to deliver the balance of five tons of overissues to Mr. K. A. Raja and nine tons of overissues to M/s Jothee Waste Paper Company . . . Besides delivering the five tons . . ."

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is delivering a speech.

**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:** No, Sir, there are instances in this letter which clearly show.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member can only put a question.

**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:** Yes. The hon. Minister just now stated that there is no room for misuse or black-marketing. Here is positive evidence.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member may transmit it to the hon. Minister.

**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:** I am prepared to place it on the Table of the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not prepared to allow that; the Table is very narrow.

The hon. Member may as well put a question as to whether certain things have come to his notice

**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:** Has it been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** That he has read already.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** As I have already mentioned there was some slight variation in the hon. Member's repetition. First I was supposed to have said there was very little scope and then there was no scope. I never said so. I said the scope is less than what is was before.

**Mr. Speaker:** All that the hon. Member wants is to bring certain instances to his notice so that he may take certain steps.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That was what I answered: in spite of increase in production, the demand is going up. There is, of course, some truth in what the hon. Member suggests.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** May I know how the new price of Nepa Newsprint compares with the price of imported newsprint?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It varies. At one stage it was Rs. 100 less than the imported price; but there are fluctuations in the international price and at present it is about Rs. 80 or so more.

#### All India Middle Class Family Budget

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\*2310. { **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Ignace Beck:**  
**Shri S. C. Godsora:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made up-to-date in regard to field work in connection with the All India Middle Class Family Budget Survey; and

(b) when the survey is likely to be concluded?