

लिये जा रहे हैं ताकि पासपोर्ट्स का प्रबन्ध ठीक प्रकार से हो सके ?

श्री सादत अली खां : हमने अपने सिफारतखानों को जो इराक, ईरान और यूनाइटेड किंगडम में है आगाह कर दिया है कि अगर इस किस्म के हजरात जो गलत पासपोर्ट पर सफर कर रहे हैं, पकड़े जाये तो उनके पासपोर्ट उनसे ले लिये जाये ।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मे यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हज यात्रियों को आपकी तरफ से क्या सहूलियत इस वक्त दी जा रही है ?

श्री सादत अली खां : मे वह आपको पढ कर सुनाये देता हूँ ।

"These pilgrim passes are restricted travel documents for a single journey to and from Haj or Iraq and Iran. It is valid only for Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran. They are issued without the formalities required for passports. The pilgrims are also given certain other facilities by way of export of Indian currency, foodgrains, etc."

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it not true that the Central Haj Committee working in direct co-operation with the officer of the External Affairs Ministry substantially carries out the instructions of the External Affairs Ministry and also, if any lapses are pointed out to them, they rectify them?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Finance (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes.

Mr. Speaker: It does not require a question and an answer.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Sir, along with Q 929, Q 949 also may be taken up.

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): They can be clubbed together.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may answer both the questions.

Coir Industry

*929. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance given by the Government of India to the coir industry since the setting up of the Coir Board till 1st January, 1958; and

(b) whether Government have assessed the results of such financial aid and if so, what are they?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 41,58,736 (Grants: Rs. 5,19,311; Loans: Rs. 36,39,425) have been sanctioned to State Governments for schemes for the development of Coir Industry since the setting up of the Coir Board in July 1954 till the 1st January, 1958.

(b) A Committee has recently been constituted to evaluate the schemes and achievements of the Coir development schemes in the country in general. The Committee's report is expected to be received by the end of May, 1958.

Export of Coir Products

*949. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 413 on the 27th May, 1957 and state how far exports of Coir and Coir Products improved in each of the years after the setting up of the Board as compared to the exports previous to the setting up of the Board?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 14.]

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Committee about which the hon. Minister just now referred has been directed to find out the actual earnings of the workers in the various branches of the industry as compared to the time before the setting up of the Board?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The Committee is, really speaking, to look after the entire development of the coir industry in general. As far as labour and wage earning part is concerned it does come incidentally, and I am quite sure the Committee will look into that.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Coir Board has sponsored any specific research scheme either for reducing the retting time of coconut husks or utilisation of waste husk dust on a cottage industry basis?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The hon. Member has referred to this question several times in the House, and I am again reassuring him that these questions are being looked into by various committees.

Shri Dassappa: While there has been some increase in the export of coir yarn, may I know why there has been no increase whatever in the export of finished goods like coir mats and mattings?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am glad the hon. Member has pointed out this question. It has been our constant endeavour to see that more finished goods are exported rather than raw materials. That is precisely why we are sending a delegation of coir experts to foreign countries. But, if you see the figures for 1954-55 and 1955-56 you will see that there is hardly any declination; on the other hand, there is something of an increase. In 1956-57, due to some little competition from foreign countries there has been some declination and we are looking into that.

Shri Kodiyam: May I know whether the National Small Scale Industries Corporation has any plan to assist the coir industry especially in the matter of finding out new markets for the coir products?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I said, Sir, the two aspects of the coir industry which are constantly under review are to increase internal market and consumption of coir on the one hand,

and, on the other, to find external market for coir goods, particularly mattings, rugs and carpets.

Shri Punnoose: Is it a fact that the pattern of freight in shipping is one of the reasons why there is some export of yarn and fibre as against mats and mattings?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This particular question really affects all our export trade and not particularly coir. In coir, really speaking, it is the quality marking and standardisation which will go a long way. Also, there are other substitute fibres which are coming, endangering the very existence of coir industry. But we are trying to see that by improvement in quality and proper standardisation we increase the production rather than stagnate it or decrease it.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether after the setting up of the Coir Board there has been a perceptible increase in the export of coir products?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I said, from the statement that I laid on the Table it will be seen that there has been some increase. But, recently, as the hon. Member pointed out, there was increase in export of coir yarn and not coir mats and mattings. That is especially what we are looking into.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Coir Board has done anything for the hand-spun yarn as against the machine-spun coir yarn; if so, what is the relief which is available today for those who make hand spun yarn?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There are actually some workers who are doing hand spinning. But, as the hon. Member is more familiar in the matter, hand-spinning really does not produce as much or extract as much fibre as mechanical spinning. So, both these aspects are being looked into.