

will be set up with the assistance of the USSR Government. May I know whether any agreement in this regard has been entered into?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Not only has it been reached, it has been signed and also placed on the Table of the House. And it involves a credit from the Soviet Union of about Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 crores.

Export of Jute Goods

+

- *1521. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Aurobindho Ghosal:
Shri Jadav Narayan Jadhav:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of jute goods during the last six months dropped considerably;

(b) whether it was on account of acute shortage of raw jute;

(c) the steps taken by Government for it; and

(d) whether Government propose to give a suitable minimum price of jute this year?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Exports of jute goods fell from 481,500 tons in the period July—December, 1959 to 446,100 tons in the corresponding period of 1960.

(b) The decline was due to shortage of jute supplies and the consequent high prices for jute goods.

(c) The steps taken have been referred to in the Statement made in the House on the 4th March, 1961 in reply to a Calling Attention Notice.

(d) The question does not arise at present as prices of jute are high.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Apart from the drop in the quantity, is it a fact that we got lower prices than Pakistan in America?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It all depends upon the world market prices and the comparative quality. It will not be correct to assume that for the same quality we got less prices.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : घाज यहां पर ५५ ह० मन जूट बिकता है, पाकिस्तान में ७० ह० मन बिकता है। जब हमारा जूट सस्ता होता है तब सरकार हम को मदद नहीं करती है और जब जूट का दाम ज्यादा मिलने की आशा होती है तो सरकार कंट्रोल वरीरह लगा देती है। इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार किसानों की मदद के लिये क्या उपाय मोख रही है।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैं ने हाउस के हांगने बार बार बतनाया है कि जब दाम गिरेंगे तो सरकार पूरी मदद करेगी और, जैसा श्री मिश्र जी को पता है, भूतकाल में हम ने मदद की है। घाज स्थिति ऐसी है कि मदद की कोई जरूरत नहीं है।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : पाज से दो तीन साल पहले जब जूट १४ ह० से १९ ह० मन तक बिकता था तब हम को कौन सी मदद दी गई थी ? पाज जब हमारा जूट ज्यादा तेज भाव पर बिकता है तो हम को पाकिस्तान जाने की कोई सुविधा नहीं है। जब हमें कीमत मिल रही है तब सरकार हमारी मदद नहीं करती है बल्कि कंट्रोल और लगा दिया जाता है।

उप्युक्त महोदय : माननीय सदस्य मायब रे रहे हैं।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैं याद दिमाना चाहता हूं कि उन दिनों स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन ने अरीद भी जुड कर दी थी और हम ने बिहार की कोसापरेटिव सोसाइटीज को मदद करने की बात भी नी की थी।

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the export of jute goods is continuously under examination so that there will be no drop? May I

also know whether we have any short-range policy to stop the fluctuations in the near future, and also a long-range policy so that we can build up a firm quota of exports?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There are so many questions coupled into one question. But I can assure the hon. Member and the House that we have both a short-term, and even a medium-term and long-term policy. The long-term policy is to grow more jute of the proper yellow staple fibre, so that our hessian and packings and sackings could be of better quality. Even as a short-term measure, we are trying to see that export is continuously being looked after, so that it does not go down but it will continuously rise.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether due to the high prices of jute goods now, there is any tendency amongst the USA consumers to go in for substitutes, which will be endangering the future prospect of our jute industry?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For the present, such trends have not been very ostensibly visible, but it cannot be ruled out that packing materials of a synthetic type are developing, and that will be one of the causes which we keep continuously before our minds in order to see that diversification of jute trade takes place, and that we are not priced out in the world market in jute goods.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that Government have entered into an agreement with the Indian Jute Mills Association allowing the jute mills curtailment of an additional 8 per cent in the loomage, besides the 9 per cent looms already sealed, and if so, whether that is one of the reasons responsible for the decline in production?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This has been explained to the House several times. Sealing and unsealing has been a continuously accepted policy of Government for the last thirty or forty years. As a matter of fact, the agreement

came into existence somewhere in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and it is this particular feature which has helped to maintain the regular flow and development of the jute industry.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether it is a fact that Government are encouraging the use of other fibres with jute goods to make them more attractive, and also so that the shortage will also be made up?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Various other fibres are being encouraged, and as the hon. Member is aware, the Ramie fibre scheme is now actively being pursued by the West Bengal Government.

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: May I know whether it is a fact that our jute crop is much smaller than our expectation during the Second Five Year Plan, and if so, what steps Government are taking to see that the jute crop will be according to our Plan expectations?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That does not really arise out of the main question. That is such a wide aspect which is not covered by the main question. In the Third Five Year Plan, the jute crop targets have been raised and also the actual quantum of the agricultural type in order to promote more jute production.

Foreign Collaboration in Large Scale Industries

+

*1522. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Damani:
Shri Harish Chandra
Mather:
Shri N. M. Deb:

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

(a) whether any policy has been settled and decided on "foreign collaboration" in the large-scale industries to be set up in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Government have formulated certain broad