

**MATTER UNDER RULE 377**

**REPORTED EXTERNMENT ORDER ON SHRI RAJ NARAIN BY GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR**

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begasarai):** Sir, I had asked for your permission to raise a question on the misuse of D.I.R. in the arrest of Shri Raj Narain. No doubt, we had passed that Act. But, that Act has been grossly misused. My request about this was on Saturday itself.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Mishra, I chose only one and that was Shri Shashi Bhushan's request. I shall look into it again.

श्री शशि भूषण : मैंने उन को इलाजत दी थी, लेकिन वह हाउस में नहीं है। इस लिए श्री मिश्र अपनी बात कह दे।

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:** I want to draw the attention of the House to the externment order served on the socialist leader, Shri Raj Narain.

**MR. SPEAKER:** This was done by the Government of Bihar.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:** That is right. But, the D.I.R. had been passed by this House. It is a highly irresponsible and excessive action on the part of the executive. There was no question of D.I.R. involved. Shri Raj Narain was proceeding to attend a meeting of his National Executive which was to be held on the 7th, 8th and 9th.

His purpose was only to attend the meeting of the national executive. He is a Member of Parliament.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो राज्य सभा के मੈम्बर हैं न, तो उधर उठना चाहिए और वह तो स्टेट ने अप्लाई किया है, इन्होंने थोड़े ही अप्लाई किया है।

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:** Would you not ask the Government to tell us why the Defence of India Rule is being misused in this blatantly wrong manner? (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Now we shall take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Commerce.

**DEMANDS\* FOR GRANTS  
1974-75—Contd.**

**MINISTRY OF COMMERCE—Contd.)**

**SHRI M. SUDARSANAM (Narasaraopet):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the demand for grants of the Commerce Ministry, I compliment Professor Chattopadhyaya and his team of officers for their excellent achievements during the year. Exports touched an all-time high at Rs. Rs. 1,961 crores. The export surpluses must be created in a big way even at sacrifice of home consumption. To meet the fantastic oil and food bills, it is most essential that the production base is tremendously increased on a war footing, thus creating more surpluses. Strikes and lock-outs should be banned for five years. Agricultural production must be increased considerably by supplying inputs such as fertilisers, water etc. Raw materials for industrial purposes must also be regularly supplied. Electricity cuts are hampering production in a big way. These hurdles must be removed. The need for a well-defined and clear-cut export strategy is of paramount importance today than ever before.

During the first nine months (April-December) in 1973-74, exports touched a figure of Rs. 1,691 crores which were higher by about 21.6% than the exports in the first nine months of last year. On the other hand, imports have grown at a faster rate during this period. Imports during April-December 1973 were of the order of Rs. 1,785 crores recording an increase of Rs. 548 crores or 44% as compared to the imports during the corresponding period of 1972-73. The various import items which have shown a steep rise during this period include wheat, petroleum and petroleum products, machinery, fertilisers, chemical elements and compounds, non-ferrous metals etc.

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri M. Sudarsanam]

If the present tempo in our exports is maintained, exports during the financial year 1973-74 will easily exceed the target of Rs. 2000 crores fixed by the Ministry of Commerce and might reach a figure between Rs. 2100 and 2200 crores.

There are press reports that the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Planning and the Planning Commission have fixed a provisional export target of Rs. 2500 crores for the coming year, that is, 1974-75. While the details of this are not yet available, a higher export target has become necessary in view of our mounting import bill necessitated by the abnormally high crude oil prices and the sharp increase all over the world in the prices of several important items like steel, fertilisers, non-ferrous metals and chemical products etc.

Judging by the performances of 1972-73 and 1973-74, the target of Rs. 2500 crores contemplated for 1974-75 appears to be within our reach. Our effort should be to earn more and more free foreign exchange rather than rupee resources. This will mean the intensification of our export efforts in countries other than the East European countries with which we are having rupee payment arrangements. The Ministry of Commerce should immediately identify those products in which we have an advantage in the world markets in the short run on account of the changing world trends. Similarly, those items which have prospects in the long run should also be identified for the benefit of the exporters. Export production should not be allowed to suffer on any account because the imports of many essential items stand in danger of being slashed. We should gear up our export efforts to neighbouring countries in Asia and the Middle East where we have some freight advantage.

As an integral part of the strategy to claim a larger share in the world export market, India should try and arrive at some agreements with Ceylon and East Africa for tea and with Australia and the Latin American countries etc. for iron ore. These agreements will help

to regulate the international supplies and benefit India to increase the Unit value.

A separate Department of Export production has been created in the Ministry of Commerce to take care of various aspects connected with augmenting production for export purposes. It is a very welcome step and the Ministry should be congratulated on this. References to this newly created Department may be seen on page (ii), 14, and 43-46 of the Report circulated by the Commerce Ministry. On page (ii) it has been mentioned that it has been decided to constitute an India International Trade Fairs Authority to facilitate the marketing, publicity and export promotion of Indian products. However, no details are given anywhere about this proposed Authority. On pages 25-27, a brief review is made of the facilities available in the field of export finance. This largely relates to the working of the Industrial Development Bank of India and the ECGC. A suggestion is there now before the Ministry of Commerce to set up an Export Bank of India to help the exports of non-traditional items as well as the setting up of joint ventures abroad.

A full chapter (chapter V-page 51) is devoted to a review of the implementation of the Export Policy Resolution. The full text of the Resolution is also reproduced in Appendix 10 at page 183. This Export Policy Resolution was first adopted in 1970 and was framed largely in the context of the Fourth Five Year Plan. This Resolution is of little relevance now, particularly in view of the international oil situation and its likely impact on our export outlook. This policy should be redrafted and should take appropriate note of the emerging trends in the world trade and also our domestic conditions.

There are bright prospects for promoting India's trade with Asian countries owing to geographical proximity, friendly relations and traditional ties. Since the standards of living of many countries in Asia are rising very fast, the scope for larger commodity exchanges and supply of services is immense. In the case of the developed countries of the region

such as Japan and Australia, there are promising prospects for stepping up the exports of labour-intensive items.

In the case of Japan, the prospects are quite attractive in the fields of pollution-prone products which they are now vacating.

The prospects are quite bright for trading with the oil-rich Gulf countries. It is, therefore, gratifying that the Ministry of Commerce is giving increasing attention to this region and has made efforts to identify products as well as industries in respect of which India can play an increasing role. However, India will have to face severe international competition in these countries, and we have to make vigorous efforts to convince these countries of our abilities to provide goods and services which they may need. This is going to be a stupendous task and the Government may not be able to do everything all alone. Every encouragement should also be given to establish close ties at businessmen's level with the Gulf countries. One such line could be the establishment of business co-operation committees between India and the various oil-rich countries in the Gulf region. Now, the Gulf countries are also planning in a very big way to import know-how from various countries. Therefore, Indian industrialists must now be persuaded to set up joint ventures in the Gulf countries without losing any item. As of March, 1974, about 172 joint venture projects abroad have been accorded sanction by Government. Out of these, 42 have already gone into production. In spite of various advantages arising from these projects, Indian entrepreneurs are handicapped because of certain limitations. These include inadequate cash remittance, non-existence of a suitable investment guarantee scheme, restrictions on overseas travels, limitations on the items to be capitalised etc. Personnel deputed to work in these joint venture projects are also subjected to double taxation under the existing provisions of the Income-tax Act. The budget proposals for 1974-75 have also withdrawn the exemption available on the income derived by offering techni-

cal know-how etc. If the setting up of joint ventures abroad has to play a more positive role in generating new export outlets for our country, these constraints will have to be removed and a more conducive climate created.

Several items of exports are at present canalised through public sector agencies. Since the ultimate aim of the country is, to maximise our export earnings, export houses which are recognised by Government should also be allowed to function as canalising agencies for these items, in addition to function as canalising agencies for these items in addition to public sector agencies. Since these export-houses are supposed to possess the necessary expertise and contacts, such a change in our policy will only be in the larger interests of our export promotion efforts.

Frequent changes in policies create imbalances and uncertainties in the production and export sales. It is, therefore, necessary to examine the strong and weak aspects of the various promotional policies with a view to making them more stable.

It is to be regretted that the promised Tobacco Board is not yet in sight. Even on the floor of this House, it was repeatedly announced that the Tobacco Board will function very soon. But even though two years have elapsed already, the Tobacco Board has not come up so far. I request the hon. Minister of Commerce to kindly look into this very expeditiously.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore) : Mr. Speaker, going through the two Reports that have been given to us from the Ministry of Commerce, I find that they continue in the traditional pattern and there is nothing that is now, nothing that is more revealing than what has been there in the past. I suppose the Minister himself has not had much to do with the writing of the Reports because if one reads the many articles by him that have appeared or the many dissertations that have been

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heard from him, one finds he does make certain statements in regard, for instance, to a subject like the trade with the socialist countries, in which he has paid a tribute to the trade that has developed with the Soviet Union, particularly at the time when Mr. Leonid Brezhnev visited this country. At that time, in an article by him that appeared in one of the journals, he has said :

"One cannot afford to forget also the significant volume of special purchases from the Soviet Union as a result of the rupee payment arrangement at a time when the country was short of free exchange". Then he continues :

"One of the objectives of trade or of the trade agreement with the Soviet Union was to stabilise the prices of traditional exports and reduce the dependence on traditional imports".

Now my quarrel with the Report is that we are given the break up of the total trade with the various countries but we are not given a breakup as to how that pattern of trade is changing. We are not given an opportunity to study, through the report, whether this pattern is something that is to the benefit of our country or not. What exactly is the change that is taking place in the trade with the socialist countries? In what way is it beneficial to us? Is it opening up for us the possibility of developing and implementing the policy of national self-reliance?

This is the picture which I would like him to give, if it is possible for him to give, we are given, if I am not mistaken, at the end of the report, an appendix—Appendix V—which gives the total amount of India's imports of principal commodities imported from different countries, but we are not given the breakup. This is what I would like the Minister to give, to make us wiser on that.

Similarly on the question of exports. Unless we are able to get this picture, unless we are also given what is the target, what is the progress of discussions that are going on on the basis of the trade agreements that have been signed, it is extremely difficult for the House to be able to bring its full sense of judgment on this particular issue.

For instance, one would like to know what is the further possibility of a change in the items of exports to these countries. We know that the principal items of India's exports to the USSR were traditionally tea, cashew, coffee, oil cakes etc. In recent years, there has been some change and semi-manufactured and manufactured goods have also been exported. But how far and what is the quantum of change, how is it benefitting our country—this is what we would like to know. We have seen that in the five-year agreement that was signed with the Soviet Union in 1970, the Five-year agreement, there is this clause :

"Both Governments will hold, as and when necessary, consultations for the exploration of new avenues in the sphere of industrial co-operation as well as for the further utilisation of the existing, and the creation of additional, production capacities in each country on a mutually beneficial basis with a view to bringing about a further increase in bilateral trade".

Therefore, we would like to know whether there is any Soviet offer to purchase Indian goods on a long-term basis, reducing the uncertainties of export marketing.

Because it is very important for the country to be taken into confidence on these questions.

Now, coming to the affairs of internal importance, one of the most important foreign exchange earning commodities in this country has been jute. This is a traditional foreign exchange earning commodity. Traditional from the days when we were under British rule. Raw jute is the only industrial raw material

in which we are told the prices have not yet been allowed to go up and the prices announced by the Government, in spite of what the report says, are not really available to the primary jute-growers because of the grip that the jute mill-owners' association has over the raw jute trade. The hon. Minister himself comes from a State which is a major jute producing State, and I think he would probably know even better than I, the ramifications of the raw jute trade and the ramifications of the jute industry as a whole. So, I do not propose to go into the details of that.

But I would like to point out that the Jute Corporation of India has neither the organisation nor the desire—it has not shown any desire—to intervene in the purchase of jute in a way as to influence the prices. In spite of what has been claimed in this report the reality is that the price of raw jute is not remunerative to the vast majority of the jute growers themselves are dealers in raw jute workers in West Bengal have also raised this demand that the raw jute trade should be taken over by Government should be nationalised, because this is the only way in which protection could be given to the growers of jute because everybody knows that the jute growers themselves are dealers in raw jute and are speculators in the raw jute trade. Therefore, as we have seen in regard to other commodities, also they buy the raw jute at a cheaper rate and then sell it at a huge profit through the speculative markets and some of this profit does go into the black market. And so we have more black money which is already a ban in this country.

We have seen that it is the consistent policy of the Government of India to pamper the jute bosses and jute goods being the largest foreign exchange earner, it is time that the Government came into the picture in a big way to prevent the manipulation that is going on in the jute trade. Even at the beginning of this year, the duty concession worth nearly Rs 30 crores has been given to the jute millowners in spite of the fact that jute goods in the overseas

market are in a greater demand. Instead of seeing that there is diversification of both the product and the marketing, the huge profit in the jute industry is now being pumped into the other industries as in the case of Birla jute mills.

Jute goods in overseas trade, we know, is one of the biggest sources of illegal drainage of foreign exchange because the old practice of under invoicing and over-invoicing which is known to all of us, has a free play particularly in a State like West Bengal where recently manipulations have been brought to the fore in respect of Bird Heggiers of Calcutta.

Since the establishment of the jute in the British days, it has been subsidised by cheap labour, and the raw jute grower has been one of the worst sufferers and the economy as a whole has suffered because the foreign exchange from jute, which could have accrued to the Government and to the nation, has been allowed to go into the black market, into the hands of the big jute bosses. So to stop this huge leakage of foreign exchange and in the interests of all who are concerned in the jute trade, the growers the workers and the smaller manufacturers and also in the interests of the national economy, the jute trade we demand should be nationalised as early as possible, and I hope that the Government will be courageous enough and will also have the vision enough to do this. But it is not only jute trade that suffers. Tea is the next biggest industry earning foreign exchange. This was also one of the most flourishing industries when India became independent. It was also in industry that was dominated by the foreign owners of tea plantations. Tea trade and tea auctions were also dominated by foreign firms. This has also been sadly neglected by the Government.

As usual Government has suffered in the tea industry from the disease of setting up one committee after another, examining the report of each committee accepting some recommendations and

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dropping others, leaving the tea industry to fend for itself. With the result that the industry is most sadly neglected, although it covers a vast area in terms of acreage and a vast number in terms of employment. On 24th August, in the Lok Sabha the then minister answering a question stated :

"About 48% of the bushes in Bengal tea gardens are said to be over 50 years old. Financial assistance in the form of loans and subsidy through Tea Board schemes is being given to the tune of Rs. 7400 per hectare to 11,250 in the plains and Rs. 9,300 to 13,000 in the hills."

Despite all this, many of the gardens are in a deplorable state, some on the verge of closure. Some have already closed. We are told a task force has been set up. The future fate of this task force is also unknown. In the performance budget for 1974-75, we are given the figure of what is going to be given for replanting, but no indication has been given as to the measures Government is going to take to safeguard this continued exorbitant investment in the tea industry, leaving it in the hands of private owners to play ducks and drakes with the taxpayers' money. Government apparently do not have a consistent policy on this matter whatsoever.

In Kerala where Mr. George comes from—I hope he will take it up with more vigour—there are 84 estates owned by foreign companies, which own 87,000 and odd hectares of which only 21,000 and odd hectares are planted. That is to say, 66,000 hectares are lying fallow. Even out of this 21,000 one does not know how much they are cared for and how much has been steadily abandoned, because the number of employees is also steadily decreasing. The Kerala Assembly and the Kerala Government, with the support of the tea workers and all parties decided that the plantations should be nationalised. But nothing has happened. An ordinance was sent to the president, but it

is waiting there in cold storage. The Government rush as if it is an ordinance on Pondicherry or an ordinance for maintenance of essential services in order to penalise workers fighting for their justifiable rights. But in this case, an ordinance sent by a responsible Government with the assent of a duly elected responsible Assembly in a State which concerns a very important industry which carries considerable foreign exchange about which we are always hearing groans from the Government, that is neglected and the President is not advised by his Government to assent to it. I would like to know the reasons for this delay. What are the interests that are operating to prevent the Government from accepting the advice of a State Government which has sent that proposal with all sense of responsibility? Government goes on saying, "It is under consideration". It has been under consideration for three years. Meanwhile, when finally Kumbhakarna wakes up, and takes over the foreign plantations, they will be fit for nothing. With an air of bravado they will say, "We have taken over the foreign plantations. Now we will see that they are made to flourish." They will run into heavy weather and the capitalist press will be jubilant saying "There you are. Don't nationalise." This is how enemies of nationalisation are being fed. There is no point in allowing this ordinance to be in cold storage. Either the Government has to move very quickly or say, "We do not want to nationalise". Let the foreign owners do what they like. Let thousands of hectares of land lie fallow. Let the foreign owners who today are taking fabulous profits out of India and investing them in new areas like Nigeria, East Africa, etc., let them build up their plantations there and pinch the whole export trade in tea. We do not mind because we are busy with other things." Is this going to be the reply of the Government? I would like to know what is being done about it. I demand that the Government take immediate measures to nationalise the foreign plantations and also the Indian-owned plantations.

Coming to tea trade, we find that through bilateral trade agreements there has been a considerable increase in our trade. India's exports to countries covered by this registered an improvement in 1972. In relation to the total exports of 207.45 million kg last year, countries importing under the bilateral arrangement accounted for nearly 99.16. Why can't this policy be further pursued by the Government because it is extremely important that the tea trade is also taken over. Not only the plantations but even the trade and tea auctions are dominated today by the foreign concerns such as Liptons, Brookebond Lions, etc. The take-over of tea trade is extremely important in terms of our national economy, employment, foreign exchange earning etc. If we talk about rising unemployment the Labour and other Ministries immediately give us the excuse of population explosion. But why is, it that in the tea industry the number of plantation workers has gone down from 13 and odd lakhs to 8.5? How is it that the land-labour ratio has changed in Kerala itself? In areas where the existing labour force is going down, where the industry is being neglected such as the plantations—not only tea but coffee, rubber, cashew etc,—where does the excuse of population explosion come in? The closures taking place in the industry are matters of very serious import and we should give much greater and more serious attention to it.

Take coir. Apparently I seem to be rather oriented towards Mr. George's State, but it is because that State has the credit of having a large amount of primary commodities which are foreign exchange earners.

Take the question of coir. Two years ago the then Minister said that the take-over of export trade of coir was under examination. Then the Coir Board discussed a memorandum, which was given by my organisation, The All India Trade Union Congress, demanding the take over of this very important trade. The Board, which is a board of exports, according to the claims of the Govern-

ment, examined it in all detail and accepted the demand. Then it was forwarded to the Kerala Government, which also formally supported the position that was taken by the Board. Then a decision was taken and the Minister stated that the take-over would be there. Then the Kerala Coir Advisory Board also examined it and recommended the same thing. But, nothing happened. On the other hand, I noticed last week that when the Minister was answering questions he very successfully evaded the whole matter. I hope he will not evade again not only this question but the other questions that I have raised, because he can be successful in evading once, but not for ever. I want him to reply to this point because this is very important matter. It is not only a question of foreign exchange. There is the question of employment in Kerala and the crisis through which the coir industry is passing, which has been raised on the floor of this House time and again because lakhs and lakhs of workers have been thrown out of employment.

Similarly, I want the Minister to throw more light on the cashew trade, on the marketing system in cardamom.

Lastly, I would like to deal with the problem of textiles and the crisis that is there today in the country, so far as handloom weavers are concerned. Because the control on yarn has been removed, yarn is not available to the handloom weavers throughout the country. I come from a State and an area which is very dependent on handlooms. The handloom weavers are facing unemployment and starvation because yarn is not available. On the one hand, while they are facing that difficulty, they are not assured of any increase in wages either. These are the two important problems we are facing now. The de-control of yarn has hit the handloom weavers. On the other hand, the mill-owners have been reaping fabulous profits in the last two years. The figures given by the Reserve Bank bulletin and the figures given by the Ministry themselves show that fabulous profit have

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been earned by the textile mills not only in Coimbatore but all over the country. With all the wailing by the mill-owners that they cannot pay even the small increase in wages recommended by the Textile Wage Board, we find that last year after negotiating with the unions some of the mill-owners have paid even higher bonus than is stipulated as the maximum in the Bonus Act. I have never come across a mill-owner who, of his own sweet will, has come forward to give more money to the workers. The mill-owners agree to increase in wages only when they are forced to do it by means of a strike. In Bombay, recently there was the 41-day strike by the workers in the textile industry for increased wages. Similarly, there was a strike not only in Coimbatore but throughout Tamil Nadu for increased wages. In Coimbatore, which is supposed to be the Manchester of India, even those mill-owners who were opposed to paying a higher wage or bonus, agreed to pay a higher bonus, which they would not have done but for the fact that we told them that we could reveal the fabulous profits which they have earned. Now those mills have been given 37½ per cent rise in the price of controlled cloth. But nothing is being given to the handloom weaver. So, he is suffering. Therefore, we want to know why, in spite of the decision taken a year ago that the price of course cloth would not be increased for three years, it was suddenly increased in this manner.

Even those sick units which have been taken over by the National Textile Corporation have earned profits which shows how flourishing the textile industry is if it is properly run.

They have produced controlled cloth amounting to 847 and odd lakh sq. metres although their obligation was to produce only 560 and odd lakh sq. metres. This shows that they were artificially made sick because of mismanagement, quarrels in the management, manipulations and so off. Therefore, I would appeal to the Minister that the

textile industry should be nationalised before more are made artificially sick and the textile workers, the people as a whole, the export market and the import market, all get affected while the textile magnates continue to reap their fabulous profits.

In conclusion, I would only remind the Minister of their own Export Resolution of 1970 which says :

“A steady increase in export earnings is dependent on the continuous development and expansion of export-oriented production. The aim of such development should be the promotion of economic efficiency, diversification of production and better utilisation of skilled and unskilled manpower. The development of the economy's export sector has thus a vital role to play in the achievement of the plan's social and economic goals. The needs of this sector should, therefore, receive very high priority. ?

This is what I had in mind when I put before him the issues of jute, tea, textiles, coir, etc. In the limited time at my disposal, I cannot add to the list a number of other items. It could be endless. I would appeal to the Minister that he should really wake up and let me hope that he will be more dynamic than the Ministers in the past and, perhaps, next year when he comes again with his Demands, if he is still there, we will be able to give him bouquets rather than brick-bats.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Bihar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, to speak on the Demands of the Ministry of Commerce, I think, any Member should have the courage to say the correct things. Otherwise, the whole discussion will remain inconclusive.

The performance of the Commerce Ministry in general and the dynamic role played by my two hon. friends on the Ministerial Benches, incharge of the Ministry of Commerce in particular, is, no aoubt, appreciable. They have in-



created a large number of exports. I congratulate them for that. But I find the very approach of the Ministry of Commerce and particularly the Department of Foreign Trade is somewhat wrong.

Today, there is a problem of food and fuel in the country as also in many other countries of the world. It must be their endeavour to have more and more exports. There is no doubt about it. They are trying their best. But is it enough to have more and more exports from the country? I would request my hon. friends to look into the matter at what cost they are earning more foreign exchange through more and more exports. Is there any other way out to earn the same amount of foreign exchange or even more, 50 per cent more, by streamlining and giving priority to industries which are really export-oriented?

They have in their list to the extent of nearly 3000 items. I do not know what they are not exporting. From human hair to frog-legs, anything and everything from 'A', 'B', 'C' to all the words a person can say, they are exporting. What are they getting in return of 3000 or even more items? Is it commensurate with the foreign exchange earnings? They should rather select on priority basis the items which are export-oriented. These are the things to which they must give incentives and other facilities for their proper development, for export promotion in the foreign markets and all that. Have they done any researches? Some of their researches—I have gone through them—are mostly traditional and the decisions are taken keeping in view how the big industry and how big entrepreneurs can be given the benefit. The hon. Member opposite has referred to many points. I have no disagreements. I will say, in short, about tea: will you go through your own acceptance of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee? I would refer you to the Twenty-eighth Report of the Estimates Committee, Fifth Lok Sabha,

wherein you have accepted, I quote from page 32 of the Report:

"Recommendation: ... In the Committee's opinion, a rebate of excise duty on exported tea is more advantageous to the tea exporter rather than to the tea producer and this aspect of the question needs to be examined in greater depth.

"Reply of Government: Action is being taken to collect information regarding taxation structure in other Tea producing countries. The question regarding rebate of excise duty is under constant review by the Government."

That was informed on the 12th December, 1972. And I do not think that, uptill now, the hon. Minister or the Ministry has taken any decision.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE  
 (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): we have.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Then, will you announce the decision here?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Of course.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: That reply was given nearly 1½ years ago. To have more and more exports, they have a system; per kilo of tea exported, 75 paise will be the incentive in the form of excise rebate. The excise on tea is paid by the tea-producer. It has been suggested by the Estimates Committee that this system should be done away with; the incentive should be given to the tea-producer. And you have said, 'Yes; alright; action is being taken, we are considering' etc. Nearly 1½ years have passed. I have learnt from you, hon. Minister; you are a good teacher; still I believe that you are my teacher. Time is not only the essence of contract, time is the essence of decision, and a correct decision is as good as implementation of the whole programme. Is this the type of your

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correct decision and timely decision ?  
I would quote another;

12.57 HRS.

[MR. DEPUTY -SPEAKER in the Chair]

This is from page 12 of the same  
Estimates Committee's Report.

"Recommendation: The Committee suggest that the Tea Board should give maximum encouragement to the tea estates in Darjeeling to replant 2,556 hectares of available land with new tea bushes without any further loss of time. This step is necessary for three reasons, first, that the area under tea cultivation in Darjeeling has declined at the rate of 1.7 per cent during the period 1965—70 and secondly that the yield of tea in this area is much less than the all India average, and thirdly the Darjeeling area produces the finest tea, in great demand abroad."

I will quote the last few lines of the Government's reply :

"Reply of Government : . . . . Darjeeling has, however, its own special problems, high cost of production and very low profitability being the most important ones. It has been represented that the high rate of excise duty on tea produced in this area is acting as a damper to improved production. This and other problems facing the industry are under constant review by Government."

This reply was given on 22nd November, 1972. Have you taken any decision ? Is this the process of timely decision and correct decision ? And by that process, whom are your Ministry, your officials and inadvertently you, Dear Minister, helping ? You are helping only the three or four big tea exporters in the country and are squeezing and driving the tea-producers who, in their turn, are not in a position to give the best of what they could to the labourers who are really giving you the foreign exchange. Sir, as I said, the approach of this Ministry has not yet

\*\*The original was quoted in Bengali.  
Bengali.

been formalised, the format seems to be just in this old pattern. Whenever we raise the question of jute, that the jute-growers are being hard hit, and as hard-hit as possible, though they give you the largest amount of revenue so far as foreign exchange is concerned. Even then I do not find the Government of India having moved an inch in that direction to that effect.

13 HRS.

Sir, it is not our opinion. With your permission, I will quote a few lines from the Bengali paper *Jugantar* dated the 4th March, 1974. Some of the jute-growers were interviewed by the pressmen and I want to quote this from this paper. The Bengali interpreter can translate it so that I need not take my time. This is dated the 4th March, 1974. It reads :

\*\*The views of jute cultivators : Some such steps may be taken which will save them from the clutches of money lenders and the brokers. If the market price of jute falls below the price fixed by Government, then Government should purchase the stocks of the jute-growers at a just and fair price. Something has got to be done. This was stated by Shri Amulya Mitra, a highly educated young farmer of Toofanganj. Some progressive farmers asked the District Agricultural Officers at the farmers training camp—"what steps are you taking to increase the price of jute ?" A young cultivator, highly educated in agricultural science, stood up and said "they cannot take any steps in this regard."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : \*\*\*If you quote so extensively from the newspaper, you will exhaust all your time. Please be brief.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : I would request you to give some time more. It is very important. I would quote only very few lines. I have many other things to say.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have got only 10 minutes. That is almost over.

\*\*\*The original was spoken in

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** Sir, other Members are given almost 30 or 40 minutes. We have got 6 hours to speak on this :

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** Will you kindly listen first? If Members don't listen, I have to raise my voice. Your Whip has requested me again and again saying that there is a long list and therefore I should give 10 minutes to each. I am drawing your attention to that only.

The difficulty in this House is, whenever the Chair says something, the Members go on, on their own steam; they don't listen, and I have to shout or raise my voice in order to be heard! This is what I wanted to draw your attention to.

You may take a few more minutes, but the more time you take, it would be at the expense of your colleagues. That is all that I wanted to say.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** I will quote only some of the lines..

**SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara) :** He is from the Planters' lobby...

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** Order please. Mr. Naik, you always fly off in a tangent. You are a very interesting character, you add spice to debates, I know.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** This is what the educated agriculturists feel in my district.

\*We remember that in the pre-independence days maunds of paddy could be purchased at 'Narayanganj' for the price of one maund of jute. Even after independence two maunds of paddy could be had for the price of one maund of jute. But this year old Rahim Sheikh could not purchase even one maund of paddy for the price of two maunds of jute at the 'Sitalkuchi' market.

