

[Failure to step up India's export trade. (82)]

That the demand under the head Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply be reduced by Rs. 100.

[Injustice done to Indian textile industry by increasing export duty on cloth exported to U.K. (83)]

That the demand under the head Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply be reduced by Rs. 100.

[Failure to take steps to have better trade relation with Israel. (84)]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The cut motion are also before the House.

13.15. hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till a Quarter Past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Eighteen Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD in the Chair.]

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—Contd.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY—Contd.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI (Nagaur) : I would like at the very outset to extend a word of cautious optimism upon the modestly creditable performance of exports during 1968-69, when the exports during the first ten months of the year under reference increased to Rs. 1,135 crores and imports declined to Rs. 1,519 crores, thereby reducing for the first time the adverse balance of trade to Rs. 358 crores against double this average for the previous year. I would, however, like to caution the hon. Minister against indulging in the same kind of 'green revolution' that we have much too soon started talking about in this country. This is only an inkling of the enormous potential of exports we have

in our country. Therefore, any complacency at this stage is not called for. I would like to stress the need for a continuing helpful climate and environment in this country and a purposeful import-export policy whereby the frontiers we have advanced are not only consolidated but extended a little further. I would also like to put a lot of responsibility on this important Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply on which our adverse balance of trade depends and would like to caution the present Minister that he should avoid the pitfalls and acts of commission and omission which his predecessor chose to indulge in.

I would, Sir, at this stage like to start with the textile industry which, of course, is the most important segment of the industries that is under his administration. As everyone knows, there are over 640 cotton textile mills in this country which have been in existence for the last 120 years or so.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Bombay South) : Not all of them.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI : Yes, not all of them. But today they are there with over 17.4 million spindles and over 200,000 looms and with a total employment complement of about 7.75 lakhs of workers. The tragedy of the situation is that the cotton textile crisis has deepened to such an extent that by its sheer size, volume and complexity the successful solution of it continues to baffle both the industry on the one side and the Government on the other side. By a plethora of historical and legislative circumstances nearly 84 textile mills are lying closed today, which by itself accounts for about 2½ million spindles and a production potential of 10 lakhs of metres of cloth per day. It has also rendered 65,000 workers idle on the streets. Therefore, this by itself brings us at once to this abiding crisis which has been continuing for a number of years and the Government of India is in no small measure responsible for the state of affairs in the textile industry. The help that has been sought to be given to the textile industry so far by the Government has both been halting and hesitant and com-

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pletely out of tune with the needs of the day.

I would refer to the recent recommendations, very important recommendations, made by no less a person than Shri Manubhai Shah who was, as everyone knows, concerned with the administration of this Ministry for a long period of time. It is curious that the people like the hon. Ministers, when they are in their seats of power for a long period of time, cannot see the needs of the Industry; when they are themselves in power, they do not see the writings on the wall. As soon as they are out of power, they start seeing sense and make sensible recommendations. Then their successors cold-storage their recommendations, which their own predecessors made. Here, Mr. Manubhai Shah's first report came last year and the second report has been submitted in the month of January, 69. Mr. Shah on behalf of the Gujarat Government and Kogekar Committee on behalf of the Maharashtra Government have submitted two outstanding documents, which have studied very seriously the various ills and needs and demands of the textile industry. I would urge that the present Minister should rise above personal equations and extend his helping hand to the textile industry which seriously needs it.

I would like to say that, in view of the demand and supply position, in view of the completely changed situation now, whatever little scheme of controls which is in operation in the textile industry is completely uncalled for. The justification for the huge and cumbersome organisation of the Textile Commissioner's office in Bombay, the existence of which continues to be justified, is no longer necessary. Therefore, not only as a result of a realistic appreciation but as a result of the Manubhai Shah Committee's recommendations and the Kogekar Committee's observations, the Government of India should take early steps to decontrol the remaining varieties of cotten textiles that continue to be under his operations.

Sir, one of the important recommendations made by Shri Shah is in respect of a Merger Commissioner. He has recommended that the weak units may be taken over by the stronger ones which are running effici-

ently, honestly and who have not only got technical expertise but also marketing experience. According to Shri Manubhai, this Merger Commissioner should not only be made operable in the textile industry but also in other sectors of industry, where the national resources have been invested, which for the same reason, partly due to the management's own faults and partly due to the insensitive policies of the Government of India have now been brought to a complete halt. One of the important schemes in this merger is the allowance of carrying forward the losses of the weak units. If you would desire safeguards, in the event of a take-over, and the taken over unit is not being heeded to in terms of re-vitalisation and modernisation you can entrust the Income-tax Officer with the power to deny the tax concessions, where you see that the stronger unit is not behaving properly as far as the weak unit is concerned. With these safeguards, I see absolutely no reason why the Government should hesitate in bringing forward further measures in addition to the Bill passed last year in terms of reconstruction and rehabilitation of the mills and in addition to the limited efforts that the National Textile Corporation has been allowed to take; because a great deal has to be done not only in terms of mills which are not running successfully but there is a large complement of textile mills on the borderline. In my speeches over the demands of the Commerce Ministry, I have been saying over the years that if you denied them help in time, you would find that instead of 84 mills there will be more mills of this category, unfortunately. Measures should be taken within a reasonable time so that all help is provided. As regards persons thrown out of their jobs in the textile industry, some suggestions have been made that running mills should be allowed to stagger their holidays and the efficient and strong mills should run for seven days a week and all the 365 days in a year and the extra complement which comes to roughly one-seventh of the total number of workers could thus be absorbed.

The financial needs for modernisation and rehabilitation of the textile industry have been indicated and you will appreciate the sheer size of the amount. The Kogekar committee of the Maharashtra Government says that after providing for the internal resources that would be generated by the

textile industry, about Rs. 100 crores would be required as capital to put them on their feet and the Committee recommended that the State Governments like Maharashtra, Mysore and Gujarat and the Central Government should provide them finance in 50 : 50 proportion. Mr. K. K. Shah, now in the Union Cabinet, sometime before he became a Minister, three or four years ago had made certain valuable recommendations in respect of the textile commissioner's office, abolition of the controls and the unnecessary plethora of rules and regulations. I ask such gentlemen : have they no responsibilities in respect of those recommendations once they come into the Government ? The Shah committee's recommendations are still not fully implemented. Either the Government of India should study that report and say that whatever steps have to be taken have been taken; otherwise Mr. Shah must take up the matter at the highest level if the present Minister cannot do so.

Cotton continues to baffle us and Rs. 90-100 crores is utilised every year on its import. Not only the quality and the length of the staple but the requirements are such that we cannot find so much in our country. World average of cotton production per acre is 304 lbs. compared to India's 114 lbs. The Soviet Union tops the list with an average of 692 lbs. This Government and this ministry which had been bringing in their technical skill and know-how must do so here; this is one field where we can certainly call for their expertise and knowledge. Efforts are made by the Indian Cotton Mills Federation to tackle this problem by the cotton development project. In our national interest and in the interest of saving foreign exchange and also in the interest of the cotton textile industry those efforts must be reinforced.

The Price of Indian cotton had gone up by 20-30 per cent during the last three or four months and this is an element which counts for fifty per cent of the cost of cloth produced. I do not know why the agreement to import 250,000 bales of cotton under PL 480 is being delayed because delay creates uncertainty in respect of a vital raw material for this industry.

I now turn my attention to another important sector of import policy. while I welcome the carrot-and-stick policy I have

grave doubts about its implementation. What do we find about the priority sector which has to export five per cent of its annual production out of this country ? Out of 341 units only 37 have fulfilled their plans in terms of ten per cent exports.

I would, therefore, like the Government not to overlook this because the units that have taken up the challenge are far few in number, but the units that have defaulted in terms of this national responsibility should not be given captive authority as far as foreign exchange and import licences are concerned. I would like you to treat them with more penal measures. I would like you to deny them the rightful share of foreign exchange and create a pool of limited foreign exchange where such defaulting members may be able to buy in public auctions their import licence requirements, but certainly those of the priority units and the non-priority units, of which there are 200 which have exported more than 10 per cent of their annual production, should be given the highest priority in the matter of foreign exchange and facilities for further expansion and diversification for continued increase in exports. (Interruption) Only 37 out of 341 have fulfilled their obligations. In these matters, therefore, whatever problems are there in the matter of drawback on duty, red-tapism, delay in the import entitlement, delay in the payment of cash subsidies, and so on should be avoided. I am told that several cases are still pending in the JCCI offices in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. You must certainly have a time-limit of one month from the time in which shipping documents are registered or deposited in the office of any JCCI, and the awards in terms of cash subsidies and the facilities that are given for the import licences should be in the exporters' hands.

