

Member has asked, namely whether the UP Government have asked for the establishment of four of the five USSR drug projects in their State, I may humbly submit that no such representation has been made, excepting this that every State Government, including the Government of U.P., is very keen that one or more of these plants should be established in their State

Shri Ranga: Is there any substance in the suggestion or the observation that there is a possibility of establishing or locating four out of these five concerns in UP alone?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is always every possibility of practically establishing any plant anywhere, but the economics of the plants have got to be gone into in detail, such as the availability of raw materials, the proximity of the consuming markets, and various other things, in addition, the regional distribution of heavy industries in a federal country like India has also to be borne in mind

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of general policy

Shri Jaipal Singh: We would like to know how the economics can in any way be altered in view of the fact that all the raw materials are in UP, in the terai and other hilly areas

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member is arguing for UP

Shri Manubhai Shah: May I submit Sir, that there is not only the alkaloid project. There are five projects which are based on synthetic drugs, that is, vitamins and thiazoles, then, there are alkaloids, there are surgical instruments, there are cortisones and hormones. So, the hon Member's information is correct, as far as the alkaloid part is concerned, and even there India as a whole is rich in different parts of the country in natural alkaloids from natural herbs

Workers in Rayon Factories

*1000. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1152 on the 21st March, 1958 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report of the survey undertaken to study the deleterious effect on the health of workers in rayon factories;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the same, and

(c) when action is likely to be initiated in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):
(a) No

(b) Does not arise

(c) As soon as the report, which is under print, is received

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know what comes in the way of the finalisation of this report, in view of the fact that there are only a very few thousand workers working in this industry?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): The report has been finalised, it is under print. As soon as copies are received, the same will be examined and considered

Shri Assar: May I know whether Government are aware that the residents nearabout the rayon factory are also experiencing difficulties due to the gas and smoke of the factories, and if so, what action is going to be taken by Government in this matter?

Shri Nanda: This will all arise out of consideration of the report

Shri Radhehal Vyas: May I know whether it is a fact that the deleterious effect on the health of the workers is most in the rayon factories where rayon staple is manufactured, and also how many such rayon

staple manufacturing factories are there in India?

Shri L. N. Mishra: There are about 37,000 people in the four rayon factories about whose conditions inquiry has been made, and it is a fact that there has been a bad effect on the health of a large number of labourers, and, therefore, the inquiry was started; and we expect better results from the report of the inquiry committee.

श्री ए० क० वर्मा: क्या श्रीमान् यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि कोई ऐसी शिकायत आई है कि नागदा रयन फैक्ट्री के सी० एस० २ में काम करने वाले वर्कर्स की ज़ानेन्द्रियो ने काम करना बन्द कर दिया है ?

श्री ए० वा० शिखर: काम बन्द करने की शिकायत तो नहीं आई, लेकिन फैक्ट्रियो में मजदूरों की हालत अच्छी नहीं है। इसके लिये जांच हुई थी और उन को हानन सुधारने वाली है।

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister stated that a large number of workers were found to have had a deleterious effect on their health by working in these plants. May I know whether Government have as yet any idea of the nature of the occupational disease, and if so, what it is?

Shri Nanda: That was the object of conducting the study, namely, to find out the nature of the diseases, and their effect on the health of the workers.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I only wanted to know the name of the occupational diseases.

Shri Nanda: They have been given in the report.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Even the name of the disease has not been given.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will look into the report.

Sericulture Industry

1001. Shri N. Keshava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Committee was appointed to go into the question of conditions of service of labour engaged in sericulture industry;

(b) if so, whether it has submitted any report; and

(c) what steps, if any, are being taken to implement the recommendations of this report?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c) The Central Silk Board had set up a Committee to go into this question. The Committee has already submitted its report which is being considered by the Board.

Shri Keshava: May I know whether this report has been placed before the Central Silk Board for its consideration and scrutiny?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir

Shri Keshava: When was that done?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That was done before four months

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know whether this committee visited Assam, Orissa and South Bihar?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes; the hon. Member who has tabled the question was the chairman, and we had the privilege of getting his advice on this report

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know whether Government have made any enquiry as to what proportion of the workers engaged in the sericulture industry are self-employed workers or are under private employers?