Sir, I have got many other instances. There are several others. I will cut it short.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** You can give the paper to the Minister. Let him read it very carefully.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** The hon. Minister knows about it.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** If he knows it there is no point of repeating. The Minister may kindly read that paper very carefully...

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA :** I have heard him very carefully.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** Before our independence what was the ratio and parity of price between jute and paddy? As said by one of the big farmers, 3 maunds of paddy is equal to one maund of jute.

This year, even for two maunds of jute he could not procure from the local markets in the district of Cooch-behar, the old Rahim Sheikh even one maund of paddy. Not only that. I would substantiate what I am saying here. Page 88 of the Economic Survey Report of 1974, states, about the conditions of the poor jute growers.

In December, 1972, the index number, in reference to the wholesale index numbers of all essential commodities, was 168; in 1973 it has come down to 123. If you analyse the other items, for groundnut, in December 1972 it was 262; in 1973 it was 362. Regarding all other items, for raw cotton, it was 169 in December, 1972 but in December 1973 it was 279.

I have calculated taking the 1961 index figures as the base year and it would be strange to find that the index number of jute in December, 1973 was 223 which means an increase from 1960-61 base year to 23%; the price index of raw cotton stood at 274—an increase of 194%—while that of pulse stood at 213—an increase of 370%. The index of rice stood at 286—an increase of 186%—while that of wheat

\*The original was quoted in Bengali.

[Shri B. K. Daschowdhury]

stood at 245—an increase of 145%. The index of mill cloth stood at 199—an increase of 99%. Even so, I do not know, how the Ministry of Commerce, in the Government of India has come to the conclusion that the jute growers are given the most remunerative prices by fixing the rate at Rs. 157.60 paise per quintal at the mill-gate at Calcutta. I would like to draw the attention to this fact which is reported in page 88 of the Economic Survey Report. It has been stated therein that the jute price has declined from December 1972 to December, 1973 from the index number 163 to 123. In view of this, I tabled a question to the Ministry of Agriculture whether any direction has been given to the Agricultural Prices Commission to fix the minimum support price for jute considering the prices of other essential commodities. In the eastern States jute is grown such as in Meghalaya, in Tripura, in Assam, in West Bengal, Bihar and also in Andhra Pradesh and to a certain extent in U.P. Particularly, in the eastern States—West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam—they are required to purchase against their own produce such as wheat and rice in the case of West Bengal—deficit States—not to that extent in Assam where the prices of oil seeds and other articles have gone up, taking the 1960-61 base year, to the extent of 300 to 430 per cent. Even then, we find that in regard to the prices of raw jute farmers have not been given any incentive. The Government, on the other hand, are putting certain obstacle; they are putting certain restrictions so that the growers may not get even their basic minimum price. If that is the argument that jute is an export-oriented industry and so, it has to compete in the foreign markets, I have some questions replied to by the hon. Deputy Minister. In the recent years, the buyers for jute goods are increasing by 20 to 25% because of increase of prices.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon Member's time is up.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Kindly allow me five more minutes. With that I do not understand why this hon. Minister has just re-imposed this export duty which was given away last year. If really jute goods are to compete in the international market and at the same time if you impose this export duty that means in the international market it will not have proper competition. You should give certain relaxations so that you can earn more foreign exchange but here we find the reverse thing is being done. The whole policy of the Ministry of Commerce seems to be to exploit more and more the jute growers.

In the case of cotton many incentives like cash, import entitlements, etc. have been given. In this connection I would like to draw your attention to the Fortieth Report of the Estimates Committee where it has been said that all these cash subsidies and other incentives, are equivalent to 90 per cent of the f.o.b. value of the goods exported. But here not only they are not given any incentive but on the contrary more and more restrictions are imposed. So, I ask the question whether you want the jute growers, who are really giving you a lot of foreign exchange, to be exploited more or whether you want jute growers should be given remunerative prices? If Government really want to help the jute growers, what steps does the Government contemplate to take?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, please conclude.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Sir, I will make only one point more. I put a question to the hon. Minister asking what consideration weighed with the Government regarding freight equalisation of certain commodities to have a balanced development in all parts of the country and to remove regional imbalance with particular reference to cotton yarn. In reply to this question it was said that there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for freight equalisation for cotton yarn. Now, when I moved a resolution on the above subject last

December the Minister categorically assured the House that the whole question is so intricate; it is very important and it is under the active consideration of the Planning Commission and the Government. But here we find in the specific reply given by the Deputy Minister wherein it is stated that there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government. Which one is correct? Are you really considering the question of freight equalisation of cotton yarn and other commodities as was assured last December?

Sir, the poor man is very hard hit on account of excessive price hike of cotton fabric. In one of the questions it is said that 228 textile mills have earned nearly 70 per cent more gross profit over the year 1971-72, that is, it came to rupees eighty six crores and eighty four lakhs whereas in 1971-72 it was rupees fifty-one crores and thirty-five lakhs. So, I would request the Minister to re-consider the question of lowering down the price of controlled cotton cloth which has recently been increased by nearly 37½ per cent.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, please. Now, Shri Ram Hedao.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHARY : With these words, I support the budget proposals.

श्री राम हेडाऊ (रामटेक) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बाणिज्य मन्त्रालय का ध्यान हाथकरघा उद्योग की बहुत बुरी स्थिति की ओर आकषित करना चाहता हूँ। इस देश का प्रमुख उद्योग कृषि है, और उस के बाद हाथ-कपड़ा उत्पादन के उद्योग का नम्बर आता है। इस देश में इस उद्योग के द्वारा पेट भरने वाले शरीरों की संख्या दस करोड़ है, जो दो करोड़ हाथकरघों पर काम करते हैं, लेकिन आज उन की स्थिति बहुत भयावह हो गई है। उन को रा मेटिरियल, सूत, आवश्यक मात्रा में नहीं मिलता है, जिस के कारण वे शरीर बनकर, जुलाहे, बेकारी के शिकार हो गए हैं।

हमारे देश में हाथकरघे और यन्त्र-करघे में जो स्पर्धा चल रही है, उस के कारण भी हाथकरघे पर काम करने वाले बुनकर बेकार हो गए हैं, और इस स्पर्धा में भागे नहीं बढ़ सके हैं। यन्त्र-करघा उद्योग के विकास के साथ साथ हाथकरघो पर काम करने वाले जुलाहो का ध्यान रखना भी बहुत जरूरी था। अगर एक यन्त्र-करघा शुरू होता है, तो दस हाथकरघे बेवार हो जाते हैं, क्योंकि दस हाथकरघो का काम एक यन्त्र-करघे के द्वारा हो सकता है। इस स्थिति में हाथकरघो पर काम करने वाले कुशल जुलाहो की बेकारी की ओर ध्यान देते हुए हम को यह सोचना होगा कि हम उन को किस ढंग से काम दे सकते हैं।

मैं शासन को सुझाव दूंगा कि इस गम्भीर समस्या को देखते हुए इस देश में एक आल-इंडिया हैडलूम कांफ़िडेंशन का गठन बहुत जरूरी है। उस कांफ़िडेंशन की जिम्मेदारी निश्चित कर देनी होगी, जिस से इस देश के सभी जुलाहो को पर्याप्त मात्रा में काम देने की व्यवस्था हो सके। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक योजना शासन के सामने पेश करना चाहूंगा।

आज इस उद्योग में इतनी बड़ी स्पर्धा हो गई है कि बुनकर स्वतन्त्रता से अपना उद्योग नहीं चला सकता है। आज उस को यार्न समय पर नहीं मिलता है, जिस के कारण उस का काम बन्द हो जाता है। रगाई, कलर देने, का काम करने वाले लोग भी इतने मूनाफ़ा-खोर बन चुके हैं कि उन को उचित दाम देने के बावजूद जुलाहो को पक्का कलर नहीं दिया जाता है। उस का परिणाम यह है कि मार्केट में जुलाहो के द्वारा बनाए गए कपड़े या साड़ियों के रंग की कोई गारन्टी नहीं होती है और उन का कपड़ा मार्केट में बदनाम हो चुका है। ऐसी स्थिति में जुलाहो की रोजी-रोटी को दृष्टि में रखते हुए शासन आल-इंडिया हैडलूम कांफ़िडेंशन के माध्यम से एक ऐसी व्यवस्था करे कि हर एक ऐसी

[श्री राम हेडार्ज]

बस्ती में, जहा जुलाहे हैं, एक कामन शोड का निर्माण किया जाये और उस में बुनकरो को काम देने की व्यवस्था की जाये। बहा हैडलूम लगाये जाये या पाबरलूम से काम दिया जाये, परन्तु जब तक हम सभी लोगो को पाबरलूम पर काम नहीं दे सकते हैं, तब तक हैडलूम को जीवित रखना अनिवार्य है।

हमारे देश में हैडलूम ही एक ऐसा उद्योग है, जिस में छ. सात सौ रुपए की लागत पर एक हैडलूम लगा कर उस के द्वारा पाच छ आदमियों का एक फैमिली ठीक प्रकार से अपना उदर-निर्वाह कर सकती है। इतनी कम लागत पर लगाया जा सकने वाला कोई दूसरा उद्योग इस देश में नहीं है। इसलिए उस को जीवित रखना बहुत जरूरी है। इसलिए एक कामन शीड में इनको काम दिया जाए। देश और विदेश की जो मार्केट है उस को स्टडी किया जाए कि बहा कौन से प्रकार के कपड़े की डिमांड है और उसी प्रकार का कपड़ा उन जुलाहो के जरिए बनवाया जाए। उस के मार्केटिंग की व्यवस्था, उस का पूरा संचालन करने की व्यवस्था शासन उस कारपोरेशन के माध्यम से यदि अपने हाथ में ले तो मैं समझता हू कि एक कलावन्त बुनकर जो आज इस देश में है उस को हम एक निश्चिन्तता से काम दे सकते हैं। इस की जो योजना है उस को कार्यान्वित किया जाए और उम में से अष्टाचार को बिलकुल निकाल दिया जाए तो मुझे आज भी उम्मीद है कि एक जुलाहे को एक दिन में कम से कम 15 रुपए की मजदूरी हम दे सकते हैं। इस देश में यह जो जुलाहो का वर्ग है जिस में कि मेहनतकश कलावन्त हैं जिन्होंने भगवान को भी वस्त्र दे कर उम की लज्जा की रक्षा की है आज वह खुद नगे और भूखे तड़प रहे हैं। उन के कई आन्दोलन इस देश में हुए, एक बुनवर-आन्दोलन नागपुर में हुआ, लेकिन उस में हम उन के ऊपर गोली चलाते और उन लोगो की हिम्मत तोड़ते रहे हैं। वे रोजी रोटी मागते हैं, सूत मागने

हैं, अपनी मुसीबतें शामन के सामने रखते हैं तो सरकार उन को गोली से कुचल देती है, उन के ऊपर झूठे केस चला कर उन की हिम्मत तोड़ते हैं। यदि कलावन्त लोगो की यही हालत रही तो इस के परिणाम बड़े भयंकर होंगे। यह इतना डाउन-ट्राउन समाज है, इनकी हालत इतनी गिरी हुई है कि जितनी बहुत कम लोगो की होगी। ये चौबीसों घंटे मेहनत करने वाले लोग हैं, रात को भी दीया जला कर अपने करघे पर काम करने वाले मेहनतकश कलावन्त हैं। लेकिन दुख की बात है कि आजादी के 25 वर्षों के बाद भी इस देश में उन की कद्र नहीं हो रही है। हम देखते हैं कि इन 25 सालो के अन्दर यह कलावन्त समाज धीरे धीरे खत्म होता जा रहा है, रोजी रोटी के लिए तड़प रहा है और उन में से कई लोग अपना काम छोड़ कर मिट्टी का काम कर रहे हैं। इस बात को कोई नहीं देखता कि यह स्थिति उन की आजादी के बाद क्यों हो रही है? किसी का ध्यान उन की ओर नहीं है। मैं शामन में बिनती करूंगा कि इतनी बल्ड मार्केट हैडलूम ट्रेड की है इतना अच्छा मार्केट उम के लिए है, लेकिन उम का कोई उपयोग हमारा शासन नहीं करता।

मैं इस सिलमिले में एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा कि सूत का दाम पिछले तीन सालो में दुगुने से भी अधिक मात्रा में बढ़ चुका है। आज 80 काउन्ट का सूत का 5 किलो का बंडल 200 रुपए तक चला गया है। दूसरी ओर हम देखते हैं कि इस देश के कपास-उत्पादक को कपास का उचित दाम नहीं मिलता। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि महाराष्ट्र में जो एकाधिकार—खरीदारी कपास की की गई उम एकाधिकार खरीदारी में 250 रुपए क्विन्टल दाम कपास का नियत किया गया। तो उधर 250 रुपए क्विन्टल कपास का दाम निश्चित करते हैं उधर 5 किलो के सूत के बंडल का दाम 200 रुपए होता है, यह इतना बड़ा अन्तर कहाँ से आया?

15 किलो कपास से 5 किलो का सूत का बंडल निर्माण होता है। पन्द्रह किलो कपास की कीमत भाज के हिसाब से 30-35 रुपए होती है और 5 किलो सूत की कीमत 200 रुपए होती है। यानी उस कपास से जो सूत बनता है उस सूत का निर्माण करने वाले कारखाने दारों को करीब करीब 70 प्रतिशत मुनाफा मिलता है। हम एक और देखते हैं कि जिनके पास पूंजी है और कारखाने हैं, वे अपनी पूंजी और मशीनरी के ऊपर अपने अधिकार के बल पर अपनी पूंजी बढ़ाते गए हैं, उन की मुनाफा-खोरी बढ़ती गई है और दूसरी और उत्पादक जो है चाहे कृषि से उत्पादन करने वाला काश्तकार हो या कपड़ा बनाने वाला जुलाहा हो उस को कुछ नहीं मिल रहा है। यह स्थिति यदि ज्यादा दिन तक चलती रही तो मेहनतकश आदमी शासन के विरोध में एक दिन दुल्हन आवाज ले कर खड़ा होगा और उस के परिणाम बड़े भयंकर होंगे। उनके पेट पर अंगार पड़ रहा है। उनके सवाल को हल करना होगा और उनको ध्यान में रखते हुए हमें उस के लिए योजना तैयार करनी होगी। मैं शासन से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि माल इंडिया हैंडलूम कारपोरेशन का गठन बहुत जल्दी किया जाए और इसकी पूरी जिम्मेदारी शासन अपने हाथ में ले कर हर एक बुनकर को काम देने की व्यवस्था करे।

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi) :  
 Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Commerce and make a few suggestions.

The Commerce Ministry is a very huge organisation dealing with so many Corporations and Boards. The new import policy has been just announced and it is in the right direction. It envisages more exports that will earn us foreign exchange. Its approach is to help the small scale industry to the maximum and also industries in the backward areas and the backward districts. This will go a long way to

develop the backward areas, as the necessary infra-structure will be created in the backward areas and this will facilitate the industrial growth and development in those areas.

The Commerce Ministry is mainly concerned with internal and foreign trade. Industrial production is mainly with the Ministry of Industrial Development. However, textile production is entirely with the Commerce Ministry. The composite textile mills section and the decentralised handloom and powerloom section are, however, attached to the Commerce Ministry. I feel rightly that they should be tagged with the Ministry of Industrial Development, because it falls within the sphere of industrial production in the country. I request the Government to review the position and take the correct decision.

We must increase our export and gain foreign exchange. We must reduce our imports, and while we may import some raw materials, it would not be quite correct to export raw materials. In the case of rubber industries, we were forced to export rubber since the last two years and the prices had fallen because the rubber production was facing an acute crisis in this country. For two years, they allowed them to export. Now, the rubber production has gone up and the rates also have gone up to Rs. 625 per quintal, while the synthetic rubber production has gone down. I feel there will come when we will have to import rubber from outside the country at a very high price if we do not check the export of raw rubber from this country. I request the Commerce Minister to review and re-examine the position to ensure that the rubber industry in the country gets the raw material for rubber and synthetic rubber for the manufacture of rubber goods in this country.

We are exporting man-made fabrics to a very great extent. We have exported these commodities to the tune of nearly Rs. 25 crores as against the target of Rs. 18 crores. According

[Shri Dhamankar]

to the industry sources, it should not be difficult to raise the export of nylon fabrics and yarn to nearly Rs. 30 crores during the next financial year. The only handicap is the scarcity of raw materials.

The rayon and nylon industry is facing a shortage of rayon pulp and caprolactum. They are importing rayon pulp and caprolactum from international markets. The prices have gone up and the supplies are very low. The price of wood pulp which reached a level of Rs. 4,400 per tonne in 1973 is expected to go up to Rs. 7,700 per tonne in 1974. The import of rayon pulp is canalised through the State Trading Corporation since 1971, and the STC imposes a service charge of 7.1 per cent on the tyre cord manufacturers. The effect of this at the present rates of wood pulp works out to Rs. 200 per tonne and thus the advantage of canalisation has been lost. Wood pulp was earlier available according to demand and the STC was placing orders on the basis of release orders obtained by the manufacturers, and thus, the item was distributed on the basis of such orders. The tyre cord manufacturers have suggested that wood pulp be made available on the basis of the licensed capacity and not in terms of production. This point needs minute scrutiny. There is also need for setting up of a few more units for the manufacture of wood pulp in this country, as it may not be advisable in the long run to depend on the US manufacturers alone who hold virtual monopoly in the world market.

As regards rayon yarn, the hand-loom weavers and the power-loom weavers are facing acute shortage. In regard to some of the rayon industries, especially Birla-owned Century Rayon and the other at Nagda, irregular expansion has taken place. The Company has been licensed for a capacity of 22,000 tonnes per annum. The Company has, however, expanded the installed capacity to 78,000 tonnes by way of effecting substantial expansion in their existing licensed units at

Nagda. Century Rayon is licensed for the manufacture of rayon filament yarn for a capacity of 7,000 tonnes. The Company has, however, been producing more than the licensed capacity. Its actual production in 1973 has been 10,438 tonnes. The company has achieved the higher production as a result of higher efficiency of machines. Government have taken the stand that as the Sarkar Commission has yet to submit its report, the unauthorised capacities of both Gwalior Rayon and Century Rayon will be regularised only later. I submit that, in order to meet the shortage of rayon yarn, Government should continue the supplies of the necessary raw materials for their expanded production without prejudice to the decision that the Government might take on their cases of unauthorised expansion. However, I would urge on the Government that they should see to it that the expanded production, through irregular expansion of the plants, is sold to the de-centralised power-loom and hand-loom sector at reasonable prices fixed by the Government. They should not be allowed to make more profits by selling this in the open market. They must be forced to sell it to the de-centralised sector.

As regards caprolactum, the Gujarat State Fertiliser Company will be starting the manufacture of caprolactum, for the first time in the country, from July 1974, which will result in saving of foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 30 crores. At present, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries for the supply of caprolactum which we need for the manufacture of nylon yarn. I submit that spinners should be allowed to import their requirement of caprolactum from the international market and the canalisation through STC should be discontinued. I feel, this will improve the position in regard to the demand for nylon yarn.

As regards cotton textiles, our exports, in 1973, were of the order of Rs. 276 crores. It is feared that cotton textile exports may dwindle considerably this year for want of adequate



supply of cotton. By the end of August 1974, the carry-over will be 13 lakh bales, as against 23 lakh bales last year. Advance planning and action are necessary, if the supply of cotton for domestic consumption and exports, is not to suffer.

With these few words, I support the Demands.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I wish all Members are like you.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI (Lakhimpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Commerce, I would like to congratulate the Minister for introducing dynamism into his Ministry, by increasing exports and enhancing the performance of his Ministry in other fields. Sir, the tree is known by its fruit. Similarly, this Ministry's performance can be judged by the exports and imports.

It is a good thing that during last year, total exports were of the order of Rs. 1960 crores and the total imports Rs. 1796 crores, and thus, there is a favourable balance of Rs. 164 crores. This is apparently a good figure. But, there is no room for complacency because when we take into account the re-exporting of certain goods, the concessions given in freight, the replenishment entitlement benefits and certain other things and convert these in terms of rupees, it will exceed Rs. 164 crores. Then, there will be no favourable balance. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to see that the foreign-exchange earning goods, particularly the traditional items like jute and tea, are exported in larger quantities to the foreign market. Sir, this is more important in the present context, when we have to import crude oil to the tune of Rs. 1300 crores. This becomes more important at the present juncture I am glad to note that the Ministry has entered into an agreement with the East European communities comprising 9 countries, handling about 39% of the total trade of Europe. I hope our exporters under the able guidance of this Ministry will be able to reap benefits from this agreement.

Tea and jute alone earn about 1/4th of our total foreign exchange, but they are constantly neglected. As a result of it, our exports of these two items are on the decline. For instance, our raw jute export came down to Rs. 4.45 crores in 1972-73 from Rs. 11.96 crores in 1971-72. Our jute manufacture export came down to Rs. 249.96 crores from 265.28 crores in the same period. This is an indication that our exports are not going on increasing but are decreasing. The Jute Trading Corporation is there, but it is a paralysed body. It is neither able to boost our exports nor give a remunerative price to the growers. Since my friend, Shri Daschowdhury has dealt with it at length, I will skip over it.

In the Reserve Bank Study Team Report on tea it has been stated.

"Tea industry enjoys a unique place in our national economy by virtue of its position as a major earner of foreign exchange and as an enterprise providing employment to a million of workers, and supporting a number of ancillary industries and services."

Tea is also an export-oriented, land-based and labour intensive industry. It employs more than 1 million directly and four times more indirectly. Therefore, it should be looked after properly. But India's share in the world market in tea export is declining. Profitability has also been reduced to 2%. It is going to be a sick industry. A number of gardens have been closed down and some are declared as sick. Government is going to take them over. But taking over the sick gardens cannot be considered as the panacea for all ills. There is a tendency to describe that the world production of tea is much more than its absorption. It may be right. But India's production of tea from 1951 to 1971 is less, compared to the world production. From 1951 to 1971, while the index number of world tea production rose from 100 to 189, India's production rose only from 100 to 152. In the tea trade India has made no progress at all during this period.

[Shri Biswanarayan Sastril]

If you look to the export side, it is still far less. The FAO has fixed the limit of 211.5 million kg of tea for export by India, but we could not fulfil even that target in 1972-73.

There are so many reasons for this declining trend. I would like to narrate some of the main factors for this decline. One is the fiscal policy followed by the Government of India. Tea is considered as both industry and agriculture. So, there is a tax on tea by both the State and Central Governments. There is excise duty, a corporate tax and also an agricultural tax. This multiple tax is mainly responsible for the declining trend in the export of tea.

The hon. Deputy Minister of Commerce stated in the Lok Sabha in March, 1973 in reply to a question that "the East African countries have an advantage over India in lower transport costs and negligible duties". So, according to Government's own admission, the duties are mainly responsible for the decline in the export to UK, about which something has to be done immediately.

If I give some figures they will show very clearly that neither our export of tea nor its unit value has increased over the last twenty years. In 1950-51 we exported 200 million kg and the unit value realised was Rs. 7.11. In 1968-69 we exported the same 200 million kg and the unit value was Rs. 7.79. In 1972-73 we exported 201 million kg and the unit value was Rs. 7.60. During the same period, while the prices of all other commodities have gone up as much as four or even five times, the price of tea has not gone up even by 15 to 20 per cent. So, the profitability of the tea gardens has gone down and they are not in a position to provide even the minimum requirements of amenities to the labour and other employees of the tea gardens. It is bound to affect the economy of the States, more particularly of Assam.

There are 758 tea gardens in Assam out of which about 90 per cent are in Zone V, which is an irrational and

illogical classification for levying excise duty. Out of 758 tea gardens, 680 gardens, that is, nearly 90 per cent, are in Zone V where excise duty is Rs. 1.15 whereas in other zones it is 25 paise, 50 paise, 100 paise and in Darjeeling alone Rs. 1.50. This Zone V tea constitutes 75 per cent of Indian's total export of tea. Because of this high excise duty, the producers are switching over to quantity from quality, and that is adversely affecting the export market and the realisation of unit value.

During the last ten years our export has gone down from 42 per cent to 39.5 per cent. If this trend is not resisted, then one day the export of tea will remain only in tradition. Today it is considered a traditional item. One day it will remain only as a tradition in memory. So, I would request the hon. Minister to consider the question of revising this irrational and illogical excise duty. I do not say that there should be any loss to the Exchequer but it should be rationalised. There should not be such a big variation of 25 paise to Rs. 1.50. Because it is neither based on cost of production, nor on the yield, nor on the selling price.

Let me give an example of Assam itself. In Assam, the tea gardens are divided in two zones, one zone paying Rs. 1.15 p. and the other zone paying only 50 p. The yield per hectare in Sibsagar district is 1,077 kg which is in zone 5 and the excise duty is Rs. 1.15 p, whereas in Nowgong district where the yield per hectare is 1,302 kg, there the excise duty is only 50 p per kg, of tea. Can there be any other glaring instance of injustice? The same person may have two tea estates, one in Sibsagar and the other in Nowgong, both being contiguous districts. At a distance of 10 or 15 miles, and tea garden has to pay Rs. 1.15 p. and the other tea garden has to pay 50 p. This is illogical. Therefore, it should be rationalised. There are five zones where the excise duty ranges from 25 p., 50 p., 100 p., Rs. 1.15 p. to Rs. 1.50 p. The excise duty of Rs. 1.15 p. should be reduced and the excise duty of

25 p. and 50 p. should be increased. Then, there will be no loss to the Exchequer. It should be logical, reasonable and rational. It could not be done by the Ministry since there were a number of cases in the High Courts. Recently, the Calcutta High Court gave its verdict on these cases. So, there is nothing wrong in revising or rationalising the excise duties. I would request the hon. Minister to look into this matter promptly.

The exporters of other commodities which are exported get import replenishment entitlements. They are entitled to import certain things for replenishment from any foreign market at international price. But this benefit is not extended to tea. Tea gardens also require certain things for replenishment. Take, for instance, fertiliser. Today, there was a Question on requirements of fertiliser. Their requirement is 110 kg. per hectare. But the Tea Board has recommended only 95 kg. per hectare. Even 95 kg. per hectare could not be supplied. If the tea gardens or the exporters of tea are allowed to import fertiliser, it will be a good help to the tea gardens. Similarly, insecticides and other essential things for the industry can also be imported. I would urge upon the Minister to see that at least 10 per cent import replenishment benefit is given to tea plantation on the basis of export.

The Tea Trading Corporation is functioning for the last 2½ years. But there is no Chairman and there is no Managing Director. This Corporation should be strengthened so that it can handle tea exports efficiently.

I would like to conclude by saying that Indian tea is sailing in stormy seas without proper direction and, if it is not rescued in the stormy seas, it will drag much else with it down to the bottom of the sea. I hope, before this, the Ministry will realise the position and improve the condition of tea industry.

**SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA** (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Demands of the Commerce Ministry, I

would like to say that in the context of a sea-change that has overtaken world economy and supersession of the international economic system which came into being after World War II, India's economy and trade and export effort, particularly, is faced with many imponderables.

There is the fuel gap, the fertiliser gap, the food gap, and all these add upto a balance of payments gap. In terms of present international prices, they add up to about Rs. 2100 crores—Rs. 1200 crores in oil, Rs. 500 crores in food and Rs. 400 crores in fertilisers at 1971-72 level of imports. Our capability for export performance is failing because of galloping price inflation and under-utilisation of many public sector undertakings, particularly the steel plants, because we have to import about Rs. 200 crores worth of steel just to keep our engineering and other industries going. So long, the difficulty for not only India but for other under-developed countries, generally called Group 77, has been this: whereas the development of advanced countries like USA, EEC countries, Canada, Australia and Japan has an economic ascent spiral at an unbroken rate and constant growth in the standard of living at the expense of under developed countries, our limiting factors and constraints prevented us from sharing that growth. Currencies of many countries are floating in the foreign exchange market; for all I know, some are even sinking; their purchasing parities vary. These bring in an element of uncertainty in the total situation. For two decades the countries producing primary products and consumer goods have been forced to sell cheap and purchase at high prices, which has been the major cause of stagnation of the economies of these countries. Increasing indebtedness of these countries now approaches, if it does not exceed, 90 billion dollars UNCTAD III was a failure; the rich men's club will not listen to the urgent plea of the countries of the third world to overcome the discrimination in international economic and trade system and to utilise 0.7 per cent

[Shri Chapalendu Bhattacharyya] of their G.N.P. for strengthening international cooperation. Algiers Charter, Lime Declaration and Action Programme of 1971 contain the basic demands of the Third World upon the international community. Then there is the slogan : 'Trade not Aid'. There are many barriers to trade. We are glad that the Commerce Minister has done a good job by coming to some agreement at least with the EEC countries, and we hope that it would be followed up with America. Our relations with the East European countries is one stabilising factor in an otherwise choppy sea of international trade.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have only five minutes more. Why not come to Mica and other matters in which you are interested.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA : I say this because the issue was raised that our share of the world trade is diminishing. The share of world trade in respect of all under-developed countries declined from 21.3 per cent in 1960 to 17.6 per cent in 1970, and at this rate, it may be 10 per cent by 1990. India is also in that stream; our share of the world trade is also falling. Although 60 per cent of world shipping is accounted for by poor countries, only eight per cent of merchant shipping is under their direct control. Our objectives of policy should be to reduce the tariff and non-tariff barriers, to ensure some stability in world monetary system to the extent we can, revision of Shipping Code and non-aligned countries buying nationalised oil at auction price and sometimes double the posted price. That is rather unfair. Of course that has been made good by the bilateral agreements between Iraq and India and Iran and India recently.