Now, in conjunction with the External Affairs Ministry, I would like to comment on the role of our various commercial intelligence units situated all over the world along with our embassies and consulates. The hon. Minister knows that the prices of both the traditional commodities and the non-traditional commodities are not stagnant in any part of the world and depending on the demand and supply situation, the total, overall picture of the international trend

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keeps on changing from month to month and from period to period. But I would urge upon the hon. Minister to take up with his colleague one thing: that is, the various Attaches attached to the various embassies and consulates throughout the world make a weekly study of the prices, their economic behaviour in the country in which they are situated and they should send their comments about any large import prospects and tenders in which Indian businessmen could be interested and things like that. That should come on a weekly basis either through the telex or the telecommunication system.

Now, the sending of trade teams abroad is certainly a step which is very well advised. I do not know why under the ill-conceived policy of the Finance Ministry not enough teams go abroad to promote our exports and other things. When I look at the personal and composition of the various teams, what do I find? One team is being sent to Latin America eight or nine months after the goodwill generated by the visit of our Prime Minister. There, I find that only top industrialists are included in the list which, according to me, are not going to get any results as far as this country's exports are concerned. I would like to ask why in these trade teams professional managers, public relations managers, marketing managers and consultants including the public sector managers are not included, so that they can go as a professional team and not as top industrialist team to any particular country. because you have to cover the structure at the middle level, the low level as well as at the top level. Therefore, in such teams, rightly-composed personnel should be sent away from India as far as this export promotion is concerned.

It is a great pity that the world fairs that are held from time to time—one was held in New York, another was held in Seattle and a third one in Montreal in recent years—are not taken note of properly by the Government. The world fair at Osaka the Osaka Exp of 1970—was made known to the world during the last four years. A special company was formed for this purpose as is usual in such cases, and the Government of India, your Ministry, were aware of this particular world fair to

be held in Osaka which is very important from India's point of view for the last four years. And now, just last month, the Ministry woke up and took a "timely" decision of sending its architect a few days ago to select the site and to examine the terms of reference that are there. It is certainly very painful to see this attitude. Once again on account of lack of time, you would not be able to get a good and sound architect and design and your industrialists would not be able to put on a brilliant display. You will cut a very sorry figure not only with developed countries, but with developing countries. He should investigate where this abysmal delay occurred and who is responsible for this particular attitude.

Coming again to the administration of the import and export department, one common complaint is that your import Red Book on policy administration is so complicated, the language used is so insecure and uncertain, that it is open to various interpretative facilities in the CCI and various other offices of the JCCI and so on. I would recommend that not only should your policy be crystal clear, but it should not be available for misuse and misinterpretation. A simple handbook in English and Hindi meant for trade and the common man should be brought out. It would be possible for people involved even in a small measure with import and export to find out exactly what is the meaning and purpose of your policy. The Direct Taxes Board responsible for the administration of income-tax have produced in simple language a handbook for the benefit of tax-payers. I would appeal that such documents should be produced by this ministry also.

Several cases have been brought to my notice—I do not know whether I should call it misappropriation or impropriety—about nominations of import entitlements which are allowed to be sold and nominated in favour of the parties who can supply you with raw materials. This system is subject to grave misuse. I shall give two instances and I hope the minister will look into them. A Bangalore party recently was allowed to buy nominations for milk powder worth lakhs of rupees, while it is very well known that his own factory would consume only Rs. 1 or 2 lakhs worth of milk powder for its entire products. Such entitlements which fetch a very handsome premium in the mar-

ket allow unsocial elements to buy those nominations obviously in collusion with certain people and make a windfall and illegitimate profits.

The second item which is more serious is this. In spite of the fact that woolltops and polyester fibre are items which are allowed to be canalised and imported only through the STC and which are meant only for actual users, these have been allowed to be cornered and bought by a Ludhiana businessman to the extent of Rs. 40 lakhs, while his own consumption of polyester fibre cannot be more than Rs. 2 or 3 lakhs. Does the minister or the CCI know that the premium on polyester fibre licence is as high as 350 to 400 per cent in the Market, which makes it possible for such people to indulge in these malpractices ?

Government, as far as their external trade policy is concerned, should devote a little more attention to the developed countries, as far as exports are concerned. It is to my mind somewhat futile to try to sell your goods to similarly-situated economies like the developing countries. When we are developing our locomotives, cement, paper and other engineering goods, other developing countries are involved exactly in the same exercise. I would therefore like that we should extend a little more enterprise and effort to obtain even a tiny infinitesimal portion of the fabulous developed markets like America, Europe and other advanced countries, where labour is in short supply and several goods made in India can find a place. There is a report on this produced by the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta. I recommend the Minister pays some attention to it, because efforts in the direction of obtaining export markets in developed countries are likely to pay richer dividends. I am not recommending that you completely close shop with developing countries, but the balance in your policy should be such that we get the maximum advantage in our international trade.

There was a news item that three American drug firms owe India Rs. 9 crores as compensation for over-charging tetracycline over ten years' time. The Ministry must look into this. Our country imported 800 million capsules of tetracycline from 1957 to 1967.

This drug which costs the manufacturers 1.6 cents was imported and sold to this country for 51 cents. Based on an investigation in the United States of America the manufacturer of this drug was ordered and instructed to pay back to American manufacturers the difference in this cost. It is for this Government to move the American Government, or whatever channels they find suitable, to see that this compensation which because of a monopolistic situation prevailing in America comes to be misused is received properly and whatever overpayment was made should be recovered.

My last point is in respect of MMTC. I would not like to comment on STC. I find to my pleasant surprise that there has been considerable improvement ever since Shri Prakash Tandon took over. Because of lack of time I would not go into it. But there is one thing that troubles me and that is in respect of the Administration of MMTC under which one single individual, Messrs. Ram Bahadur Thakur, much to the detriment of all other mine owners in the private sector as well as in the public sector, has been given the monopoly of the export of manganese ore. The figures are 1,00,000 tonnes to Czechoslovakia, 20,000 tonnes to Rumania and 10,000 tonnes to Korea. I fail to understand why the MMTC cannot buy this on a quota or State-wise basis or mine-owing capacity basis instead of entrusting this entire manganese ore business to a single individual which raises a number of problems.

SHRI M. SUDARSANAM (Narasaraopet) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Foreign Trade I compliment the Minister for Foreign Trade and also his predecessor, the Minister of Commerce. The Government have done very remarkable work in promoting exports and striving to solve the balance of payment problem. The year 1968 marked a good turning point. As the report mentions, our adverse balance of trade was only Rs. 551 crores as compared to Rs. 885 crores in 1967.

Everyone of us realise that what has been achieved is only the beginning—a continuous effort on a sustained basis is required to improve our export performance. I am not one of those who would consider that a real

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break-through has yet been achieved. I would appeal to the the Minister to see that the State Governments cooperate fully well in this export promotion. I find that they are putting all sorts of hurdles in the export front by indirect taxation on the exportable commodities. This must be taken up at a very high level through the Prime Minister and through the Deputy Prime Minister at the NDC level to see that the Chief Ministers and the team of officers cooperate fully in our export performance.

As I said, I am not one of those who would consider that a real break-through has yet been achieved. But there is no doubt that significant and commendable progress has been made. The lost ground has been retrieved. It is easy for critics to say that the export performance in 1968 is only marginally better than in 1964. This is true. We must realise that the country passed through a severe strain in the last two or three years on the agricultural front. There was continuous drought and the agricultural front was seriously affected. This is the real cause for the fall in exports during the last few years. It is of course inevitable.

Now let us look at our achievement. The exports of engineering goods will reach an all time high of Rs. 85 crores in 1968-69. Steel will account for another Rs. 75 crores, which is of course unprecedented. Diamonds and precious stones will enable us to have foreign exchange earnings of Rs. 38 crores in 1968-69. These are significant gains as compared to previous years. Many Indian parties have, with the help of Government, secured large value contracts in overseas and India's image as a supplier of quality manufactured goods at reasonable prices is getting established. In the case of non-traditional exports government have evolved pragmatic policies of cash assistance and import replenishment.

I do not, however, mean to suggest that all is rosy. As I mentioned earlier, the task is an uphill one, specially for one who looks at the problem in its entirety. Currently almost 30 per cent of our export earnings have to be earmarked for repayment of debt obligations. So, the long term goal has to be one of not only closing the balance of trade gap but also to achieve a surplus. This cannot be brought about in the immediate future. But we have

to strive towards that end if the nation's dependence on foreign aid is to be reduced and ultimately eliminated. So, patriotic efforts is necessary for the development of our export and everyone must work and cooperate in a friendly spirit.