Shri Manubhai Shah: These different aspects have been gone into by

the committee, and I would merely request that we may await the recommendations of the Silk Board on the report, and Government's decision thereon, which would be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Shoes

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*1992. { Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri N. R. Munisamy:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1194 on the 12th September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the orders for the supply of shoes to Russia and Poland have since been complied with;

(b) if so, how many pairs of shoes have so far been exported to Russia and Poland this year;

(c) whether any repeat orders have been received from these countries and if so, for how many pairs and the value thereof;

(d) whether any negotiations are going on with any other countries for the supply of boots and shoes and if so, with whom; and

(e) the number of shoes to be supplied and the value thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Orders placed by Russia in 1956 and 1957 of about 9 lakh pairs of shoes have been mostly complied with except for a small quantity of about 6,000 pairs. Deliveries against the 1958 contract of roughly 2½ lakh pairs are yet to be made.

Against the order of about ½ a lakh pairs placed by Poland in 1957, one shipment of about 21,000 pairs has already been made and the balance of the order has been cancelled.

(c) Russia has placed a further order for 2½ lakh pairs of shoes recently. No orders have been placed by Poland in 1958.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Negotiations are in progress for the supply of shoes to G.D.R., Bulgaria and Yugoslavia to whom the samples have been sent for approval. A trial order of shoes valued roughly at Rs. 1½ lakhs has been placed by G.D.R. This contract also is under execution.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know what percentage of the orders was executed through the small-scale units?

Shri Kanungo: Roughly 50 per cent.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know whether the shoes that were returned from the USSR have been disposed of by the State Trading Corporation, if so, the loss incurred therein?

Shri Kanungo: Some shoes were rejected shoes, and they are being disposed of. The matter is under negotiation with other countries, and after the negotiations are completed, it will be settled whether they will be sold in the country or not.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know what steps have been taken by Government to overcome the shortcomings experienced by this corporation, and also whether it is a fact that the shoes that have been returned from Russia refer to cases of shoes for only one leg, that is, mispairing of shoes?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): If I might explain, the rejection of these shoes primarily was not as a result of any fall in quality or of any defects in the shoes themselves. Originally, the USSR wanted shoes of a certain type, and we tried to conform to it. But, later on, for certain varieties, they wanted another type, which we could not naturally produce at short notice. The Governments of both the countries have been fully co-operative, and helping us so that the small portion which has a standard different from the standard required by them could

be utilised in their own countries. At our end, we are trying to introduce the quality marking scheme in the small-scale industry, particularly, in centres like Agra, Kanpur and various other major centres producing leather goods and shoes on a small-scale industry basis, so that the standard quality is maintained in order to promote greater and greater exports of this very valuable foreign exchange earning commodity.

Shri Anirudh Sinha: May I know the number and value of the surplus stock of shoes with the National Small Industries Corporation as on 31st October last, and how they are proposed to be disposed of?

Shri Kanungo: There are shoes from various concerns and in the different contracts, shipments are still due. Whether there is any surplus or not will be decided when the 1958 contracts are completed.

Shri Thimmalah: May I know whether any facilities are provided to the co-operative societies to get these orders and comply with them?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is the intention of the Government to give greater and greater preference to and buy from the small-scale industries and particularly co-operative shoe manufacturers. Therefore I can assure the hon. Member that if any co-operative society came forward to sell its shoes to the STC or NSIC, we shall give them preference.

Shri M. R. Krishna: What portion of the order now on hand will be executed through the small and cottage industries and what portion by the other industries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Nothing can be anticipated in this respect. We always give preference to small industries and are giving larger and larger proportion. Even in the original contract, out of six lakhs pairs about 3½ to 4 lakhs have been purchased from the small-scale industries and only 2 to 2½ lakhs from the bigger producers.

292 (A) L.S.D.—2

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the major part of the factory made shoes was from the Bata Shoe Company and if so what was the percentage?

Shri Kanungo: There was none from the Bata Shoe Company.

Shri Mahagaonkar: How many co-operative societies have so far supplied shoes to Russia?

Shri Kanungo: The contract is entered into by the National Small Industries Corporation. It obtains its goods from co-operative societies as well as other small producers in various centres. Therefore, it is not possible to give the break-up of the various sources from which shoes are purchased. The responsibility for purchasing and delivering the goods are taken by that Corporation which has been specially designed to help the co-operatives and small entrepreneurs.

Shri K. N. Pandey: May I know whether some of the big concerns which had undertaken this work of preparing shoes instead of preparing their own shoes have given them to some small shopkeepers to prepare them and that is why the quality has gone down and because of that most of the shoes have been refused by the Russians?