I will not touch tea; I will not touch jute. But I must say that raw cotton must be grown in the eastern region. In Chotanagpur plateau introduction of ambar charkha and spinning mills, must be undertaken so that thousands of handlooms lying idle in places roundabout Ranchi and Giridih districts and

in and around Nababwip' may be activated and this will release finer counts for export effort.

The Commerce Ministry should take up with ICAR the issue of the disastrous fall in lac production in Chotanagpur and Manbhum districts. The price of lac has increased from Rs. 26 per quintal to Rs. 1400 per quintal but there is no seed available. What is our Agriculture Ministry and ICAR and State Government doing? What has the Commerce Ministry done in this matter? If those seeds are made available to the adivasis, harijans and the poor in that region, they will be enabled to earn Rs. 100 for every *paas*, and kusum tree. By one single step the local people can be helped to a great extent.

The Commerce Ministry should stop the import of soyabean oil from December 1974 as a matter of policy, to ensure larger acreage under soyabean and extraction of soyabean oil India itself. In Chotanagpur we have done it in our demonstration farms. From the uplands the income can easily increase from Rs. 40 at present to Rs. 500 per acre, without affecting our food production. I suggest a close look from the angle of cost effectiveness of the functioning of the STC, MMIC and Cotton and Jute Corporations should be undertaken. How is it that jute seeds have to be imported from Rajasthan for growing jute in the eastern region?

Sir, the lowest nicotine content Virginia tobacco has been grown in Hazaribagh. This is the lowest nicotine content of Virginia tobacco in the world. It is being done in Hazaribagh experimental farm under ICAR. That should be expanded. That will give us a scope for future line of exports.

We are sending enormous quantities of oilcakes and have cut down imports of fertilisers. We must push through a new multi-lateral scientific agricultural programme which will be low on fertiliser and high on value. The suggestions which I have made regarding soyabean fall in that category.

Now I come to the floor prices of mica. Whereas the prices of all industrial commodities of import have gone up by 400 per cent the floor price of mica has been kept steady at the same level for the last 20 years. This has had a chain reaction. This is one of the most labour intensive industries employing lakhs of people. The result of the present situation is that lakhs of mica workers are getting the lowest wages in India. I suggested last December that 50 to 100% increase should be there in floor prices of mica. There are 200 varieties of mica and 150 importers for the 15 crore rupee export trade. It is a highly complex trade. Now this floor prices were revised as from 19th February 1974 from 15 to 50% except for scrap mica which had been increased to 100%.

14 00 hrs

Even after this revision of floor price the anomaly is that the floor prices having been given effect to have been kept in abeyance. Firstly it was up to 31.3. I suppose now, it has been kept in abeyance upto 30-4 or so. I do not follow this. Why after waiting so long you increased the floor prices it just to give the people a good break? The mica industry has been strangled by the exchequer who has accumulated R 32 crores. Mica production has fallen resulting in unemployment of thousands and thousands of mica workers. These are now in jeopardy. And currently in Giridih, there is a complete lock out of all factories and yet the floor prices which were announced are being kept in abeyance.

My next suggestion is regarding the shifting of All India Training Institute of Weights and Measures from Patna. This should be located at Ranchi. The export performance cannot be divorced from the overall economic situation of the country. One point was made the other day by my friend Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu regarding the anomaly in mica export figures. They were higher than the production figures of the mica industry. That can be explained by two reasons. These have been inquired into and gone

into in detail by Mr Justice Reuban of the Central Mica Enquiry Committee in the Mid-forties. The peculiar feature of mica is that mica can be carried as 50 kgs for thirty or forty years. A large quantity of mica is illegally being mined. Mica is available in the 620 sq miles belt area. The people who illegally mine the mica do sell it illegally. Fortunately they find a way to export it without figuring in the figures of production compiled in the Mines Directorate.

I feel that so far as MMTC is concerned in Giridih they delayed in the detection of the weaker section thereby the weaker sections of the society got a raw deal. The mica which was rejected by MMTC the weaker sections took it and sold that to some other bigger exporter and was later accepted by MMTC. That was how the jute was purchased and sold to the Jute Corporation. They sold the jute at Rs 30 or 35 a maund to the jute purchasers. The position is that today jute is purchased by the Jute Corporation at Rs 50. We want to give this *modus operandi* channelisation a good break in favour of weaker section.

How can we put an end to this *modus operandi* in channelisation unless the Government of India's policy at the lower level is checked.

श्री सतपाल रूपूर (पटियाणा) जो डिमा-  
न्स रखी गयी है उनको मैं रिपोर्ट करता हूँ।  
मैं समझना है कि मिनिस्ट्री आफ कामर्स  
में वियर और एथ्यूजियोज़ लाने की जरूरत  
है इस मिनिस्ट्री में जो काम जहाँ फस जाता है  
वही अटका रहता है और आगे उसका बढ़ना  
मुश्किल हो जाता है। जितनी रिपोर्टें आयी हैं डलूम  
इंडस्ट्रीज के बारे में तथा दूसरी रिपोर्टें उनका  
पता नहीं क्या हुआ। जरूरत इस बात की है कि  
हम हेडलूम बीवर को बचाएँ। इस मिनिस्ट्री के  
काम में पता नहीं कहा क्या नक्स है कि कुछ  
हो ही नहीं पाता है। हमारे हेडलूम बीवर को  
नुकसान ही हो रहा है। आज हेडलूम इंडस्ट्री  
एक बहुत बड़े क्रिसिस में से गुजर रही है। इस  
क्रिसिस में से निकालने के लिए जिस किसम की

[श्री सतपाल कपूर]

एफीसिएंसी की जरूरत है मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उस किस्म की एफीसिएंसी हमें नजर नहीं आ रही है। स्पनिंग मिल वाले जिस तरह से उनको एक्सप्लायड कर रहे हैं वीवर्ज को आर हेडलूम इंडस्ट्री की तरह जिस तरह से क्रश किया जा रहा है, उसको आपको देखना चाहिए और उनको बचाने की आपकी कोशिश करनी चाहिए। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि हमारे दोनो साथी, श्री जार्ज तथा प्रॉफसर चट्टोपाध्याय इस मामले को और सीरियसली लेंगे, और सीरियसली इस तरफ ध्यान देंगे (इंटरपसन) टैक्सटाइल कमीशनर के दफतर जो जो रिपोर्ट कोल्ड स्टोरेज में पड़ी हुयी है उनको निकालने की जरूरत है, उस तरफ ध्यान देने की जरूरत है, उन पर अमल करने की जरूरत है।

हम बहुत देर से वादे करते आ रहे हैं कि हम गरीब लोगों को कोर्स क्लाय सन्ना देंगे लेकिन पिछले दिनों आपने कोर्स क्लाय की कीमते बढ़ा दी हैं। और हमकी हम सख्त मजहमत करते हैं। आपको चाहिए था कि आप कोई न कोई फार्मूला निकालते जिसके जरिये आप फाइन क्लाय पर टैक्स बढ़ाते, उसकी कीमते बढ़ाते लेकिन गरीब लोगों को कोर्स क्लाय सन्ना देंते। इस तरह से आप करते तो हमें कोई अफसोस नहीं होता। जहा तक इटर्नल ट्रेड का ताल्लुक है देखने में आ रहा है कि फाइन क्लाय की तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जा रहा है, शहरों में रहने वाले जो बड़े बड़े लोग हैं, उनके स्टेडर्ड को और किस तरह से ऊंचा किया जा सकता है, उनकी लाइफ को और ज्यादा कम्फर्टिबिल कैमे बनाया जा सकता है इस तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। जब कि जरूरत हमें वान की थी कि इस तरफ ध्यान दिया जाता कि देहांत में रहने वाला गरीब आदमी है, आदिवासी है हरिजन है, पिसे तबके के लोग हैं, वकिंग क्लास के लोग हैं उनको कैसे सहूलियत दी जा सकती है। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि कोर्स क्लाय का प्रोडक्शन न सिर्फ कम हो रहा है

बल्कि उसकी कीमत भी बढ़ती जा रही है। अभी पिछले दिनों उनकी कीमतें तीस परसेंट बढ़ा दी गयी हैं...

प्रो० मधु बंडवले (राजापुर) : भाषणों में तो आलोचना करते हैं लेकिन कहते हैं कि हम डिमांड को स्पॉट करते हैं।

श्री सतपाल कपूर : हम आपकी तरह से नहीं है कि किसी के जीफ पर यहा किसी चीज की मुखालिफत की जाए। हम तो जो सच्ची बात है उसको कहते हैं।

मैंने कई बार कहा है कि मिडिल ईस्ट कट्टीज के साथ हमको अपनी ट्रेड को बढ़ाना चाहिए, और काफी बढ़ भी सकती है। यह ठीक है कि पिछले दिनों हमारे कुछ एग्सीमेंट्स हुए हैं, चट्टोपाध्याय जी गए थे और उसके फलस्वरूप एग्सीमेंट हुए। लेकिन इस फील्ड की तरफ और ज्यादा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। मिडिल ईस्ट के देशों के साथ हमारी जितनी ट्रेड है इससे वह और भी ज्यादा बढ़ायी जा सकती है।

काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज, विल्लेज लेवल इंडस्ट्रीज आहिस्ता आहिस्ता खत्म हो रही है। इनके उत्पादन को अग्र एक्सपोर्ट किया जाए तो उसकी बड़ी गुंजाइश है। हम इंडस्ट्री का जो सबसे बड़ा क्राइसेस है वह यह है कि जो ट्रेड कारीगर हैं वे आहिस्ता आहिस्ता खत्म होते जा रहे हैं आपकी मिनिस्ट्री की यह इयूटी है कि वह विल्लेज लेवल इंडस्ट्रीज काटेज इंडस्ट्री की पैदावार को हम ज्यादा बढ़ाए, उधर ज्यादा ध्यान दें। मैं मानता हूँ कि इनके लिए एम्प्लॉयमेंट बने हुए हैं। लेकिन वे ही काफी नहीं और हमें इस दिशा में हमारे और कई काम करने होंगे। जो लोग अनट्रेड हैं, देहांतों में पुगने जो कारीगर हैं उनके वास्ते ट्रेनिंग कोर्स स्टार्ट किए जाए। उस इंडस्ट्री की तरफ मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप ज्यादा ध्यान दें।

बन्ड में आज कार्पेट एक्सपोर्ट की बहुत गुंजाइश है और हम इस इंडस्ट्री को अपने मुल्क में बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ा सकते हैं। लेकिन इस मिनिस्ट्री ने इस तरफ पूरी तरह ध्यान नहीं दिया है। इस वक्त हमारा कार्पेट एक्सपोर्ट

सकरीबन 25,26 करोड़ रुपए की है। इस सिलसिले में हम पिछले दिनों मिनिस्टर साहब से मिले भी थे। अगर कारपेट इंडस्ट्री पर पूरी तरह ध्यान दिया जाए, तो तकरीबन 400 करोड़ रुपए का एक्सपोर्ट अकेली इस इंडस्ट्री से ही हो सकता है, और हमारे मुल्क के एक मिलियन आदमियों को काम भी मिल सकता है। यह बहुत आसान और सिम्पल काम है। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब, श्री चट्टोपाध्याय, ने इस तरफ ध्यान दिया है, लेकिन जिस एनयूजिएज्म और जोश के साथ इस काम को आगेनाइज करने की ज़रूरत थी, उस तरह वह आगेनाइज नहीं किया जा रहा है। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से दरखास्त करूंगा कि वह कारपेट एक्सपोर्ट को प्रायटी दे।

हम इस साल एक मिलियन टन शूगर का एक्सपोर्ट करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन इस मुद्दे की शूगर लाबी चाहती है कि उस पर एक्सपोर्ट न हो। इस मिनिस्ट्री का यह फर्ज है कि वह इस टारगट को पूरा करे। अगर पूरी मेहनत की जाए, तो अगले साल हम 15 लाख टन शूगर यहाँ से एक्सपोर्ट कर सकते हैं। शूगर एग्जेलेबल है और उसका प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाया जा सकता है, लेकिन शूगर लाबी का अपना एक इस्ट है, जिसकी वजह से शूगर का अपना एक्सपोर्ट नहीं बढ़ रहा है। शूगर का एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ाने से हमारे मुल्क को बहुत फायदा हो सकता है।

इस वकन तो एक लाख टन वासमती चावल एक्सपोर्ट होता है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि इस मुल्क में तीन, साढ़े तीन लाख टन वासमती चावल इकट्ठा किया जा सकता है जो मिडिल ईस्ट कंट्रीज को एक्सपोर्ट हो सकता है, और उस से हमको बहुत बड़ी फायरेन एक्सचेंज मिल सकती है। इस तरफ ध्यान देने की ज़रूरत है।

सरकार की तरफ से कहा जाता है कि हम बड़े यूनिट्स को सपोर्ट नहीं करेंगे और छोटे यूनिट्स को जिन्दा रखेंगे। पंजाब और हरियाणा दो ऐसे सूबे हैं, जहाँ इंडस्ट्री

बिडला, टाटा या डालमिया की नहीं हैं— किसी बड़े मोनोपोलिस्ट की इंडस्ट्री नहीं है। इन दो सूबों के एक्सपोर्ट से करोड़ों रुपए का फायरेन एक्सचेंज इस मुल्क को मिलता है। लेकिन इन दोनों सूबों में आज इंडस्ट्री खत्म हो रही है—वह पूरी तरह से डेवलेप नहीं हो रही है। पंजाब में जो स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट मशीन गृहम, साइकिल-पार्ट्स और हेंड टूल्स बना कर एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं, उनकी एसेसड कॅपेसिटी के मुताबिक उन्हें जितना स्टील मिलना चाहिए, उसका सिर्फ़ तीन फीसदी उनको मिलता है। मिनिस्ट्री आफ कामर्स का फर्ज है कि पंजाब और हरियाणा में—अमृतसर, बटाला, जालंधर, लुधियाना, राजपुरा, फरीदाबाद, सोनीपत, और पानीपत वगैरह में—जो एक्सपोर्ट ओरियटिड इंडस्ट्रीज लगी हुई हैं, वह उनकी ज़रूरी रियात को पूरा करे। और उनको मुश्किलात को दूर करने की कोशिश करे। मैं चाहूँगा कि मिनिस्टर साहब और डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब कुछ वकत निकालें और दो-दो दिन राजपुरा, अमृतसर, जालंधर, लुधियाना, और फरीदाबाद में बैठें। वहाँ के लोगों से मिलें और यह मालूम करें कि उनके सामने क्या क्या डिफिकल्टीज हैं।

ये लोग पूरी मेहनत के साथ मुल्क का एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ा रहे हैं। अकेला लुधियाना 50 करोड़ रुपए का फायरेन एक्सचेंज हर साल एक्सपोर्ट के जरिए ला कर देता है। इसी तरह अकेला अमृतसर करोड़ों रुपए का फायरेन एक्सचेंज अनं कर के देता है। आज इन इंडस्ट्री के कदम कमजोर हो गये हैं। हमारा फर्ज है कि हम उन इंडस्ट्रीज को अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होने में मदद दें, उन को मजबूत करें और उनकी डिफिकल्टीज को रिमूव करें।

जहाँ तक कैमिकल इंडस्ट्रीज का ताल्लुक है हमने फ्रेकफर्ट में इंटरनेशनल कैमिकल इंडस्ट्रीज की एक एग्ज़िब्यूशन देखी थी। उसमें इंडियन डेलीगेशन भी गया था और

[ श्री सतपाल कपूर ]

हमारी कैमिकल इंडस्ट्री के स्टाल भी लगे थे। उन लोगों की इस मिनिस्ट्री के खिलाफ सबसे बड़ी शिकायत यह है कि हालांकि उनको इन्टर-नेशनल आर्डर तो बहुत मिले रहे हैं, लेकिन उनके आर्डरों की डेट बाउंड होने की वजह से वे उनको पूरा नहीं कर पाते हैं, क्योंकि जो समान उन्होंने ही बना कर भेजा होता है उसके लिए मशीनरी वगैरह जिन चीजों की इम्पोर्ट करने की जरूरत पड़ती है छः-छः महीने तक उनके इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस मिनिस्ट्री से नहीं मिलते हैं। उनकी तजवीज यह है कि—और मैंने मिनिस्टर साहब से मिलकर भी यह बात कही थी—कि जो यूनिट कैमिकल मशीनरी बनाते हैं उनके आइटम के इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस एडवान्स में दे दिए जाएं और हर साल उनसे हिसाब ले लिया जाए कि पिछले साल फलां फलां आइटम के एडवान्स इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस उनको दिये गये थे, उन्होंने उनमें से कितने यूज किये हैं और कितने नहीं यूज किये हैं। हमारे इंडियन डेलीगेशन का कहना था कि अगर यह छोटा सा काम कर दिया जाए, तो कैमिकल इंडस्ट्री का एक्सपोर्ट तीन गुना ज्यादा हो सकता है। इस वक्त उसका एक्सपोर्ट 12 से 15 करोड़ रुपया है, जबकि वह 50 करोड़ रुपए के नजदीक पहुंच सकता है।

एक इंडस्ट्री का जिक्र करते हुए मुझे बड़ा अफसोस होता है। अमृतसर ने सारे हिन्दुस्तान को सिखाया कि रैगज से शड़ी बना कर कम्बल तैयार किये जा सकते हैं। और वह इंडस्ट्री सारे हिन्दुस्तान में फैल रही है। पिछले दिनों पचास के करीब नये लाइसेंस दिये गये, लेकिन जिन लोगों ने—पंजाब के लोगों ने यह काम सारे हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों को सिखाया, उनको एक भी लाइसेंस नहीं दिया गया। पता नहीं मिनिस्ट्री ने किस इन्स्ट्रट को सामने रखकर और किस फार्मूले के बेसिस पर ये लाइसेंस बाँटे हैं। प्रो० चट्टोपाध्याय उस वक्त इस मिनिस्ट्री में नहीं थे। लेकिन मैं इस बात की

सब्त निन्दा करता हूँ कि हालांकि पंजाब ने यह इंडस्ट्री सारे हिन्दुस्तान को सिखायी, लेकिन किसी पंजाबी को एक भी नया लाइसेंस नहीं दिया गया। होमियारपुर के लोगों ने जो एक बैकवर्ड एरिया है, एप्लायी किया, और पंजाब गर्वनमेंट ने भी रिकमेंड किया इसके अलावा अमृतसर के लोगों ने भी एप्लायी किया, लेकिन एक भी लाइसेंस पंजाब में नहीं दिया गया। मिनिस्टर साहब इस मामले में दुबारा गौर करें और देखें कि जिन लोगों ने मुल्क में इस इंडस्ट्री को शुरू किया है, उन को क्यों इग्नोर किया गया है।

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): I support the Demands of the Ministry of Commerce. Of course, there is a very good sign of improvement in the functioning of the Ministry. Hopefully, the graph of exports is rising. At the same time, there are some problems which still remain which might affect indigenous industry as well as agriculturists producing cash crops.

First of all, I come to textile machinery. This is a matter which has already been taken up. Textile machinery in the country is produced by one or two monopoly groups. Here I find there is a double approach by the Ministry. When we take up the question of rubber growers and export of rubber, they say that if there is surplus after meeting indigenous requirements, they will export. But in so far as textile machinery is concerned, there is a heavy demand in the country today. There are many small textile units suffering for want of machinery. But the Government say 'We have got an international market and we must export'. I ask: is this not done only to help Birlas? Because Birla is the main producer of textile machinery. I do not think Shri Chattoopadhyay is interested in export of textile machinery only because it is in Calcutta. But is this policy not helping only the Birlas? Why not adopt the same standard in regard to rubber as you have adopted in the case of textile machinery? And what are you earning through this export of textile machinery? Only a sum



of Rs. 3.5 crores according to an answer furnished to us. Your main intention is to help the Birlas. Otherwise please explain why you are exporting textile machinery when there is a heavy demand for such machinery in the country itself.

Due to the shortness of time, I must now come to my own State.

Here, an answer has been given last Friday by the hon. Minister. Of course, they would not say Statewise, but I will refer to the answer given to the Unstarred Question No. 5822. They have said that the marine products had gone up to Rs. 70 crores and it may go up again to Rs. 87 crores. Definitely, we can claim a major share of it from my own State.

About rubber, the situation is very pitiable, but I will deal with it later on. Take then, tea; both of us can claim a share in it. Kerala's share is there. The total comes to Rs. 200 crores worth of export from the Kerala ports alone. Then there is cashew, coir, coffee—everything. In this connection, I shall say a few words about coffee. I do regret to say that the Commerce Minister has not taken note of the problems of the coffee growers of my own State. In the Wynad area of our State—Shri Unnikrishnan is representing that area—there are large areas where coffee is grown in the estates. The Government have imposed a duty there. I regret to say that the Commerce Ministry, which should have known the implications and should have understood the problems of the coffee growers, have not acted properly. The Government have not saved the coffee growers from the heavy burden which has been imposed on them. I hope the Commerce Ministry will take it very seriously if they are aware of the problem.

As far as marine development is concerned, I am very glad that the Marine Development Authority is doing very well. My only regret is they are not getting proper attention or a proper deal from the Udyog Bhavan. Many of the people sitting in Udyog Bhavan

—I do not blame them—have seen neither the sea nor the fish. So, they cannot decide things by simply sitting there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sure Mr. George has seen both.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola) : And also Shri Chattopadhyaya, because in Bengal there is a lot of fish.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : In regard to the Marine Development Authority, the attention if the people sitting in Udyog Bhavan is lacking. For instance, take the allotment of trawlers. There is a heavy pressure from the big business houses, namely, Indian Tobacco, Union Carbide, Britannia, Raunak International, etc; also from Tatas and Birlas. 50 trawlers—who will allot them? Can the Commerce Ministry do it? The Ministry of Agriculture is also concerned with it. There are conferences. In this matter, the small exporters or the small people numbering about 200 to 300 on the Kerala coast have been excluded because of the heavy pressure in favour of the big business houses. Even in this allotment, I regret to say that the Marine Development Authority has not been taken into confidence or it has not been consulted. I would like to know why, if the Marine Development Authority is concerned with all aspects of the marine products and it deals with the export of the entire marine items, the Government ignores the suggestions and the facts? The Marine Development Authority has made a suggestion

You will be surprised to know that last year the Indian Tobacco incurred a heavy loss to the tune of Rs. 45 lakhs in their marine business. Still, they are very eager to continue? Why? Even with a loss of Rs. 45 lakhs, Indian Tobacco is very eager to continue fishing in the sea coast for export purposes. It is not actually to fish but to fish some other things. That is why we said, why can't you stop the incentive import licensing to these people.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : From tobacco to fish is a long jump.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** They are losing. Rs. 45 lakhs is a huge amount. My point is this. We requested the Government in the Consultative Committee also to cancel the incentive import licence which attracts these big business houses into this business and to import whatever they want. They can do the mischief and they can make underinvoicing and after the accumulation of foreign exchange abroad, they do all kinds of manipulations in the marine products export trade. That is why even though they are losing money they continue in this business and they want to swallow the entire lot of small exporters on the Kerala coast. I requested the Minister to consider the proposal, the suggestion of the small marine products exporters to cancel the incentive import licence. Why can't you do it? It is saving of foreign exchange. If you want to save foreign exchange, cancel it. What is wrong in cancelling it? I hope the Minister will consider it. Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister to give due consideration to the proposals and suggestions of the Marine Development Authority, which consists of experts in the marine field.

Sir, on Friday, there was a big debate here. I do not want to go into the details. But, I want to complain against the Commerce Ministry. The insurance companies are not giving rejection cover to small people. It is very good. But, I do not know why the Commerce Ministry kept quiet. The insurance companies gave about Rs. 3.5 crores by way of rejection cover to three big firms, namely, Indian Tobacco, Britannia and Raunak International. Is it not a loss to the country? Rs. 3.5 crores in foreign exchange. Why is this given only to these three big firms? Why is there this discrimination? Why other people have not been allowed this benefit? Why only these three companies, two foreign companies and one other company, should be given this insurance rejection cover, to the tune of about Rs. 35 lakhs? I am sorry, the Commerce Minister kept quiet.

Now, I come to rubber. In regard to such important matters, the Minister

should give them a fair deal. Here, I have before me, the reply given by the Minister to an unstarred question. We are demanding people in Kerala, representatives of the Rubber Board as well as Members of Parliament—that rubber should be exported. The Minister cautiously said that surplus rubber has been exported. I would like to know, how much surplus is there in the country today? In India, I believe, about 2.12,000 hectares are under rubber cultivation. This has shot up from 21,000 odd hectares, 25 years ago. This is good. Sir, you may be surprised to know, in my own State, 70% of them are small growers, holding about one acre and so on. There is heavy demand for rubber in the world market today. According to newspaper reports, the price in the international market is about 60 to 66 pounds. The international market is controlled by the big companies like Dunlop, Firestone etc. The Tariff Commission fixed a price of Rs. 525 per quintal, in regard to the small growers. The Commerce Ministry was good enough to come forward and make an announcement that they will export. But, how much have we exported? According to the information given in reply to unstarred question 5774 by Shri Samar Guha, we have exported 2600 tonnes. We have earned Rs. 147 lakhs. Here, I charge the STC, either they are ignorant of the business or they have failed to get for our rubber, the international price. We have exported only 2600 tonnes, valued at Rs. 147 lakhs. On an average, it comes to about Rs. 570 per quintal. You must understand that the international price is 60 to 66 pounds. This is more than Rs. 1000. Here, the STC have failed. Why did not the STC export 5000 tonnes, as announced, and get for our product, the international price? Why is the price very low? In this also, the STC went into the open market as traders and they could not purchase, when the Kerala Rubber Marketing Federation offered them a higher price. The country has lost a certain amount. The hon. Minister mentioned about surplus. In reply to the same question, the hon. Minister said that there is 5 months' stock with

the rubber manufacturers. One month's stock means, 10,000 tonnes. So, 50,000 tonnes of rubber is lying idle with the manufacturers. According to the hon. Minister, there is a minimum surplus of 14,000 tonnes and the total production is 1,24,000 tonnes. I would like to ask a question what is the real surplus? The real surplus in the country today is more than 60,000 tonnes of rubber. I agree, the price is a little high. This is because, the international market value is high. Otherwise, with 50,000 tonnes in stock with these big cartels, the prices would have crumbled. This was not the case, because, the Commerce Ministry was good enough to export at least some quantity. My request to the Government is, when the prevailing international price is 60 to 66 pounds, why should we not export 50,000 tonnes of rubber? There is ample production. Production is going up every day. Stock is there; carry-over stock is there. According to his own answer, there is a surplus. When you take into account the surplus and the carry-over stock, you can export 60—70,000 tonnes and you can earn Rs. 50 crores in foreign exchange. Why should the Government hesitate to do this?

Lastly, I would like to mention about subsidy. The subsidy was fixed by the Tariff Commission in 1960. It is Rs. 2471 per acre, for replantation. In other countries, it is high. In Malaysia, it is about Rs. 6798 and in Sri Lanka it is about Rs. 4483. The Tariff Commission and the Rubber Small Holdings Economic Enquiry Committee recommended an increase in the subsidy to the Kerala farmers. We are not demanding anything from the Plan outlay or from the Commerce Ministry's funds. They are collecting a case of Rs. 35 lakhs every year and Rs. 110 million are lying idle. Why can't they use this for increasing the subsidy for replantation? How else can the fifth plan target of 2.25 lakh tons be achieved? I hope the minister will consider it.

A word about coir. I know it is not the ministry's fault; they tried their

level best to get EEC concessions. But it is a matter of regret that the export of coir goods has gone down and last year's target of Rs. 14 crores has not been reached. I hope this matter will be taken up with the Industries Ministry and the needful will be done.

श्री मुहम्मद जमीरुद्दहमान (किशनगंज) :  
 मोहतरिम डिप्टी म्पीकर साहब, मिनिस्ट्री  
 आफ कामर्स के जो नोट्स हम को सक्लिट  
 हुए हैं, उनके पेज 3 पर लिखा हुआ है —

The objectives of the Ministry of Commerce are :

- To organise and develop the country's external trade;
- to regulate the country's external trade;
- to promote exports of Indian products and commodities;
- to develop export-oriented industries;
- to disseminate commercial information to the general public;
- to administer enemy property in India;
- to enforce the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures;
- to regulate the country's internal trade.

