

**Kashmir towards the development of export of handicrafts of Jammu of Kashmir:—**

- (i) Facility for Customs clearance of post parcels have been provided at Srinagar Air Port itself.
- (ii) Exporters of handicrafts from J & K are allowed registration with the State Director of Industries.
- (iii) Training programmes have been organised in Carpet weaving.
- (iv) Sales-cum-study teams consisting of exporters from J & K have been sent abroad.
- (v) A Handicrafts Directorate has been set up by J & K Govt. to devote undivided attention to the development and marketing of handicrafts and J & K Sales and Export Corpn. has been formed.
- (vi) The State Govt. is running school of designs for improvement and for developing designs of various handicrafts. Over 1,000 designs have been developed most of which have been commercialised.

No separate statistics of exports of handicrafts are maintained State-wise. However, growth in the exports of handicrafts from the J & K is reflected in the overall growth in exports of handicrafts from the country. It has been estimated by the Govt. of J & K that of the total production of handicrafts worth Rs. 16 crores in the State, nearly 25 per cent are exported.

**Production of Cloth by Mafatlal Group**

10026. **SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many meters of cloth, mill-wise and month-wise (average) had been produced by Mafat Lal Group during 1st April, 1971 to 31st March, 1974;

(b) what was the average per month production of preceding two years; and

(c) the percentage increase or decrease, mill-wise and year-wise if 1965-66 is taken as base year?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE):** (a) and (b). A statement (I) showing the monthly average mill-wise production of cloth by Mafat Lal Group of Mills during 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74 (nine-months) is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library*. See No. LT-7042/74].

(c) A statement (II) giving the information is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library*. See No. LT-7042/74].

**Import of Betel-nuts on behalf of S.T.C.**

10027. **SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a company by name North India Chemical Distributors of Delhi (Ltd) imported betel-nuts (Supari) for distribution to established importers in northern India on behalf of the State Trading Corporation of India in the years 1963-64 and 1964-65;

(b) if so, whether instead of distributing the betel-nuts to established importers they sold large portion in the black market;

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter;

(d) whether the Company was let off by paying Rs. 80,000/- to the S.T.C.; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI  
A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The unauthorised sale of about 51 tonnes out of an import of 331 tons of betelnuts by Northern India Chemical Distributors which had not been lifted by the quota holders had come to notice of the STC. The accounts of the firm were checked by the STC and an amount of Rs. 63,405 being the difference between the market value and the release price for quota holders was recovered by the Corporation.

Our report was only reflecting this lively variety of opinion among M.Ps. There was no reflection on anybody's conduct in performance of his parliamentary duties. And we submit that what an MP says and/or does outside the House cannot be the subject of privilege.

There was thus no breach of privilege of the House or of any member thereof. If we have, nevertheless, inadvertently hurt anybody's *amour propre*, we are sorry for it. We regret the reference to Watch and Ward Staff who undoubtedly gave an excellent account of themselves in grabbing the intruder."

In view of the explanation and regret by the Editor-in-Chief of the *Organiser*, if the House agrees, the matter may be treated as closed.

12.03 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE  
AGAINST THE 'ORGANISER'  
NEW DELHI

MR. SPEAKER: On the 23rd April, 1974, Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan had raised a question of privilege in the House against the *Organiser* in respect of a news report published in its issue dated the 20th April, 1974, allegedly containing certain allegations against some members and Watch and Ward staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

I had then observed that in the first instance the Editor of the *Organiser* would be asked to state what he had to say in the matter.

I have now received a reply dated the 30th April, 1974 from the Editor-in-Chief of the *Organiser* in which he has *inter alia* stated as follows:—

"We have not commented on the proceedings of the House or on anybody's conduct in the performance of his duties as a Member of Parliament.

\* \* \*

I hope the House agrees.

He met me in my chamber. He seemed not to be satisfied with the reply. Today being the last day. I thought he will be here so that we could dispose of this privilege motion.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra):  
Anyway, we are satisfied.

श्री शशि भूषण (दक्षिणी दिल्ली) :  
अध्यक्ष यहोदय, मैं आपसे दरख्वास्त करूंगा  
इसको प्रिविलेज कमेटी में आप भेज  
दीजिये। इसमें मेरा भी जिक्र किया गया  
था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने तो दिया नहीं  
है, आपके कहने पर कैसे होगा।

श्री शशि भूषण : इसमें श्री उन्नीकृष्णन  
का जिक्र है और कुछ दूसरे लोगों का जिक्र है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बैठ जायें। आप  
खड़े होकर बात न करें जहाँ मैं खड़ा हूँ।

Now, what should I do?