Now I would like to offer a few suggestions for the consideration of the Government. The first one concerns the need for reducing the burden on exports to the maximum extent possible. If we really want to compete in the global market, abolition of export duty or at least reduction of export duty on certain commodities is essential. Even at present the burden on export by export duties is of the order of Rs. 74 crores in the current year. If we have to give a real push to exports of traditional products, government must reduce export duties. One such instance is tobacco. The export duty on tobacco was imposed at the time of the devaluation of the Indian rupee. UK is the chief buyer of Indian tobacco. Now the sterling has been devalued and there is a big glut in the market for tobacco. So, unless we reduce export duty we cannot think of the export of this commodity. It is a very good foreign exchange earner. Last years we earned Rs. 35 crores by the export of tobacco. Unless something is done by the government urgently, we will be missing the whole market and we will not be able to compete in the world market in tobacco.

Another point to which I want to make a reference concerns the post UNCTAD-II developments. I have followed with some interest the developments that have taken place. Perhaps, the Government of India are doing their best in close consultation with other like-minded countries. The progress in the matter of having new international commodity agreements or of getting preferential treatment in regard to tariff for manufactured products from developing countries as a whole has been slow. I would like to suggest very earnestly that Members of Parliament as well as representatives of the business community should be actively associated in all major discussions relating to the second UNCTAD. There should be a Standing Committee attached to the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply to determine the thinking of Government on these matters. Indeed, this is the only way in which

Members of Parliament can be kept informed and, if I might use the word, educated with the problems of international commercial policy which has a vital bearing on our export effort.

I welcome the new import policy, which is in fact the foreign trade policy of the country. It has many good features. However, there is much room for drawing up a vigorous programme of import substitution. This can be done only by an industry-wise analysis not only in the form of studies but in the form of evolving and implementing an action-oriented programme.

I would like say one word about the trade with rupee-payment countries. While this trade has improved to some extent, we must assess the gains and losses by examining whether we are obliged to pay a much higher price for imports from them than from free foreign exchange countries. At the same time, we must examine, and I would draw the attention of the Home Minister also to this point, whether in some cases higher rupee prices are not being paid to certain Indian parties for being utilized for political purposes. There are many instances in the matter of purchases of tobacco, tea, cashewnuts, coir products etc. where the rupee payment countries have paid more than the market price and the amount so realised has been used for purposes which affect the functioning of our democracy in a prejudicial manner.

I would also suggest to the Minister to evolve ways and means of promoting joint ventures in overseas countries, which are a new line of export promotion measure. Some cash remittances must be allowed and a scheme of guarantee evolved for protection of such investments made by the Indian parties.

Here I would submit to you that the point raised by my predecessor, Shri Somani is not correct about the Latin American delegation. Here executives cannot do anything. The whole idea of sending this delegation is to explore possibilities of collaboration with industrialists of those countries for putting up some industries so that it can be a source of foreign exchange earning for our country. That is really very important. That is what the Britishers did and that is what the Americans did in India

and now they are able to take a lot of foreign exchange from India to those countries. This must be followed by our country and this is the best time to do so. Of course, executives also must go but they must go at a later stage, after these chances are explored by our top industrialists, bankers and shipping people.

The Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply now Combines the work of foreign trade with the Department of Supply. The Supply Department needs considerable improvement in many directions.

All impediments towards an increase in allround production should be removed. Loss of production has to be brought down; otherwise, even with either cash incentives or import entitlements, it will not be possible to make any headway in export.

The greater participation by our public sector units in foreign trade is most essential and urgent. Every effort should be made by public sector undertakings to export a good portion of their production in order to earn the foreign exchange required by them for their maintenance and development. This should apply to private sector undertaking also. I appeal to the Minister of Foreign Trade to see that a portion of the production is earmarked for export. Then alone we can really reach our targets. This is very important and I am sure, the Minister will consider about it.

Success of exports in new lines depends so much on the reputation for quality and reliability. Every encouragement should be given to improving standards of production. Although the Government quite rightly stressed the importance of quality, its own purchasing policy in the country serves to penalise higher standards of production.

The economic wings of our embassies are not working on business lines, chiefly because they are staffed with certain civil servants. The fact is that they lack business experience. It should be possible to man the economic wings of the foreign embassies with talented business executives.

There are big markets in the developing countries, especially in Africa and Latin

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America. There are also several markets for intermediate goods in developed countries. It is high time that the Government woke up to the situation and re-oriented and streamlined its policies and procedure in such a way as to give a big push to our exports.

Here I would submit to our Minister that the question of high freight is really coming in the way of large exports. The freight from our country to Latin American countries or to other countries is tremendously high when compared to the freight from Japan to these countries. It is not really possible to compete with this high cost of freight and this must be remedied.

The various measures so far taken by the Government to re-open closed textile mills have not yielded any significant results. The progress made by the National Textile Corporation has been slow. At this rate how many of the 80 closed mills will be revived and when? Meanwhile, nearly 85,000 trained workers are suffering from unemployment. This situation calls for swift action. The suggestions made by the Manubhai Shah Committee of Gujarat for the merger of weak units must be quickly implemented. The strong and healthy units should be given the necessary incentives for absorbing the sick units.

Finally, I would plead that the Tariff Commission which is now functioning under the aegis of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply should come to occupy a more important position in the sense that its recommendations must receive full consideration from the concerned ministries.

SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, as the time at my disposal is quite limited, I would like to make only a few observations.

We are having a very acute economic crisis in India. It is because of the economic policies pursued by the Government of India under which the rich becomes richer and the poor becomes poorer. When we achieved independence, the people were educated of the ways of exploitation of the foreign imperialists. After Independence the things have not improved. On the contrary, the things have worsened. Now, the reality is that we are inviting more and

more funds and foreign aid from foreign countries. The private foreign capitalists own and control tea, jute, petroleum, mining and chemical industries. The meaning of the foreign trade is not just a matter of increasing our exports but it is essentially a problem of how to extricate our economy from the grip of foreign exploiters. Before Independence, the people were educated on these lines but now the conditions of the people in India have become more and more pitiable.

After Independence, the investment of Britain has increased and so also the investment of America has increased. We depend on foreign aid for all our purposes. Our plans are being formulated on the availability of foreign funds. At the time of devaluation, the Government announced that our export would increase. On the contrary, it did not increase.

Another point that I would like to point out is that we are being pressurised by foreign countries. In this connection, I would like to point out that we should have trade relations with Cuba, North Vietnam and North Korea. I do not know what is the thing that prevents Government of India in having trade relations with these countries. Though we have got some trade relations with the G. D. R., we have not recognised the G. D. R. diplomatically. I would like to ask the Government to recognise the G. D. R. diplomatically.

Another point that I would like to highlight is about the Export Promotion Advisory Committee, the Foreign Trade Board, the Export Promotion Council and so many other Boards, the Tea Board, the Coffee Board, the Cardamom Board, the Coir Board, the Handloom Board, etc. These Boards are white elephants. They eat away all the fund. For example, there is the Coir Board in Kerala. The coir industry is in crisis there. Though the Coir Board has been constituted, it does not give any help to the poor people who are employed in the coir industry. The coir industry is in crisis and the Coir Board is not giving any sort of help to the industry. So also is the case with the rubber industry. As far as the rubber is concerned, we earn a lot of foreign exchange out of rubber exports. The rubber industry also has been in crisis

in Kerala. It is for the Rubber Board to give some sort of relief to the industry.

After all, when the Government is depending more and more on foreign trade, we cannot develop as an independent nation. As a result of this dependence on foreign aid, the very independence that we have achieved will be put in danger.

It is high time that we came out of difficult situation with regard to foreign trade. Unless there is a complete change in the economic policy of the Government of India, we cannot come out of the present crisis; unless there is a reversal in the Policy of the Government, we cannot come out of the present crisis.

15.00 hrs.

Finally I would like to say that we should have trade relations with Cuba, North Korea and North Vietnam. I hope, the Government would think on these lines.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE (Betul): I consider our export performance 1968-69: to be indeed a matter of relief and gratification, for, I do consider this to be a turning point in our battle, critical and desperate battle, to fight all these forces which seek to obstruct and stultify our foreign trade. The years 1965-66 and 1966-67 were the years when our country was unfortunately enmeshed in moribund economy and added to that, the declining exports created problems of adverse balance of payment, of foreign exchange, and precipitated the process which was far from being healthy so far as the economic consequences were concerned. In fact, it precipitated a process where we had been taken to a point of disaster. But it is a tribute to the endeavours of the people of our country that in the preceding three Five Year Plans our economy itself has developed a certain resilience, and the various sections connected with expanding exports made very determined and assiduous efforts to expand and diversify the trade as a result of which.....

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) : इतने महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर भाषण हो रहा है और सदन में कोरम नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The bell is being rung.....