इन में आब्जेक्टिवज को देखने के बाद मुझे तो ऐसा मालूम होता है कि बाकई इस महकमा की बड़ी जिम्मेदारियां हैं मुल्क की मुआशी हालत को दुरुस्त करने में या मुल्क को तिवारत को आगे बढ़ाने में, चाहें मुल्क के अन्दर हो या बाहर हो। लेकिन इसके जो परफार-मेंसेज हैं, उनको देखकर मुझे नाउम्मीद हुई है। मैं मिसाल के तौर पर आप से अर्ज करूँ—जूट कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया को ले लीजिए। इस कारपोरेशन से मैं इतना दुखी हूँ कि जिसका बयान नहीं कर सकता अगर आप इजाजत दें तो इस कारपोरेशन को 'जूज कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया' कहने के लिए तैयार हूँ। इस कारपोरेशन ने किसानों का

[श्री मु० जमीलुर्रहमान]

खून चूमा है, किसानों के साथ ज्यादाती की है, किसानों को गरीब से गरीबतर बनाया है। इस कारपोरेशन के अन्दर एक मकम्मिल साजिश चल रही है—मिल आनर्स के साथ किसानों को चूसने और लूटने की। सरकार के नोट के अनुसार 157 रु० और कुछ वैसे फी क्वटल जूट का भाव मूकरंर किया गया है, लेकिन आप को ताज्जुब होगा, इम अवधि में जब कि 30 मार्च को मैं अपनी कास्टीबूगन्सी में लीटकर थाया हूँ, मैंने अपने हल्के के पच्चीसो किसानों से पूछा, परचेजर्स से पूछा, उन्होंने बनाया कि 30 रुपए से लेकर 50 रुपए फी मन तक बिक रहा है। यह खून चूसने की बात नहीं तो और क्या है? ऐसे कारपोरेशन का क्या फायदा, इतना खर्चा इस कारपोरेशन पर करने का क्या फायदा है, इतने लोगों को कारपोरेशन में बहाल रखने का क्या फायदा है।

एक माननीय सदस्य जूट पैदा करना बन्द कर दीजिए।

श्री मुहम्मद जमीलुर्रहमान वह तो होगा ही। किसान अपने आप बन्द कर देगा। आप देख लीजिए कितने हैंक्टह में जूट की पैदावार की कमी हुयी है, किसान खुद छोड़ता जा रहा है। जब वह एक मन जूट बेचता है, तो उसकी कीमत से 10 सेर अनाज खरीद कर लाता है—इस का क्या मकसद है?

मैं आप से अर्ज कर रहा था—यह कारपोरेशन शाइलाक की तरह से किसानों का खून चूमने पर तुली हुई है। जब तक जूट कारपोरेशन में सुधार नहीं आयेगा, किसानों को मुकम्मिल दाम नहीं मिलेगा, उसका जो पैसा जूट पैदा करने में लगा हुआ है, जब तक नहीं निकलता है—किसानों का बल्याण होने वाला नहीं है, उनकी हालत बंद से बदतर होनी जायेगी। और होती जा रही है।

मैंने जिले पूर्णिया में और खामकर मेरे हल्के में यह कॅश-क्रप है। इसके अलावा दूगरी फसल मेरे हल्के में धान की होती है। इम त्रैश-क्राप को देखकर ही लोग अपनी खेती के काम को

अपने खाने के काम में चलाते हैं। लेकिन आप जरा देखिए—जब एक मन की कीमत 30 रुपए मिलती है, तो उसका गुजारा कैसे होगा जब कि दूसरी चीजों की कीमते रात दिन बढ़ती जा रही है, तीन चार और पाच गुना तक बढ़ती जा रही हैं।

यह जूट कारपोरेशन का एक आस्पेक्ट था। अब दूसरा आस्पेक्ट लीजिए—किसानों को सीड नहीं मिलता है, अगर मिलता है तो जंसा मैंने शिन्दे माहब को लिखा था—सात और आठ नौ रुपए किलो में मिलता है और उस पर भी इतना दगा फिमाद होता है कि किसानों के सर फटते हैं, बुर्ता फटता है, एक हगामा मचता है। आज आपकी कारपोरेशन किसानों को पर्टीलाइजर नहीं दे सकती, पानी नहीं दे सकती, बिजली नहीं दे सकती, जितनी तकलीफें हैं सब किसानों को बरदाश्त करनी पड़ती है।

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER These relate to the Ministry of Agriculture

SHRI MD JAMILURRAHMAN - There must be coordination between the Commerce Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture, because a lot of foreign exchange is earned by this particular crop

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER - All right, they will pass this on to the Ministry of Agriculture.

श्री मुहम्मद जमीलुर्रहमान: आप जूट सैन्टर्स की खरीदारी की बात को लीजिये। मेरे हल्के में एक सैन्टर है—किशन गज में जब कि 95 परसेंट किमान जूट पैदा करने वाले हैं। नार्थ बंगाल की भी यही हालत है, आसाम की भी यही हालत है। मेरे हल्के में जहा एक सैन्टर है, 6 लाख ग्रोअर्स हैं—अब आप बतलाइये एक सैन्टर कैसे उनकी जरूरत को पूरा कर सकता है। अभी भट्टाचार्य जी कह रहे थे—किसान अपनी गाड़ी में माल लाद कर लाता है, सुबह अपने घर से चलता है, दोपहर तक वहा (कारपोरेशन) पहुंचता है, उस के बाद उस को कह दिया जाता है कि हम तुम्हारा माल नहीं लेंगे क्योंकि खराब है।

बाहर दलाल लोग मौजूब हैं जो 30 रुपये में उस का माल खरीद लेते हैं और फिर वही माल सरकार के गोदाम में 157 रुपये कुछ पैसे में जमा हो जाता है और उस से जो आमदनी होती है—आधा तेरा और आधा मेरा—आपस में बांट लेते हैं—यह हालत आप के जूट कारपोरेशन की है। मोहतरिम डिप्टी-सपीकर साहब, आप भी हमारे एरिये से आते जाते हैं—आप की वास्टीचयर्स। में भी किसानों का जो दुखदर्द है, उस को आप बखूबी समझते होंगे।

मैं आप के जरिये सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ—आप जूट सेंटर्स ज्यादा से ज्यादा तादाद में बनाउये। नार्थ बंगाल आसाम, मेघालय, इन सब जगहों पर ज्यादा से ज्यादा सेंटर्स खोलिए जो किसानों के इजी-रीच में हों। आप जानते हैं कि किसानों के पास कोई ऐसा जोरदार माधन तो नहीं है कि ट्रक में भरा और 10 मिनट में पहुँचा दिया, वह तो अपनी बैलगाड़ी या भैंसगाड़ी में भर कर लाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मेरे हल्के में आप इन जगहों पर सेंटर्स खोलें—ठाकुरगंज, बहादुर गंज, विशनपुर, पवाखाली, लोहागाडा, जोकीहाट, कुसेल, हुमरिया, पलासी, पुलबर्ग्याहट, ढबेली, दीघलबाक, कीलयागजहाट, सिनटी, सैदा-बादहाट, बरघा, मदनपुर, कासतहाट, डेहरी, वाग्सहाट, अमौर रैटाहाट ये तमाम हल्के मेर इलाके में हैं जहाँ 90 फीसदी किसान जूट बोधस हैं। इसी तरह से नार्थ बंगाल, आसाम में भी खोले जायें ताकि किसानों को राहत मिल सके।

पृथिया में एक जूट मिल लगाने की बात पिछले दो सालों से सुन रहा हूँ, सुनते-सुनते वान भी पकने लगे हैं, लेकिन जूट मिल अभी तक नहीं बँठ सकी है। अगर किशन गंज में जूट मिल लग जाय, जैसा कि सरकार ने माना भी है, उस से हजारों लोगों को, पढ़े लिखे, गैर पढ़े लिखे, रिक्टाड और अनरिक्टाड लोगों

को काम मिलेगा, किसानों को जायज पैसा मिलेगा और जो माल तैयार होगा वह मुल्क में और मुल्क से बाहर जायगा, जिससे करोड़ों रुपये का फारन एक्सचेंज आयेंगा।

अभी मैंने इस किताब में एक फिगर देखी है—1972-73 में 2 लाख बेल्ट एक्मपोर्ट्स हुईं, लेकिन उमी माल हमारे साथ वाले मुल्क बंगाल देश से आप ने 2 53 लाख इम्पोर्ट की। इम का क्या मतलब है? हमारे किसानों ने जो पैदा किया वह दो लाख किया और इम्पोर्ट किया 2 53 लाख। अब आप का कच्चे माल का एग्प्रोमिन्ट भी होने वाला है—2 लाख या कुछ बेल्ट का। अपने मुल्क की हानन को भी आन देखें। मैं आपको चेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि एग्प्रोमिन्ट हो, एक्पॉर्ट बढ़ें, इसमें कोई दो रायें नहीं हैं और फिर उममें जूट की ही बात नहीं है, कोई भी चीज हो, हैडीक्रेस्ट हो, हैडलूम हो या यूटेमिल्लम हो उनकी तरफ भी आपकी तबज्जह जानी चाहिए।

आखिर में मैं स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कार्पोरेशन के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कार्पोरेशन को तो मैं स्टेट तमाशा कार्पोरेशन कहने के लिए तैयार हूँ। इसका काम सिर्फ यह रह गया है कि कारें बेचने की बात हो तो पर्चा छाप दिया या स्कूटर बनाने की बात हो तो पर्चा छाप दिया लेकिन मैं पूछना हूँ किनने गरीब आदमी कारो पर चढ़ने दें और किनने गरीब आदमी स्कूटर पर चढ़ते हैं? सही माने में जो काम होना चाहिए वह नहीं होता है। एम० टी० सी० जिसको मैं स्टेट तमाशा कार्पोरेशन कहता हूँ वह बुनकरो की मदद कर नहीं सकता, हैडीक्रेस्ट की मदद कर नहीं सकता या मुरादाबाद के बर्तनों का जो काम है उसको कोई मदद दे नहीं सकता, मुआशी तौर पर या गैर मुआशी तौर पर, जिन चीजों में इस मुल्क को करोड़ों रुपए की फारन एक्सचेंज हासिल हो सकती

[श्री मुहम्मद जमीलुर्रहमान]

है। जैसा कि मैं समझता हूँ यह कार्पोरेशन कुछ बड़े लोगों का कार्पोरेशन है। मिल वाले या बड़े उद्योग-धंधे जो कुछ खास चीजें बनाते हैं उसी के लिए यह एक खास फ़ीम तैयार किया गया है, एक ढांचा तैयार किया गया है, लेकिन भ्रवाम जो चीजें बनाते हैं, वह चाहे बर्तन हों, हैंडलूम का सामान हो, उनको मदद करने की कोई भी बात उसकी निगाह में नहीं है। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि इन चीजों की तरफ भी इसकी निगाह आनी चाहिए और हैडीक्रेफ़्ट का सामान है, हैंडलूम का सामान है या मुरादाबादी बर्तन हैं उनके एक्सपोर्ट को इम्पीटस देना चाहिए। हैंडलूम की जो हालत है, बुनकरों की जो हालत है उसके बारे में दास चौधरी जी ने, भद्राचार्य जी ने और सतपाल कपूर जी ने यहाँ पर कहा है। मैंने अपने यहाँ देखा है कि बड़े अच्छे-अच्छे बुनकर हैं और वह बहुत अच्छे भ्र छे काड़े बनाते हैं। बनाएँस में मैंने अपनी आँखों से देखा है कि एक बुनकर सुबह से शाम तक काम करके एक साड़ी बनाता है और फिर उसको बगल में दाब कर बनारस के चौरस्ते पर खड़ा रहता है लेकिन उसका कोई परसाने हाल नहीं होता। शाम को जो बड़े ट्रेडर्स हैं वह उस साड़ी को बीस रुपए में खरीद लेते हैं जबकि उस साड़ी की असल लागत 18-19 रुपए होती है। लेकिन सरकार को कोई चिन्ता नहीं है कि किस तरह से उसकी मदद हो, कैसे उसको कंपिटिशन से बचाया जाये। दूसरी तरफ नये डिपार्टमेंट्स खोले जायें तो उसमें कोई दो रायें नहीं हैं, आफिसर्स बढ़ाए जायें तो कोई दो रायें नहीं हैं या डी० ए० बढ़ाया जाये तो कोई दो रायें नहीं हैं। लेकिन बुनकरों के फायदे के लिये भ्रगर कोई बात सोची जाये तो इन भ्रफसरों की तुरन्त दो राय हो जाती है।

भाखिर में एक बात मीडियम कोर्स क्वाथ बारे में भ्रर्ज करता चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम

यह कपड़ा तो गरीबों को पहनने दीजिए जिसके लिए आप और हम कमिटेड है कि गरीबों को सस्ते दामों में यह कपड़ा देंगे। आपको चाहिए कि कम से कम यह कपड़ा जिसका रेट एक रुपए 80 पैसे या एक रुपये 90 पैसे है उस पर निगाहे करम कीजिए दूसरे जो कपड़े हैं टैरीलीन या टैरीकाट— मैं तो उनको पहनता और जानता नहीं— उन पर आप टैक्स बढ़ाये लेकिन गरीबों को पहनने के लिए यह कोर्स क्वाथ दीजिए।

काटेज इण्डस्ट्रीज का जहाँ तक सवाल है, उसको बढ़ावा देने के लिए हर ब्लाक में दो दो काटेज इण्डस्ट्रीज खोली जानी चाहिए ताकि पढ़े-लिखे और गैर पढ़े लिखे लोग, जिनमें आज अर्थात् फ़ैली हुई है उनको वहाँ पर रोजगार मिल सके और साथ ही साथ वहाँ पर माल तैयार हो सके जिसको एक्सपोर्ट करके लाखों करोड़ों का फारन एक्सचेंज कमा सकें।

[श्री मुहम्मद जमीलुर्रहमान] کسن

گنجی) : محترم ڈپٹی سیکر صاحب ،  
منسٹری آف کامرس کے جو نوٹس ہم  
کو سرکولٹ ہوئے ہیں ان کے صفحہ  
۳ پر لکھا ہوا ہے۔

The objectives of the Ministry of  
Commerce are :

- To organise and develop the country's External trade;
- to regulate the country's external trade;
- to promote exports of Indian products and commodities;
- to develop export-oriented industries;
- to disseminate commercial information to the general public;
- to administer every property in India;
- to enforce the adoption of metric system of weights and measures;
- to regulate the country's internal trade.

ان میں آہجکٹیوز کو دیکھنے کے بعد مجھے تو ایسا معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ واقعی اس محکمے کی بڑی ذمہ داریاں اس ملک کی معاشی حالت کو درست کرنے میں یا ملک کی تجارت کو الے بڑھانے میں، حالے ملک کے اندر ہو نا باہر ہو۔ لیکن اس کے جو پروفیسنر میں ان کو دیکھ کر تو مجھے نا امید ہوئی ہے۔ اس مثال کے طور پر آپ سے عرض کروں۔ سوٹ کارپوریشن آف انڈیا کو الے لیجنے۔ اس کارپوریشن سے اس دیکھی ہوں کہ اس کا نام نہیں کر سکتا۔ اگر آپ احارب دنوں میں اس کارپوریشن کو ”حور کارپوریشن آف انڈیا، کہنے کے لئے بنا ہوں۔ اس کارپوریشن نے کسانوں کا خون چوسا ہے، کسانوں کے ساتھ زیادتی کی ہے، کسانوں کو عریب سے عریب بنا دیا ہے۔ اس کارپوریشن کے اندر ایک مکمل سارس حل رہی ہے۔ مل اوور کے ساتھ مل کر کسانوں کو چوسے اور لوٹنے کی۔ سرکار کے نوٹ کے مطابق ۱۰ روپے اور کچھ پیسے فی کوئٹل سوٹ نا ہواؤ معرر کیا گیا ہے، لیکن آپ کو معجب ہوگا، اس او۔ہی میں جب کہ ۳ مارچ کو میں اپنی کانسٹیٹیوشن سے لوٹ کر آیا ہوں، میں نے اپنے حلقے کے پیچیسوں کسانوں سے پوچھا، پوچھنے سے پوچھا، انہوں نے بتایا کہ ۳ روپے سے لیکر ۵۰ روپے فی من تک نک رہا ہے۔ یہ خون چوسنے کی

نام نہیں تو اور کیا ہے؟ ایسے کارپوریشن کا کسا فائدہ ہے، اس کا خرچ اس کارپوریشن پر کرنے کا کسا فائدہ ہے۔ اسے لوگوں کو اس کارپوریشن میں بحال رکھنے کا کسا فائدہ ہے۔

ایک مانیفیسٹو - سوٹ بنا کر بنا کر دے دے۔

سری محمد حصل الرحمان - وہ تو ہوگا ہی۔ کساں اے آف سوٹ کرے گا۔ آپ دیکھ لیجنے کسے ہکٹیورس میں سوٹ کی پیداوار کی کمی ہوئی ہے، کساں خود چھوڑنا چا رہا ہے۔ حب و انک من سوٹ لیجیا ہے تو اس کی سمت سے ۱۰ سیر اناح خرید کر لانا ہے۔ اس کا کیا معصد ہے؟

اس آپ سے عرض کر رہا ہوں، یہ کارپوریشن سائیکل کی طرح سے کسانوں کا خون چوسے پر ملی ہوئی ہے۔ جب تک سوٹ کارپوریشن میں سدھار نہیں آئیگا کسانوں کو مکمل دام نہیں ملے گا، ان کا جو بیسہ سوٹ پیدا کرنے میں لگا ہوا ہے جب تک وہ نہیں ملتا ہے کسانوں کا کلیان ہونے والا نہیں ہے، ان کی حالت بد سے بدتر ہوئی جائیگی۔ اور ہوئی چا رہی ہے۔

میرے صلع پوریہ میں اور حاضر کر میرے حلقے میں نہ لیس کر آپ ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ دوسری فصل میرے حلقے میں دھاں کی ہوئی ہے۔ اس کیس کر آپ کو بچ کر ہی لوگ





دیادہ سے دیادہ، تعداد میں نائے  
نارہہ ننگال، آسام، سنگھالیہ، ان سب  
حکموں پر دادہ سے دیادہ سسٹر کھولے  
ہو کسانوں کے ایچی رنج میں ہوں۔  
آب حائے میں کہ کسانوں کے پاس  
کوئی ایسا اور سادہ بنو نہیں ہے  
کہ برک میں دہرا اور ۱۰ سٹ میں  
سجھا بنا، و بو ایسی بل گاڑی نا  
پس گاڑی میں پھر کر لانا ہے۔ میں  
حائے ہوں نہ سرے حائے میں اب  
ان حکموں پر سسٹر کھولیں۔ تھار  
نح، بہادر نچ، نس بور، بوا ڈھالی  
اواھا گڈا، بو کسٹھا، کوسل، ڈو مرنا،  
نلاسی، نسلورنا ہاٹ، ڈھیلی،  
ریکلناک، سکتی، سمدانا ہاٹ، رداہ،  
مسن بور۔ ڈس ہاٹ، ڈھٹی ہاٹ۔ نارا  
عندہ امور، نائی ہاٹ نہ تمام حائے  
سرے علاقے میں ہیں جہاں ۹۰ فیصدی  
کسان کوٹ کروور ہیں۔ اسی طرح  
سے نارہہ ننگال و آسام میں بھی کھولے  
حائے ناکہ کسانوں کو راحت مل  
سکے۔

بورہ میں ایک کوٹ مل لگانے کی  
ناہ بھلے۔ سو سالوں سے سن رہا ہوں،  
سے سنے کان بھی نکلے لکھے ہیں،  
لیکن کوٹ مل ابھی تک نہیں بٹھ سکی  
ہے۔ ائر کش گنج میں کوٹ مل لگ  
جانے، حسا کہ سرکار نے مانا بھی  
ہے، اسی سے ہزاروں لوگوں کو،  
پڑھے لکھے، غیر پڑھے لکھے، سکولڈ  
اور اسکولڈ لوگوں کو کام ملے گا،  
کسانوں کو حائر ہسہ ملے گا اور

حو مال بیار ہوگا وہ ملک میں اور  
سک، سے اہر جائگا، جس سے کروڑوں  
روپے کا فارن ایکسچج آنگا۔

ابھی میں نے ان کتاب میں ایک  
مکر دکھائی ہے ۱۹۲۳-۲۴ میں ۲  
لاکھ پانس ایکسورٹ ہرے، لیکن  
اسی سال ہمارے ۲۰ لاکھ  
دوس ت اب نے ۲۰.۵۳ لاکھ  
اروب کی۔ اس ۵ لاکھ مطلب ہے  
ہمارے کسار نے خریدا لاکھ دو  
لاکھ کا اور ارب کا ۲۰.۵ لاکھ  
اب اب ع کچھ ماں۔ انڈرمنٹ بھی  
عرے والا ہے۔ وہ لاکھ نا بچہ ہار  
ن۔ اے ملک کی حسب کو بھی آہ  
نکھیں۔ میں اب کو حوی رینا  
حائے ہوں ڈا انڈرمنٹ ہو، ایکسورٹ  
رھے، اس میں ٹوٹی۔ وورے نہیں  
ہیں اور پھر اس میں حوب کی ہی  
ناہ سن ہے، کوئی بھی حور ہو،  
سٹیکراٹ ہو، ہیڈلوم ہو یا دو سار  
ہوں ان کی طرف بھی آہ کی بوحہ ہوئی  
چاہے۔

آہ میں میں سٹیٹ ٹرنڈنگ کارپوریشن  
کے بارے میں کہنا چاہنا ہوں۔  
سٹ ٹرنڈنگ کارپوریشن کو دو میں  
سٹ نمائہ کارپوریشن کہنے کے لیے  
ار ہوں۔ اس کا نام صرف یہ رہا  
شہ کہ ڈارن بیچنے کی ناہ ہو تو  
رحہ جہاں۔ نا نا سکوتر بچنے کی ناہ  
ہو تو ہرحہ حاب دنا لیکن میں بوحہ  
ہوں کتے عرب آدمی کاروں پر چڑھتے  
ہیں اور کتے عرب آدمی سکوتر پر

[شری محمد حمیل الرحمان]

حڑھے ہیں ' صحیح معنی میں جو کام ہونا چاہئے وہ نہیں ہونا ہے۔ اس۔ ی۔ سی۔ جس نو میں مشٹ بماسہ ڈرنورس کہا ہوں و سکروں کی مدد کر رہے ہیں، ہسڈیکراٹ کی مدد کر رہے ہیں، مرادآباد کے برسوں کا جو نام ہے اس نو کوئی مدد دے نہیں سکتا، معاشی طور پر نا غیرمعاشی طور پر، جس چیزوں سے اس ملک کو ڈروڑوں روٹنے کی فائن ایکسچج حاصل ہو سکتی ہے۔ جیسا کہ میں سمجھتا ہوں کارنورس کچھ برے لوگوں کا کارنورس ہے۔ مل والوں نا ٹرے ادیوگ دھندے جو کچھ خاص چیزیں بنائے ہیں اسی کے لئے یہ ایک خاص بریم بیار کیا گیا ہے انک ڈھانچہ بیار کیا گیا ہے لیکن عوام جو چیزیں بنائے ہیں وہ چاہے برس ہو ہیڈ لوم کا سامان ہواں کو مدد کرے کی کوئی بھی بات اس کی نگاہ میں نہیں ہے۔ اس لئے میں چاہوں گا کہ ان چیزوں کی طرف بھی اس کی نگاہ آئی چاہئے اور ہیڈیکراٹ کا سامان ہے، ہیڈ لوم کا سامان ہے نا مرادآبادی برس ہیں ان کے ایکسپورت کو فروغ پیش دینا چاہئے۔ ہیڈ لوم کی جو حالت ہے، سکروں کی جو حالت ہے اس کے بارے میں داس چودھری جی نے، بھٹا چاریہ جی نے اور سب بال کپور جی نے یہاں

پر کہا ہے۔ میں نے ابھی یہاں۔ دکھا ہے کہ ٹرے اچھے اچھے سکروں میں اور وہ بہت اچھے اچھے ٹرے بنائے ہیں۔ سارس میں اس نے اسی آکھو، سے دیکھا ہے کہ ایک سکرو صبح سے شام تک کام کر کے ایک ساری بنانا ہے اور پھر اس نو بنال میں دنا کر سارس کے حورسے بر نہڑا رہا ہے لیکن اس کا کوئی برسنا حال نہیں ہونا۔ سام کو جو برے ٹرڈر نہیں وہ اس کی ساڑی کو میں روئے میں خرید لئے ہیں جب کہ اس کی ساڑی کی اصل لاگت ۱۸-۱۹ روپے ہوئی ہے۔ لیکن سرکار کوئی جیسا نہیں ہے۔ ہے کہ کس طرح سے اس کی مدد ہو، کیسے اس کو کمپنیز سے بنانا جائے۔ دوسری طرف بے ڈارٹمنٹس کھوئے جائیں تو اس میں کوئی دو رائے نہیں ہیں۔ آفسرز بڑھائے جائیں تو کوئی دو رائے نہیں ہے۔ لیکن سکروں کے فائنڈ کے لئے اگر کوئی بات سوچی جائے تو ان اسکروں کی دو رائے ہو جائی ہیں۔ آخر میں ایک بات مڈیم کورس کلاس کے بارے میں عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کم سے کم یہ کڑا ہو عریوں کو بھیسے دینے میں جس کے لئے آپ اور ہم کمند ہیں کہ عربوں کو سسے داسوں میں یہ کڑا دینگے۔ آپ کو چاہئے کہ کم سے کم یہ کڑا جس کا ریٹ ایک روپیہ ۸۰ پیسے

۱۰ ایک روپیہ ۹۰ پیسے ہے اس پر  
نگاہ نرم کیجئے۔ دوسرے حو کپڑے  
ہں سریاں یا ٹریکوت، میں تو ان کو  
بہسا اور حانسا نہیں، ان پر آپ  
ٹنکس بڑھائیں لیکن سرسوں کو ہمیں  
کے لئے نہ ٹورس کلانہ دیجئے۔

کانج اندسٹرڈ نا حیاں تک سوال  
ہے اس کو بڑھوا دیئے کے لئے ہر  
دلا د میں دو دو کونج اندسٹرڈ ٹھوس  
حانی چاہیں تاکہ پڑھے لکھے اور  
سیر بڑھے انکھے لوگ جس میں اج  
اسادی نفس عوبی ہے ان کو وہاں  
ر رڈرز ہر سکے اور سانبہ ہی سانبہ  
وہاں ر مال از ہو سکے جس کو  
انکسورٹ کر کے لا ڈھوں ڈوروزوں کا  
مارن انکمڈیجس کما سکیں۔ ]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola)  
Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir I wish at the  
outset to compliment the two Ministers  
in charge of this Ministry and support  
the Demands of the Ministry Since the  
teaming up of the two young, progres-  
sive and dynamic Ministers in this  
Ministry, the entire prospect of this  
Ministry has toned up and there is a  
feeling of buoyancy in the affairs of  
this Ministry I would like to submit to  
these two Ministers that this Ministry  
can help to stave the entire rot that is  
taking place in the economy of this  
country today After all, the Ministry  
of Commerce reaches the smallest man  
in the country by way of end-products.  
The Commerce Ministry is the Ministry  
which is responsible for earning  
most of the foreign exchange for our  
country Therefore, if this Ministry  
really becomes active, it can complete-  
ly regenerate the entire economy of  
our country and with other benefits  
like giving employment, etc. to which  
I will come presently Therefore, I  
would submit that this Ministry should

take a broader perspective and view of  
the commercial matters and spheres in  
this country.

I had the privilege of being in Sweden  
just a week back and also in Finland,  
and what I saw and discussed with some  
of the Ministers and Members of parlia-  
ment there really threw some light and  
made me think as to why we cannot  
do similar things in our country Out-  
side the Communist countries Sweden  
is known to have a welfare socialist  
economy in a parliamentary democra-  
tic set-up During my discussion I  
asked them how was it that they main-  
tained economic standards which were  
higher than even USA's The difference  
between the average lowest income and  
the highest income is not more than  
four times I asked them how they  
could achieve this miracle, although  
that country was not rich in any big  
material The biggest raw material that  
they have is wood Both Finland and  
Sweden have more or less the same  
nature of economy They have some  
other things also like steel But the  
major progress has been achieved by  
way of industries

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER May I  
tell you the reason? There is no such  
things there as swindling, as alleged,  
in the jute Corporation

SHRI VASANT SATHE I am  
coming to that, Sir, why there is no  
swindling I will narrate it, it will bene-  
fit us What they told me was that their  
industrial production was mainly  
through big cooperatives And whose co-  
operatives are these? The cooperatives  
of workers, not the bogus cooperatives  
as we have in our country which have  
a capitalist character of the so-called  
producers, you know what is happen-  
ing in our sugar cooperatives, there are  
capitalist cooperatives in the sugar  
industry in our country, worker is still  
a worker, a slave There, in Sweden  
one of the biggest cooperative is the  
House-Building Trade Workers' Co-  
operative which takes contracts all over  
the world That Cooperative and simi-  
lar other cooperatives told me that they  
are represented in a Board under their  
Ministry there the Ministry is called

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

the Ministry of Economic Affairs, what you call Ministry of Commerce here. I had the privilege of meeting your counter parts there. When I asked them how they maintained the stability of prices and growth of economy in their country, they said that, under their Ministry, they have a Board and on this Board there are representatives of producers of raw materials, representatives of producers of finished products, mainly cooperatives, and representatives of consumers. It is presided over by the Minister. Every year the Board fixes the prices all along the line, from the producer's end to the consumers' end, of all that is put in the market, of everything that is traded, of everything on which there is commerce. The prices are fixed and those prices are adhered to. I asked him whether there was anything like blackmarket or default or swindling or cheating, and he said, 'Yes; but what we do is this; if there is a default at the retail outlet, we first catch the wholesale outlet; and we take them to task why they supplied the goods to him'. There is an in-built mechanism which they have got. This is what they told me. Although there is law to punish the defaulters, a very stringent law, all the same, they say, it does not become essential to use it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The farmer brings his jute; it is condemned by the Corporation and he is forced to sell it to the middle man and the middle man sells it to the Corporation at three times the price he pays to the farmer. How will you check it? What is the Swedish solution to this problem?

