

other countries. But, if the hon. Member wants specific prices relatively, I should like to have notice.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it not a fact that the continental manufacturers have formed themselves into some kind of cartel and that we are finding a tough competition in them?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware at the moment which particular part of the continent the hon. Member has in mind. If he gives us information about it, I shall make enquiries.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: May I know if it is a fact that though our competitive prices are quite good, it is the lack of demand which is the real trouble rather than the other factors?

Shri Karmarkar: I should think that there is no lack of demand. Our capacity for maintaining quality is quite good. As I said, there is an up and down in all these matters. Sometimes something happens due to which our export goes down a little. But, on the whole, we have no reason to be disheartened with our results.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether the recent steps taken by the Government had any appreciable effect on the promotion of export and, if so, is the Government in a position to say the extent to which the effect has been appreciable.

Shri Karmarkar: What are the recent steps that the hon. Member has in mind?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Regarding export duties.

Shri Karmarkar: As and when it is necessary, we take proper steps to coax up the demand. Actually, the demand and offtake from here do not show any signs for our being discouraged.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that the crisis of 1952 sprang up mainly because of the factor that the jute exporters, in pursuit of earning inflated profits,

charged high prices in the matter of jute, and perhaps they are following the same policy this year? If it is so, do the Government propose to take some action so as to influence or regulate the price of jute in the foreign countries?

Shri Karmarkar: Firstly, about what happened in 1952, I shall refresh my memory before I answer that question. I should require notice for that. Regarding the latter half of the question, my hon. friend himself is not sure. He says "perhaps". We do not rely on 'perhapes' for our action. We take all action that is necessary and as indicated here, there is no reason at all for any feeling of disheartenment about our exports of jute goods at the moment.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: In answer to part (a) of the question, especially, regarding the expectation of foreign demands, the Minister said it was difficult for him to follow the expression "up to the expectation". May I know whether the Government fix a target for any export of jute every year, to boost up the production of jute in the country?

Shri Karmarkar: As my hon. friend will definitely appreciate, we have, of course, a sort of anticipation as to how much we are likely to send, but there is no such thing like a target to be fixed in the sense that everything does not depend upon our efforts alone in the matter of production. For instance, if we build a dam, it may be within our powers to fix a target date. But in this matter, we cannot compel every country to accept our target and act up to it. Therefore, though we have a reasonable anticipation, sometimes the anticipations are exceeded and sometimes there is a little less actually than the anticipations.

SUBSIDISED INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEME

*1063. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state the amounts

of loan and subsidy sanctioned so far to Assam under the subsidised Industrial Housing Schemes?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 12].

Shri K. P. Tripathi: May I know the reason why the Assam Government has not come forward with this scheme at all?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): I would request the hon. Member to put that question to the Assam Government, because, we have done our best to induce them to take advantage of the scheme. Probably there is not enough demand and there is not much of industry and industrial labour which requires housing.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: May I know if it is not a fact that nearly ten lakhs of labourers work in the tea gardens there and further, may I know if it is the policy of the Government of India to implement the scheme, and if so, whether the Minister behaves like a post office or whether he behaves like a policy-maker who tries to implement the policy.

Sardar Swaran Singh: That is a matter of argument into which I do not propose to enter. But the fact remains that we have done our best to induce the Assam Government to take advantage of this scheme, and if any pressure is to be exercised, it should be at the Assam Government level and not here.

TRANSGRESSION BY PAKISTAN PLANES

***1065. Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan planes violated Indian territory in Khemkaran border on the 9th March, 1956; and

(b) whether cease-fire agreement between Indian and Pakistan Army has been entered into?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs: (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, Sir. A Pakistani aircraft flew over Indian territory in the area of village Mianwala Uttar in the Amritsar district on the morning of the 9th March, 1956.

(b) The Commandants of the Punjab Border Police and the Pakistan Border Police entered into an agreement to cease fire in the area of Mianwala Uttar with effect from 8 P. M. on the 8th March, 1956. This agreement was, however, violated by the Pakistan Border Police who began firing again on the morning of the 9th March. The two Commandants again entered into an agreement to cease fire with effect from 9-30 A. M. on the 9th March, 1956. After another series of incidents in the Muthianwala—Khemkaran sector on the 14th-15th March, another cease fire agreement was entered into, effective from midnight of the 15th March, 1956.

Shri G. P. Sinha: May I know how many border raids have taken place in 1956?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I should like to have notice of the question.

Shri G. P. Sinha: May I know whether the recent S.E.A.D.O. Conference or the U.S.A. arms supply to Pakistan has anything to do with the recent border raids?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: How can I know that? This sort of violation of territories has been going on ever since the two countries were divided.

Shri Kamath: In view of the reports that have been coming in during the last few days after the Prime Minister made a speech in the House that he did not think that there was any co-ordinated plan on the part of the Government of Pakistan, does he now think that there is any co-ordination or synchronisation of land frontier raids with air violations on the part of Pakistan?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: This particular air violation was linked with the land violation. On the 8th of March,