

markets due to the competition of Japanese hosiery goods; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the export of Indian hosiery goods?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) There has been some decline in exports of Cotton hosiery goods. This may be partly due to competition from other countries including Japan.

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

STATEMENT

The following steps have been taken by the Government to improve export of Indian Hosiery goods:

(a) An Export Promotion Incentive Scheme for Woollen goods has been introduced with effect from the 1st April 1959. Under this Scheme licences for import of raw materials are allowed against export of manufactured goods. A similar scheme for Cotton goods is under consideration of the Government. Regarding the art silk industry, the Silk and Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council is also considering the possibility of introducing such a scheme.

(b) Two ad-hoc Committees representative of Central Government, State Governments and private enterprise have been set up at Calcutta and Ludhiana to look into the problems of hosiery exports for cotton and woollen hosiery goods respectively.

(c) According to the new scheme of distribution and production of woollen hosiery yarn as announced on the 3rd November 1959, the Government is ensuring adequate supply of woollen hosiery yarn at reasonable prices to the hosiery units. This scheme will come into effect from the 1st January 1960 and will enable the hosiery units to offer their exports at more competitive prices.

(d) The National Small Industries Corporation is assisting the small

scale hosiery manufacturers to improve the quality of their products by making the latest types of machinery available to them on hire-purchase basis.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know the improvement made in the position as a result of taking these steps?

Shri Kanungo: The steps have been taken only recently and the market improvements have not been observed yet, except that woollen, art silk and hosiery goods are showing improvement.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know the extent of the down-trend in these goods? What were the amounts of export in 1957-58 and 1958-59?

Shri Kanungo: The export figure for 1957 was 21,13,442 lbs. In 1958 it was 17,11,000 lbs. In 1959, for the first six months, it is 7,42,000 lbs.

Firing by Pakistani Troops on U.N. Observers

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 Shri A. M. Tariq:
 Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri Shree Narayan Das:
 Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
 Shri Nardeo Snatak:
 Shri Arjan Singh Bhadauria:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantiya:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 21st September, 1959 Pakistani troops opened fire on the U.N. Observers in Nowshera in Jammu;

(b) if so, the circumstances in which fire was opened on the Observers; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) According to

the U.N. Chief Military Observer, the rifle of a Pakistan soldier was accidentally discharged, whilst in the presence of a U.N. Observer. This incident took place in the Naushera sector on September 21, 1950.

(b) and (c) Does not arise

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I know whether the Government of India have received any statement, or protest, or report from the United Nations Observer and, if so, the action taken by the Government on that?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: The United Nations Chief Military Observer has investigated the case and made an award against Pakistan. On the basis of the Chief Military Observer's award, our High Commissioner in Karachi had made a protest to Pakistan on 9th November, 1950, to which a reply is awaited.

Shri A. M. Tariq: When the Pakistan delegation was here in India to discuss the border incidents with us, may I know whether these cases were reported to them and an assurance sought from Pakistan that such incidents will not be repeated in future?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I presume that they were not mentioned to that delegation. And there was no occasion to mention to them this because they were dealing with the eastern border.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any compensation has been demanded, or paid, to the family of the victim?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: There has been no loss of life or property.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Only a gun went off.

Advisers at Ports

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Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Sardar Iqbal Singh:

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Shri A. M. Tariq:

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhad:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state at what

stage is the proposal to appoint a prominent businessman of high standing as an Adviser at each port with a view to bring about closer liaison between the business community and Government?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): The matter is under consideration and will be finalized shortly.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: What specific subjects pertaining to the ports would be referred to the adviser?

Shri Satish Chandra: These advisers will be prominent men in the business field and they will work as honorary advisers in the various ports. They will preside over the meetings. At present there are port advisory councils in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras which are presided over by the Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Now the non-officials will preside over the meetings.

Mr. Speaker: All that he wants to know is the subjects that will come before the adviser for consideration.

Shri Satish Chandra: The port advisory councils will be presided over by these honorary advisers, and they will act as a sort of liaison between the trade and the Government.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has made any suggestion in this regard?

Shri Satish Chandra: This was the result of the discussions held in the meeting of the Export Promotion Advisory Council in September last. That meeting was attended by the members of the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry also, and the Minister made this announcement at the conclusion of the meeting.

Shri Nath Pal: The whole object of this suggestion was to enhance the turnover of the ports. From that