SHRI VASANT SATHI: We do not have that pattern.

So, to-day we have to change the entire character of the capitalistic pattern in our country wherein you are able to exploit, then many compete with each other in that exploitation. So, whatever effort you may make in this country, that will be polluted, corroded and corrupted by this huge sector, the corrupting sector.

Therefore, if you want to change the character, you must introduce a diffe-

rent pattern of commerce. That is what I am trying to point out. But we will have to go into a greater depth about all this and I cannot spell it in the shortest time at my disposal.

One of the most important things in this country is production of exportable goods. Now, I would like to emphasize and I think you are taking steps in that direction, that we should not lay emphasis on exporting raw materials like hides and skins, rubber and other things and even iron. Let us think in terms of exporting more and more manufactured articles. Our country is capable of manufacturing goods, even sophisticated goods like electronics. In the field of handicrafts, there is none to beat this country. Why should you not think of a pattern of this? Do you know the most popular thing outside in the world to-day that India sends is the handloom cloth? How crazy they are and how popular this cloth is, both of silk and cotton, you know. And even your major earner of foreign exchange in the field of textiles is your medium, standard and handloom cloth and not the fine and superfine cloth. I have said it again and again in this House. We import Rs. 100 crores worth of cotton in the name of export of fine cloth and these mills utilise that cotton to produce fine and superfine cloth and dump it in the internal market for the consumption of hardly 1.7% of our population who have an income of Rs. 500 per month. Therefore, are you going to take stock of this and change the entire structure and allow more production, decentralise and disperse the units in the rural areas?

Let more chappals be produced. The Kolhapur chappals—how popular they are, you know. Do you require large scale units like Batas and Flexes for exporting more shoes and chappals? Do you need to export shoes prepared by big concerns? Why cannot you go in for products manufactured in small scale units which will give a tremendous employment opportunity? How are you going to solve the problem of youth unrest in this country if these young men do not get productive employment? A major reason for their unrest

is that they are the products of an un-productive system of education good for nothing. You have not given them any job and their hands are not doing any productive work. Then, what will their hands do? This is a major area where your Ministry can play a very important role to give jobs, productive jobs of producing goods to millions of our young men in this country and every village whether it is a product of agro-based industries, for example, poultry, dairy or anything, take soyabean and every type of food products we can produce in our country. Help him to grow. That is real family planning—planning the family of a poor man, give him in kind, give him a buffalo or a small scale unit or an industrial unit and now you give along with it your advice regarding birth control. Link it with that. That is also important, but that does not concern you. So I do not bother you.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The cow the beef he is concerned with

SHRI VASANT SATHE When I come to trade part I was in a country like Finland, a far off country more or less cut off from us, but eager to develop trade with us. I was glad to hear that our Minister is paying a visit to that country next month. They are looking forward to your visit. I met the Finance Minister they told us that they are looking forward to your visit. They are eager to have talks with you. Sir the whole world is shrinking and getting so small. It is all a question of specialisation. Regarding what is good in one place we need not waste our energy on that very same thing. They can produce better newsprint, better newsprint, cheaper materials like paper etc. We can take that from them. They want textiles from us. Let us give textiles to them. It is a question of mutual benefit in international trade. Therefore, there is lot of scope to improve trade, all over the world. But ultimately you can export only what surplus you have. You produce more. There is tremendous manpower in this country. You must help to utilise that manpower to produce more goods and in the ultimate analysis it is goods which are wealth

After all it is goods that you trade. What is Commerce in short? Goods

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA And services

SHRI VASANT SATHE Services come later. Don't worry about services because the moment you talk of services they think in terms of five-star hotels. The moment you talk like that, these capitalists—this is a clique—always think in terms of saying Oh, don't worry, in capital-intensive scale, in economy scale, we will encourage more services, etc. and that will lead only to cabaret artists.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER It depends upon what service, digging the earth and sowing jute is also service.

SHRI VASANT SATHE Those services are there those services are inherent in nature.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER It comes to this—the human quality.

SHRI VASANT SATHE They are allied services and they will help, Sir but not as slaves. What I say is this. In your Commerce Ministry I would beg of you because you have a perspective.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI (Bombay North-East) He is coming to Nagpur. He is visiting in a day or two.

SHRI VASANT SATHE I know he is coming. He will know all about cotton. I need not tell you anything of cotton because you will hear it. My basic stand today is this. I wish to impress this upon our friend. Please take this perspective, a broader perspective, of utilising the entire human resources of this country and the natural resources to produce more and not allow it to be centralised in the hands of a few.

This is the role which your Minister has to play and to the extent you succeed in playing this role and curbing the capitalist system—I am not talking of the individuals—of exploita-

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

tion in this country, you will succeed in this respect. Thank you, Sir, for giving me the time.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while submitting the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Commerce for the favourable and sympathetic consideration of this August House I take this opportunity to make only a very few remarks.

14.59 HRS.

[SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI  
—in the Chair]

In this discussion which started day-before-yesterday and spilled over today many of the hon Members were kind enough to enlighten us with their criticisms and suggestions concerning the functioning of the Ministry of Commerce. At the outset I have to thankfully recollect those of the hon Members who spoke on this subject. Their criticisms were very kind, considerate, constructive and well-meaning.

Sir, a discussion, a review or even a criticism of the functioning of the Ministry of Commerce is never more relevant than to-day in our Independent India. Sir, there was a time when we were all living in a sort of slavery and complacency. Our economy will sustain itself to improve its own import demand through foreign aid.

15 HRS.

Last year, when our Fifth Five Year Plan was on the anvil, we decided about our ambitious task that towards the end of Fifth Five Year Plan, our intention or our aim was zero aid and self-reliance. It was well thought out. We will be able to achieve it by our efforts. 1972-73 was a very unusual year or a lucky year so to say. For the first time, during the past twentyfive years of Independent India, we had a situation where our export figures were higher than our import bill. In fact, it may kindly be collected that at the beginning of

the Fourth Five Year Plan, the target for 1972-73 was to achieve the figure of Rs. 1,760 crores. But, Sir, by the efforts of our industrialisation by our workers, farmers, etc., we were able to achieve the unprecedented export figure of Rs. 1,961 crores. Thus, it may also kindly be analysed that we achieved a figure which is Rs. 60 crores above that of the target fixed by us for the year 1973-74. We were able to get a favourable balance of payment position in 1972-73 by exceeding the target fixed for 1973-74. What I am pointing out is that we should not be too complacent about what we achieved. We were looking up to the situation when, after all, India will be definitely able to have a favourable balance of payment position immediately. I still remember that a few critics were rather cryptic about these figures. But, I do not want to go into that aspect. When we achieved a rate of growth of 21.6% in 1972-73, many thought that we would not be able to sustain it. They tried to explain it away by saying that this increase was predominant due to the exports made by us to Bangla Desh. I do not want to go into that aspect also. I would like to say that the prospect for 1973-74 is equally bright and our achievement is equally satisfactory. During the first ten months of 1973-74—upto January—our export figure is Rs. 1,921 crores. This itself is nearly 22% of the increase over that of 1972-73. We are quite hopeful that even by a very realistic and very modest estimate, we were quite hopeful that when our 1973-74 final tally arrived it would be at least of the order of 18 to 19%. These were the bright sides of the picture on our strategy. Our prospects have been completely thrown aboveboard and out of gear by what happened after October—after the international situation—for which everybody admits that India is not responsible. We cannot improve upon it. That has ultimately led us to a situation where our balance of payment position cannot be in the foreseeable future, at least very much in our favour.

I need not explain that. If we go by the estimate of 1972-73, to what has been achieved in 1973-74, what we earned is 20% to 22% increase in the rate of growth in exports. But, 75% of that will be eaten up by petroleum products and fertilisers which are our basic needs to sustain.

As regards our export efforts, for the Fifth Five Year Plan, our intention or our aim is to maintain a rate of growth ranging from 7% to 8%. We can achieve this. There is no problem for that. We can achieve that. The situation that is existing now after what had happened after October 1973, even this 7% or 8% or 10% of our growth rate will not meet the needs of this country. Naturally, we shall have to strengthen, broad-base and streamline our production base. For a production base we have two types of export commodities—one, the traditional or the agro-based and second, the non-traditional or more sophisticated engineering goods. As regards the non-traditional sector to maintain a higher rate of export it is imperative that we need industrial raw-materials. Now, every item of the industrial raw-materials are inputs for the production of export goods. The price of every item has gone up. So, naturally we are operating in a vicious circle. On the one hand we want to increase exports and on the other hand for sustaining exports we must have imports. We are faced with inevitable import necessity inspite of our best efforts for import substitution. That is one aspect

The second aspect is, as the House is aware, for quite a long time India's exports were based on traditional or agro-based industries. There, Sir, in 1972-73 or 1973-74 even when we are concentrating on non-traditional and engineering goods for a higher rate of growth the performance of the traditional or agro-based industries also is equally satisfactory. Some Members were pointing out that the situation in Tea is not very bright. If they had used past tence

I would have agreed. The Ministry of Commerce have taken many steps even before the tea estate owners started clamouring for that. We know that tea is one of our top three foreign exchange earners. During 1972-73 our exports, due to certain factors, were to the tune of 210 million kg worth Rs. 155 crores. We took prompt steps and during the past two-three months the figures have started looking up. The increase is to the tune of 27—30 per cent and we are quite hopeful that this year our exports will be at least 7 million kg higher than 1972-73 and our realisation will be in the vicinity of Rs. 160 crores even as regards the unit value realisation recently the price has gone up to Rs. 8.2 from Rs. 7.6. So, the measures which the Ministry of Commerce took have started showing results. We knew between India and Sri Lanka, our friendly neighbour country, we control 65 to 66 per cent of total world exports and, as such, cooperation between the two was essential. It is with this view that we took initiative to have closer cooperation and better working arrangement with Sri Lanka. As a result thereof, I am happy to inform this august House, in the past two months definite results are showing. Our tea production is also going up. In 1971-72 the tea production was 425 m. kgs; in 1972-73 our tea production was 460 m. kgs and this year it has come up to 478 m. kgs. Every year our production is going up at a time when the production of some neighbouring major producers is not upto the mark. In some cases it is going down. This is the picture about Tea.

As regards Coffee also in 1972-73 our exports were worth Rs. 32 crores and the quantity was 48,000 tonnes. This year the export figure will be Rs. 41 crores—an increase of Rs. 10 crores—and quantity-wise also there is definite improvement.

There were two hon. Members who spoke for and against the export of rubber. During the year under review

[Shri A. C. George]

we were able to take some very major steps. Shri Sathe had suggested that it should be our intention to see that more and more finished goods were exported. In 1973-74 we took some very important steps in this direction; we were not satisfied with exporting raw materials only but we thought that we should go on exporting more and more of finished goods. In that context, I am glad to say that some of the steps taken have shown results.

Coming to the question of rubber export, I would submit that it may have to be recollected that during the past 25 years India was importing rubber, or for a short period, was self-sufficient in rubber. So, rubber for us was mainly an import bill. I thank the farmers and the agriculturists because of whose higher performance over a period we have been able to reach a situation where we are not only self-sufficient but we can spare something also. During 1973-74, in fact, to be more specific, in August, 1973, for the first time, India exported rubber.

Of course, there are two views about it. One hon. Member was quite critical about these exports, and another hon. Member said that these exports were not enough. I shall confine myself to saying and repeating that the performance of the rubber growers is very satisfactory, and the target has been achieved. While in 1972-73, the rubber production was 1,12,000 tonnes, it was 1,25,000 tonnes in 1973-74. This has to be compared with what the position was eight years back; it has actually more than doubled. In 1966-67, the production was only 65,000 tonnes. So, from that situation, during the past six or seven years, the agriculturists have brought us to a situation of self-sufficiency, and we can earn also foreign exchange. In 1973-74, the production would be 1,25,000 tonnes.

The hon. Member who had raised this matter is not present here, but I would like to tell him that now the situation has changed. The original decision about export of rubber was that it would be exported even by in-

curred loss if it was necessary, because at the time we took the decision the international price of rubber was lower than the indigenous statutory price. So, you can understand that the decision was made definitely to help the farmers, when the tyre manufacturers or the rubber manufacturers were comfortably operating in a surplus economy or surplus supply situation and there was a glut in the market and the demand was that somehow the surplus must be removed; at that time, it was economically not advisable to export, but still to help the agriculturists, it was decided that we would export even incurring loss if need be. The export is canalised through the STC. We are closely watching the situation. As regards those who were apprehensive about the wisdom of exporting, I may inform them that the exports are canalised through the STC and we shall definitely see that the indigenous demand is met and the industry will not starve for indigenous natural rubber. At the same time, I may have to warn the Industry that they may not have the great privilege of operating in a glut market where they could pay less; at least statutorily and legally they could not pay less, and in the account books at least they had to show that they were paying the statutory price, but they were having a comfortable situation of operating in a glut when the natural rubber production was surplus and the demand was low; that particular privilege may not be there now, but they need not be apprehensive that their demands may not be met. We shall be exporting only after meeting the demands of the indigenous producers. The picture is very bright, because after all, any tragedy has its own brighter side as well. The recent international situation has given us certain advantages. I do not want to highlight those advantages. In the case of jute, rubber, coir, mica which is mined in Bihar, etc. in the case of all those products which at one time were threatened by the cheaper synthetics, it may be that the new situation has given them a certain edge over the synthetics in the international market. In that context, it may be that coir



will have better prospects, if we operate properly; and similarly jute also will have better prospect and so also rubber, because it is said that no more is synthetic rubber having an edge over natural rubber; so, even if the price falls we need not be afraid of the market situation; it is our intention to give more and more subsidy and more and more loans, as Shri Ravi was pointing out, so that the agriculturists might be encouraged and be given more incentives to produce more and more and achieve the target fixed for the Fifth Plan, namely 2,25,000 tonnes. These are definitely to be achieved.

Now I would touch on marine products. There may be a few criticisms about this, about trawler allotment; there may be criticism of the slow pace at which steps are taken. I can only assure the House that we will take measures to expedite matters. At the same time, it has to be recalled that in this field in 1972-73 we had an unprecedented rise in export, Rs. 58 crores. Our target fixed for 1973-74 was Rs. 75 crores. Latest reports are that we are going to exceed it and attain Rs. 84 crores. This will be absolutely unprecedented, a real record performance of our fishermen and all those who are engaged in the marine product exports.

About cashew, I would remind the House of the days when almost every other day we had a call attention motion coming about cashew distribution. Luckily that is not so now precisely because during 1973-74, we were able to decide upon a distribution policy which is satisfactory to the workers, to the trade union movement and the export effort, to the concerned Governments and to everybody who is interested in the reasonable functioning of the cashew industry.

The distribution policy which has so far not been criticised by any body has been evolved to the entire satisfaction of the working class so that their wages, their amenities will never be denied to them by a few people who

are operating in the field in a clandestine manner.

Here also, I humbly submit that our exports which were Rs. 68 crores in 1972-73 are going to be improved upon and the performance is likely to be Rs. 78 crores. The availability of imported raw nuts has also been streamlined so that at the time the indigenous crop arrives in the market, the farmers may be able to get a better price. So the staggering of imports is showing results in that indigenous nuts are realising a higher price.

**SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI** (Marakkara): What about cashew plantation?

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE**: We are interested in that also. We will pass on the suggestion to the Agriculture Ministry.

**SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI**: That will not materialise. That is the whole trouble. For the last 20 years, you have not done it.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE**: Now I come to a suggestion made by Shri Sathe. In 1973-74, for the first time, we started regulation of the export of semi-finished leather. Here also I would like to take you back to last year budget session when there were so many call attention motions and so many members were agitated about it and were discussing the pros and cons of the leather policy of the Government of India. We came to the conclusion that progressively we have to send out finished material. Therefore, a disincentive was put on the export of semi-finished leather and an incentive was provided for export of finished leather goods. This is definitely showing results. Export of finished leather has gone up from Rs 10 crores to nearly Rs 18 crores.

At the same time, some hon. members were expressing apprehension here last year. The export figure of semi-finished leather has not come down; valuewise it has gone up though quantitatively some restrictions have been

[Shri A. C. George]

put. I am happy to inform the House that this year also we are maintaining the rate of growth in the export of leather; last year it was Rs. 173 crores and this year it will be Rs. 184 crores.

So in all these items which can be called the traditional or agro-based items, our performance is quite satisfactory though our policy is shifting more and more to export of finished goods rather than of raw materials.

As I pointed out at the beginning, we are facing a great challenge especially in the Ministry of Commerce because the unprecedented rise in the cost of our import bill is more than a challenge to the Ministry of Commerce. It is not by limiting exports or by restricting the availability of raw materials that we can improve our economy. We will have to maintain the supply of industrial raw materials; we will have to maintain the inputs needed for higher production. So naturally we can balance our trade by higher achievement of export to different countries. While laying enough stress on the traditional agro-based exports and their production, we are striving our best to see in the non-traditional category of exports we put up the maximum rate of growth and maintain it which alone can fetch us the foreign exchange needed. We are making our best efforts to see that all these targets are achieved so that the country will be taken to a stage where in spite of odds and crises, we will be able to achieve zero aid or self-reliance which is our goal.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : (Tellicherry) : May I ask one small question. I think he will answer it. He did not say anything about the problem of nationalisation of the tea plantations, about the Kerala Governments' ordinance for the nationalisation of the foreign owned plantations which was put before the Government, as for back as in 1971 and also about the take-over of the foreign trade in coir. I would also like to know what is the policy of the Government with regard to the new entrants in the field of marine products the

monopoly companies including Union Carbide.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : About the nationalisation of plantations, as a major policy matter, my senior colleague Prof. Chattopadhyaya will be referring to it in his speech.

About the nationalisation of coir trade, it as suggested last year that as a first step we may canalise the export of coir goods. But the Government of Kerala had different views and it was particular that short of nationalisation nothing must be implemented. But we were having the view that as a first step we will go for canalisation of exports, not nationalisation of the industry.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : The Government of Kerala is for nationalisation of the trade.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Its attitude is for nationalisation, but it opposed the canalisation of the export of coir goods.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI : The position is, in the black market, the price of tyres is very high, whereas the actual cultivator is not getting the correct price or the expected price for natural rubber. I want to know whether the Ministry is considering to raise the present price of tyre to the actual price which it is fetching in the market so that the cultivator also will be benefited by getting more price. What is the attitude of the Government?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : I may answer it fully in this way. The statutory price for rubber fixed in September, 1970 is Rs. 520 per quintal for the best variety, RB-1. The market price, in comparison to Rs 520, the statutory price, is Rs. 670. That means Rs. 150 per quintal over and above the statutory minimum price fixed.

श्री मूल चन्द्र डागा (पाली) : मैं वाणिज्य मंत्रालय को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उनकी आयात और निर्यात की पालिसी ने काफी सफलता प्राप्त की है और जैसा उन्होंने प्रोग्राम बनाया है उसकी लोगों ने सराहना की है। मैं कुछ अपने घर की बात

कहना चाहता हूँ। मेरे जिले में हर्ड प्रोसेस से काम चलता है। 200 फैक्ट्रियाँ ऐसी चलती हैं जिन में कोई पावर की जरूरत नहीं है। हम आप में पावर नहीं माँगते, लैंड नहीं माँगते, और न पैसा माँगते हैं। हमारे यहाँ रॉं मैटीरियल की भी प्रोब्लेम नहीं है। मजदूर सारा काम अपने हाथ से करते हैं। वे मरसराइज्ड कपडा बनाते हैं। वह कपडा सारे देश में जाता है। स्यारह हजार मजदूर उसमें काम करते हैं। वे अपने हाथ से मशीन चलाते हैं। दो हजार की मशीन है लेकिन उस पर आपकी कम्पाउड एक्ससाइज ड्यूटी पाँच हजार रुपये की है। आप एमेजिन करें कि दो हजार की मशीनरी के ऊपर पाँच हजार की कम्पाउड ड्यूटी? 'स्टिटिंग मशीन के ऊपर माइं चार हजार और मरसराइज्ड मशीनरी के ऊपर पाँच हजार की ड्यूटी जिनमें सारा काम हाथ में होता है कहीं तक उचित है? मार्ग देश कहता है कि हाथ में काम करने वालों को जिनका पावर की जरूरत नहीं है उनके ऊपर किसी तरह की न्यूनी नहीं होनी चाहिये। वे इतना अच्छा काम करते हैं, उतना अच्छा कपडा तैयार करते हैं लेकिन उसके ऊपर आप यह ड्यूटी क्यों लगाते हैं? दो हजार की मशीनरी व लगात हैं मुबह स शाम तक महनत करते हैं न सरकार से कुछ मागतें हैं, न लेते हैं और सरकार कहती है कि हम ड्यूटी लगायेंगे, यह कुछ बडे मिल वाले जो बम्बई में बैठे हुए हैं उनके मुकाबले में ये खडे न हो जाए इसलिए आप क्या ड्यूटी लगाते हैं? आप के बड़े-बडे आफिसर्स अगर यह समझते हों कि हम को बडी-बडी मिलें ही चलायनी हों और हमारे घरेलू उद्योग न चले तो मशीनरी कर के उन को बन्द कर दीजिए और कह दीजिए कि बाहर चले जाए। वे क्या कसूर करते हैं? सारे मजदूर हाथ से काम करते हैं, कोई पावर इस्तेमाल नहीं करते। अच्छा से अच्छा हाथ से तैयार करते हैं। बम्बई वाले समझते होंगे कि हम बडी अच्छी-अच्छी मशीन चलाते हैं और हमारा कपडा बडा

फाइन निकलता है लेकिन अगर यह हाथ में उतना अच्छा कपडा निकाल दे और उनके मुकाबले में खडे हो जाए तो क्या आप उन से कहेंगे कि नहीं साहब हम तो तुम्हारी दो हजार की मशीनरी के ऊपर पाँच हजार रुपए ड्यूटी के लगा देगे? इमेजिन करें कि हर्ड प्रोसेस की मशीनरी है और हमारे चट्टोपाध्याय जी जैसे मिनिस्टर के होते हुए जो यह चाहते हैं कि इस तरह के उद्योग चले फिर भी ऐसी बात होती है। अगर यही करना है तो आप भी आइए हिम्मत के साथ। अगर कम्पाउड ड्यूटी लगानी है तो ठीक है हर्ड प्रोसेस में काम करने वालों का काम बन्द कर दीजिये और मिल वालों को प्रोटेक्शन दीजिए जिनमें केवल वही यह काम करें। हमारे राजस्थान के चीफ मिनिस्टर श्री हरिदेव जोशी ने लिखा, पहले के चीफ मिनिस्टर ने लिखा, हमारा डेपुटेशन मिनिस्टर माहब से मिला तो उन्होंने कहा कि टट डज ए ग्ट रिक्वेस्ट और हम इसके लिए कुछ करेंगे ता मैंने सोचा कि यह मौना अच्छा है मैं अपनी बात कह दूँ। यह केवल मेरे जिले की ही नहीं पूरे राजस्थान की बात है। वहाँ कई जगह ऐसी इंडस्ट्रीज चलती हैं। आप खुद एक बार उनका विजिट करें उन छाटे-छाटे गाँवों में जाए कच्ची मडका पर जहाँ धल उडती हो वहा चल कर देखें कि कर्म मजदूर पम्पीना बहाते हैं। (व्यवधान) यह मान एक्मपोर्ट होता है, नपाल जाता है वगला दश जाता है। कुलकर्णी साहब शायद इसको इस्तेमाल नहीं करते। वे बडी अच्छी साडियाँ बनाते हैं। आप उनको पहना कर देखें। लेकिन आप लोगों का यह तो क्याल रहता है कि बहुत बडा मेठ है मिल मालिक हैं, उसकी एक बडी इमेज होती है, भगवान जाने उसका क्या अस्तर पडता है राजनीति पर कि किसी ने उसके मुकाबले का धधा शुरू किया तो कहेंगे कि बन्द करों। हर्डलूम बीबीज का क्या हुआ? राज्य सरकारें सब कहती हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान के गाँवों में घरेलू उद्योगों को प्रोत्साहन देने की

[श्री मूल चन्द डागा]  
आवश्यकता है। मैं यह बात बार-बार कहता हूँ और कई बार मैंने इस पर जोर दिया है। आप जितनी बातें करते हैं—मैं एक बात पूछना चाहता हूँ—आप ने कहा है कि काटन-क्लाथ 400 से 800 कर दिया, डबल कर दिया है बड़ी खुशी की बात है, लेकिन इसके डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन का क्या होगा? क्या आप ने देखा है कि आप को कितना काटन क्लाय चाहिये, पहले यह 400 था, इस को तभी 800 क्यों नहीं किया, इसके लिये मिलो पर आपने क्या पाबन्दी लगाई है? मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि यह कपडा फिर उन्ही के पास वापस चला जाता है, गरीबों के पास नहीं पहुँच पाता, इसलिये कि आप के डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन मशीनरी ठीक नहीं है। आप कह देंगे कि यह काम कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री का नहीं है, सप्लाय मिनिस्ट्री या जो डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन करने वाली मिनिस्ट्री है वह जाने। इस तरह से तो आप अपनी जिम्मेवारी से नहीं बच सकते। सब से पहले तो आप देखिये कि देश के गरीब लोगों के लिये कितना कपडा चाहिये, उस के बाद मिलो पर उतना माल पैदा करने के लिये पाबन्दी लगाइये। इस दफा तो मिल वालों ने बहुत मुनाफा कमाया है—इसलिये उन्हें उतना माल देना ही चाहिये।

एक चीज जिससे बहुत तकलीफ होती है कि आप के यहाँ डिफरेंट मिनिस्ट्रीज में कोआर्डिनेशन नहीं है, सब एक दूसरे पर जिम्मेदारी को डालते हैं। कहीं रा-मैटीरियल नहीं है, कहीं कोयला नहीं है, कहीं पावर नहीं है—आखिर इन सब चीजों की जिम्मेदारी कौन लेगा। यह तो आप सब की ज्वाइन्ट रेस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी है। कोई कहता है कि रेल का चक्का जाम कर देंगे—मेरे ड्रथर बैठे हुए लोग कहेंगे—मजदूरों चलो, यहाँ से ज्यादा पैसा ले ले। इस वक्त ज्वाइन्ट रेस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी न होने से ये सब दिक्कतें आती हैं। इसलिये तमाम मिनिस्ट्रीज में प्रायर कोआर्डिनेशन होना चाहिये।

एक और बात बतलाता हूँ—मेरे पास एक लैटर आया है, आप के पास भी जरूर आया होगा। एक एक्सपोर्ट करने वाले ने शिपिंग और ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्ट्री से कहा कि मैं कांघला से एक्सपोर्ट करना चाहता हूँ मुझे शिप दिया जाय। उसने कई बार उनको लिखा, लेकिन मना कर दिया गया, कहा गया कि शिप नहीं है बम्बई आओ, कांघला से नहीं दे सकते। उसने कई बार लिखा, कितना एक्सपेडिचर हुआ, सारा माल एक्सपोर्ट करना चाहता था, लेकिन शिप नहीं मिला और जो एक्सपोर्ट करना चाहता था वह एक्सपोर्ट नहीं हुआ।

आप ने अभी गूनियन कार्बाइड का जिक्र किया कि उनको 350 टन नहीं चाहिये, 400 टन चाहिये, वे अमरीका से केमीकल्ज इम्पोर्ट करते हैं। मैं पूछता हूँ कि इस की क्या जरूरत है, उन की इस्टाब्लिशमेंट की कितनी है—जरा इसको देखिये।

अभी जार्ज साहब ने बड़े दावे के साथ कहा कि मैं हिन्दुस्तान में उन लोगों को बरदाश्त नहीं करूँगा जो लाइसेंस की हेगाफेरी करते हैं। लेकिन यह तो अभी भी हो रहा है, फॅक्टरी का बोर्ड लगा हुआ है, लेकिन प्रोडक्शन कोई नहीं है। ऐसा इसलिए हो रहा है कि बड़े-बड़े लोग बड़े बड़े लोगों में मिले हुए हैं। आप ने पीछे स्टील के बारे में कुछ कदम उठाये, यहाँ भी जरा मजबूती के साथ कदम उठाइये। आप के यहाँ सैक्रेटिरियेट में जो लोग बैठे हुए हैं उन के एटीट्यूड को ठीक कीजिये। ये जो आई० सी० एस० आफिसर्स बैठे हुए हुए हैं इनको कामर्स की कोई बात समझ में आती भी है या नहीं या सिर्फ गडबड की ही बात समझ में आती है। जगह-जगह साइसेम की दुकानें लगी हुई हैं, हेराफेरी हो रही है। अगर आप चाहें तो मैं आप को लिख कर भी भेज सकता हूँ, आप जाँच करवायें, जब आप को तसल्ली हो जाय तब उनके खिलाफ एक्शन लीजिये।

आप दोनों जबान मिनिस्टर्ज हैं, आप इस बात पर तुले हुए हैं कि लाइसेंस में कोई हेराफेरी नहीं होगी, लेकिन कामयाब तब होंगे, जब पूरी तरह से कन्ट्रोल करेंगे। आप देखिए, कि गड़बड़ी कहाँ होती है, बैंगलोर, मैसूर के अन्दर या कुछ दूसरे हिस्सों में आपकी चीजें कहाँ जाती हैं।

आखिर में मैं फिर इस बात को दोहराना चाहता हूँ मेहरबानी करके हैंड प्रोसेस के काम को बन्द न कीजिये, उन को कम्पाउंड इयूटीज से ऐक्जैम्प्ट कीजिये।

\*SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM (Tirunelveli). Mr. Chairman, Sir, we were happy to hear our Deputy Minister of Commerce, Shri A. C. George, saying that the exports had been increasing significantly. But, Sir, the balance of trade position is not satisfactory. In 1968-69, the imports were higher than exports by Rs. 550.7 crores. In the years 1969-70, 1970-71 and 1971-72, the imports were higher by Rs. 169.4 crores, Rs. 99 crores and Rs. 216.3 crores respectively. For the first time in the history of our country, in the year 1972-73, the exports were higher by Rs. 164.2 crores. It is felt that again in 1973-74 the value of imports would be higher than exports.