Now there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE: Sometimes after chaos there is cosmos. I am happy, a large number of members have come in the chamber to listen to my speech.

I was submitting that the performance which we have achieved in our exports is a tribute to the endeavours that we have put in to fight out the forces which were impeding our exports. It is a happy augury that we have been able to avert what might have been an absolute disaster to Indian economy.

Though our exports are encouraging, we have still a very long way to go and we have to effect improvement, qualitatively and quantitatively, in the matter of foreign trade because unless we substantially organize our foreign trade and increase its volume; there will never be sufficient and real impact of the foreign trade on the economic growth of the country.

Sir, a very highly developed and voluminous foreign trade to-day is considered *sine qua non* an indispensable condition for the economic growth and prosperity of any country. In fact, in the last decade it has been clearly established in all the developed countries that the history of the growth of the foreign trade in those countries is in fact the history of the growth of economy of the country and of the affluence of its people. In this context the herculean task which lies ahead of us may be properly considered and estimated. If we were to usefully study the figures of Japan, Japan is one country which has colossally and incredibly expanded foreign trade. Japan's foreign trade is sixth in the world, the other five being UK, USA, Federal Republic of Germany, France and Canada. If one was to see the figures of foreign trade of Japan one would find that in the year 1968 the exports of Japan aggregated to Rs. 9500 crores determined in terms of rupees at post-devaluation rate, as against Rs. 1350 crores we have achieved. In Japan they have 100 million people; we have 500 million people. Thus Japan with 1/5th of our population has nearly 7-8 times of foreign trade. Then

[Shri Narendra Kumar Salve]

Japan's *per capita* income is Rs. 550 per month as against Rs. 55 in our country. I find from this book.....

AN HON. MEMBER : The figures are wrong.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SALVE: These are from this Statistical Handbook published by the office of the Prime Minister of Japan. It is not my imagination. I do not talk through my hat. I submit that on the basis of this *per capita* income Japan's position is 22nd, in the community of nations, the first three being USA, Sweden and Switzerland. USSR is pretty low—19. I do not know what the rating of India would be.

I have given these figures only with a view to bringing home the fact that we have reason to be happy about our export performance but it is something over which we cannot be really complacent. We have still a long way to go. We need to expand our foreign trade very substantially to have a proper effect and impact on our country's economy and help improve the standard of living of our people.

Having made general observations, I would like to make a few observations, on certain specific facets of our export trade. If we were to analyse objectively the rise in our export trade, it would be found that 69% of the rise is attributed to our exports to Asian and Oceanian countries, which include Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia and also the Malay Archipelago. The higher exports to West Asian countries have been attributed to continuous closure of the Suez Canal. It is, therefore, of importance to realise that increased exports cannot be taken to have established a firm market. It is extremely improper for us to consider that we have already entrenched ourselves in these markets. We have to nurse and nurture the new market to keep the level of exports.

There has been a sizeable increase in the export of engineering goods, iron and steel and handicrafts, specially exports of diamonds, pearls and precious stones. There is also a modest increase in iron ore, coffee, cashew kernels and semi-manufactured products like paper and paper-boards, rubber goods and chemicals,

But, Sir, one very disquieting and disconcerting feature of our export trade is decline in our traditional items of exports such as jute manufactures, tea, oil cakes, spices, manganese ore, unmanufactured tobacco and mica. It is absolutely necessary that we take drastic and substantial measures to establish firmly the foreign markets for all these traditional items. Various factors have led to this debacle of decrease in exports in respect of traditional items. Firstly we have failed to properly resist the pressures of the foreign buyers in reducing regularly the per-unit price realization in foreign exchange of our traditional items of exports. Consequently, the foreign exchange realizations because of decreased per unit realisations in the various items, specially items of traditional export have shown an extremely unsatisfactory result.

The expedient of export duty to mop up profits at the right moment was not skillfully handled. The export duty was levied after devaluation so that the foreign buyer of goods is not allowed to plead that as a result of devaluation excessive profits are inherent in exports. Unfortunately we have not been able to coordinate action in respect of levy of export duty with our endeavours to resist the foreign pressure. It is now necessary for us therefore to very thoroughly examine and revise export duty on jute, jute manufactures, iron ore, manganese ore and so far as tea is concerned, I wish to submit that it is necessary for us to revise the excise duty.

Sir, not many years ago we had a commanding position over tea exports. But today we are facing a serious competition from Ceylon and other countries and unless our Indian export of tea is put on par with exporters of other countries, it is likely that we will further lose the market for our tea exports.

So far as jute manufactures are concerned they are the lowest this year, since 1947. There should therefore be complete abolition of export duty on jute hessian and jute manufactures. The export of iron ore in absolute terms has undoubtedly shown some improvement. But the export duty on iron ore is a very inhibiting factor. The MMTC through which the export of iron ore is canalised (except the Goa exporters) is also sustaining

heavy losses, *inter alia*, on account of export duty.

In this connection, it is necessary for me to make a mention about the manganese trade. The manganese trade is not in a very happy way. The total world production of manganese was 13.90 million tons in 1960. It rose to 20.30 million tons in 1966. The total world export in 1960 was 5.90 million tons. Today this is in the vicinity of 8 million tons. From 1.30 million tons in 1960, the Indian exports have declined to 1.08 million tons in 1967 and 1.18 million tons in 1968. But the real difficulty is something else. The traditional grade of manganese ore is not being exported in adequate quantity. What is being exported today includes ferrogenous manganese ore to point of over 50% of total exports. If one were to see the figures of manganese export over the years, one would find that we had a commanding position, a commanding influence in the entire international market, which after canalisation is lost.

In this connection, I would wish to make a very imperative suggestion. The sales-performance of MMTC must improve considerably so far as sales of manganese ore is concerned. The export duty on all grades must be abolished. Railway freight on manganese ore must be brought to the pre-1967 level. Government must give further support and assistance to the industry.

Before coming to the subject of Ferro-manganese, I have a suggestion to make to the hon. Minister. I request the Government to create an Export Development Fund, of not less than Rs. 75 crores. This should be created partly from the provision in the Budget, partly this should be raised from banks and other financial institutions, or, if necessary, by even deficit financing. This Fund should be utilised for making available investments, loans, and credits to the industries in the field of tea, cashew, fisheries, iron ore, manganese ore, as well as engineering units in particular. These industries must be given liberal and soft-term financial accommodation.

An autonomous body must be formulated to operate this Fund. It must not suffer from the misfortunes of a bureaucratic stren-

glehold. This autonomous organisation must work as a business concern adopting the most modern norms and methods giving a go-by to considerations of conservative, conventional and orthodox procedures of financing exports.

Out of the Market Development Fund provision of Rs. 44 crores in the budget, Rs. 20 crores relate to last year and therefore you will have to augment the same for this year.

So far as Ferro-Manganese trade is concerned, page 91 of the Report makes a brief reference to the magnificent performance of the ferro-manganese industry where it is stated that the export of ferro manganese increased from 18,256 tons in 1967 to 63,486 tons in 1968. I want to point out in this connection that not a ton of this metal was sold by the MMTC. In fact the MMTC advised the Ministry that ferro-manganese production is excessive in the world market and the best way of tackling the problem of surplus production was to ask, the Indian Ferro-manganese Producers to close down their furnaces and reduce their production.

But the industry took up the challenge and a representative of the Industry sold the goods, thanks to the very dynamic and pragmatic policy which was pursued by the erstwhile Minister who disregarded bureaucratic ill-informed advice. I only hope that the policy of sale which has yielded such magnificent results duly acknowledged by the Ministry in its reports and which earned valuable foreign exchange and as a result of which policy the industry has performed so well must be pursued by the new Minister. That is what I hope.

Lastly, in Hindi it used to be said:

“जहाँ राजा व्यापारी वहाँ प्रजा भिखारी”

This is an absolutely outmoded concept. It is an old concept which has been despatched to the limbo of exploded myths. I hope that this Ministry would prove that in India where the Raja is a vyapari, the praja becomes very rich.

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA (Guahati): I would like to oppose the demand of this Ministry of Foreign Trade

[Shri Dhireswar Kalita]

and Supply. Of course, I must congratulate our Minister because his position is upgraded and I hope that he can give a bold lead to this Ministry. The opening balance is about Rs. 500 crores, as has been given in this report. Shall I read it? It has been stated here that "it has been narrowed down to Rs. 550 crores during the year under review". So, this beginning is not good for you. But I hope that you will try and see that this gap is further narrowed down.

During the last 20 years, on the ground of adverse balance of trade, our Government once devalued the rupee. And we know how much pressure from foreign monopolists came to our land.

