

copy of this Press Note is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 27.]

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether, apart from the loan, the Nepal Government Mission that visited India recently, gave a programme of economic developments in which both the Nepal and the India Governments are interested and asked for some grant on *ad hoc* basis?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There has been no recent Nepal Government mission unless the hon. Member is referring to the Prime Minister of Nepal coming here about 6 weeks ago or two months ago. If that is so, it is true that when they came they discussed a development programme for Nepal and wanted a loan from India. That is exactly what the Press Note, that we issued, deals with.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether the Government of India has agreed to finance the Nepal Government on the project to link the Indian border with Katmandu by road, and to develop the Katmandu air strip, and whether the Government of India has agreed to finance that on an *ad hoc* basis, apart from the loan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Government of India have agreed to assist in the building of the road from India to Katmandu and to improve the existing air strip, the landing place in Katmandu. They are doing it, in fact, and that will be debited to the loan.

CLOTH AND YARN

*102. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of control on cloth and yarn after the introduction of the recent modifications;

(b) what results have been achieved by the modifications; and

(c) how many licences for export of cloth or yarn and for what quantities and value have been granted since the introduction of the modifications?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 28.]

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether any modification regarding the export of handloom cloth has been made?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not that I am aware of.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the export policy recently introduced has resulted in any rise in the price of coarse and medium cloth?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The latest variation in these control orders has taken place on the 17th May. It is too early to say whether it has influenced the prices in any way.

Shri B. K. Das: It is stated in the statement as a result of the modifications introduced, cloth and yarn has been moving satisfactorily to the States in spite of the failure of the State nominees to lift quotas. The reason for the failure of the State nominees is given. What are the reasons for the success of the mill nominees in this respect?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This is a question in which one has to presume certain factors. Naturally, when mills choose their own channels of trade, perhaps they choose persons better fitted for the distribution of cloth than the State nominees. It is a matter in which I am not able to give any categorical answer.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Have any representations been made to the hon. Minister by the handloom weavers in Salem—a recent Conference was held there—that facilities ought to be afforded for the export of handloom cloth to other countries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There is no ban now; the facilities are there. In regard to the specific representation from Salem, I cannot say just now that I have seen it. But, representations from handloom weavers' organisations are pouring in and the matter is now being considered in all its aspects. So far as exports are concerned, they are free. The question really is how to stimulate exports. In spite of their being free, they do not seem to be taken advantage of either by the exporters in this country or by importers in other countries.

Shri B. K. Das: Is it contemplated that the whole distribution system will be left to the mills and will be taken away from the State nominees?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. Member had perused the statement he would have found that the present relaxation is purely tentative and is confined to the months of April and May. We are really feeling our way and these relaxations have been made, because of a possible glut in

the market. Up to the moment the results seem to be fairly good. As to what the Government would do in the future depends very largely on conditions as they exist when the position is reviewed, i.e., before the period when the concessions given lapse.

INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT OF 1950

***103. Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether in response to protests made by the Government against measures taken by the Government of East Bengal or of Pakistan in contravention of the Delhi Agreement of April, 1950 any action has so far been taken by them to remedy the grievances of minorities there;

(b) when was the last protest made and about what matter; and

(c) whether efforts are still being made to observe the agreement fully?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I am afraid a categorical reply to this question is not possible. All that I can say is that in a few cases of individuals and, also, in some matters of minor importance, grievances have been redressed by the Pakistan Government as a result of the Government of India's representations. In many important cases, however, no action has been taken, or the action taken has been unsatisfactory.

(b) Protests or representations are made whenever cases requiring such action are brought to the Government of India's notice. The last occasion when a protest was made in regard to a matter of general importance was in August 1951. The protest was about certain discriminatory measures taken by the Government of East Bengal against the minority community. After several reminders, a reply was received in February, 1952, from the Pakistan Government, that the matter was still under investigation.

As regards part (c) of the question, the answer is yes, except in so far as the new question of having passports is concerned, which is a matter apart from this.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether in regard to matters in which the replies of the Pakistan Government have been unsatisfactory, those matters have been left at that stage or any procedure has been adopted to resolve the differences?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The normal procedure in regard to matters

affecting border questions is for local officials on each side of the border to meet. They go by the name of Commissioners or some such officials. As regards other troubles the procedure is for the Chief Secretaries to meet and for other matters of greater moment the Governments address each other and my hon. colleague Mr. Biswas represented in these matters. The procedures are good enough and there is no difficulty about them. The point is that the results obtained from those procedures are not always satisfactory and often tend to be postponed. If my hon. friend wants to know what other procedure we should adopt to get results I am unable to tell him that here and now, because this is a matter between two Governments. Apart from diplomatic procedures there are no other processes which are easily available.

Shri B. K. Das: Are the minority commissions, which had been entrusted with the task of looking after the implementation of the agreement, functioning still?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: My own impression is that they are not properly functioning. They are there but they do not really function for long periods.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Will the hon. Prime Minister tell us the total number of occasions when protests were lodged by the Government of India either with the Government of East Bengal or the Government of Pakistan in respect of the contravention of the Delhi Agreement?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not give the total number straight off.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Can he give us approximate idea?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They vary. The Government of India's protests are relatively limited to important matters. Our Minister in charge of minority affairs is continuously in correspondence pointing out this or that. It is difficult to remember those things. The East and West Bengal Governments deal with each other. There are so many ways of protesting and replying to each other. It is rather difficult suddenly to give an answer to the question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have the Government of India conveyed to the Pakistan Government the fact that the introduction of the passport system would be tantamount to a repudiation of the Delhi Pact?