

LOK SABHA DEBATES

7103

LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 19, 1959/Phalguna
28, 1880 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: The House will now
take up questions

Shri Keshava

Shri Manubhai Shah: If I have your
permission, I might club the answer
to Q 1373 also which relates to the
same subject

Mr Speaker: Yes

Automatic Looms

*1364. { Shri Keshava:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri N. R. Munisamy:
Shri Bose:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Sarju Pandey:
Shri Siddananjappa:

Will the Minister of Commerce and
Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down by Gov-
ernment to allocate automatic looms.

(b) the number of automatic looms
proposed to be imported during the
current year; and

(c) the foreign exchange involved?

The Minister of Industry (Shri
414 (A) L S D—1

7104

Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c) A state-
ment is laid on the Table of the
House [See Appendix IV, annexure
No 77]

Automatic Looms in Cotton Textile Mills

+
{ Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
1373. { Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Commerce and
Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether the decision to instal
2500 automatic looms per year from
1955 in the cotton Textile Industry
has been approved by Government,

(b) if so the number of labourers
likely to be retrenched each year as
a result thereof, and

(c) the steps Government propose
to take to rehabilitate the retrenched
persons?

The Minister of Industry (Shri
Manubhai Shah). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The scheme of in-
stallation of these automatic looms
will be governed by the principles
arrived at, at the 15th Session of the
Indian Labour Conference which
inter alia stipulates that there should
be no retrenchment of labour. If
any labour is displaced on looms, they
will be absorbed in other departments
of the same mills. Not more than a
thousand to fifteen hundred workers
per year all over the country are
likely to be affected by this scheme
and even that number, as said above,
will be absorbed in the industry.

✓ **Shri Keshava:** May I know whether it is a condition precedent for granting of this licence or permission for the importing of these automatic looms that the workers who are likely to be unemployed are definitely provided for?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what I have already said in answer to parts (b) and (c) of SQ No 1373, that this is subject to the code evolved by the Indian Labour Conference that there will be no retrenchment or displacement as a result of either the additional establishment of these automatic looms or the replacement of the old ones

✓ **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** A committee consisting of representatives of various Central trade union organisations has been formed to discuss this issue. I want to know whether a particular member of this committee belonging to the All India Trade Union Congress gave three suggestions, and if so, what those three suggestions are and what the reaction of the Government thereto is

Shri Manubhai Shah: Which committee is the hon Member referring to?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The committee of the Central Trade Union Congress which is considering the question of automatic looms

Shri Manubhai Shah: A letter was received while we were discussing this matter, from the All India Trade Union Congress, and that was what Shri S. A. Dange also mentioned on the floor of this House when this matter was debated upon here. It is not possible for the Government of India to establish these three thousand looms at one place in the public sector mainly because this is a diversified industry producing different patterns of production, and that can be tackled only as an ancillary to the existing textile industry

Mr. Speaker: I want to know one thing from the hon Minister. Was not

✓ this matter explained on the floor of the House? I remember on a prior occasion, the hon Minister mentioned the figure of three thousand looms. And we had a lot of discussion over this

✓ **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I explain? This is after that discussion

✓ **Mr. Speaker:** Again and again, these matters are coming up. I would request the hon Minister to intimate to us if it had come up earlier. Of course, we are trying to be watchful and have a register to indicate whether a similar question has been answered. If once a question is answered during a session, if there are any further supplementaries that hon Members want to ask, or they do what any further elucidation, they will, at the first instance, write to the hon Minister and get the information. What I find is that new matters do not come up here at all

✓ **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** This is a new matter

Mr. Speaker: Sometimes, one hon Member takes the trouble and then tables a question, other hon Members try to follow it up later on without exerting themselves

✓ **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Three suggestions were made

Mr. Speaker: Hereafter, I would suggest this. As soon as questions are received by us, we send copies of those questions to the hon Ministers, and as quickly as possible, they should intimate to us if those questions or similar questions where these matters could have arisen had been already tabled, so that the field may be free for other questions or new matters to be elucidated, instead of hon Members saying, I am going to refer to your answer on the previous occasion, come along, I shall fire some other short question and so on; this takes away our time unnecessarily

✓ **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** If you will kindly allow me, I shall explain

Mr. Speaker: I know there can be other matters. But no subject is exhausted during the question hour

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This is a new thing

Mr. Speaker: I shall allow this. But hereafter, that will be the rule

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In regard to one of the suggestions, the hon. Minister has replied already that it is not possible to have a unit in the public sector. The other two suggestions were

Mr. Speaker: What is the question?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it has also been suggested that the new unit should be started with fifty per cent share from the private sector and also whether the installation of automatic looms should be done only in those factories or those private enterprises where they promise to export the production on those looms?