Sir, it is highly regrettable that the exports of traditional goods like tea, jute goods, sugar, iron and steel, spices like pepper, cardamom, etc. have been declining. At the same time, the imports of fruits, vegetables, machine tools, cotton, wheat etc. are going up. It is really painful to note that the Government have not yet exploited the vast export potential in marine products, fruits, flowers, forest products like processed plywood, gums, shellac etc.

From pages 183 to 191 of the 1973-74 Annual Report of the Ministry of Commerce, you will find the Government's Export Policy Resolution of 1970. It is mentioned in this Export Policy Resolution that the role of the public sector in the development and expansion of our foreign trade will be expanded progres-

sively and substantially. Here, it is relevant to mention that greater attention should also be paid to the export of products manufactured by our public sector undertakings. I wish to draw the attention of this House that the export of products manufactured by our public sector undertakings does not constitute even 5% of the total exports of the country. I request the hon. Minister of Commerce to explain this sad feature of our foreign trade.

Sir, we have 17 Export Promotion Councils to assist the export of commodities like cashew-nuts, chemicals and allied products, cotton textile, engineering goods, hides and skins, plastic and linoleum products, shellac, silk and rayon textiles, spices, sports goods, tobacco, processed food, basic chemicals, finished leather, wool and woollens, handloom products, gem and jewellery etc. I am extremely sorry to point out that in 1973 that the exports of all these commodities have declined inspite of these Export Promotion Councils. I am compelled to state that our scarce resources are being wasted on these Export Promotion Councils, as they have not contributed to the increase in the export of commodities for which they are meant to assist.

Sir, the Government set up the Marine Products Export Development Authority on 16th August, 1972 in Cochin to take such measures as it considered fit for development of off shore and deep sea fisheries with special reference to export. This organisation was also empowered to import trawlers for deep-sea fishing, to assist the indigenous manufacture of such trawlers and also to assist the industry in a constructive manner. But, it is inexplicable to me that this Authority should have permitted a foreign monopoly concern like Messrs Union Carbide India Ltd., to undertake deep-sea fishing for export purposes. I request the hon. Minister of Commerce to explain whether this is the way that the indigenous fishing industry is being helped.

The hon. Deputy Minister referred to the close co-ordination that exists between India and Sri Lanka in the matter of tea exports. I would like to point

\*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri S A Muruganantham]

out that during the past three years the export of onions and chillies to Sri Lanka has come to a standstill. Large number of workers engaged in the export of trade of onions and chillies in Tuticorin, which is a part of my constituency, in Nagapattinam, in Poona and in Bombay have been thrown out of employment and their livelihood. I would like to have clarification from the hon. Minister on this point.

Sir, from Tuticorin of my constituency, pa'myrah stalks and fibre are being regularly exported and the value of their export is of the order of Rs 224 crores. With a view to assisting this industry, the Khadi Commission requested the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade to conduct a survey of this industry and to suggest ways and means of assisting this industry. The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has submitted its Survey Report suggesting liberal cash assistance to this export industry. Six months ago there was also a Seminar in Madras, in which the Khadi Commission also participated, which discussed the problems of this industry in detail. But so far the Government have not announced their acceptance of the recommendation of the India Institute of Foreign Trade regarding liberal cash assistance to this export industry. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the steps he proposes to take in this respect.

Sir, the Government accepted the recommendation of Sitaramayya Committee about exporting only finished leather hereafter, as that is expected to fetch more foreign currency. While the Government is quick to implement this recommendation, nothing has been done so far to build the infrastructure for the production and export of finished leather. In consequence, the tanning units not suitably equipped with machines for finished leather production have been caught unawares. Out of nearly 400 units in Tamil Nadu, which has been occupying a premier place in the export of leather, 350 units have been closed and nearly four lakh workers employed in these tanneries and allied industries have

been thrown out of employment. Similarly, nearly Rs. 60 crores worth of tanned leather has also got accumulated in Tamil Nadu. Another deprecating thing that the Government have done is permitting the monopoly houses to enter this industry reserved for small scale sector, under the pretext of creating a quick infrastructure for finished leather and leather goods production. These monopoly houses are going to swallow hundreds and thousands of small tanners in the country. Sir, there is urgent need for additional fiscal incentives and also liberal import licences for machines and materials for the production of finished leather. I request the hon. Minister to look into the problems of small scale tanners and do the needful. I wish to place\* on the Table of the House a memorandum detailing the plight of small scale tanners, leather exports and workers in our country.

While the price of cotton has gone up by 100% during the past six months, you can imagine the rise in the price of yarn. The Cotton Corporation of India was set up to stabilise the price of cotton in the country and also to end the hold of middle-men on the cotton trade. I understand that Cotton Corporation of India is also utilising the services of the very same middlemen in the procurement of cotton. Consequently, the rise in the price of cotton has not been arrested. During 1972-73, the Cotton Corporation of India procured 388 lakh bales of cotton. I need not say that it is the bounden duty of the Corporation to supply adequate quantities of cotton to the sick mills taken over by the Centre and the State Governments. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how the Cotton Corporation has helped in arresting the rise in the price of cotton and also in what manner the Corporation has assisted the sick textile mills taken over by the Centre and the State Governments.

Recently the price of standard cloth was raised by the Government by 30%. But the actual increase to the consumers is 37.5%. That is because the Government have increased the retailers' margin also from 12.5% to 20% on the ground that the freight rate, distribution

\*The Speaker not having subsequently accorded the necessary permission, the paper was not treated as laid on the Table.

expenses etc have gone up I can understand if this is applicable to the retailers in far away corners of the country I would like to know why the retailers in big cities who are nearer to the Mills to the godowns and who do not incur any transport expenses should be given this increase in their margin I hope the hon Minister will clarify this point, as the common people who are the consumers of standard cloth have been hard hit by this rise

While the price of standard cloth has been statutorily increased by 30%, the Government have appealed to the mill-owners to increase their production from 400 million metres to 800 million metres of standard cloth I want to know whether the Government have got any machinery to ensure that the mills produced 800 million metres so that at least adequate supply is available to the consumers

Some time ago the cess on mill cloth was increased for the ostensible reason of assisting the handlooms in a better manner But the entire cess has now been merged with the general revenue The financial assistance to the handloom sector has also not gone up in any appreciable manner According to the latest declared textile policy of the Government 25 lakhs of handlooms in our country which can produce a substantial portion of the cloth requirement of the country would be helped not only financially but also in the allocation of yarn I would like to know the concrete steps taken by the Government in this respect

While the Tamil Nadu Government are in the process of introducing legislation for reserving dhoti, sari, lungi, chaddar, angavastram, bed-sheets, bed-cover, carpet, handkerchief, towels, crape cloth etc for the handloom sector, the Central Government have not yet announced its all-India reservation policy for the handloom sector Similarly, while the State Government has completed the census of unauthorised powerlooms in the State, which are detrimental to the interests of handlooms, I understand that the Central Government has not yet completed the all-India census of unauthorised power-

looms Unless this work is completed, the handlooms cannot be helped to stand on their feet In order to control the number of unauthorised powerlooms in the State, the State Government has also asked for a quota of 10 000 powerlooms in the State I request the hon Minister of Commerce to enumerate the steps he proposes to take in the matter of helping handlooms in the country

Before I conclude, I would refer to the fact that the Textile Commissioner controls the distribution of yarn over 100 counts, without having any control on the price of yarn This has enabled the mill-owners to fleece the handloom weavers Similarly, the allocation of staple fibre to the mills is controlled But the Mills have got a voluntary scheme of distributing yarn to the handloom weavers This is the position in art silk also I request that this voluntary scheme of distribution of yarn should be scrapped It may either be handed over to the State Governments or the Centre may themselves do this work Then only the handloom weavers will get adequate quantity of yarn at reasonable prices Sir (the facilities and concessions to the handloom weavers are getting dwindled day by day In consequence the production has suffered leading to fall in the export of handloom products I would like to know the steps being taken by the Government to revitalise the handloom sector Sir the initial depreciation allowance of 20% now being proposed for cotton and jute goods should also be extended to art silk industry I hope that the hon Minister of Commerce will exert his influence on this matter which will increase the export of art silk products

In conclusion, I would plead with the hon Minister that the Government should take keen interest in reviving the export of onions and chillies to Sri Lanka Similarly, liberal cash assistance should be extended to palmyrah fibre and stalks industry so that its exports can be stepped up substantially

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI (Bombay-North-East) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the pattern of international trade has been changing since the last three of four years so rapidly that, I am sorry to see, our Commerce Ministry is not catching up with it, though there have been some efforts made by way of modifications in the export policy and the strategy that has been adopted since 1970. I was listening to the speech made by the Deputy Minister. He has been having the same old thinking about export promotion and import substitution of traditional items and non-traditional items. I think now there is a need for a completely new look to the international trade of our country. For the last so many years, and even under the export Policy Resolution of 1970, the base was surplus nature of production of a commodity—traditional or non-traditional. Whatever commodity we produced, we gave priority to indigenous requirements and then if we had surpluses we tried to find out the export potentiality of those. This has been the main basis of the export policy so far.

But now it is a question of prices in the international market and the potentiality of any item to fetch foreign exchange, whether we produce in large quantities or we produce in small quantities is not so material for export drive. The base of a new export policy has to be what commodity will fetch more foreign exchange if exported, even though our production of that commodity may be short to even meet our indigenous requirements. Therefore, a completely new list of commodities of international trade, has to be made on the basis of their potentiality to earn more foreign exchange. This kind of a new change that has come in the international trade changes the whole outlook. But I am sorry to find that our old Policy Resolution of 1970 still remains as the guideline for our export policy.

In the Report of the Commerce Ministry it has been stated that there was a Committee to devise a new export strategy. But we have not heard of the emergence of a new strategy.

No enunciation or declaration of a new export strategy has so far been made. We are short in rice production, but recently we exported some rice to Middle-East countries; even if it means that we have to import some rice from other countries. The country is benefited by such export. We are exporting sugar though we are short in sugar production in our country. Even if we have to import sugar from other countries, our country would still be benefited if we export a part of our production.

The hon. Minister should take the whole House into confidence and tell us what exactly is the new list of those commodities based on the guideline of capacity of the commodity to earn more foreign exchange. However, it appears that there has been certain *ad hocism* which is going on in the Commerce Ministry. Many times the *ad hocism* creates more difficulties in the implementation when it comes in confrontation with other Ministries, such as Transport and Shipping Railways or Finance Ministry. Difficulties of this Ministry increase through cross-purposes with the result that the country suffers and losses are more.

I would draw the attention of the House to a specific issue of the country's increased losses arising out of continuation of old export strategy. I would give only one example. The Deputy Minister stated and some members have also referred to that we should export more and more of natural rubber. They pleaded the case for the export of raw material. Now, a time has come for a new strategy. If it is admitted that in the international trade, it is more beneficial to export finished products than raw material, then we would like to know what wisdom is there in continuing the export of natural rubber especially during the last one year when there are thousands and thousands of small rubber goods manufacturers in the country who are starving for want of raw material, are not getting the raw material, that is, the natural rubber. In our country, the



production of both the natural as well as the synthetic rubber is in short supply. Are we going to import natural rubber and feed these small-scale rubber goods manufacturers in the country to keep them running and to avoid unemployment in the rubbers goods industry? It is these issues which need to be clarified and explained the export strategy if it is to be in the interests of the nation.

Similarly, we have given during the last one year a number of cases of the raw materials which should not be exported because they fetch a very small export value. Their added value is not much. Take for example, the barytes from Andhra. It is a non-traditional item of export. It has been developed during the last four to five years only. Some small scale manufacturers through the indigenous technology have successfully processed these barytes which come from the mines in Andhra in a crude form, into a powder. This powder is required in the Middle East countries, by the oil industry in the drilling of oil wells. We want to earn foreign exchange from the Middle East. We have pointed out to the Commerce Minister that here is a case where our country can earn crores of rupees worth of foreign exchange. The manufacturers of baryte powder have huge orders on hand but they cannot fulfil them because the raw material is allowed to be exported in large quantity. With a view to get some idea I will cite an example of one exporter of barytes powder. Chemco Supply Corporation of Bombay during last two years has started exporting to the Middle East-countries for the oil industry there the baryte powder and it has earned for the country crores of rupees worth of foreign exchange. It has got orders now but they say they cannot execute them because the raw material is directly being sent abroad. To those who are producing the raw material Government should give licence for manufacturing and processing of crude barytes instead of allowing them to export crude barytes which has very little added value. Let the country stop export of raw materials and let us export

those finished products which are in the interest of the country and which will fetch more export-added value.

I will give another instance wherein practices followed by the Ministry go directly against its own declared policy. There are large export orders for woollen blankets, from the African countries also from some of the Middle-east countries which are oil producing countries. It is the shoddy industry which manufactures woollen blankets. Its imported raw material, woollen rags, is detained in Bombay docks. I do not know whether the difficulty was because of inter-ministerial contradictory policies are because of failure of proper decision by Commerce Ministry. This is an example where the Ministry has completely failed. Ministry did not take proper decisions at proper time. They made mistakes after mistakes

Last year there was a scandal,—woollen rags scandal. Woollen rags by themselves should not be an item of scandal. It is a valuable raw material. The scandal is made by some people who are not actual users, because of certain policies pursued by the Government. Government gave licences to non-actual users and weavers who did not require such raw materials. They required only yarn but they were given licence for import of woollen rags. In the guise of rags, weavers imported second hand serviceable garments. Last year the scandal was discovered. A CBI enquiry was instituted. One does not know what is the outcome. Who were the culprits? We don't know. We pointed out these facts to the Commerce Ministry. We said that the main defect lies in the Commerce Ministry giving import licences to Ludhiana weavers who did not need such raw materials. Their raw material is yarn. Woollen rags are raw material for shoddy spinners and nor for weavers. It is the raw material for shoddy spinning units. They are actual users. Therefore no licence should be given to the Ludhiana units. Their import licences should be stopped and they should be given to the actual users *i.e.* the spinning units. But no

[Shri Raja Kulkarni]

decision was taken on this basic point. Some kind of *ad hoc* patchwork was made. And what was done? May be the Commerce Ministry did it with good intentions, one does not know. But, instead of stopping the licence of the weavers, the Commerce Ministry imposed a condition that there should be 100% mutilation of the imported rags. Now, it was not known to the Commerce Ministry officials whether it is possible to import woollen rags according to the concept of 100% unserviceable goods. What is 100% mutilation, Sir?

We were told that the Commerce Ministry sent its officers to Australia to make arrangements to see that they should export their woollen rags as per the condition.

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All the Australian exporters were reported to have asked what exactly was meant by hundred per cent mutilation. They thought that one or two cuts in the old garments according to them meant hundred per cent mutilation. Therefore it is not a realistic condition for a country of origin to fulfil. What is a rag according to Australian exporters is not a rag according to the Government of India.

In the meanwhile the goods started coming from the exporters. These exports are made by the S T C and not by any individual importers, actual user or non-actual user. The S T C officials were not knowing how and when to go into the market. They did not know when orders are to be placed and what should be done about the mutilation condition and thing of that kind. They only created a mess of the whole affair. They booked the orders and the goods came. At present, more than 5,000 bales, for the last two months, are being detained by the Customers in the Bombay docks and almost all these bales belonged to the actual users, that is, the spinning units—spinning mills—numbering about twenty five—shoddy spinning industry is a labour intensive industry, employing 25,000 workers. They are

now facing unemployment. These units are starving. Some way must be found out. The Shoddy Mills Association, I am told submitted a scheme to the Commerce Ministry which has approved of the same. Some kind of a compromise formula has been arrived at by making arrangement for complete mutilation under the supervision of a Customs Officer. But, the Customs are not releasing the goods and the Finance Ministry is not giving clearance to it. Now, it has become an inter-ministerial tangle. In the meanwhile, demurrage charges are increasing. Who is paying them? The shoddy spinning mills will be charged this huge penalty for no fault of theirs. Production is being hit. The export orders of these spinning units will not be fulfilled. The country would, ultimately be a loser in the export orders. Thus the Commerce Ministry's own policy is coming in the way of our export promotion. This is a glaring example. There is a need for the Commerce Ministry to immediately sit with the Finance Ministry to settle this. These spinning units are prepared for mutilation under the Government's scheme prepared by the Commerce Ministry wherein mutilation is carried under the supervision of the Customs Officers. If the Commerce Ministry say that hundred per cent mutilation should be there for the woollen rags let them make the arrangement for mutilation of woollen rags but let them release the goods immediately. Something must be done by both the Officers of Finance and Commerce Ministries. Why are they sitting tight on their prestige? Who is the sufferer? It is the people and the country who are the sufferers. The Government however, is not taking any action. The implementation of its own policy cuts across the export earnings of our country.

For the shoddy industry, there is another problem apart from getting the release of all those 5,000 bales of rags. To-day, the prices of wool in the international market have gone up tremendously and many woollen manufacturers in many countries are not importing them; because of prohibitive

import prices. Therefore, why not increase the ceiling of shoddy industry within the same level of ceiling of foreign exchange for whole woollen industry. At present it they are given Rs. 1.80 crores, why not increase it to Rs. 5 crores. It is a labour-intensive industry and this is an industry which is in the backward areas. Sir, these woollen blankets are used by the poor and the common people. Defence gives a bulk order for blankets. So, this industry needs encouragement.

Now, I come to cotton textile. The Ministry has already admitted that the exports of cotton textiles during the year 1973-74 have been less owing to the failure of statutory yarn control. They are trying to rectify the mistake so I am not going into that aspect. But the point is that now under the Fifth Five Year Plan, expansion of spinning and weaving capacities are visualised with a view to fulfil larger export orders. We would like to have more textiles exported. The Cotton Mills Federation has been saying don't put any condition for expansion on new units. I am not advocating their cause. But what is the Plan? I am told the Commerce Minister, in his reply to one of the Questions, has said that the mill-owners demand for delicensing the textile industry for expansion and new units, is under consideration for a limited period of two to three years. I do not know whether this would be a proper stage but one fact remains, it would mean the admission of the failure of the public sector in the cotton textile industry. The National Textile Corporation and the State Textile Corporations, have taken over, for management purposes, sick units. They have shown that these units can be run into profit. Why not nationalise all those units which are with these textile corporation and why not they fulfil the need of the country—whether for expansion of spindles, or weaving capacity and also for exports. We would like the Commerce Ministry to see that the public sector in the cotton textile industry plays an important role in the expansion of the capacity as well as in the higher exports of cotton textile.

Similarly, take the other section of the textile industry—synthetic man-made fibre industry. With the good offices of the Commerce Ministry there was a voluntary pact between nylon spinners and nylon weavers. It was not working well because these weavers, which are thousands in number, were being harassed and exploited. They were making a complaint that this voluntary agreement was not working properly. The complaints of these weavers are still there today. We would like more checks to be put on the distribution of rayon and nylon and something should be substituted in place of voluntary agreement. They have also committed certain mistakes by way of omissions in this agreement either through ignorance or for the reasons best known to them.

There is a small section of small entrepreneurs, known as crimpers. These crimpers have been deleted from the list, though they are actual users in all sense of that term. They have been excluded from getting the multi-filament yarn from the nylon spinners as a result of special interest of nylon spinners. Those units are now on the point of closure. The nylon spinners have put up their own crimping machines with the connivance of the Commerce Ministry and these crimping machines are fed by the multi-filament yarn by these nylon spinners at the cost of the innumerable small and independent crimpers. This discrepancy should be removed. I would suggest that no discrimination should be made and judicious distribution should be effected, and a new policy evolved for the distribution of this synthetic yarn.

With these words, I support the Demands.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय (मदसौर) :  
 सभापति महोदय, राज हम बाणिज्य मन्त्रालय की मांगों के सम्बन्ध में चर्चा कर रहे हैं। सरकार की गलत धार्थिक नीतियों का प्रतिबिम्ब विदेश व्यापार और आन्तरिक व्यापार दोनों में साफ-साफ परिलक्षित होता है। मन्त्री महोदय ने इस मन्त्रालय की 1973-74 की रिपोर्ट में यह

स्वीकार किया है कि यद्यपि आयात को बढ़ाने और निर्यात को बढ़ाने की दिशा में प्रयत्न किये गये, लेकिन फिर भी व्यापारिक संतुलन को कायम रखने में कोई आशाजनक प्रगति नहीं हुई है। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है, "लेकिन इसी अवधि के दौरान आयातों में हुई 44.3 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के फलस्वरूप भारत के व्यापार संतुलन में 94 करोड़ रु० का घाटा रहा जबकि पिछले वर्ष की उसी अवधि के दौरान उम में 154 करोड़ रु० के बेशी थी।

इसी पृष्ठभूमि में हम को देखना है कि सरकार ने कम्युनिस्ट देशों तथा अन्य देशों के साथ जो व्यापारिक समझौते किये हैं, कुल मिला कर उनसे भारत को कितना लाभ हुआ है, व्यापारिक संतुलन में कितना सुधार हुआ है और भारत की विदेशी मुद्रा की स्थिति में कितनी प्रगति हुई है। अगर इन व्यापारिक समझौतों के द्वारा हमारे व्यापार संतुलन और विदेशी मुद्रा की स्थिति में कोई सुधार नहीं होता है, तो फिर सरकार अपनी आयात-निर्यात नीति और लाइसेंसिंग पद्धति में परिवर्तनों की भले ही कितनी घोषणायें करे, उनका कोई अर्थ नहीं है। अथवा वे निष्प्रभावी हैं।

पिछले वर्ष भी जब इस मंत्रालय की मांगों के सम्बन्ध में चर्चा हो रही थी, तो मंत्री महोदय ने अपनी नीति में परिवर्तन की घोषणा की थी। इस बार भी जब इस मंत्रालय की मांगों पर चर्चा हो रही है, कुछ नीति सम्बन्धी परिवर्तन की घोषणायें की गई हैं। लेकिन इस के बावजूद हमारे जो उद्योग आयात पर अवलम्बित हैं, जिन को आयातित कच्चे माल की आवश्यकता है, वे प्रायः लड़खड़ा रहे हैं, भले ही वे उस आयातित कच्चे माल को एम० सी० टी० सी० या एम० एम० टी० सी० के जरिये प्राप्त करते हों, या किसी और माध्यम से प्राप्त करते हों। वास्तव में हमारी नीति हमारी प्रणाली और प्रक्रिया दोषपूर्ण है, जिस की वजह से हम अपने उद्योगों को ठीक समय पर

आयातित वस्तुयें उपलब्ध कराने में असमर्थ रहते हैं।

निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए मंत्री महोदय ने कई देशों की यात्रा की है। वह पर्सनल गल्फ के क्षेत्र में भी गये और वहाँ कई देशों के साथ उन्होंने सम्पर्क स्थापित किया। लेकिन अभी तक उसके कोई परिणाम हमारे सामने नहीं आये हैं। मंत्री महोदय ने निर्यात के संबन्धन की दिशा में एक्सपोर्ट-इम्पोर्ट बैंक के बारे में फ्रंटवरी में एक घोषणा की थी। मैं नहीं जानता कि उस की प्रगति कहा तक हुई है। केवल कमेटी बना देने माल से, या उस की घोषणा कर देने से ही, उम दिशा में कोई बहुत बड़ा परिवर्तन हो जायेगा, ऐसा मैं नहीं समझता हूँ। अगर उस नीति को सक्रिय रूप दिया जाये और कोई प्रभावशाली कदम उठाये जाये, तो हमारे निर्यात में प्रगति हो सकती है। लेकिन निःसंदिग्ध रूप से आज उमके बारे में कुछ भी नहीं कहा जा सकता है।

मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ परम्परागत वस्तुओं के निर्यात में गिरावट आई है। हम को गम्भीरता के साथ विचार करना चाहिए कि उनके निर्यात में कमी क्यों हुई है, क्या हम उनके निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिए प्रयत्न नहीं कर सकते हैं या और ऐसे कौन से उपाय हो सकते हैं, जिनके द्वारा हम उनके निर्यात को बढ़ावा दे सकते हैं। व्यापारिक संतुलन को स्थिर रखने की दृष्टि में भी यह विचार आवश्यक है।

मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट के पृष्ठ 3 पर कहा गया है, "1971-72 में हार्मिल स्तर के मुकाबले 1972-73 में जिन वस्तुओं के निर्यातों में गिरावट आई, वे हैं चाय, पटमन निमित्त माल, चीनी, लोहा तथा इस्पात, मैगनीज अयस्क तथा गम मसाले।" मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने इन वस्तुओं के निर्यात को बढ़ाने की दिशा में क्या कदम उठाये

है, जिस से हमें विदेशी मुद्रा की प्राप्ति होती रहे। सरकारी आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि उनके निर्यात में मामूली नहीं बल्कि काफी गिरावट आई है।

इस रिपोर्ट में यह भी कहा गया है कि हम चीनी और बासमती चावल के डामेस्टिक कनवर्ज़ेशन—घरेलू उपयोग को बढ़ाएँगे और विदेशी मुद्रा कमाने के लिए उन वस्तुओं को ज़्यादा से ज़्यादा बाहर भेजेंगे। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर सरकार देश में इन वस्तुओं की उपलब्धि, घरेलू आवश्यकता और विदेशी मुद्रा की स्थिति में ताल-मेल बिठा कर किसी समुचित नीति का निर्धारण करेगी, तो वह आन्तरिक खपत की आवश्यकता को भी पूरा कर पायेगी और विदेशी मुद्रा भी अर्जित कर सकेगी।

हमारे निर्यात में स्थिरता नहीं बनी रही है। आकड़े इस बात के साक्षी हैं कि कभी तो निर्यात में वृद्धि हुई और कभी गिरावट आई। इस रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि निर्यात की वृद्धि दर 1969-70 में 4.1 प्रतिशत, 1970-71 में 8.6 प्रतिशत और 1971-72 में 4.8 प्रतिशत रही। इस से प्रकट होता है कि निर्यात की वृद्धि दर असमान रही। हमारे निर्यात में उत्तरोत्तर वृद्धि होती गई, ऐसी बात नहीं है। केवल एक्सपोर्ट पॉलिसी के प्रस्ताव द्वारा यह कार्य संभव नहीं। उम दिशा में ठीक अमल हो।

जहाँ तक टैक्स्टाइल का सम्बन्ध है, या कपड़े के निर्यात का प्रश्न है सरकार ने कुछ टैक्स्टाइल मिलों को अपने हाथ में लिया है, काटन कॉर्पोरेशन बनाया है और उम के जरिये स्थिति को सुधारने का प्रयत्न किया है। लेकिन आज कटोल्ड बलाय के बारे में क्या स्थिति है? हम किस प्रकार के कपड़े का उत्पादन करें, कितना उत्पादन करें और भाव किस प्रकार निर्धारित किये जायें, सरकार ने इस बारे में कोई स्पष्ट नीति नहीं बनाई है। आम लोगों को

