

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

) Exports of handloom cloth in 1953 have shown an increase of about 9 million yards over the 1952 figures.

(b) Rs. 82,156/-/- upto the 1st March, 1954.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if, as a result of the efforts of this central organisation, the heavy accumulation of stock in India has been to any appreciable extent relieved and thereby any fillip has been given to this industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The total estimated production of handloom cloth in India is somewhere between 1,400 million and 1,500 million yards. Surely, the hon. Member does not expect me to say that by 9 million yards more going out, there has been relief. But, relief, I understand, has occurred by means of other measures that we have taken.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if any part of this handloom cloth exported comprises of *khadi* also?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no break-up in regard to cloth that is exported; which is of hand-spun yarn and which is of mill-made yarn.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know whether the experience of handloom textile business is taken into consideration in the appointment of overseas marketing officers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I may not be able to answer that.

खजूर गुड़

*१३९. डा० राम सुभग सिंह: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५३-५४ में विभिन्न राज्यों में खजूर गुड़ के उत्पादन में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है ?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Information is being collected and

will be placed on the Table of the House when ready.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Do the Government of India give any subsidy to the different States for developing the palm-gur industry; and if so, what was the amount given during this year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We do give a subsidy to the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board. I have not got the figures with me here, and I do not want to hazard a guess.

Shri Nanadas: Is there any increase in the export of palm-gur?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not know whether there is any export at all.

Mr. Speaker: I think this question about export was answered a few days ago.

SHOLAPUR MILLS

*940. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a public notice dated the 15th February, 1954 published under the signature of Shri M. J. Divekar, Secretary, by order of the Board of Directors of the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Company Limited, intimating that a general meeting of the said company will be held on the 8th March, 1954 to consider a resolution authorising the Directors on behalf of the company to effect a compromise with Government on the basis of a certain specified scheme mentioned therein;

(b) whether any negotiations for such a compromise have been carried between the Government and the Directors of the company; and

(c) if so, at what stage the negotiations stand at present?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Negotiations were carried on by the Directors with the Government of Bombay. The Government of India were kept informed.

(c) The Government of Bombay are I presume awaiting the results of the meeting of the shareholders of the Company.

Shri S. N. Das: What were the special points that weighed with the Government of Bombay or the Government of India and forced them to enter into a compromise with the managing agents when the fact is that for their very acts of commission and omission Government had been forced to take over this mill?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is very simple. There has been a decision of the Supreme Court declaring invalid the legislation under which we took over this mill. So, either we should fall in line with the decision of the Supreme Court and re-enact a legislation making provision for awarding compensation to the managing agents and the shareholders, or we should have some private treaty with the managing agent. Apparently, the Bombay Government have found a private treaty the better course.

Shri S. N. Das: What is the total amount advanced by the Government of India and the Government of Bombay, and what steps have Government taken to secure the interests of the Government of India and the Bombay Government in regard to those advances?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government of India have not lent any amount directly. Whatever finance has been made available is the Bombay Government's. I am sure that in any decision that the Government of Bombay would come to, either by private treaty or otherwise, they are competent to look after their interests.

Shri S. N. Das: In view of the fact that this mill was taken over by the Government of India after an Act was passed by this Parliament, why did the

Government not think it proper to take the advice of the Parliament before entering into any compromise with this mill?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position, as I have said, is very simple. The legislative enactment which this House approved of has been declared *ultra vires* by the Supreme Court, and I do not see how if we referred the matter to the House we would be able to make that enactment which has been declared *ultra vires* become *intra vires*.

Shri Bansal: Have the Government of India issued any directives, or are they going to issue any, to the Government of Bombay with regard to this compromise with the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government of Bombay are quite competent to deal with this matter. The financial responsibility in regard to the advances made is that of the Government of Bombay, and I do not see why the Government of India should issue any directives.

Mr. Speaker: That exhausts the Question List for today. We shall now take up the Short Notice Question No. 6.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

A BORDER INCIDENT IN FEROFZEPOR DISTRICT

S.N. Q. No. 5.—Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the 22nd February 1954, Pakistan police patrol belonging to Dabhwata Shari pocket (Bahawalpur) lifted an Indian carpenter Shri Shiv Nath from the vicinity of Khanpur village?

(b) If so, how many Pakistani policemen had trespassed in Indian territory to lift him up?