

**Central Sericultural Research Station,  
Berhampore (W. Bengal)**

**1827. Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps recommended for expansion of the Central Sericultural Research Station, Berhampore by the Reviewing Committee set up by Government;

(b) whether the employees of the Technical section have been declared permanent;

(c) whether there is a proposal to hand over this station to West Bengal Government to serve as a regional research station and to set up a Central Research Station elsewhere; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

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

(b) 13 Class III technical staff out of 23 and 16 Class IV employees out of 22 have been made permanent.

(c) and (d). The Reviewing Committee made a recommendation to this effect. Government have not accepted this recommendation. The Station will continue at Berhampore.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** May I know if it is a fact that since 1943 the staff of this Central Research Station has remained temporary? In view of the answer given by the hon. Minister, it seems that still a good percentage of these men will remain temporary. Is that policy of Government going to continue?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** As I have already said, more than 90 per cent. has already been made permanent. We are also thinking of expanding this particular activity and whatever staff is left will also be utilised in the institutions.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** May I know what is the expansion pro-

gramme of this Central Research Station.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The Reviewing Committee has made certain recommendations to increase certain items of work on filatures and also of sericulture. That is under consideration and it will be implemented very soon.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** May I know if the decision of the Government with regard to the Central Sericultural Research Station at Berhampore extends to other institutes, for instance, to the Research Station at Kalimpong?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes; the Kalimpong station is a sub-station.

**Shri Tangamani:** The hon. Minister stated that this Central Research Station is not going to be shifted from West Bengal. May I know whether any of the other recommendations, namely, that this Central Station should be entrusted to a governing body which should have both financial and administrative autonomy and should consist of scientists and technicians and representatives of the industry, have been accepted by Government?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, Sir. As I mentioned in the statement, those are the recommendations to which we are giving our consideration, and most probably all of them will be accepted.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know whether there is any idea of getting Japanese or foreign experts here, to this station, and also whether there is any idea of sending abroad some people from here for the purpose of training?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, Sir. Both the ideas are being considered and we shall get a few Japanese. Already two are here, and we shall send also Indian boys to Japan for training.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** May I know if the Director of this Institute has been appointed on a permanent basis and if a permanent selection has been made for the incumbent of that office?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** A permanent incumbent has not so far been appointed; but we are in a very great search for a permanent director. As soon as we get one, we shall appoint.

### Hosiery Industry

\*1829. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of Ludhiana Hosiery to South-East Asian countries has decreased substantially; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such decrease?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) It is not possible to assess the trend in export of Ludhiana Hosiery to any destination because the bulk of the Hosiery exported from this city is sent by post parcel and no figures of such exports are readily available.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Damani:** What is the total export of hosiery goods during 1957-58 and what special efforts are being taken to augment its export?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** In 1955, it was about 44 lakhs and in 1956 it was about 45.44 lakhs. It is slightly on the decline during the current year. Therefore, we are trying to take further steps and to find out whether it could be augmented or at least maintained at a stationary level.

**Shri Hem Raj:** The hon. Minister has told us that there are no figures available so far as the hosiery industry in Punjab is concerned. May I know whether at least in future the figures will be kept so that we could have the statistics for helping the export sometime or other?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is very difficult to keep figures State-wise and city-wise in such a big country as

India, but it is our endeavour to see that whenever we find that a particular area or a particular place is suffering, a local study is made. But no permanent arrangement at this stage can be made.

**Shri Liladhar Kotoki:** The hon. Minister said that there is no figure kept separately for different industries just like the Punjab hosiery industry. May I know then what is the basis of assessing the total export of hosiery goods from this country?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** I have given the total export figure. They are always recorded in the books, in connection with the maintenance of the export licences, and what they have released up to a period. But when it comes to a particular town or a particular city, it becomes very difficult.

**Pandit J. P. Jyotishi:** May I know whether Government have investigated into the causes of the shortfall in the export?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Yes, Sir. The causes have been well known. There are now competitive markets elsewhere. Those countries in South-East Asia which were importing hosiery from us have also started their own industry, and it is a common phenomena in all consumer goods. That is why we have to be constantly on the alert.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri P. B. Banerji. Absent.

**Shri P. B. Banerji:** I am putting the question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Members will speak loudly. Sometimes, hon. Members get up and their voices, as though like lightning, drop down suddenly. They do not put the question audibly. Therefore, I have to look round this side and that side to find out whether the question has been put or not.

**Hindustan Antibiotics (Private) Ltd.**

\*1830. **Shri P. B. Banerji:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to