

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir. The various export promotion councils are looking into this and our exports are steadily going up

Central Assistance to Bihar State

*922. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any curtailment in the allotment of Central assistance for implementation of the Annual Plan of the State of Bihar for the year 1958-59 under second Five Year Plan from what had already been allotted thereto; and

(b) if so, the exact position in this regard?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b) After discussions with the State Government, it was agreed that the outlay on the Annual Plan of Bihar would be Rs. 30.88 crores against the revised estimates of Rs. 27.4 crores in the current year. The State's contribution towards this outlay was assessed at Rs. 14 crores and the balance of Rs. 16.88 crores would be available as Central assistance

Shri Jhulan Sinha: What has happened to the specific amount of Rs. 5 crores promised as Central assistance to the Gandak Valley project?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): There was some provision for the Gandak Valley project last year and this year too a provision of the order of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Is it a fact that the performance of the Bihar Government in raising internal resources for the Plan has been very poor and that they have got some genuine difficulty? May I have some idea of the difficulties of the Bihar Government because of which they are not able to raise the resources?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It has been difficult for the State of Bihar to raise internal resources but we cannot lose sight of the fact that they have some genuine difficulties. There were successive droughts and floods and there was shortfall in the collection of land revenue and large amounts are outstanding by way of taccavi loans etc. These were the difficulties experienced by the Bihar Government.

Small Industries Service Institute, Ludhiana

*923. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Service Institute at Ludhiana has since been set up;

(b) whether the Institute has started functioning;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure on this Institute?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir

(c) Does not arise

(d) Recurring expenditure: Rs. 37,500 in 1956-57 and about Rs. 1.83 lakhs up to the end of February 1958 during the current financial year

Non-recurring expenditure About Rs. 2.21 lakhs from January 1956 up to the end of February 1958

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is the hon. Minister aware that the Industry in Ludhiana has gone far ahead of this institute and that this institute, even before it started functioning, has been rendered obsolete?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir. As a matter of fact, it is to some extent as a result of the establishment of this institute that the small industries of Ludhiana have got very great assistance.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know when the institute started functioning and what particular assistance has it been given?

Shri Mazubhai Shah: It started functioning since January 1956. About eleven officers are already in position. They are looking after the hosiery, machine tools, tools and dye making, sewing machines, leather industry and foundry, bicycles, etc.

Tea Plucking Machine

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*926. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a tea plucking machine has been invented by Russia;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have asked the Tea Board and the Indian Tea Association to develop a similar machine for use in the Indian Tea gardens; and

(c) if so, the progress made so far in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Reports have appeared in the press of the invention of a tea plucking machine in the U.S.S.R.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस मशीन का एक्सपेरिमेंट आपके द्वारा भी हुआ है या नहीं और आप ऐसा खयाल करते हैं कि नहीं कि इस मशीन में टी इंडस्ट्री को फायदा होगा ?

श्री लक्ष्मी चन्द्र : सभी गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से या टी बोर्ड की तरफ से कोई एक्सपेरिमेंट नहीं हुआ है। ऐसी इतिला मिली है कि इस दिशा में एक प्राइवेट कम्पनी कुछ

कोशिश कर रही है। इसमें फायदा होगा या नहीं यह तो देखना पड़ेगा। क्योंकि इसमें एम्प्लायमेंट का सवाल भी पैदा होता है।

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if the plucking capacity of this machine is computed in the light of human hands it is likely to displace and the acrewise target likely to be achieved?

Shri Satish Chandra: We have read something in the Press about the existence of such a machine in USSR. It has been recently invented by some Georgian experts. We have sent for the details of the machine but the use of this machine will require the replanting of the tea bushes in hedges.

Shri Hem Barua: What about the private firms that are engaged or working on this machine in our country? Have they computed the plucking capacity?

Shri Satish Chandra: There is an engineering firm in Calcutta and it is trying to design and develop a similar machine in India. That is just the information in our possession at present.

Pilgrimage Passports

*927. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that many Indian nationals who have been granted pilgrimage or Haj passports have utilised them to visit London and other foreign countries?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): No specific cases of pilgrim passes being misused for visits to U.K. or to other foreign countries (excluding Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran) have, so far, come to the notice of the Government of India.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस बात को देखते हुये कि प्रसवहारों में ऐसे ममाचार छपते रहते हैं, आपकी तरफ से क्या मेजरमेंट