जिम कपड़े की जरूरत है उतका उत्पादन ठीक नहीं हो रहा है। उमका विवरण दोबारा है।

मैंने मंत्री महोदय के नामने एक मामला रखा था। उसके बारे में मैं फिर उन को याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ। क्वालियर की एक कपड़ा मिल ने एक्सपोर्ट के लिए कुछ कपड़ा तैयार किया, लेकिन उमका एक्सपोर्ट कौन्सल कर दिया गया और उसको देश में आन्तरिक बिक्री के लिए भेज दिया गया। वह कपड़ा वास्तव में 18 मीटर था, लेकिन उम पर मुहर 20 मीटर की लगाई गई थी। मैंने मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन किया था कि इस मामले की जांच की जाये, क्योंकि इस में लाखों रुपये के घोटाले का प्रश्न उलझा हुआ है। मंत्री महोदय ने उत्तर में बताया है कि इस मामले में केवल 8000 रुपये की राशि अन्तर्ग्रस्त थी। लेकिन मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर यह कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट किया जाता और विदेशों में 20 मीटर के बजाय 18 मीटर कपड़ा बेचा जाता, तो हमारे देश की कितनी बदनामी होती। मंत्री महोदय ने अपने 3 मार्च, 1974 के पत्र में लिखा है “इस में केवल 8000 रु० की राशि अन्तर्ग्रस्त थी और उसे सम्बन्धित पार्टियों को लौटाया जा चुका है। हम इस बात की कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि ऐसे कदम उठाए जाएँ, जिससे कि ऐसी गलतियाँ दोबारा न हों। मैं आपको सूचित करना चाहूँगा।” मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद दूँगा इस बात के लिए कि उन्होंने पत्र का उत्तर दिया लेकिन मैं फिर भी निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि इसके अंदर वास्तव में काफी घोटाला हुआ है और वे दस बारे में हुए अष्टाचार की जांच करवाने की कोशिश करेंगे तो काफी और घोटाले प्रवाश में आ सकते हैं। हमारा क्वालिटी इम्पेक्शन का कार्य तथा प्रिजिपमेट इम्पेक्शन के कार्य में काफी सुधार की आवश्यकता है। क्वालिटी बटोल पर हम पूरा ध्यान दें।

चीफ बटोलर इम्पोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट की जो सारी एग्यारिटीज हैं उनका भी एक मामला मैं ध्यान में लाना चाहूँगा। अभी कुछ दिन पहले सभवन. 16-10-73 को या इम के आस-

[डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय]

पास की तारीखों में बम्बई की एक भाड़न 16 मिने लंबोरेटरी को एक फिल्म रिडक्शन एक्विपमेंट लक्सेमीटर मंगाने के लिए आयात लाइसेंस दिया गया था। इस आयात लाइसेंस हेतु 40 हजार रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा स्वीकार की गई। लेकिन बाद में पता नहीं किन कारणों से या कैसे उसे बढ़ा दिया गया और 2 लाख 82 हजार का कर दिया गया। उसके लिए कोई विशेष कारण ज्ञात नहीं। लेकिन उस फर्म को हमारी इम्पोर्ट-एक्सपोर्ट की एथारिटी के लोगों ने फेवर दिखा कर विदेशी मुद्रा को 40 हजार बढ़ा कर 2 लाख 92 हजार का कर दिया इसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित किया गया। सी० बी० आई० की इनक्वायरी कराने की बात कही गई। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसका परिणाम क्या निकला, उसको क्या आप सदन की मेज पर रखेंगे ताकि पता चल सके कि दिन-दिन अधिकारियों ने मिल कर यह सारा घोटाला किया और विदेशी मुद्रा को 40 हजार से बढ़ा 2 कर लाख 92 हजार कर दिया। जो अधिकारी उसमें शामिल हैं उनके नाम मैं नहीं लेना चाहता लेकिन यदि आप चाहेंगे तो मैं बता दूंगा। इस प्रकार जो इम्पोर्ट-एक्सपोर्ट का कंट्रोल करते हैं वही पर इस तरह का घोटाला होता है। यह घटना एक उदाहरण मात्र हैं। इस सारे मामले की यदि ठीक से जांच हो तो कुछ और घोटाले के प्रकरण सामने आएंगे।

आपको पता होगा कि सदन में पिछली बार चर्चा आई थी कि फटिलाइजर के नाम से ग्रेनुलेटिड मड आया था यह किसके माध्यम से आया, सारा प्रकरण आज भी रहस्यमय है। उसका मंत्री महोदय कोई सन्तोषजनक उत्तर नहीं दे सके थे। इस तरह से अगर इन मामलों में सावधानी से काम नहीं करेंगे तो कोई भी सुधार का काम नहीं हो सकेगा। इम्पोर्ट-एक्सपोर्ट के बारे में नीति सम्बन्धी जो दोष हैं उन्हें व्यावहारिक दृष्टि से ठीक करना होगा।

एस० टी० सी० के जरिये स्टैनलेस स्टील का आयात हुआ। उसमें किस प्रकार से सक्नेप

आया और लोगों को दिया गया वह भी आपके नोटिस में है। उसमें काफी घोटाला हुआ है। एक तरफ हम कहते हैं कि छोटे उद्योगों को हम प्रोत्साहन देना चाहते हैं लेकिन सी एस० टी० सी० कुछ चीजें आयात करती है उनके बारे में प्रायः व्यवस्था है कि 100 टन माल अगर एक साथ लेंगे तभी हम उसे उठाने देंगे, सौ टन की बंदिश लगाई जाती है, अगर किसी को दस पांच टन माल को आवश्यकता है तो वह नहीं उठा सकता। फलस्वरूप बड़ा व्यापारी उठाता है और उसके जरिये छोटे-छोटे व्यापारियों को माल जाता है जिसमें बे बहुत बड़ा मुनाफा कमाते हैं। एस० टी० सी० के मुनाफे के प्रतिशत के बारे में भी कई बार यहां चर्चा हुई है। उसे भी आज तक ठीक नहीं कर पाये हैं।

मैंने मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित किया कि कांडला के अन्दर काफी मात्रा में एस० टी० सी० द्वारा आयातित स्टेनलेस स्टील सक्नेप पड़ा हुआ है उसे कोई उठाने नहीं आया। ऐसी स्थिति हमारे व्यापार मंत्रालय की कई शाखाओं में और कई जगहों तक अन्तरंग निगम हैं उनके अन्दर चल रही है।

मैं अभी-अभी की एक घटना की ओर माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। वार्टर के आधार पर हम कुछ चीजें इम्पोर्ट करते हैं और कुछ एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं, इस प्रकार की एक पद्धति है। लेकिन उनका एक नोटिफिकेशन होना चाहिए। अभी आपने कुछ चीजों के बारे में वगैर नोटिफिकेशन निकाले, वगैर कोई सूचना या विज्ञापित निकाले कह दिया कि वार्टर के आधार पर ये चीजें भेज दीजिए, यह एक्सपोर्ट कर दीजिए, यह इम्पोर्ट कर लीजिए। यह सारी चीजें कुछ चन्द लोगों को ही ज्ञात हो सकीं। आश्चर्य है कि आप के मंत्रालय के कुछ लोग हैं जो इस प्रकार की गुप्त बातें बताते हैं? नोटिफिकेशन हुए बिना यह पद्धति क्यों अपनाई गई? इस का प्रयोजन क्या है? इसकी वस्तुस्थिति क्या है? माननीय मंत्री जी बताएं कि यह जो कार्य

हुआ है बिना नोटिफिकेशन के वह किस आधार पर हुआ है? इस में काफी बड़े पैमाने पर अष्टाचार हुआ है और अष्टाचार की बातें सामने आईं भी हैं। कुछ अधिकारियों ने मिल कर यह सारा काम किया है। जो चीजे इस प्रकार की होती हैं उन का विधिवत नोटिफिकेशन होता है। लेकिन कुछ चीजा के बारे में यह नोटिफिकेशन नहीं हुआ। इस सारे मामले पर पूरा प्रकाश डाला जाना चाहिये। इसकी स्पष्ट जानकारी व जांच जरूरी है।

अभी मैं निवेदन कर रहा था कि जो ऐक्चुअल यूजर्स होते हैं उन को तो माल उपलब्ध नहीं होता, उन को प्रायः लाइसेंस मिलता भी नहीं है यह स्थिति केवल एक बेस में नहीं है। अनेक सस्थानों और अनेक प्रतिष्ठानों के बारे में यह कहा जा सकता है। कुछ वाइड इम प्रवायर के हमारे यहां पर नोटिस में आए हैं। बम्बई में मध्य प्रदेश के अदर और दिल्ली के अन्दर अनेक सग्न ना के बारे में आयात का लाइसेंस तो उन्हें दिया गया लेकिन आयातित वस्तुएं उन्हें नै र्वय उपयोग नहीं कीं। उन सग्न ना का पता ही नहीं केवल बार्ड माल लगा हुआ है। यदि वह फर्म इंदौर की है या दिल्ली की है तो उन्होंने मीधे बम्बई में माल मगाया और वही उसको बेच दिया। क्या कोई ऐसी एजेंसी आपके पास है जो इस बात को देख सके कि जो आयात करने वाले लोग हैं वास्तव में उनके जरिये इसका उपयोग भी हो रहा है या नहीं। अथवा जो एजेंसी है वह ममल नहीं है फ्रॉट है उससे यह माफ प्रमाणित होता है। आयात लायसेंस के मिसयूज पर १० कार्यवाही जरूरी है।

लाइसेंस जो आप देते हैं उसकी प्रणाली भी बड़ी जटिल है। हमका आप सरल करें। एक तरफ जहां हमारे कैंबेलाइजेशन सिस्टम की कुछ अच्छाइयां हैं वहां उसके अन्दर कुछ डिफिकल्टी भी हैं। जो सही यूजर्स होते हैं उनका माल ठीक समय पर मिल भी नहीं पाता। कई बार माल आकर पड़ा रहता है। उसको कोई उतारने नहीं आता है जिसके कारण डिलिवरी समय पर नहीं होती है, फिर 11-41LSS/74

चाहे वह एस० टी० सी० या एम० एम० टी० सी० के जरिये हो, उनकी कीमतें प्रति दिन लगने वाले डेमरेज के कारण काफी बढ़ जाती है और बहुत ऊंची कीमत पर वह माल आता है। कई बार आयात लाइसेंस देते हैं उसमें व फी बिलम्ब होता है। सादा पहले हाता हं और माल लम्बे समय बाद आता है या ठीक समय पर वह नहीं आ पाता है जिस के कारण फिर कीमत बढ़ जाती है इसलिए यह आवश्यक है कि जब कोई रिलीज इणू आर्डर आप देते हैं तो उसके छ महोने के अन्दर वह माल उसे प्राप्त हो जाए ऐसा कोई एक लिमिटेड समय निर्धारित कर देना चाहिये।

इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस की अदधि आप ने वर्तमान में केवल एक वर्ष की रखी है। कई बार एक वर्ष के अदर चीज नहीं प्राप्त हो सकती। तो इन बारे में पुनर्विचार की आवश्यकता है कि यदि आवश्यकता पड़े तो अदधि को बढ़ाया जा सके। एक वर्ष के अदर फारन एक्सचेंज की या रिमाइसरी चीज की कम्प्लायंस वहन कर सके तो उसका इम्पोर्ट न रुके और उग का फिर में नई प्रोमोमिंग में जाकर नया प्रार्थनापत्र डेबे और नई स्वीडि टि प्राप्त करने की आवश्यकता न पड़े। बेअर हाउसिंग मुविधा भी आज प्रयाप्त नहीं है। उसकी भी ठीक व्यवस्था आवश्यक है।

टमी प्रकार से आप जो महायता देते हैं विभिन्न माध्यमों से डेवलपमेंट बैंक इत्यादि के जरिए उसमें उन लोगों का एक्स्पार्ट परफॉर्मेंस देख कर तत्काल उनको महायता मिले इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था आप करें। अभी आयात निर्यात के बारे में आपकी स्थायता की जो प्रणाली है या जो रीति है वह ठीक नहीं है। उनमें सुधार की जरूरत है।

जहां तक घरेलू आउटगो-आउटी इंडस्ट्री का मवाल है उन के द्वारा जो चीजे तैयार की जाती हैं जैसे रेडीमेड गार्मेट्स हैं ब्रिजली व उावरण हैं उन की काफी अच्छी मार्केट बाहर है, लेकिन उनको प्रोत्साहन देने की दिशा में हम बहुत पीछे हैं। उन का निर्यात

[ड० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय]

बढ़ाना चाहिए और उस के लिए प्रयास किया जाना चाहिए। और ऐसी कई चीजें छोटे उद्योगों में प्राप्त होने वाली हैं जिन का निर्यात बढ़ाया जा सकता है कुछ वस्तुएं, जैसे मिर्च मसले इत्यादि हैं भी लका के साथ और बर्मा के साथ काफी बड़ी मात्रा में निर्यात होता था। वह अब रुकी घट गया है। उसके निर्गत को बढ़ाया जा सकता है। वह हमारे पड़ोस के देश है उस दिशा में कुछ प्रयत्न तो जरूर किया है और उस के लिए कुछ कदम उठाए हैं। लेकिन वे नगण्य हैं। यदि इस ओर ध्यान दिया जाये तो इन के उत्पादन में हजाग और लोगों का काम मिल सकता है। रोजगार प्राप्ति की दिशा में भी यह सहायक होगा।

हमारे देश के कुछ विशेष भागों में अदर पापी हस्क जो आधिभ्रम निरालने के बाद बार्ड-ग्राइडकेट के रूप में बचता है काफी मात्रा में होता है। उस का एकसपाट जैसे तो लाग करते हैं लेकिन उस के एकसपाट को और बढ़ाया जा सकता है। जैसे लेमन ग्रास का काफी एकसपाट हो रहा है उसी प्रकार से बापी हस्क का भी काफी एकसपाट हो सकता है और उस से काफी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की जा सकती है। आज यह केवल 15-20 रुपये क्विंटल के भाव किसानों से खरीदी जाती है और बाजार में आकर 400 रुपये क्विंटल बिकती है। बाहर जाते समय और ज्यादा मूल्य उसी चीज का हो जाता है। तो अगर उस का कोई माध्यम हो और उस के निर्गत को बढ़ाने की दिशा में कुछ प्रयास किया जाय तो बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में हम उस में विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। इन बातों की ओर मंत्री महोदय ध्यान दें। मैंने उन बारे में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान पत्र द्वारा आकर्षित भी किया है।

अभी हमने कुछ मत्त व्यापार क्षेत्र स्थापित किए हैं। काडना हमारे यहां मत्त व्यापार क्षेत्र है लेकिन उस की स्थिति कई विशेष सतों-जनक नहीं है। जिस प्रकार की वहा सुविधाएं होनी चाहिए और जितनी उस की प्रगति होनी चाहिए वह नहीं हुई है। व्यापारिक क्षेत्र

जिस प्रकार से बढ़ाना चाहिए वह व्यापारिक क्षेत्र बढ़ा नहीं है। दो तीन जगहों के बारे में सुझाव और आए थे। एक हल्दिया के बारे में था कि हल्दिया को भी मुक्त व्यापार क्षेत्र बनाया जाना चाहिए (व्यवधान) जो स्थिति काडला की है उम के अंदर सुधार करने की आवश्यकता है और मंत्री महोदय हल्दिया के बारे में बताएंगे कि उस की क्या स्थिति है? शान्तागुर्जे के अंदर भी इसी प्रकार में एलेक्ट्रिकल गुड्स के लिए मुक्त व्यापार क्षेत्र बनाने की बात कही गई थी, उम का क्या हुआ? हमारे ट्रेड डेवलपमेंट एथॉरिटी ने हल्दिया और साउथ वेस्ट एरिया में मुक्त व्यापार क्षेत्र बनाने की बात कही है। उन के बारे में बतलाने की वृत्ति करेंगे—उन मुक्त व्यापार क्षेत्रों का क्या किया, किस दिशा में आप सोच रहे हैं।

उस के साथ ही मैं चाहूंगा—आप की आयात और निर्यात की जो स्थिति है जो निर्गत है, इस नीति के बारे में समग्र रूप से विचार करें ताकि निर्यात अधिक से अधिक बढ़े और आयात घटे, यह ठीक है कि बहुत सी चीजों का आयात घटा है, लेकिन आप क कुछ ट्रेड एग्जीमेन्ट्स की वजह से विचित्र स्थिति पैदा हो जाती है फिर चाहे वह एग्जीमेन्ट रक्षिया से हो, इराक, इरान या यूगोस्लाविया से हो। आप ने उन ट्रेड एग्जीमेन्ट्स के अन्तर्गत रक्षियन ट्रेक्टर टी०—25 मगाये, लेकिन उन के कम्प्लेन्ट्स के बारे में कोई एग्जीमेन्ट सभबत नहीं किया। आज ये ट्रेक्टरस किसानों के पाम बेकार पड़े हुए हैं—उन के टायर्स उपलब्ध हैं और न पर्जे उपलब्ध हैं। जिस कम्पनी के पाम ये ट्रेक्टरस आये थे हम ने उन से पूछा—बे कहने हैं कि हमारे पास स्पेअर पार्ट्स नहीं हैं। हम ने राज्य सरकार का लिखा ता उन्होंने भी जवाब दे दिया और यहा पूछा तो यहा से भी जवाब मिल गया। आप क एग्जीमेन्ट में ऐसी व्यवस्था जरूर होनी चाहिए थी कि स्पेअरस भी समय पर उपलब्ध हो सके। ट्रेक्टर ही नहीं, आप विभिन्न प्रकार की मशीनों का आयात करते हैं—अगर आप उन के स्पेअर पार्ट्स की व्यवस्था नहीं करेंगे तो वे नहीं चल सकेंगे।



इन सारी बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए आप को ऐसा प्रयत्न करना चाहिये—जिस से सारी चीजों में सन्तुलन बना रहें, हमारे यहां जो असमानता आई हुई है, वह दूर हो सके तथा विदेशी मुद्रा का भी अर्जन हो।

आय की निर्यात की जो प्रधान वस्तुयें हैं, जैसे चाय, काफ़ी, रबर, जूट, आयरन और कपड़ा, काजू—इन की तरफ़ ध्यान देने की विशेष चेष्टा की जाय। अभी मंत्री महोदय ने काजू के बारे में बतलाया, लेकिन अभी भी उस में काफ़ी गुंजाइश है। तम्बाकू के काम में भी काफ़ी गुंजाइश है—इस दिशा में जितना प्रयत्न होना चाहिये था, उतना नहीं हुआ। लेदर गुड्स के एक्सपोर्ट की भी काफ़ी और गुंजाइश है। यदि आप प्रयत्न करेंगे तो स्थिति अच्छी हो सकती है। हमारे यहां जो असंतुलन की स्थिति छाई हुई है—उस की सुधारने का प्रयत्न होना चाहिये। आप की यह रिपोर्ट है—वर्किंग आफ़ इण्डस्ट्रीयल एण्ड कामर्शियल अण्डरटेकिंगज़—इस में हैण्डिकैप्ट्स एण्ड हैण्डलूम कारपोरेशन आफ़ इण्डिया के बारे में कहा गया है

Annual Report on the working of industrial and commercial undertakings of the Central Government, 1971-72 :

The total sales of the corporation during the year 1971-72 excluding sales of Consortium Members amounted to Rs. 4.34 crores as against Rs. 3.84 in the previous year. The operating results of the corporation for the year after non-operating/prior period adjustments resulted in a loss of Rs. 16.8 lakhs during the year as against a profit of Rs. 3.5 lakhs in the previous year.

यह उदाहरण-मात्र है—आप की ये कारपोरेशन घाटे में है। इसी तरह से आप की अन्य कारपोरेशन हैं जिन का संचालन आप के मंत्रालय की मारफ़त होता है, वे भी घाटे में जा रही हैं। एस०टी०सी० और एम०एम०टी०सी० के कार्य को सुधारें। समयाभाव के कारण मैं उन की गहराई में नहीं जा रहा हूँ। लेकिन

आप की अन्वयवहारिक दोषपूर्ण अर्थ नीति, योजना नीति का प्रतिबिम्ब आप की व्यापार नीति पर प्रतिबिम्बित हो रहा है। उस को ठीक करने की चेष्टा करें। बार बार नीति बदलने से, नई नीतियों की घोषणा करने से कुछ नहीं बनेगा, उन में सुधार होने की सम्भावना नहीं है।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, to eliminate the strains in our economy, it is absolutely essential that the export and import policy has to be made quite sound. Through export and import policies are absolutely the concern of the Commerce Ministry, it has to be borne in mind that the infrastructure for a successful import and export policy is also provided by shipping and transport and civil aviation. Therefore it is highly desirable that there is coordination between the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministries of Shipping and Transport, Civil Aviation and Railways. Otherwise, it is quite possible that at the implementation level there will be serious loopholes left, as a result of which the general broad framework of the import and export policy is bound to fail.

At the very outset, let me make a mention of the failure of the Ministry to present the Report of the Tariff Commission in time. As my colleague, Shri Madhu Limaye, has pointed out, a lot of damage has been done not merely to democratic norms but even to the economy of the country. I was happy that the Ministry of Commerce expressed his regret for the failure to present the Report of the Tariff Commission in time. I hope that such follies will not be repeated, because that will affect not only the democratic functioning of our Government but also the economy of our country.

As far as the infra-structure for import and export is concerned. I would like to make a pointed reference to the situation that has recently developed. The news-papers announced only yesterday that Indian exporters are facing a serious diffi-

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culty because the airlines have stopped the booking of export cargo. Already, after the furnace oil crisis the traditional liners have changed their routes and some of the cargoes that were lifted by the traditional liners earlier could not be lifted now because they do not touch the Indian ports. As a result of that, many exporters were relying on air transport. If the airlines now stop the booking of export cargo, that will create further difficulties. Therefore, I would very much like the Ministry of Commerce to establish liaison with the Civil Aviation Department and discuss with them as to how the fresh difficulties that have been created can be solved completely.

I would like to say something in detail about the problem facing the rubber industry. My hon. friend, Shri Raja Kulkarni, has already touched that aspect in a cursory way. I would like to give some facts and figures which have not been given by any other hon. Member in this debate. As far as rubber is concerned, because of the fall in production and increase in consumption of both natural and synthetic rubber, a very dangerous situation is developing. As far as production is concerned, it is very interesting to find how a shift has taken place from 1971-72 to 1973-74. In 1971-72 the production of natural rubber was 1,01,210 metric tonnes, which came upto 1,23,000 metric tonnes, in 1973-74. As far as synthetic rubber is concerned, the pattern is dangerously alarming. While in 1971-72 the production was 3,02,911 metric tonnes, in 1973-74 it has come down to 20,000 metric tonnes. So, the total production in 1971-72 was 4,34,121 metric tonnes and in 1973-74 it was 1,43,000 metric tonnes. What is still more alarming is the consumption pattern. In 1971-72 the consumption was 96,454 tonnes on natural rubber and 3,37,200 tonnes of synthetic rubber, making a total of 4,33,654 tonnes. In 1973-74 the consumption of natural rubber is 1,22,000 and synthetic rubber 26,000 tonnes making a total of

1,48,000 tonnes, while the total production is 1,43,000 tonnes.

This is the relationship between the total production and the total consumption. In view of this, you will find that the rubber industry is not able to meet with the problems. There is the problem of unemployment. The Central Trade Union organisation is more concerned with that. This situation has posed the problem both for the rubber industry and for the Central Trade Union organisation. The problem of unemployment will become alarmingly more serious. So, it is very necessary that the entire export policy *vis-a-vis* rubber industry has to be completely altered. There have been heavy exports and, as a result of that, adequate rubber is not available for the rubber industry.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil) : Does he know the total stocks available with rubber manufacturers ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : These are the figures which the Ministry of Commerce can say are correct or not.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : With all respect to the hon. Member, I would like to know from him what is the total consumption of small units.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If the Minister says that the figures that I have given are not correct, I will be very happy.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : All his figures are correct except the back-log figures of the previous years. From the previous year, there is a back-log of 47,000 tonnes.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Both from the point of view of the safety and security of the workers, of their jobs, and also from the point of view of the industry, it is necessary that a clear statement of policy must be made by the Minister of Commerce.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : While the hon. Member was not here, I made a categorical statement that it is our policy to see that the industry is supplied with natural rubber, that the indi-

genous demand is met, and export whatever is surplus.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** If this is a categorical statement that after meeting the requirements of the industry and after ensuring that the workers will not be thrown out because of inadequacy of raw materials, only surplus will be exported, I am thoroughly satisfied with the proposition.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** At the same time, the interests of the growers should be protected. Even last year, they were getting Rs. 318 whereas the Tariff Commission fixed Rs. 520.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE :** If the hon. Member, Prof. Madhu Dandavate, can kindly pass on to me the name of one single industry consuming natural rubber and is suffering for lack of raw material, I will be interested to see that they are supplied the raw material.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** That is the view-point which the Central Trade Union organisation has been putting forward. If he can establish that my case is wrong, I will be extremely happy because that protect the interests of the workers.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** You are participating in a debate, not in a dialogue.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** I did not initiate the dialogue. Being a democrat, I responded to the dialogue.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** This remark applies to all sections of the House.

**SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul) :** It appeared that Prof. Madhu Dandavate was intervening and Mr. George was participating.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Now, I would like to make some reference to the policy regarding distribution of yarn. Unfortunately, the Government could not make up its mind regarding the price as well as distribution policy of yarn. Whenever a situation was created in which there were

pressing demands from the handloom workers, then only they succumbed to pressures and, by that time, sufficient damage had been done. Even after the new policy that has been formulated, there is a difficulty in a large number of handloom centres and powerloom centres. When the yarn is demanded by the powerloom centres, very often it is found that whenever yarn of certain types of counts is required, the quantity of yarn made available to them is not exactly of the type of counts desired by them. As a result of that, when they say that this is not the quantity required by them because that is of a different count, a part of it is actually sold in the black market. That is what is happening.

In the past, there have been experiences that even to those mills which were run by the Government, actually the yarn was made available on payment of palm money. These malpractices have created tremendous difficulties, and I hope that Government will take note of that.

I would like to say something—I would not like to repeat what Mr. Raja Kulkarni has said—in relation to non-clearance of the consignment of 5,000 bales of woollen rags in Bombay port. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that, unless they are able to coordinate their policies, unless the Customs authorities and the Ministry of Commerce are able to have a coordinated approach, more and more difficulties will come in. A theoretical policy has been laid down that, unless hundred per cent mutilation is effected, these rags cannot be brought into the country from the countries of the West and countries like Australia. All those countries from where these rags are coming, due to various factors, due to the price factor, due to the cost factor and due to labour not being available in those respective countries, even in countries like USA, Australia and Western Europe, this particular task of hundred per cent mutilation is not undertaken by them. Now the question is how is the problem to be solved; they are

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not prepared to undertake the responsibility of hundred per cent mutilation and here again the 5,000 bales of woollen rags are lying in the port. The only way-out is that the STC should be prepared to undertake this responsibility and under the supervision of the Customs authorities, the process of mutilation should be conducted, what are serviceable and what are unserviceable. On that we have one approach and the Western Countries have altogether a different approach. Ours is a country which lives below the poverty line. And what are rags for them are not rags for us here. But leaving aside that particular controversy, when hundred per cent mutilation process has been introduced, on practical considerations it is necessary that the STC, which is an important agency, the canalising agency in this particular case, must show the willingness to undertake this responsibility of hundred per cent mutilation, and that can be conducted under the supervision of the Customs authorities.

One point to which my friend, Shri Raja Kulkarni, has not referred is the quantum of demurrage that is being involved in this particular case. My information is that demurrage to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh is involved every day because of non-clearance of 5,000 bales in Bombay Port, and at a time when there is a crisis of foreign exchange allowing Rs. 1 lakh as demurrage, to be wasted away like that, will mean a serious burden on the foreign exchange position. Therefore, I hope that due note will be taken as far as this problem is concerned.

I would like to say something regarding hand-processing. With the best of intentions, certain relief has been given for the hand-processing industry. But in places like Bombay, it has been the demand not only of the industry but also of the accredited representatives of the labour working in the processing industry that this relief that has been offered by the Government with the best of intentions is being misused by certain entrepreneurs who manipulate

things in such a manner that, for all practical purposes, it appears as if a particular process is a hand-process; it is just a manipulation and, as a result of that, you find that this relief that has been offered by the Government is taken advantage of by certain private entrepreneurs only for their own manipulations; as a result of that you find that the processing industry in Bombay is suffering a lot and there is a threat of workers being thrown out of the industry. We have already made a representation to the Finance Minister. This is one aspect with which the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce are concerned, and I hope...

**SHRI DHAMANKAR :** The threat is to the big financiers who are operating power-processing.

**PROF MADHU DANDAVATE :** On the contrary, it has been the grievance of the trade union in the processing industry that certain industrialists who are not really operating what should really constitute hand-processing are manipulating and are taking advantage of this. A camouflage hand processing has been conducted and that is creating a threat to the workers who are working in the other processing industries. I hope that this problem will also be gone into.