15.17 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Ours is a very big problem. Why? The reason is that we were a dependent country. Traditionally, under British rule, we were exporting spices and things like skin. Then, the Britishers, like any other foreigner, used to take some raw-materials from our country and they used to sell finished products to our country. This was the traditional trade we were having under the British rule. But after Independence, we took some new steps. But these steps are coming in conflict with the old, developed countries. We are having public sector industries and we are having private sector industries. Growth of industries demands export vigilance. But in these days we come in conflict with developed countries such as Germany, Japan, Great Britain, France, America and Australia. In foreign trade we are always facing confrontation with these countries. They do not allow us market and India is not able to sell her goods in some countries under the sphere of influence of these countries. We do not have any sphere of influence. We have to create it. Even if we have to create it, they won't allow us. They give us loans. They give us loans under PL-480. England gives us loans. They are tied loans and are given on condition: "You must purchase these things from us and then we can import all these things".

Tied-up loans are given to us by America, by Britain, by France and by West Germany. Since they give us the tied-up loans, we are

compelled to act according to their dictates in exporting our raw materials. This position is to be understood and we must overcome it.

Here we must understand one point. As regards India's foreign trade and export, we are really coming in conflict with Japan, with Britain, with France and with America. When we always come in conflict with them, how can we get their markets? Their own market is shrinking and as a result, Britain and America have got no markets. They try to have their own trade by creating domestic markets. That is the reason why the E.E.C. has been created. We do not have market for our products. We cannot export our products to these countries. Please excuse me for saying this. It is not a fact that you are going to have collaboration in foreign trade? This is the first time that we are hearing a new term 'collaboration' in industries. That we are going to have collaboration in foreign trade is confirmed by an answer given to a question put on the 25th February, 1969. The question was :

"Whether the Government recently decided to permit foreign collaboration in trading activities? If so, the reasons that prompted the Government to take such a decision and the benefit likely to accrue to India thereby".

To this question, the hon. Deputy Minister replied as follows :—

"Yes, Sir. It has been decided to permit foreign collaboration in trading activities only where such collaboration is exclusively aimed at augmenting our exports."

So this has been confirmed in Parliament by a question and answer.

If that is so, what for is the STC established? And where is our declared policy that by and large the S.T.C. will take over the export and import business? You are departing from this policy. Instead of nationalising this you are talking of foreign collaboration even in foreign trade. You say that you are independent; you are non-aligned and so on. What are the reasons for your departing from your declared policy? This you have to explain firstly.

Secondly, Sir, the volume of business that is being handled uptill now by the private business men and big monopolists total to something like Rs. 3,981.9 crores. In the whole of the business, only a very negligible percentage—one per cent and odd—is being handled by the State Trading Corporation. 99% of the business is being handled by the monopolists and private business men. How can our country benefit by that? The country cannot be benefited at all by this Policy. I want to mention here one more point. That is regarding import of crude oil and kerosene. The import of crude and kerosene oil uptill now from foreign countries is worth Rs. 118 crores.

It is done through Burmah-Shell, ESSO and other foreign companies. They are monopolists. Recently STC has entered this business also. But may I request the Government that this whole business in which not only the Government of India but the people of India are suffering not only in terms of the foreign exchange involved but on account of the huge margin of profit which they make, which you do not know and we do not know, be taken over by Government? As it is, we are to follow the dictates of these companies in this oil import business.

Recently Government have given relief to the jute industry with a view to earn foreign exchange. Relief has been given in sacking/hessian. But what are they doing? They are depriving the growers of a good price. As a result, the acreage has shrunk. They do not purchase at the support price declared by Government. I do not know what the buffer stock organisation—I do not know what is its name—is doing. It is not purchasing sufficient quantity to meet its own requirements. As a result, Government have to issue licence for import of raw jute from foreign countries. At the same time, Government are giving them tax relief, at the cost of our taxpayers.

This is not a good policy. I would like Government to take a bold step and force these people to purchase raw jute at the support price.

Secondly, as a result of the closure of many jute mills, many thousands of jute workers—they are from the hon. Minister's State, Bihar—have become jobless. Will Government take a bold step and force the

IJMA to accept Government's terms and conditions? Unless they fall in line, Government should withdraw all the concessions given to them.

I come from Assam. So I will say a word about tea and then conclude. What is the Tea Board doing? For want of time, I cannot go into details. But my submission is that the Board is good for nothing. It should immediately be disbanded and there should be created a Tea Marketing Corporation or some such new body. Here I support what Shri Jyotirmoy Basu had said sometime back. He had circulated a memorandum wherein he made the point that Indian tea is never sold in England or Europe as *Indian* tea. The tea is purchased at the Calcutta auction at Rs. 2 a pound and sold to British housewives at Rs. 20 a pound. The blending and packaging are not done here. But they take all benefits. We have also given relief to tea exporters.

We demand that there should be tea-blending here in India; tea-packaging must be done here in India. Indian tea should be sold as Indian tea in foreign markets. The foreign buyers and the British imperialists must not be allowed to do the whole thing in the way they are doing now. I hope the Government of India will take a bold step in this regard and fight out the British imperialism.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will have to make one request to this side of the House. We have just 4 hours. The Minister would take about 45 minutes. So, no Member from this side should exceed 10 minutes; otherwise, it would be difficult for me to accommodate representatives from different States. You must remember this, Mr. Verma.

श्री प्रेमचन्द वर्मा (हमीरपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं फारेन ट्रेड और सप्लाई की डिमान्ड्स का समर्थन करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि आज जब इस मंत्रालय की डिमान्ड्स पर बहस हो रही है तब एक ओर इस मंत्रालय के मंत्री और दूसरी ओर इंडस्ट्रियल डेवलपमेंट के मंत्री भी यहाँ पर तशरीफ़फ़र्माए हैं। मुझे दोनों मंत्रालयों के मुतालिक कुछ जरूरी बातें कहनी हैं और वह मैं थोड़ी देर में कहूँगा।

[श्री प्रेमचन्द वर्मा]

सबसे पहले मैं श्री भगत को इस बात के लिये मुबारकवाद देता हूँ कि आज वह पूरे मंत्री के रूप में इस मंत्रालय का चार्ज लेकर पहली बार इस बहस का जवाब देंगे। उन्होंने बहुत से मंत्रालयों में काम किया है और उनकी पालियामेंट्री लाइफ बड़ी लम्बी है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यहां पर जो भी क्रिटिसिज्म होगा वह उसको उसी स्पिरिट में लेंगे जिस स्पिरिट में उनको इस सदन में लेना चाहिये। आप जानते हैं कि मैं आम तौर से बहुत कम तारीफ करता हूँ किसी को, लेकिन वह एक नौजवान मिनिस्टर हैं जिन्होंने अपने काम से हमें काफी हद तक तसल्ली दिलाई है।

अब मैं जल्दी से अपनी दूसरी बातों पर आना चाहता हूँ और उम्मीद करता हूँ कि दोनों ही मंत्री उनको ध्यान से सुनेंगे। सबसे पहले मैं उस रिपोर्ट पर आता हूँ जो इस मंत्रालय ने दी है। मंत्रालय ने बतलाया है कि हमारे एक्सपोर्ट इम्पोर्ट का जो अन्तर है वह 1967 में 885 करोड़ था और अब 551 करोड़ रह गया है। यह सराहनीय काम है जो इस मंत्रालय ने किया है। इसके साथ ही इस रिपोर्ट में यह भी लिखा है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने आठ देशों का दौरा किया और उससे व्यापारिक सम्बन्धों को बढ़ाने में बहुत मदद मिली है। यह भी बहुत सराहनीय बात है और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि प्रधान मंत्री आगे भी इस तरह के दौरे करती रहेंगी।

लेकिन इसके साथ-साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस रिपोर्ट को जिस ढंग से बनाया गया है वह, जैसा मैंने पहले अर्ज किया है, ग्रुपों के जमाने का है। वही पुराना तरीका, वही पुराने ढंग की रिपोर्ट, जिससे केवल एक पक्ष का पता चलता है, यानी यह कि हमने आज तक जो कुछ किया है सब अच्छा किया है। जो दूसरी साइड है वह इस रिपोर्ट में पेश नहीं हुई है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहूंगा कि जितने भी हमारे डा-बैक्स हैं, जितनी हमारी फेल्योर्स हैं, वह सब इस रिपोर्ट में होने चाहियें

ताकि सदन को पता लगे कि यहां हम आगे बढ़े हैं और यहां हम पीछे रहे हैं।

इसी तरह इसमें जो पब्लिक सेक्टर कम्पनियां मंत्रालय के नीचे हैं उनका भी ब्यौरा दिया है। लेकिन उसमें भी केवल इतना दिया गया है कि उन्होंने इतना अच्छा काम किया है। यह नहीं बूतलाया है कि कितना काम करना चाहिये था और उसमें घाटा हुआ या मुनाफा हुआ, और किस रूप में वह चलती हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगली बार जब रिपोर्ट आये तो मंत्रालय इस बात को भी बतलाये कि पिछले पांच सालों में, पिछले दो सालों में पब्लिक सेक्टर अन्डरटेकिंग ने क्या काम किया है और क्या नहीं किया है।