Shri Manubhai Shah: All these are contained in my answer. If the hon. Member reads the statement laid on the Table of the House, he will find the answers there. This matter was raised in the course of the debate also, and we had clearly indicated that preference would be given for the establishment of these automatic looms only to such mills as were ready to export. Secondly, it is not possible either to have all the three thousand looms in a single factory in the public sector or to have fifty per cent participation of the private sector therein.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to S. Q. No. 1373, may I know whether 2500 looms will be installed in 1959-60 and whether any programme has been drawn up in that behalf, and if so, the State-wise break-up?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The programme is being drawn up by the committee of two persons. The present approach to the problem is that

these 3000 looms earmarked for export, and the 7500 looms at the rate of 2500 looms per year for three years will all be allocated to the deserving mills *pro rata*, according to region-wise considerations also.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether those mills which have already introduced automatic looms in place of plain loom have been able to absorb all the retrenched hands?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes

Shri Warlor: May I know the number of units receiving the allotment of these 3000 automatic looms now?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It has just started, the committee is going into it, and as soon as the allocations are made, the necessary information will be supplied to the House.

Shri Goray: How many workers are likely to be affected and thrown out of employment?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what I have indicated. The number will be about one thousand to one thousand and five hundred workers per year, over the whole country, and it should not be difficult for such a big industry as the textiles to absorb that small number.

Shri Jadhav: May I know how many automatic looms were sanctioned prior to 1958, and how many of them have been installed upto this time?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The old scheme, as the House is aware, where a penal levy of excise duty was imposed had not worked successfully, and in fact, this new scheme is really the replacement of the entire old scheme by the new scheme both for replacement and for addition. As far as the whole country is concerned, due to one reason or the other, so far, only 10,000 to 12,000 automatic looms are operating in the textile mills sector.

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : क्या बाजनीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि कुछ घसले घसले कारखाने एंड इंडस्ट्री डिपार्टमेंट की तरफ से आटोमेटिक लूमज के बारे में एक सूचना-पत्र प्रकाशित किया गया था कि जब यूनिवर्सिटी तैयार होंगी, उस के बाद उस इंडस्ट्री को आटोमेटिक लूमज इम्पोर्ट करने की स्वीकृति दी जायगी, क्या इस का पालन किया जायगा ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : यह तो पुरानी बात है । इस के बाद सारी यूनिवर्सिटी के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ लेबर मिनिस्ट्री और हमारी मिनिस्ट्री की मीटिंग हुई और वहा यह तय किया गया कि इस को एक राष्ट्रीय प्रश्न बनाया जाय और माड्रनाइजेशन का काम हाथ में लिया जाये ।

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : आटोमेटिक लूमज के साथ जो पीछे की मशीनरी है, उस के बारे में भी कुछ रिप्लेसमेंट के बारे में सोचा है या केवल आटोमेटिक लूमज लगाये जायेंगे ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : हमारा खयाल यह है कि बारबर कोलमेन और अन्य हाई स्पीड वापिंग एंड वाईइंग मशींस आदि बहुत सी मिलों के पाम है । लेकिन यह जरूरी है कि जहा आटोमेटिक लूमज लगेंगी वहा पर अगर ऐसी मशीनरी की आवश्यकता हो तो सरकार उस पर भी विचार करेगी ।

Shri Achar: The Minister was pleased to refer to a condition precedent. If that is followed, will it not affect adversely the cost of production?

Shri Manubhai Shah: On the contrary, it is expected that both the quality will go up and the cost might slightly go down.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Are Government contemplating taking over certain closed mills—which are closed at present—and installing automatic looms in those mills and seeing that they should be in the public sector?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This hardly arises out of this question.

श्री रा० क० वर्मा : मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता था कि अगर पिछली मशीनरी पुरानी रखी गई और आटोमेटिक लूमज को बनाने की परमिशन दी गई तो क्या उसका प्रोडक्शन के ऊपर बुरा असर नहीं होगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : इसका पूरा खयाल रखा जायगा । जो टैक्निकल कमेटी आटोमेटिक लूमज को मंजूर करेगी वह यह भी देखेगी कि पुरानी मशीनरी अच्छी है या नहीं और अगर अच्छी नहीं होगी तो उसको भी बदलने की इजाजत दी जायेगी ।

Plants for Basic Drugs

+

Shri Subodh Hanada:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri E. C. Majhi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantis:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri Ramam:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Muhammed Elias:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri V. P. Nayar:
Shri Funnocose:
Shri Kadiyan:
Dr. Ram Smbhag Singh:
Shri Madhusudan Rao:
Shri Sarju Pandey:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri Parulekar:
Qazi Matin:
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Warrior:

*1365-

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 230 on the 25th November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Russian Experts with regard to the