

Transportation of Raw Jute

*232. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined any proposal to set up some kind of State Advisory Committees for dealing with the transport difficulties of raw jute during the busy season;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Jute Enquiry Commission had suggested setting up of such Committees to meet the transportation problem of jute in rural areas?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have not considered it necessary to set up such Committees.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that there is no fair relation between the prices offered to the growers in primary markets of Bihar and the prices prevailing in the markets of Calcutta; and, if so, what steps do Government propose to take to ensure fair prices to the growers?

Mr. Speaker: This refers only to transport difficulties.

Shri Kanungo: The matter has been thoroughly discussed in the report of the Jute Commission and my friend is also aware of it. As far as transport is concerned, there is no necessity for a sub-committee because the standing committee of the Central Board of Transport meets every month and the farming interests are represented there properly.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that the growers of jute in Bihar, especially jute growers' association, have been complaining for years together that

the growers in North Bihar did not get adequate wagons for transporting their crop to Calcutta? Does the Government propose to make any special efforts for the transport of jute from Bihar to Calcutta?

Shri Kanungo: The latest information from the Railway Ministry has been that loadings have recently been in excess of quotas.

श्री जितूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ऐसा इंतजाम करना चाहती है कि उत्तर बिहार में जो किसान अपना जूट बेचने के लिए बाजार में आते हैं और जिन को अपना सामान लाने के लिए कनबेयन्स की बड़ी दिक्कत होती है, उन का जूट वह खुद खरीद कर उन को सहायता करे ?

श्री कानुंगो : इस बारे में विचार हुआ और जूट कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर गवर्नमेंट का रिजोल्यूशन भी पास हुआ था। रेजोल्यूशन सदन की मोज पर रखा जा चुका है।

Pakistan Foreign Minister's Statement

*233. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 146 on the 19th November, 1956 and state:

(a) whether any reply has been received to the letter sent to the Prime Minister of Pakistan protesting against the allegations made against India by the Pakistan Foreign Minister in a statement on the 4th of October, 1956; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) No reply has been received so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if there has been any breach of diplomatic etiquette or international etiquette on the part of Pakistan Prime Minister or Foreign Minister in not sending a reply?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): So far as diplomatic etiquette is concerned, I should think that the original statement by the Foreign Minister of Pakistan was not in conformity with any etiquette, diplomatic or other. The other matter, that is, not receiving a reply, I suppose, also might be considered unusual. I suppose it was difficult to reply and so they did not perhaps reply to it.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any reminder was sent to the Pakistan Prime Minister during this period when the first letter was sent and the reply was not received?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In this particular matter, instead of sending a formal note, I sent a message myself to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on this subject and to that there has been no reply. I am not sending any reminders because I do not think it necessary to send reminders on this question. Since then, there had been other speeches which also might be considered rather unusual for the Ministers of that Government to make in regard to another Government.

Safety Measures in Coal Mines

*234. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has since been taken regarding the appointment of a 'High Power Commission' to enquire into the safety measures in the coal mines;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be appointed; and

(c) if not, the reason thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (c). The matter is receiving consideration.

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Since the time this answer was drafted, we have given further consideration to the matter and we have come to

decision that we should move in this matter soon.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What will be the composition of the Commission and when it is appointed? Will any representatives from the Central Trade Unions be taken in?

Shri Abid Ali: One representative of the workers will be taken on the Commission.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know if the Government has ratified the conventions and recommendations of the I.L.O. in regard to the prevention of accidents in mines?

Shri Abid Ali: The I.L.O. conventions were taken into consideration while drafting the regulations.

Shri Keshava: May I know if the Government contemplates the appointment of similar High Power Commissions for manganese and mica also?

Shri Abid Ali: Not at present.

World Youth Festival

*236. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India will be represented at World Youth Festival at Moscow by our youths; and

(b) if so, the procedure proposed to be adopted to select representatives of various Indian youth organisations?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes.

(b) Eleven recognised youth and students organisations, which have an all-India character, have been requested to select their representatives.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether the Government has restricted the number of youths going to this festival representing India and, if so, what is that number?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Yes, Sir; the number is 80.