इसके बाद अब मैं पी०ए०सी० की रिपोर्ट पर आना चाहता हूँ जो कि डाइरेक्टर जनरल सप्लाइज़ एण्ड डिस्पोजल्स के बारे में है। पब्लिक अकाउंट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के पेज 11 पर 6 लाख 2 हजार, पेज 18 पर दिया है 6 लाख 34 हजार और पेज 21 पर दिया हुआ है 3 लाख 15 हजार, कुल मिलाकर 15 लाख 51 हजार रुपये का नुकसान सिर्फ लालफीताशाही की वजह से हुआ क्योंकि डाइरेक्टर जनरल सप्लाइज़ ने वक्त पर फैसला नहीं किया।

फाइलें कहीं पड़ी रहीं।

पी० ए० सी० की रिपोर्ट के पेज 25 पर कहा गया है कि एक पार्टी ने जब 3500 रुपये फी टन के हिसाब से माल आफर किया तब इन्होंने नहीं लिया। इन्होंने कहा कि इस पार्टी से नहीं लिया जाना चाहिये। लेकिन चार ही महीने के बाद उसी पार्टी से इन्होंने 4400 रुपये फी टन के हिसाब से माल खरीदा और इस तरह से डेढ़ लाख से ज्यादा का फायदा उस पार्टी को जानबूझ कर कराया गया। यह घोटाला भी पी० ए० सी० की रिपोर्ट में हमारे सामने लाया गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो भी अफसर इसके लिए जिम्मेदार हों उनके खिलाफ मुनासिब कार्रवाई की जाए।

पेज 51 को आप देखें तो आप पाएंगे कि एग्ग्रीमेंट करने में गलती की गई है और उसकी वजह से 5,045 पाउंड फारेन एक्सचेंस का नुकसान हुआ है। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि इन चीजों की तरफ मंत्री महोदय ध्यान देंगे और जिन अफसरों का इन गलतियों के साथ ताल्लुक है, उनको मुनासिब सजा देंगे।

अब मैं एस० टी० सी० पर आता हूँ। वह केले एक्सपोर्ट करती है, टायर ट्यूबें करती है, जूते इत्यादि करती है। केले एक्सपोर्ट करने में हमको नुकसान हुआ है, टायरों को करने में हुआ है, जूतों को करने में हुआ है। जो टायर और ट्यूब देश में मिलते नहीं हैं, जो यहां पर ब्लैक मार्किट में मिलते हैं, उनको बहुत ही सस्ते दामों पर बाहर भेजा जाता है। केले जो विदेशों को जाते हैं उन पर नुकसान हुआ है। कुल नुकसान 18 लाख 56 हजार का हुआ है। जूते रूस को इन्होंने भेजे। इसमें एक बड़ी मजे की बात है। 1965-66 में तो इन पर साठ हजार का नुकसान हुआ। 1966-67 में सत्तर हजार का हुआ लेकिन 1967-68 में जाकर यह साढ़े तीन लाख का हो गया। आप देखें कि आर्डर का एमाउंट था वह बराबर था लेकिन घाटा इतना ज्यादा बढ़ गया। तीसरे वर्ष में जाकर वह तीन लाख हो गया। रद्दी जूते भेज दिये गये, जो पहनने के काबिल जूते नहीं थे वे भेज दिये गये। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपका क्वालिटी कंट्रोल कहां चला गया था? इसमें अगर कोई घोटाला है तो उसका आप पता लगायें। और अगर घोटाला नहीं है तो यह हमारे देश के लिए एक बदनामी की बात है। निर्यात करते वक्त देखा जाना चाहिये कि अच्छी क्वालिटी का माल जाए और देश की बदनामी न हो।

पी० ए० सी० की रिपोर्ट में सलफर स्कैंडल का भी जिक्र आया है। उसकी बात मैं कहना नहीं चाहता हूँ। लेकिन उसके बारे में आपको मालूम ही है कि ओवल इंडस्ट्री ने क्या घोटाला किया।

आप यह भी देखें कि जो चेयरमैन, एस० टी० सी० के हैं उन्होंने चौदह ट्रिप फारेन के लगाए। जो फारेन एक्सचेंज हम इतनी मुश्किल से कमाते हैं वह कैसे जाया होती है उसका यह एक उदाहरण है। ढाई लाख रुपया इस पर खर्च हुआ। ये सब जो फंड्स हैं ये मैं आपके नोटिस में लाना चाहता हूँ। सलफर के अलावा एक और भी दूसरा स्कैंडल है जिसका जिक्र अगर वक्त मिला तो मैं करूंगा।

यह ठीक बात है कि हमारा एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ा है, उसमें तरक्की हुई है। लेकिन आप देखें कि अभी तक सिर्फ तीन परसेंट एक्सपोर्ट द्वी हम एस० टी० सी० की मार्फत कर पाते हैं। जहां तक एक्सपोर्ट का सम्बन्ध है, वह हम करें। लेकिन एक नया विचार मैं इस सिलसिले में आपको देना चाहता हूँ। हिन्दुस्तान के गरीब लोगों की, दम्पानि तबके के जो लोग हैं, उन लोगों की कास्ट पर, उन लोगों की कीमत पर नहीं होना चाहिये। जो चीज यहां पर पांच रुपये की मिलती है, उनको हम ढाई रुपये में या इससे भी सस्ते भाव में एक्सपोर्ट करते हैं। एक्सपोर्ट जब वह चीज होने लग जाती है तो उसकी कीमत फिर बढ़कर छः रुपया हो जाती है या और भी ज्यादा हो जाती है। एक्सपोर्ट में कोई घोटाला हो तो उसको भी सख्त कदम उठाकर दबाया जाना चाहिये।

जहां तक इम्पोर्ट्स का सम्बन्ध है, अस्सी परसेंट इम्पोर्ट एस० टी० सी० वालों के जरिये होता है। एस० टी० सी० ने 33 करोड़ 36 लाख का बैलेंस 31-3-68 को दिखाया है और कहा है कि यह राशि लोगों से उसको वसूल करनी है। अब आप देखें कि तेतीस करोड़ का तीन करोड़ रुपया साल का ब्याज बनता है। कोई भी आइटम अगर आप इम्पोर्ट करते हैं तो उस इम्पोर्टिड आइटम को कभी उधार नहीं बेचा जाता है। मुझे नहीं मालूम कि यह तेतीस करोड़ रुपया किस-किस के पास पड़ा है और कैसे पड़ा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसको भी आप देखें और पता लगायें यह कैसे हुआ है।

[श्री प्रेमचन्द वर्मा]

मैं चाहता हूँ कि एस० टी० सी० कामयाब हो। विदेशों के साथ जो भी व्यापार हम करते हैं वह सारे का सारा इसकी मार्फत हो। प्राइवेट जो पूंजीपति हैं उनके हाथों से हम छुटकारा चाहते हैं। अगर एस० टी० सी० कामयाब होगी तो देश समाजवाद की तरफ आगे बढ़ेगा। मैं नहीं कहता हूँ कि एस० टी० सी० में सारे के सारे लोग बेईमान हैं। लेकिन कुछ काली भेड़ें हैं, उनको आपको चाहिये कि आप ठीक करें।

एक्सपोर्ट पालिसी के बारे में एक बात और मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। एक बहुत जरूरी यह बात है। जो माल हिन्दुस्तान में तैयार होता है, उत्पादित होता है उसको इम्पोर्ट करने की उस माल के बदले में जोकि यहां से एक्सपोर्ट होता है, इजाजत नहीं दी जानी चाहिये। यह जो रैंड बुक है इसके पेज 123 में यह है कि जो मछलियां बाहर भेजी जाती हैं उसके बदले में आइवरी पेपर और कांड बोर्ड मंगाने की इजाजत दी जाती है। रेडी मेड गारमेंट्स जो हैं उनके बदले में भी इस तरह का कागज इम्पोर्ट किया जाता है। यह कागज हिन्दुस्तान में बनता है। लेकिन इसको आप बाहर से मंगाते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस तरह की चीजों को इम्पोर्ट करने की इजाजत न देकर नकद इनको कोई इंस्टिट्यूट दे दिया जाए तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा। एक्सपोर्ट की जो पालिसी है उस पर आपको फिर से विचार करना होगा। जो चीजें हिन्दुस्तान में बनती हैं उन चीजों को एक्सपोर्टर्स को इंस्टिट्यूट के रूप में इम्पोर्ट करने की इजाजत हार्गिज नहीं दी जानी चाहिये। ऐसा आपने किया तो हिन्दुस्तान की इंडस्ट्री बढ़ सकेगी, तरक्की कर सकेगी।