There is one problem to which I would like to make a pointed reference. The Minister of Commerce had already given certain assurances to the workers concerned. Rightly, our Government has taken a decision to take over the publication of scientific books and scientific journals. On that occasion, it was pointed out by the trade-unionists that we have nothing against the general policy of take-over as far as the scientific journals and scientific books is concerned. But they wanted an assurance that the book depots and the book houses will not be permitted to throw out the workers taking advantage of this particular policy. It was pointed out to the Minister that the India Book House, Bombay, taking

advantage of this new step, are trying to throw out their workers. We were assured by the Minister concerned that this type of a threat to the workers will not arise. I want to bring to his notice that a situation has already arisen and there is a threat of unemployment as far as the India Book House is concerned. Therefore, I take it for granted that the Minister will stand by the assurance that was given by him.

Lastly, within the few minutes available, I would like to make a reference to one important aspect, that is, take over of some of the sick units. Unfortunately, this provision for take-over of sick units and improving their health is being utilised by certain capitalists to the detriment of the workers and to their advantage. When they find that their machinery is outdated, then when they find that their profitability has gone down, they declare their units as sick units. The Government assure them that their units will be supervised and when they confirm that they are sick units, they are taken over. After giving the patient proper treatment, the profitability of these units improves and the entire machinery is streamlined. Rationalisation of the old machinery takes place and when the profitability is increased, then the sick units are transferred back. Now, we have a provision of law that even when such units have been taken over, they need not be returned to back to the private entrepreneurs. I would like to ask for a categorical assurance from the Minister of Commerce that wherever there is a takeover of such units and when their profitability has increased, they will not be returned to those very people who were responsible for their going into the red...

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE  
(PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA-  
YA) : It is not.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I hope these industries will be worked in the interests of better industrial relations and also in the interests of the industrial workers.

These are the concrete suggestions I have made and I hope the Minister will give satisfactory answers to some of the points I have raised.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA-  
YA : I must thank the hon. Members who have taken part in the debate, criticising us and suggesting new things. We take all their ideas and suggestions in the spirit they were made.

Already some points have been covered by my colleague. So, to save the time of the House, I would not repeat all those points. I will go on to those other points which have not been touched on by him.

My colleague has already referred to the projected export performance of this year. I would just like to also indicate what is going to be our target next year. We have three sets of projections for the year 1974-75 and we are now discussing in the year 1974-75. Our conservative estimate is that it will be Rs. 2,360 crores, and the realistic estimate is Rs. 2,574 crores. But we do believe that we shall possibly try to achieve the target of Rs. 2,771 crores. It will be the endeavour of this Ministry and the organisation under its control to achieve the target.

You will appreciate that this target cannot be achieved if we cannot follow the correct policy backed by right type of institutional arrangements and procedural efficiency and simplification. Now, so far as our policy aspects are concerned, I would like to submit certain highlights of our policy. First is production augmentation. In jute, textile, plantations we are thinking of substantial expansion and modernisation, in a planned way, not in an *ad hoc* way. And also our import policy is also aimed to meet the requirements of increased production. The second parameter is to see that the right type of price is realised for our exported commodities and services, right type in the context of the inflationary trend all over the world. So our endeavour would be to see the realisation of higher unit value for our commodities and to achieve these ends

[Prof D P Chattopadhyaya]

we have entered into dialogue with the countries with some of which we enjoy a sort of oligopolistic position in the supply of some commodities like jute and also tea. My colleague had already been to Ceylon and I had also occasion to discuss this matter with my Ceylonese counterpart and we will be also in touch with Kenya and Indonesia so that our unit value realisation from tea is proportionate to and consistent with the high inflationary trend and higher prices prevailing in the world market. These exercises may be extended and we are thinking of extending it in respect of some other commodities also, iron ore for example, and also rubber which we can think of. So, this is the second aspect of our policy.

The other thing is this. It is the perpetuation of new markets, and also preservation of our old markets. With this end in view, Sir, as you know, we have already held certain regional meetings of our commercial representatives in different parts of the World in East Europe, in South East Asia, in Gulf Areas etc. We believe in all these areas we have tremendous export potentiality and we are trying our best to formulate our policy, identify the commodities and consider our promotional measures, so that we can take advantage of the position.

Fourthly we are also thinking in terms of project exports and product diversification. There are a number of turnkey projects in Gulf countries and elsewhere which we are organising. We are also thinking of participation in construction of railway projects in Suez Canal area and also in Iraq and we are increasing our volume of non-traditional exports like electronic engineering goods, etc etc.

So now this policy can be implemented if we have some institutional structure appropriate to these aims and also our procedures should be suitably modified and simplified.

You know, Sir, that already, a few days back, we had announced our new import and export policies which are aimed at considerable simplification

of our rules and regulations enabling the exporters to obtain a licence quickly, and in some cases, exporting without obtaining a new licence. It was just repeating the existing one. So all these cater to the same aim, namely the expeditious increase of our exports.

17 HRS.

So far as the institutional aspect of our policy realisation drive is concerned we would like to submit that right from our ministry itself to the organisations and corporations under the administrative control of the ministry things are being overhauled and re-structured. You are aware that the ministry itself has been very recently and totally re-structured. The Commerce Ministry is a blanket term under which there are three distinct departments—Department of Foreign Trade, Department of Export Production and Department of Internal Trade. The idea underlying these three distinct departments is to see that a proper focus and attention is given to export production. The whole aim of export production cannot be realised unless the export production is properly geared up. The question of gearing up of export production is particularly pertinent in the context of so many prevailing constraints internal and external. So, we have taken all possible care and caution to see that export production measures within the ministry are fully coordinated. Also as rightly pointed out by some of the hon. Members, we have taken care to see that there is proper coordination in between the different ministries.

You know that in between different ministries proper coordination is achieved through two or three committees mainly—Economic Policy Committee, Cabinet Committee on Industry and Commerce and also a Cabinet Committee on Economic Cooperation. These committees see that there is considerable coordination in production, trade and commerce so that the functions of different economic ministries conform to the same end. A similar exercise had been undertaken also in the official level by forming one high-powered Committee under the Cabinet

Secretary and another highpowered Committee under the Secretary of Heavy Industry. These had been set up with a clear objective that the production drives and the production plans undertaken in different ministries are coordinated so that the export earning is maximised.

The other institutional things which I would like to indicate are in regard to what we are doing about the S.T.C. M.M.T.C., Jute Corporations and other things which have been referred to by several hon. Members. But, I would like to mention another aspect about which I forgot to mention. In this context, one of our policies, besides the four narrated by me, is also to see how we can reduce the consumption of certain commodities and services in the home market which have tremendous export potentialities. You will kindly appreciate that talk of foreign exchange increase by exports makes no sense unless we are ready to deny ourselves certain commodities and certain services which are available to us but which have a tremendous foreign market.

So, one of our objectives is also to see that we reduce the consumption of those commodities and services which have significant export potentialities in this case basmati rice, sugar, marine products, etc.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Would you put ground nuts in the same category ?

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA :** I have to think twice before I say 'eyes'.

We expect maximum export earning and we all know the constraints of production and then if we insist on not reducing our consumption in any respect on any commodity or service we are landing ourselves in a blatant contradiction.

With these policy aims in view I would also like to submit certain procedural things we are following. Apart from the simplification of import and

export policy we are reducing, if possible eliminating, cash assistance and subsidy because in an inflationary situation cash assistance and subsidy should be minimised, if possible eliminated. That will attract certain criticism. But in a difficult situation we are not free to choose from many options. We have to choose one of the very limited options open to us either to suffer high inflationary market or subsidise it making it more inflationary and making it more difficult for the producer to hold the cost of production line thus making our products and goods very uncompetitive in the international market. Even with all these constraints care has been taken that small-scale industries and value added products are not hit or, if hit the effect of it is minimised.

Now, I would like to comment on the idea mooted by some of the hon. Members about nationalisation of import and export trade. This idea in principle is unexceptionable but in practice unacceptable. Already, through our Corporations like STC and MMTC we import majority of the items. A substantial part of our export is controlled and regulated by our Corporations. We have also canalised ten more items this year. So, we are progressively and realistically extending the area of operations of the public sector undertakings, but we should not take on the platter more than what we can bite. We are strengthening our public sector Corporations so that they may undertake more responsibility. It is no use taking an obligation for discharging which we have not enough institutional machinery. So, giving those things to STC, MMTC and JCI—about which many comments, not necessarily, complimentary, have been made on the floor of the House—will not be wise and realistic. It may be cavalier to jump into an area which angels do not like to tread because of very understandable reasons. So, our main emphasis is on strengthening the public sector undertakings ...

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** To which angel is he referring ?

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA** : Many angels in and around the House.

**SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN** : It is dangerous to shirk the responsibility on that ground and shut the stable-door after the horse escapes.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA** : We are not shirking, but we are preparing ourselves.

We are strengthening the STC, and under the STC we are setting up further subsidiaries looking to fixed areas of operations, looking after particular commodities. A leather export development corporation is being set up. It has also been decided to set up a chemicals and pharmaceutical corporation. In the light of the growing demand for agricultural products in the oil-producing countries, serious consideration is being given to setting up an a reproducts export corporation.

**SHRI RAJA KULKARNI** : It will be separate from the STC ?

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA** : They will be under the umbrella of the STC, having their own identity and functional autonomy. The articles of association of the STC and its subsidiaries have been reviewed and updated. The relationship between the parent bodies and subsidiaries is being redefined. For greater and more harmonious co-ordination between the STC and its subsidiaries, the board of directors has been increased from four permanent directors to seven permanent directors. Greater autonomy of powers has been delegated to branch offices. All these are to strengthen the STC, which is one of the pillars of our public sector undertakings and one of the very important arms of this Ministry.

The MMTC is also being strengthened. We have set up a Mica Board to look exclusively after the problems of mica. As you might be aware, the labourers of the mica industry are the poorest paid in the whole of this country. So, it deserves a very sympathetic look. We are looking into the matter.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI** : The same is true in the coir industry also.

**SHRI CHAPLENDU BHATTACHARYYA** : Let him kindly increase the floor price by 100 per cent. The price of mica today is of the order of the cost of salt in a dinner.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA** : Shri Chaplendu Bhattacharyya is an expert, and I shall discuss this with him outside the House.

The MMTC's performance is also very impressive. The turnover 1972-73 was Rs. 343 crores, and it went up to Rs. 449 crores in 1973-74, and the projected figure for 1974-75 is Rs. 782 crores. It shows that the MMTC is working well. But we are not complacent about their working level of efficiency, and we shall try to improve it further.

Certain points have been made out about the calculations and about whether the statistical figures are authentic or not. It is a very complicated issue, too complicated to be answered exhaustively and satisfactorily by a non-statistician. But I would only submit that even the expert statisticians working under the Reserve Bank of India and also the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics etc. do not agree and see eye to eye. Even in the statistics of identical commodities and subjects, the IMF's figures and the world Bank's figures are not identical in some cases.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE** : Has he got statistics as to what percentage of the statistics is correct ?

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYA** : It depends upon some lack of information, some time-lag etc. These are the factors. Time-lag and the lack of information and inadequate collection or processing of information and also what we may call error in extrapolations from the statistical data, non-representative character of the samples etc. are some of the reason. There are many such reasons why the statistics of the different organisations sometimes do not tally. But the gap or differen-



ce is not so big as to create consternation or misunderstanding amongst us.

**SHRI RAJA KULKARNI :** He is Making out a case for computers ?

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA :** I am not making a case out for computers. I am only saying that all human beings, except computers, are fallible.

Besides touching on STC and MMTC, I would also like to refer to our decision to strengthen further the Export Guarantee Corporation. We have done that. You will be glad to know that we are also making an earnest endeavour to set up an Export Bank. While we agree that the existing nationalised banks are doing good service for promotion of export, one might say it is not good enough, having the exclusive import-export interests in view. So we are persuaded of the expediency of setting up an Export Bank and necessary steps have been taken to set up committee to go into this, and we hope a decision will be taken in the near future.

We have also set up an export processing zone in Santa Cruz. It has already started working. Another zone is contemplated up at Dum Dum; it will be finalised in the none too distant future. While we are working on Santa Cruz and Dum Dum zones, we are taking the lessons learnt from our experience, not necessarily a sweet one, from the Kandla zone.

I would like to say a few things about the Jute Corporation of India because many hon. members had referred to it and many critical points were raised.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** Absolutely hopeless.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA :** I am not quite happy with the functioning of the Jute Corporation of India, but I do not like to use the words used by my hon. friend, 'absolutely hopeless'. I am an optimist and am hopeful.

**SHRI MADHURYA HALDAR (Mathurapur) :** What is the present position ?

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** Would you kindly compare the performance of your Jute Corporation ? What was the projection of procurement ? Ten-twelve lakh bales. Instead, they procured ten-eleven lakh quintals, hardly six or seven lakh bales.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Moderately hopeless. That much is certain.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA :** Reasonably hopeful.

We know that the Jute Corporation is not a very old and experienced organisation. But as I said in the case of our processing zone at Santa Cruz or Dum Dum that we are taking the lessons of Kandla, similarly in the case of planning this year or the next, the Jute Corporation is taking the lessons of the Cotton Corporation also and also from what the Jute Corporation itself could do, or rather could not do, last year.

I am not one who shares the facile optimism that merely by monopolising procurement of a commodity, we ensure a fair price to the grower. This experiment was undertaken in Maharashtra in respect of cotton. It did not pay. They suspend it. Then for some reason or the other, they are again reverting to the old policy. All that I would like to say is that without controlling the market forces in terms a competent and well-financed public corporation, it is not possible, merely by announcing a brave policy, to ensure a fair price to the cotton or jute growers.

The parallelism between the problem of the rubber growers in Kerala and jute growers of eastern India is very interesting. If we do export jute, there will be clamour from the industry, and this for understandable good reasons, the imperative of industrial costs, cost of industrial production : 'do not export the thing; keep it for consumption as raw material for production units

[Prof D P Chattopadhyaya] within the country But those who say that, or for that matter we ourselves, given this existing market force, cannot ensure the growers a fair price To ensure that, we need some institutional mechanism and not merely the goodwill either of the hon friends or even of myself What in practice matters is the institutional strength, credit facility and infrastructural facility like transport and other things.

So, if we do not export some amount of this, then the market absolutely becomes a buyer's market and sellers are almost fleeced In that case, we are not left with a very big option It is under these constraints that we had reluctantly to decide at one stage in regard to Kerala to export 5 000 tonnes of rubber and in regard to West Bengal some three lakh bales of jute But again, that did not materialise and the intended benefit did not reach the grower The point is I have no hesitation to convey what is basically a patent fact—it is a matter on record and there is no question of dispute or disagreement—that the growers of jute and the rubber growers till recently have not got a fair price All that I very humbly submit is that we are trying—

**PROF MADHU DANDAVATE**  
Was the 23 000 tonnes surplus ?

**PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA** 20 000 tonnes yes But how you calculate is again a question of dispute and debate, and while speaking he excels in debate and I cannot join my friend Prof Madhu Dandavate just on the floor of the House on that score

**AN HON MEMBER** Both are good

**PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA** But he is much more senior and wiser than I am The other-way—to really help and benefit the growers is to increase the number of Government purchasing centres It was 30 last year, that is why this year we have decided to increase the number to 100 100 purchasing centres will be there, and I am not quite sure

whether these 100 centres will be enough. On the contrary, I am more or less sure that we need at least 250, but because of the credit squeeze and other difficulties it will not be possible to set up 250 centres in this year. But that will be necessary, I am persuaded.

The other thing is also equally important, and I would request my hon friends and the hon Members from different States particularly from the Jute-growing States, to persuade their respective Governments and also their colleagues and if possible they themselves, to see how better and more functionally an efficient co-operative network can be built up So, it will be not quite wise to depend exclusively on the Government purchasing centres It has to be supplemented and supplemented efficiently by the co-operative societies and some of the Eastern Indian States as you know yourself coming from that area, do not have any network at all So it is no use criticising the Government or the Corporation for failure Every man and every hon Member has the right to criticise because the Corporation could not do what was expected, but, at the same time everybody, every State Government has a responsibility to do its mite Therefore they should come up also with more co-operatives And, if possible why not they come up with their own independent Corporations ? The States Governments are very welcome The Eastern Indian States are very welcome to set up their own Corporations at the State level as the Gujarat Government or the Maharashtra Government had in respect of cotton That will be quite complementary to the Central Government's Jute Corporation of India We welcome it I have said it before and I say it again, and will welcome it

17 25 HRS

Sir, I would like to submit once again

श्री बिभूति मिश्र (मोतीहारी) जब जूट का सीजन होता है तो वह बहुत मस्ते में बिदा जाता है। बिहार, बंगाल, असम और उड़ीसा

वही मुख्य तौर पर यह पैदा होता है। क्या आप यहाँ की सरकारों को कोई डायरेक्शन नहीं दे सकते हैं? जूट किसान को सस्ते में बिक जाय तो क्या आपका कुछ भी कर्तव्य नहीं है इसके बारे में?

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADH-YAYA :** Sir, I would like to submit to you, and through you, to Mr. Mishra, that this is what precisely I was answering. We are trying our level best. We have our difficulties. We do not get credit, enough and timely credit, from the credit-lending institutions. Secondly, we do not have enough transport facilities and wagon allotments from North Bihar, North Bengal and Assam to the Calcutta market. We do not have—except some 30 centres—enough purchasing centres. I am entirely in agreement with Mr. Mishra that since we do not have enough purchasing centres, the middleman is making money and he is squeezing the jute growers. This is absolutely correct. The correct answer is to come up with more cooperatives. We are trying to do that. We are ready to finance the cooperatives. Almost cent per cent finance, we are ready to give to the cooperatives. We have repeatedly written to the State Governments. I have also asked the Ministers concerned, in the different States, to set up cooperatives. We are also doing that. At our own level, we are increasing the purchasing centres from 30 to 100. We propose to increase this further in the next year. As I said, it is a time-consuming process. I am very much sympathetic to the jute growers' cause and I am as much concerned, as the hon. Member himself is. But, these are the constraints—which are not of my choice—under which the Government and the Jute Corporation are working. We will do whatever is possible. We are re-structuring the Jute Corporation. We have removed some of the members of the Board of Directors and we have inducted some new persons. If necessary, we will further revamp the organisation. At our level, we are doing our best but this is not sufficient from the point of view

of the growers. I am quite aware of this. But, we are doing our best.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** Quite appreciating the call of the hon. Minister, I would like to know, will it be possible on his part to give directions to the Jute Corporation to seek the co-operation of Members of Parliament, State Legislatures and other representatives in local areas, to form a sort of a Revisional Board for better functioning of the Jute Corporation of India, if the officials are not cooperating and they are having certain underhand dealings with black-marketeers and other traders?

**POF. D. P. CHATTOPADH-YAYA :** I remember to have declared in the presence of the Chairman of this Corporation in one of the growers' meeting that every MLA—I did not add MP—is welcome to form a cooperative on his own initiative in his area and that we will take the responsibility to see that it is financed. This is what I publicly said. I said it there, where many MLAs were present. I am now saying that any MLA or MP is welcome if he comes up on his own initiative to form a cooperative and it will be my best endeavour to see that he gets the finance. This will help the growers and we will very much appreciate their association in strengthening our purchasing ability and thereby helping the growers at the grass-roots.

Mention has been made about our trade relations with the socialist countries. Our overall exports to these countries, after a decline by 4.6 per cent in 1971, have since registered a sharp increase over the last two years. Our exports were Rs. 618 crores in 1972 and for the period January-June 1973, it stood at Rs. 362 crores. There has been growing diversification of trade and commodities like railway wagons, textile machinery, knitting machinery, ready-made garments, drugs pharmaceuticals, knitting machines, electronic goods etc. have found increased importance in our exports to these countries. I can give the figures. In 1973, during the period January-June, our trade with Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia has gone

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up significantly. In the case of Bulgaria, it has been Rs. 28 crores more than last year, and Rs. 59 crores more in the case of Czechoslovakia. In the case of U.S.S.R., during the period January-June 1973, it is Rs. 8,51,000 more than the corresponding figure of last year. So, our export and import trade turnover with the socialist countries is more than the average increase in trade turnover with all the countries taken together.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :**

Last year, notwithstanding the drought conditions, we had entered into an agreement with USSR that we will export groundnuts. USSR took a more sympathetic attitude when the Port and Dock Workers refused to put those bags on the ship and had written to the General Secretary of the Port and Dock Workers Federation that knowing our difficulties, we need not send them now, but next time when we send, USSR will be prepared to send back the necessary quantity of edible oils. Does that offer still stand

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADH-YAYA :** I am not aware if they have retreated from that position.

I come to the expansion of the textile industry in the fifth plan. The task force on textile industries presided over by the Secretary of our Ministry has recently concluded its deliberations. Keeping in view the expanding domestic and international demand for our cotton textiles, the task force has proposed an increase in the yarn and cloth output target from 970 million kg and 8,020 million metres in 1972 to 1300 million kg and 10,400 million metres respectively by 1978-79. In order to achieve the above increase in yarn and cloth output, the task force has assessed the requirement of spindles and looms 1978-79 as follows : Spmdls 24 million approximately and looms 2.93 lakhs. Compared to the installed capacity in 1972, there would be an increase of 5.7 million spindles and 85,500 looms by the end of the fifth plan. During the last two years of the fourth plan, authorisation has been issued for the

installation of about 2.75 millions spindles and 15,000 looms. Authorisation for the remaining capacity, viz., about 3 million spindles and 70,500 looms will be issued in the fifth plan period. The expansion in spinning and weaving capacity in the organised sector will be principally directed at achieving a more rational distribution of spindles so as to meet the requirements of handloom and powerloom weavers more effectively, improving the economics of scale of existing spinning mills, augmenting output of coarse and medium varieties of cloth and increasing output of special types of fabrics having a good export market

The cost of machinery required for expansion of the cotton textile industry is estimated at Rs. 850 crores at current prices. This includes about Rs. 100 crores for expansion of processing capacity.

One more word about some critical remarks made by some hon members regarding the increase in price of controlled cloth

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** We welcome expansion. But what about the machinery ? You are exporting the machinery, making the indigenous producers suffer

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADH-YAYA :** We have to look into the matter as a whole. There are some machineries which we can spare. The machinery we import, we do not have in the country. Machinery is an omnibus term. The question is, what types of machinery we can spare for export and what types of machinery we cannot produce and therefore we have to import. If my hon. friend looks into the matter closely in detail he will be persuaded by my argument. (*Interruptions*). It is with some hesitation and reluctance that we had to agree to the increase of the price of the controlled cloth, but there are certain things which have to be borne in mind. One is that the area of the controlled variety has been increased. Secondly, the quantity of production has been in-

creased cent per cent. Thirdly, the penalty for not producing controlled type has been increased more than cent per cent, that is, in place of rupee one penalty, now we have decided on rupees two and paise fifty penalty. Fourthly, the cost of production of the N.T.C. mills has to be borne in mind. Fifthly, in the last six years we have not allowed any increase in the price of controlled cloth. By the assessment of the ICMF the cost of production has gone up 100 per cent. According to our own estimate the cost of production has gone up 87 per cent. If we add the new woollen arrivals to these existing varieties, then the increase in the percentage of cost of production will be far higher. The result will be that 103 mills under NTC will be in difficulty. More mills will fall sick. It is a very attractive proposition not to allow the industries to increase the price, but the result will be that more units will be sick and public exchequer has to finance them. Now, the question is : forcing the NTC to take over sick-mills and bear the nursing cost of the sick-mills will be wise, or to allow a reasonable rise. When the cost of production has risen nearly 100 per cent we have allowed only 30 per cent. Even now the gap, even if we take into account the margin between the actual price and the cost of production, is 60 per cent. Since it is a Welfare State, therefore sometimes we are looking not only to the price structure but also to the requirements of the people.

An hon. Member made a very valid point which seems to me most important. I will be glad even if at this price I can distribute it well. That is the crux of the whole problem. If distribution machinery can be—Central Government alone cannot set up, State Government has an important responsibility to discharge—if they set-up adequate number of retail outlets, then and then alone the cent per cent increased production of the controlled cloth at the price explained by me could be made available. Otherwise, there will be mal-practices.

I would like only to say a word about shoddy. It is known as a rag scandal and we call it rag problem. Some of my friends who are very much in favour of releasing the things, when the debate comes up, they put forth the whole problem in a very derogatory way, as a rag scandal. To see that the scandals do not recur again, we take proper caution. It does delay the thing. It is true the thing has to be sorted out between our Ministry and the Customs. I must also submit that about shoddy there are two points of view. One is the Ludhiana point of view and the other is the Maharashtra point of view. I do not like to dig that area. But I would like to say that there are two points of view and there are both merits and demerits. On behalf of my Ministry and the Ministry of Finance, I say, not only two Ministries differ but also the points of view of Ludhiana and Maharashtra differ. However, I assure you that we will sort this out between ourselves and a speedy decision will be taken.

As regards freight equalisation, I have said it and I say it again that an interim report has been submitted. It is purely an interim report. No final report has been made available to the Ministry. So, we have referred it now to the Planning Commission to look into it in depth and, I hope, they will look into the problem. There is a very substantial argument in favour of the point. But there are other considerations also which are to be taken into account before a final decision is taken.

Sir, I am quite aware that I have not been able to touch all the points and issues raised by various hon. Members.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :  
Excise duty on tea.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : About that, the planters had gone to the court and it was *sub judice* for the last few years. Therefore, we could not take a decision on excise duty. Now, the planters have lost their case in the court and they have come to ask us to see that they are not asked to pay their dues all at once. We are

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tically considering the case. Also, the question of the rationalisation of zone-wise excise duty is being actively taken up. We are in favour of rationalising excise duty zone-wise. We will do it. We could not do it not because of us but because these gentlemen who went to the court. They have now lost their case in the court and we will think about it.

**SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN** .  
On a point of order, Sir

My point is that when the hon Deputy Minister was replying, we put certain questions about which a promise was made that he will answer those points. The first point is about the nationalisation of foreign-owned plantations. What happened to the Ordinance for nationalisation of foreign owned plantations sent by the Kerala Government? What about monopoly houses entering in the field of marine trade? These are some of the points which should be replied to by the hon Minister.

**PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA** The question of nationalisation cannot be taken in a piecemeal way. foreign-owned and non foreign owned. We cannot discriminate in that way. It has its own legal difficulties. We are looking into it mainly with reference to the problems of sick and closed tea gardens. We are thinking of taking over the sick and closed tea gardens to start with. We are setting up the necessary organisation. The question of nationalisation of foreign owned or Indian-owned plantations is not under the active consideration of the Government.

**SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN** He has not replied all the points. Let him say that he will not answer all these points. We are sitting in the Opposition and we are asking some questions. He is not answering these questions.

**MR CHAIRMAN** I think the Minister gave a very elaborate reply.

**SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN** If they want to go back, let them go back.

Let them tell the world that they are going back.

**SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN** . He has not said anything about the handloom weavers.

**MR CHAIRMAN** . It is not possible for the Minister to dwell on all the points. It has never been done. He has taken note of all the points. I would request the hon Minister to convey his reply, if possible, to the Members concerned. That is normally done.

**श्री सुहृन्मह जमीनसुधार :** चयन साहब, मैं बहुत ध्यान से वजीर साहब की तकरीर को सुन रहा था। मैं आपकी इजाजत से जानना चाहता हूँ कि किशनगंज में जूट मिल का जो प्रयोजन बहुत दिन से रूखा आ रहा है, जो अभी तक पूरा नहीं हो पाया है और जिसके बन जाने से नार्थ बंगाल और आसाम का बहुत फायदा पहुँच सकता है उसको सरकार कब तक पूरा करने जा रही है और इस सिलसिले में अब तक क्या-क्या कदम उठाये जा चुके हैं ?

**PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA** We have recently decided this. The members will be glad to know that two jute mills have been given to Assam, one to Meghalaya, one to Tripura, one to Orissa and one to Bihar—another for Bihar is in the pipeline.

**MR CHAIRMAN** There are a number of Cut Motions moved by Shri Ramavatar Shastri. I shall now put them all together to the vote of the House.

*All the Cut Motions were put and negatived*

**MR CHAIRMAN** The question is—That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the

second column thereof against Demands Nos. 11 and 12 relating to the Ministry of Commerce."

*The Motion was adopted.*

[*The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.*]

DEMAND No 11—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE .

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 89,99,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce'."

DEMAND No. 12—FOREIGN TRADE AND EXPORT PROMOTION :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 140,18,81,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 162,52,91,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1975 in respect of 'Foreign Trade and Export Promotion'."

17.47 HRS.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 24 to 26 relating to the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare and Demands Nos. 96 and 97 relating to Department of Culture, for which six hours have been allotted.

DEMAND No. 24—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION :

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 98,66,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of 'Department of Education'."

DEMAND No. 25—EDUCATION :

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved .

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 89,47,59,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 54,93,900 on Capital Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975 in respect of 'Education'."

DEMAND No. 26—DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE :

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,33,97,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975 in respect of 'Department of Social Welfare'."

DEMAND No. 96—DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE :

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,62,82,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of 'Department of Culture'."

DEMAND No. 97—ARCHAEOLOGY :

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,31,30,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of 'Archaeology'."

Those Members who are present and desire to move their cut motions, may please do so.

SHRI SHIBBAN LAL SAKSENA (Maharaj Ganj) : I beg to move :

"That the demand under the head Department of Education be reduced by Rs. 100."