

Question No. 1179 on the 7th September, 1960 and state:

(a) whether negotiations regarding the movable and immovable properties in East Pakistan have concluded; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). The Honorary Secretary of the Association of Indian Property Owners met the Member, Board of Revenue East Pakistan, on the 22nd of September, 1960 at Dacca. No progress was made besides the Member promising to examine individual cases of property owners sent to him in small batches.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca is carrying on some kind of a negotiation with the Pakistan Government on the subject?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made constantly at diplomatic level with the East Pakistan authorities.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What was the last date when the Secretary met the Revenue Minister or somebody there and whether after that anything has happened?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: The Hon. Secretary met the Member of the Revenue Board first in May, 1959 and then again in September, 1960, and brought to his notice these various matters. After that, I do not think the Secretary has met. In any case, nothing very much has been done from the other side.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of this new friendship with Pakistan arising from the signing of the Canal Water treaty, may I know whether a more accommodative spirit on the part of Pakistan, so far as this problem is concerned, is discernible and if so, whether a speedy solution of the problem is in sight?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The answer has been given.

The hon. Member is talking about the future. That would be speculation.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether the talks and negotiations also cover specifically the question of remittance of profits of Indian owned companies which are still operating in East Pakistan and if so, whether any progress has been made in that regard?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know whether any present discussions are going on on that particular matter referred to by the hon. Member. But, this question has come up, of course, in the course of discussions previously.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any approximate or rough estimate has been made of the total value of movable and immovable property left in East Pakistan for which these people are making claims?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not give an answer to that question at all at the present moment. But, I believe some approximate estimates have been made. It is very difficult to get any accurate figures because the estimates are based on statements of the people concerned, and they are apt to exaggerate greatly.

State Trading Corporation

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*784. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Morarka:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Khimji:
Shri Bimal Ghose:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1740 on the 30th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the question of new trade policy regarding the functions to be entrusted to the State Trading Corporation has since been examined; and

(b) if so, what are the results of such examination?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). The recommendations made by the Estimates Committee in their 86th Report, regarding the functions to be entrusted to the State Trading Corporation, are still under consideration and it is hoped to take final decisions at an early date.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the Government have under consideration any idea of issuing a policy statement regarding the types of business that the State Trading Corporation will take up in future, and if so, is that going to be part of the Government announcement in future?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir. As the Estimates Committee has recommended, first the functions have got to be decided and then the question of policy statement will be considered.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन के काम की वजह से कई बन्दरगाहों पर बहुत माल का नुकसान हो गया और हानि उठनी पड़ी ? क्या इस में सचाई है, यदि हां, तो इसकी व्यवस्था कैसे होगी ? स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन में क्या सुधार करने की व्यवस्था की जा रही है ?

श्री कानूनगो : जो खबर माननीय सदस्य को मिली है वह बिल्कुल गलत है ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : गलत नहीं है ।

Mr. Speaker: I would only suggest this to hon. Members. Some hon. Members seem to be against the State Trading Corporation, against its existence itself. Some other hon. Members want it. Some hon. Members want more and more functions to be given to it. I won't allow the question hour to be utilised for a kind of eliciting policy or announcing policy.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Nobody is against the State Trading Corporation in this House.

Mr. Speaker: I am entitled to draw inference from the manner in which questions are put.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I know whether a part of the functions of the State Trading Corporation, as it functions today, will be given to a subsidiary Corporation, which will deal with scarce raw materials and distribution of those scarce raw materials?

Mr. Speaker: Is there a proposal?

Shri Kanungo: This work is being done by the State Trading Corporation at the time. No subsidiary is necessary for that.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether there is any likelihood of expanding the functions of the State Trading Corporation to include capitalist countries other than the monolithic countries for which it was originally started?

Shri Kanungo: It was not started for any group of countries. In fact, trade is going on all over the world.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Are Government aware that this State Trading Corporation, instead of encouraging real traders in the country, supports middlemen for reasons best known to them?

Mr. Speaker: Need not be answered.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: You can omit the reason, Sir . . .

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow a general aspersion of this kind. I am trying to give opportunity to this House to discuss the report of the State Trading Corporation. All important reports are being discussed. The House is being asked to sit for some longer hours. It has been discussed in the other House. It will be discussed here also. Such questions lead us nowhere.

Shri Tyagi: Before any bulk imports are effected by the State Trading Corporation either of raw materials or other things, is the Ministry consulted and its sanction obtained with regard to the quantity of the import, and also with regard to

the rate at which the State Trading Corporation sells that raw material here in India?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir. Any canalisation is always directed by the Government. It is not done by the volition of the State Trading Corporation. As canalisation is decided, its method of distribution and the range of prices is also decided.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Are the Government aware of the great uncertainty that is created in the market because of the operation of the State Trading Corporation? People are not.....

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this question.

Shri Mahanty: May I know whether it is the policy of the Government and the State Trading Corporation to issue letters of authority to private individuals and private importers?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir. Letters of authority are issued when it is directed by the Chief Controller of Imports.

Shri Mahanty: Here is a pertinent question. Here is the State Trading Corporation which stepped into the field for state trading purposes. What are the reasons—it is not the Import Controller.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member need not argue with me.

Shri Mahanty: I am not arguing.

Mr. Speaker: If he wants to elicit what are the grounds, instead of arguing, let him ask, what are the reasons?

Shri Kanungo: That is a normal procedure in all import licensing to anybody. The State Trading Corporation is one of the parties which gets a licence. Every party to whom a licence is issued in certain circumstances is permitted to authorise somebody else to deal with a part of it.

Shri Mahanty: Is it a fact that a certain amount of discrimination is being maintained in this matter between persons and persons and parties and parties?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir.

Rajasthan Government Property in Delhi

*785. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) what landed property (i) Rajasthan Government and (ii) Rajasthan Princes have in Delhi; and

(b) how this property is utilised by the Central Government and what return it gives to the owners?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 12.]

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know the basis on which these rents have been worked out and the portion of the rents being allowed to the former Princes?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: So far as the sharing of rent between the State Government and the former princely States is concerned, it is a matter entirely for them. There was an agreement between the State Government and these princely States. We do not come into the picture at all. Roughly speaking, except for Jaipur which shares it on a 50:50 basis, with regard to the other properties it is about two-thirds for the State Government and one-third for the princely States, that is, the Princes. So far as the quantum of rent is concerned, these houses had been in Government occupation for the last several years, and the rent basically is what it used to be when for the first time Government took possession of these buildings.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: My question has not been answered. What was the basis on which the rents