

**JUTE GOODS (EXPORT)**

**\*490. Shri Morarka:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the export of jute goods is falling this year as compared to the last two years?

(b) What is the main reason for the fall in exports?

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

(a) No, Sir. Exports of jute goods during the current financial year are slightly better than the average exports during the last two years.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether our exports of gunny bags and gunny cloth have fallen this year, as compared with those of the last two years?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The hon. Member means sacking as against hessian? I think sacking exports have dropped—I would not be able to say precisely how much—and the tendency has been for sacking exports to drop.

**Shri Morarka:** I put the question on jute goods, because in the classified items published in the *Journal of Industry and Trade*, gunny bags and gunny cloth are classified as jute goods.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Gunny cloth is hessian, gunny bag is sacking. Sacking has shown a tendency to drop.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** Is it a fact that the reduction in export is due to the development of jute substitutes in the importing countries?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** As I said in answer to a previous question, the position of exports as compared to the boom years is rather difficult. In 1952-53, we had a setback merely because of some over-stocking in some countries in the previous years. And it is also difficult to isolate the causes. It may be due not so much

to substitutes for jute, as to substitutes by paper bags, and also bulk handling.

**Shri N. L. Joshi:** May I know the total value of exports this year?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have only got the tonnage for the ten months in 1953-54. It is 6,50,000 tons. I have not got the value.

**NEWSPRINT FROM SUGAR-CANE BAGASSE**

**\*491. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the progress made in the attempts to manufacture newsprint from sugar-cane bagasse?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** There is at present no concrete scheme for the manufacture of newsprint from bagasse, of which progress could be reported. The Forests Research Institute at Dehra Dun have, however, recently conducted several experiments to establish that a satisfactory kind of printing paper could be manufactured from bagasse pulp mixed with 30 per cent. bamboo pulp. Attempts are now being made by that Institute to carry out trials in paper mills for determining the exact cost of production. Experiments have also been undertaken to bring down the cost of production of printing paper from bagasse.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know if the Government is in a position to state the cost of production of newsprint from sugarcane bagasse and how it compares with the cost of that produced from other articles?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Experiments are being conducted and it is only after these experiments are completed that we may be able to evaluate the relative costs.

**HANDLOOM**

**\*492. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether, and if so, which of the State Governments have decided to

allow rebates on sales of handloom cloth; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above is in the affirmative, the rates of rebate allowed in each State?

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

(a) A statement showing the names of the States to whom grants have been sanctioned for rebate on sales of handloom cloth is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 23]. All these States will allow rebates on sales of handloom cloth.

(b) The rate of rebate will be nine pies to one anna six pies per rupee on sales of Rs. 5 or over.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know since when the rebates on the sales of handloom cloth have been granted?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I could not tell the exact date when it began. The scheme is now in operation.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the total amount that has been sanctioned for the purpose and the basis on which the allotment has been made to the various States?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The grant for rebates on sales is Rs. 91,76,950. The basis is, roughly, the schemes prepared by the States and also the offtake of yarn by the States.

#### ELECTRICITY TO CALCUTTA FROM DAMODA VALLEY

\*493. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electricity generated at Damodar Valley will be transmitted to Calcutta;

(b) if so, the percentage of the total production and of the total installed capacity which will be so transmitted;

(c) the agency through which the power will be transmitted; and

729 PSD.

(d) the price that will be charged to the consumers per unit of electricity?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The supply to Calcutta will be about 24 to 32 per cent. of the total production and about 15 to 23 per cent. of the total installed capacity.

(c) Power will be transmitted by the DVC's own 132 KV transmission lines to Calcutta and distributed by the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation.

(d) The Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation will purchase power in bulk from the DVC and the price to the consumer will be at the Standard Tariffs as may be in force from time to time with the approval of the Govt. of West Bengal.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether it is not a fact that it was stated again and again that the power that is generated will be used by this area for the industries of this area, and if that has not been done what is the percentage that is being actually used in that area?

**Shri Hathi:** Twenty-four per cent. will go to Calcutta, and the remaining will be used for the industrial areas.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** What is the price at which the Damodar Valley Corporation will be selling to the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation, and is it going to be cheaper than the price now charged to the consumers in Calcutta by the Electric Supply Corporation?

**Shri Hathi:** The D. V. C. will sell to the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation at a certain rate which is being negotiated. It is not finalized.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Is there any clause in the contract that the rate at which the D.V.C. will supply to the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation will be the same rate at which the people in Calcutta are now being charged and nothing extra will be charged?