इंडियन काउन्सिल आफ इंटरनेशनल फेयर्स ने एग्जीबीशज आर्गेनाइज की हैं। एक सिडनी में हुई थी। उस पर दो लाख रुपया खर्च हुआ लेकिन एक पैसे का भी उसे लाभ नहीं हुआ। लंदन इंजीनियरिंग एग्जीबीशन पर 95 हजार 175 रुपया खर्च किया गया लेकिन एक पैसे का

आर्डर नहीं मिला। वैस्ट जर्मनी में एग्जीबीशन किया गया और उस पर 96,050 रुपया खर्च किया गया, एक पैसे का काम नहीं हुआ, एक पैसे का आर्डर नहीं मिला। इतना पैसा आप खर्च करते हैं, लोगों को वहां भेजते हैं, आपको उनसे पूछना तो चाहिये कि उन्होंने वहां जाकर क्या किया है, वे वहां क्या करने गये थे, क्यों गये थे जबकि एक पैसे का भी आर्डर नहीं मिला।

आप विदेशों से एग्जीमेंट करते हैं। इन एग्जीमेंट्स का मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। वैस्ट जर्मनी से आप प्रिंटिंग मशीन के लिए एग्जीमेंट करते हैं। उसकी सी० आई० एफ० वैल्यू 61, 760 है। लेकिन आपसे वैस्ट जर्मनी के जो एजेंट हैं इसकी वे 81,793 रुपये कीमत वसूल करते हैं। जब वह 61 हजार में मिल सकती है तो कैसे उसके लिए 81 हजार दिया जाता है? यह जो बीस हजार रुपया ज्यादा दिया जाता है यह कैसे दे दिया जाता है। यह जो घोटाला है, इसकी तरफ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

मैं अन्त में यही कहूंगा कि यह जो रैंड बुक है, लाल किताब है यह गरीब दूकानदारों, छोटे दूकानदारों का पसीना चूसने वाली है। पंद्रह बीस साल से यह उनका खून ही चूसती रही है। जो बड़े-बड़े पूंजीपति हैं, जो 75 कैपिटलिस्ट हैं, जो कुनबे हैं, उन्हीं की दौलत इसकी वजह से बढ़ी है, उन्हीं की तरक्की हुई है, वही अमीर हुए हैं। इस किताब ने बिड़ला, टाटा, डालमिया आदि को ही बचाया है और गरीबों को सताया है, उनका सत्यानाश किया है। मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि इस रैंड बुक का नाम बदल कर ब्ल्यू बुक कर दें ताकि गरीब आदमियों का शोषण न हो।

SHRI R. K. BIRLA (Jhunjhunu): Sir, the time allotted to me by the Lok Sabha Secretariat is 13 minutes, which is a bad figure.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Conclude in 12 minutes.

SHRI R.K. BIRLA: I will request you to increase it to 15 minutes. The total time allotted to this ministry is 4 hours. We, Independents, have a strength of 54 in this house and I presume none of them is speaking on this, except myself. On a purely mathematical calculation, I should be given 26 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are other names also.

• **SHRI R. K. BIRLA:** Sir, before I speak on the demands, I would like to give my definition of 'export'. Export is a thing which is delivered and given. I am delivering a speech and I am giving suggestions. My speech, therefore, becomes an item of export and there should be no restrictions on it.

• India's exports in 1964-65, before devaluation, were Rs. 1287 crores. It fell to Rs. 1157 crores in 1966-67. It recovered a bit and reached Rs. 1200 crores in 1967-68. The estimated figure for 1968-69 is near about Rs. 1340 crores, which is just Rs. 53 crores more than in 1964-65, proving that devaluation has not improved our exports, India has to earn foreign exchange not only to meet its economic growth but for debt payment and service charges. This is possible only through more exports and less imports. I will give some suggestions in this regard.

My friend, Mr. Kalita, has given some suggestion about the jute industry. If they are to be accepted, I can say that there is going to be a total ruination of this industry. Bengal and the people of Bengal will be finished. Jute industry, which was at one time No. 1 in our exports, is heading towards a disaster. I would say with due respect to the Government that the Government is responsible for this unhappy situation which have developed. There are two reasons. The jute industry has been suggesting to the Government at proper times to keep a buffer stock of a million bales of jute, when it was available very cheaply from Thailand and Pakistan. But they never paid any heed to it. The export duty on jute products is another item which has broken the camel's back. Exporters of jute goods in Pakistan make a profit of 121 dollars in hessian and 25 dollars on sackings, while Indian exporters are losing Rs. 37 on hessian and Rs. 11 on sackings per tonne.

How are we going to recapture our lost export market, in which we had a monopoly at one time? The export duty which was recently announced on 28th February on the floor of this House is to be totally abolished. If the industry is to survive, there should also be a subsidy side by side. I am glad that Mr. Bhagat has assured the Chief Minister of West Bengal that a buffer stock will be maintained. This is very good, but I am afraid that sometimes ministers do not practise what they preach.

I would, therefore, say that Shri Bhagat should keep this thing in view. I would like to give an example here. When the hon. Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh was in charge of this Ministry he had announced that any unit exporting ten per cent of its production will be considered as a priority unit. I know that there are woolen mills which have exported more than ten per cent, but they are not given any facility which a priority industry should be given. The result is that they have got a sort of certificate from the department concerned saying that they have exported more than ten per cent and that certificate is just adorning the file.

I now come to cotton textile industry and man-made fibre industry. We import cotton worth Rs. 80 crores to Rs. 100 crores. We grow about Rs. 400 crores worth of cotton in our country. After all that, even today we are facing a great shortage of cotton. What is to be done? The prices have gone high. There is a serious squeeze between the cost and earnings. I know some of the mills have gone sick. Some of them have developed a malignant disease like cancer which cannot be cured. There are also some mills which are not efficiently worked. I will tell you a fact. In the cooperative sector there is a mill in Madhya Pradesh. It was showing a loss of 25 per cent as waste. The normal waste percentage should be 12. The Board of Directors discussed that question and they could not come to any conclusion as to how to reduce the waste. One of them said: "I do not understand this wastage percentage at all. Tell me how much weight of waste we are getting every day". The Directors replied: "We are getting 100 kilograms". The question put was: "If we can get 50 kilograms, will our purpose be served?" The answer was in the affirmative and he suggested that they should run only half the number of spindles so that they will get only 50 kilo-

[Shri R. K. Birla]

grams. A resolution was passed and action taken. This is not a story, this is a fact. If this is the calibre and knowledge of the people who are to manage these units, whether in the public sector or private sector or cooperative sector, I would say that even God will not come to our rescue.

The man-made fibre industry is a very important industry not only in this country but throughout the world. Therefore, greater attention should be paid to the use and manufacture of all kinds of man-made fibre in our country. It will also help in sparing the land on which we grow cotton at present. That land can then be used for growing more food-grains which is also a big item of import expenditure. Among the man-made fibres special and great attention should be given to the production of viscose staple fibre as it is the cheapest fibre today in the whole world which can clothe millions of people at a cheap price. This was the conclusion arrived at in the Man-made Fibre World Seminar held in Tokyo in 1966 under the auspices of UNESCO. Viscose staple fibre is very much like cotton and wool silk and can also be independently spun. We need not import any raw material to manufacture this fibre nor do we require any type of import of machinery to install these units. We also do not require any technical know-how. All these are available in the country. I would, therefore very strongly suggest to Shri Bhagat to pay greater attention to the use and manufacture of man-made fibre, particularly viscose staple fibre.

So, I was really expecting a decrease in the excise duty on staple fibre, but there has been an increase of 20 paise. If it is not reduced, it will mean more costly cloth for the poorer sections of the people.

Coming to woollen industry, it is not only an export-oriented industry but also a defence-oriented industry. As we all know, every soldier, sailor and airman has to be clothed with woollen fabric from toe to head. Therefore, special attention should be paid to the growth of this industry. A working group which the Planning Commission appointed a few years back recommended that Rs. 32 crores of foreign exchange is required for the woollen industry to work on a double-shift basis. This foreign exchange has to be

arranged. Otherwise, this industry will suffer and it will be difficult to clothe the soldiers who have to save the country from aggression by our enemies.