Shri Manubhai Shah: If I may say so the inference is not quite correct. Firstly, as I have already said, the quality of the shoes was by and large not sub-standard. We take extraordinary precaution in relation to this as this is a promising line in which the exports could be accelerated. Therefore I should like to assure the House that no such thing is happening. If in some cases, the manufacturer whose shoes are purchased by the NSIC gives a sub-contract and gives us the standard goods, I would submit Sir that there is nothing wrong in it.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether there is any negotiation going on between the Government of India

and the Russian Government in fixing the price since the prices of shoes are high in Russia?

Shri Kanungo: We sell shoes to any organisation which comes forward. We do not care what price they sell at.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I want to know why supplementaries are answered by one Minister once and by another Minister at another time. What is the division of labour between them?

Mr. Speaker: No, no. All the hon Members may expect to get information; generally, collectively and individually, the Ministers will answer.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, the hon Minister has been pleased to say that the Government is not interested in at what price the commodity we sell is sold elsewhere. Is that the economic policy of the Government?

Shri Kanungo: It is not the economic policy. There is the State Trading Corporation. If it is satisfied and if it gets a good price, it does not go into the question how matters are disposed of. The hon Members are aware that the retail trade in the purchasing country, the USSR is a monopolistic party. Therefore, we do not show any interest in it.

Mr. Speaker: What all the hon Member wants to know is this. If a higher price is got from that country, why not we have a share in it?

Shri Kanungo: It is an internal matter of that country where monopolistic trade is prevalent and we, therefore, do not show any interest in it because we are concerned with them as our customers.

Mr. Speaker: Then, why not the hon. Minister say that we cannot get a share of it? Next question.

प्रीस परिषद् की स्थापना

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*१००४. { श्री भक्त बर्मान :
श्री भक्त प्रभाकर :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री १४ नवम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६१ के उत्तर और उनके द्वारा ७ अप्रैल, १९५८ को सभा में दिये गये बक्तव्य के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि प्रीस परिषद् की स्थापना करने की विधा में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० कौलकर) प्रीस कॉमिल की स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में अभी प्रागे कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है ।

श्री भक्त बर्मान : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय इस बारे में जो स्थिति है, उसके आधार पर क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देर से देर कब तक इस बारे में फैसला हो सकेगा ?

डा० कौलकर : इनके बारे में मैं कोई निश्चित वचन नहीं दे सकता । एक पिछले प्रश्न के जवाब में मैंने माननीय सदस्य को बताया था कि इस सम्बन्ध में जब तक जो दोनों दल हैं, प्रोपराइटर्स और वर्किंग जनरलिस्ट्स, उन में इस बारे में कोई एक राय होने की आशा नहीं है और जब तक उन दोनों में कोई समझौता नहीं हो जाता तब तक हम आगे कोई कदम नहीं उठायेगे ।

श्री भक्त बर्मान : चूँकि समाचारपत्र जगत में यह जो दो विभिन्न दल हैं उनके बीच में कोई समझौता नहीं हो पा रहा है अतः मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इन दोनों दलों में आपस में समझौता कराने का कोई प्रयत्न किया गया है या प्रयत्न करने का विचार किया जा रहा है ?

डा० कौलकर : अपने पिछले प्रश्न में हम सफल नहीं हुए और अब हम और प्रयत्न करने की नहीं सोच रहे हैं ।

श्री मन्मथ प्रभाकर : क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से जान सकता हूँ कि जब दोनों दलों में समझौता हो जायेगा तब इस प्रेस कौंसिल की स्थापना में कितना समय लगेगा ?

डा० केशकर : पहले समझौता होने बीजिये फिर वह बहुत जल्द बन जायेगी ।

Shri Joachim Alva: We are in the third year after the publication of the report of the Press Commission (An Hon. Member: Fourth year). I am subject to correction. May I know why the Government is delaying in the matter of setting up a Commission? Is it due to the non-cooperation of half a dozen leading newspapers?

Dr. Keskar: If the hon Member takes care to see the replies given many times regarding this question, he will find that as long as we do not find any possibility of the opinion of the working journalists on the one hand and the proprietors on the other regarding this question coming nearer each other, we do not want to take a step in this matter because this is a measure in which the Government is only coming to help these bodies. It is going to be for their use. If they themselves are holding violently different opinions, we do not feel any useful purpose will be served by our enacting any such legislation.

Shri Mahanty: In view of the fact that this Press Council is being patterned after the UK Council, why is the Indian Press Council going to be given a statutory character whereas in the UK it is not like that?

Dr. Keskar: The hon Member has given his own answer. The proprietors are of the opinion of the hon Member and that is where the difference lies between the working journalists and the proprietors.

Shri Mahanty: My question is why the Indian Press Council is going to be conferred a statutory character and why it cannot be non-statutory?

Dr. Keskar: The hon. Member has read the Press Commission's Report

It is in pursuance of the report that the Government made an attempt assuming that both parties were in a sufficient measure agreeable to it.

श्री भक्त बर्मान : श्रीमन् सन् १९५६ में माननीय मंत्री ने राज्य सभा में एक विधेयक रखा था जो कि वहाँ स्वीकृत भी हो गया था। उसी बीच में पुरानी लोक-सभा भंग हो गई। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय उसी तरह का विधेयक यहाँ लाने का विचार कर रहे हैं ताकि उसके बाद दोनों दलों के बीच में समझौता कराने का प्रयत्न किया जा सके ?

डा० केशकर : फिनहाल हम कोई ऐसी बात नहीं मोच रहे हैं ।

स्वर्गीय रास बिहारी बोस की भस्म

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*१००५. { श्री विभूति मिश्र :
श्री सुब्रह्मण्य बोस :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विदेश सचिव ने जापान की अपनी हाल की यात्रा में स्वर्गीय रास बिहारी बोस की भस्म प्राप्त करने का प्रयत्न किया था ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या अपने प्रयास में सफल हुए ?

वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री के सहायक सचिव (श्री साधत अली खान) (क) और (ख) जो हा। विदेश सचिव ने स्वर्गीय श्री राम बिहारी बोस की सुपुत्री, श्रीमती हिण्डी स भस्म के एक अंग को भारत लाने के विषय में बातचीत की थी। श्रीमती हिण्डी इस पर नकार हो गई है कि वे भस्म को खुद लेकर कलकत्ता आएंगी और गैर सरकारी तौर पर बनी रास बिहारी बोस समारक समिति को सौंपेंगी। उनके आने की ठीक तारीख अभी तक तय नहीं हो पाई है।

Some hon Members: In English.
The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). Yes,

Sir. The Foreign Secretary discussed with Mrs. Higuchi, daughter of the late Shri Rash Bihari Bose, the question of getting a portion of the ashes to India. Mrs. Higuchi has agreed to bring the ashes to Calcutta herself and hand them over to the non-official Rash Bihari Bose Memorial Committee. The exact date of her visit has not yet been settled.

श्री विभूति मिश्र मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उस भस्मी का कुछ प्रश दिल्ली में भी रखा जायेगा ताकि यहाँ पर भी सारे देश से लोग आने देंगे भी उसको दंड प्रगाम कर सकें ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री :
(श्री जवाहर लाल नेहरू) जी नहीं, हम इसको पसन्द नहीं करने कि हर जगह इस किस्म के मंदिर बनाये जायें।

Raja Mahendra Pratap: I am deeply interested in this question, because he was my colleague. I believe that Government is not doing him the honour which he deserves. I just want to know whether the ashes are being brought from Japan in a cruiser or in an ordinary steamer?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: I am afraid I am unable to enlighten the hon. Member on that point. I really do not know.

Price of Groundnut Oil Cakes

*1006. **Shri Kodiyar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government of India that prices of groundnut oil cake have gone up considerably recently due to the liberal grant of export quotas,

(b) whether as a result of these high prices, use of groundnut oil cake for manure and cattle-feed has become uneconomical; and

(c) if so, what steps do Government propose to take to control the prices of groundnut oil cakes?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shri Nagi Reddy: This is really a surprising answer, to say that the groundnut oil cake price has not gone up and that the Government does not know about it. Is not the Government aware that due to the very policy that the Government is pursuing in declaring export quotas for groundnut oil cake that groundnut oil cake has become extremely rare for the agriculturists to improve their agricultural production?

Shri Kanungo: I have mentioned that the prices have not increased; they have dropped. That is the market report.

Shri Nagi Reddy: When have the prices stopped increasing—yesterday or today?

Shri Kanungo: For the last two weeks, the tendency has been for the prices to drop.

Shri Nagi Reddy: This is not the time for agricultural production. May I know whether the Government is aware that the prices were very high at the time of the agricultural production and that probably they have dropped during the past two weeks when agricultural production has stopped and reaping has begun?

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Oil Industry

*1003. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the industry engaged in the production of oil through expellers has been passing through a period of slump; and

(b) if so, how far it has resulted in closure of units?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). So far as Government are aware, there is no such slump in the oil industry.