Coming to our own wool, we grow about 35 million kilogram of wool, of which 50 per cent is exported and the other 50 per cent is used indigenously. What do the foreigners do with the wool which they get from us? They make it into yarn and convert the yarn into tufted carpets, which is a valuable foreign exchange earner, because there is a great demand for tufted carpets all over the world. A few years back the Indian Woollen Mills Federation had prepared a scheme of manufacturing tufted carpets in the country. But no action has been taken on that scheme so far. If that had been acted upon, you could have earned Rs. 40 crores instead of Rs. 10 crores which you are earning on the export of raw wool. One Shri Dharamdev, who is a special officer in the Textile Commissioner's Office, has submitted a full and comprehensive scheme about the tufted carpet industry some years back. Since he is really a competent person and an expert in his field, I am sure his scheme would have been a workable one. He is not the kind of expert who once, when Shri Manubhai Shah was the Minister, asked him why wool tops are being imported. The Minister said that we have a short supply of wool-tops. Then the expert said we have plenty of wool-tops in this country, because the wool on the top of the sheep is called wool-top! That was his definition of wool-top. If people who are in charge of these important Ministeries have this much knowledge of the subject they are dealing with, I do not know what will happen to those industries.

Then, we are importing felt cloth for manufacturing tennis balls, for which there is a famine in this country. Why should we import felt cloth when we have mills in our country like OCM and Dinesh Wollen Mills which can manufacture felt cloth if they are allowed to import the necessary or right type of wool from New Zealand? I would certainly suggest to the hon. Minister to give consideration to this.

Now I will speak something about the export and import of cables and wires. I am glad that Shri Fakruddin Ali Ahmed is here. It is very interesting to know that

he has taken a decision to set up a committee to inspect the facilities available with the cable manufacturers in the private sector to ascertain whether these units are capable of producing telephone cables or not. It is really very strange because only very recently one of the companies—I think it is India Cable Company—has bagged a big order from Baghdad for a very sophisticated type of cable. The foreign companies have complete faith in our companies. Further, the telephone cables are not so sophisticated as the cables I am referring to here. Therefore, I do not understand why our own people, our own Ministers have no faith in our own people when foreigners have complete faith in us and they place big orders on us. Now that unit is trying to execute that order as soon as possible. Therefore, there are three alternatives before the Government—either Government take a decision now to place an order with the cable manufacturers to manufacture cable wires, or let the production of telephone suffer—if that is allowed to be done, it is nothing but a sin—or, thirdly, import the cables, consuming valuable foreign exchange; if that is done, it is going to be a crime. Therefore I suggest to the Government to keep away from the sin and the crime and immediate order should be placed with the manufacturers for manufacturing cables and wires required for the production of telephones.

16 hrs.

Now I come to the general points. We are trying to enter the field of export of technical know-how and turn-key projects. Government is not allowing any cash flow on this account. I would, therefore, suggest that some cash flow, between 10 to 15 per cent, must be allowed for those turnkey projects which bring not only name and fame to our country but also the valuable foreign exchange of which we are so short. Government should not have any objection to this when it is assured that the same would be repatriated in about 10 years' period.

Regarding the working of the economic wing of our embassies, I have all the high regard for the ICS and the IAS people. They are very intelligent and know their job but they do lack business acumen and knowledge. That is the reason that the

working of these embassies is not to the satisfaction of we people.

Here I would like to say that Shri Prakash Vir Shastri may be a good social worker or somebody may be a good barrister but, suppose, they are asked to operate on a case of appendicitis. What is going to happen? The patient is going to die. Therefore, whether it is the work of the STC or of the public undertakings, or of the private undertakings, only experienced and knowledgeable people should be asked to manage this work. If our industries go to death, what is going to happen? It will be something more worse. Therefore I would suggest that Shri Bali Ram Bhagat should concentrate on this very point that people, who man the affairs of the STC or of any of the organisations under him, should be men of knowledge and experience and not the ICS and IAS people in whom I have very great faith but if they are not suitable to man these affairs they should not be allowed to do so.

Lastly, I would make some very, very important suggestion. We have exported about 450 welders to West Germany. I am sure, you know that. They have done a good job. We have also exported a number of good engineers and scientists to Canada, the UK and the U.S.A.

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur): What do you mean by "exported"?

SHRI R. K. BIRLA: If we have succeeded in exporting such talent, I wonder why we do not extend our imagination a bit further and export such talent which believes in construction through destruction. Such talent is available in plenty on this side, on that side and even on the Congress side. The latest Red Book seems to be silent over this important issue. I would, therefore, suggest that a special fund must be created in Shri Bhagat's ministry to see that these people who believe in the philosophy, as I say, of construction through destruction are sent out. If people are not interested in taking them, they should be given more incentives than what are required.

Before I close I would like to say something about the STC. After Shri Tandon has taken over, I feel very happy that I see

[Shri R. K. Birla]

signs of improvement and efficiency in some sectors of that Corporation. Shri Tandon has imagination but he has got to impress upon the executives and officers that the STC, though a Government unit, had to work like a private sector undertaking otherwise there will be delay in replies, delay in decisions, delay in discussions and delay even in talking to the people concerned.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI (Sholapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I should support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry. It is one of the largest and more important ministries. It deals with our imports which are of the order of Rs. 1,800 crores. It looks after our exports which have now gone upto over Rs. 1300 crores. Our export and import is more than Rs. 3000 crores. It looks after the textile industry which is one of the biggest industries in the country producing cloth and yarn worth about Rs. 1500 crores and giving employment to more than 1 million people directly and to several millions of people indirectly. It also looks after the jute industry, the tea industry, the rubber industry and many other consumer industries. This is one of the most important and largest Ministries. But I am sorry to say that the time allotted for this Ministry is too short in which it is very difficult to cover all the points concerning this Ministry. It would have been much better if some more time would have been allotted to this Ministry.

Having said that, I am happy and I congratulate Shri Bhagat that he has taken charge of this Ministry. He is himself an economist and has practical working experience of 10 years in economic Ministries. As such, we can confidently hope that the Ministry under his charge will definitely show better and better results.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not offer my compliments to Shri Dinesh Singh who was his predecessor in-charge of this Ministry for the excellent work and the improvements that have taken place during the tenure of his Ministership.

I would also like to say a word about Mr. K. B. Lall, the Secretary of the Ministry. But for his devotion, these improvements could not have been achieved.....(Interruption) It is a fact. You are only criticising. We

should encourage our officers and Ministers so that we get better and better results.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: What about the Joint Secretary? (Interruption)

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: This is the first year, after so many years, that our exports have touched the figure. Our exports have touched the figure of Rs. 1315 crores, about Rs. 100 crores more than last year. The imports have also declined and come down by about Rs. 200 crores from Rs. 2095 crores to Rs. 1866 crores. The gap has been narrowed down from Rs. 885 crores to Rs. 551 crores. To reduce the gap by about Rs. 330 crores is not a small thing.

I am happy that while announcing the export-Import Policy, more attention has been given to the establishment of export houses. I think, the business community will take advantage of this offer and will try their best to increase the exports. This is only a beginning. I have no doubt that our exports will gain momentum and will increase in future. That requires hard work and quick decisions. It is a sensitive market and we have to sell products to other countries where there is competition. To say a thing is easier but to translate into actual performance is difficult. We have to sell goods to other countries in competition and that is a very difficult thing. It requires concentration and quick decisions. I hope the Hon. Minister will take full care to see that the momentum catches on and we are able to export more and more products.

Then, I would like to say something about imports also. I just said that our imports have declined. But still there is ample scope for reducing our imports. I may give you some figures. Last year, imported industrial machinery and transport equipment to the tune of Rs. 491 crores, industrial raw materials to the tune of Rs. 384 crores and metals to the tune of Rs. 151 crores. All this makes a total of about Rs. 1000 crores. We have got a very huge industrial capacity in the country but there is a lot of idle capacity. So, proper steps should be taken to reduce the import of plant and machinery and industrial raw materials. Instead of importing plant and machinery, we can import raw material and fabricate plant and machinery in our country. By this, we will be able to save

foreign exchange and we will be able to provide more jobs, more work, to the engineering industries which are running with idle capacity. These are important things. Besides this, I would like to offer one suggestion. If we give more development rebate on the plant and machinery manufactured in the country as against the imported ones, there will be more demand and buyers will have an incentive to use more indigenous plant and machinery. In this way, we will be able to reduce the imports of plant and machinery. I think, the hon. Minister will note this and will take proper action, so that we can achieve some savings in imports.

Now I would like to say something about textile industry. At the outset I would say that, in this Budget, the Government has considered the difficult position through which the textile industry had been passing and have reduced the excise duty on coarse and medium qualities of cloth which constitute about 88 per cent of the total production. As such, this has given relief to the industry. But, only by reducing the excise duty, the problem of the industry is not going to be solved. It is facing two difficulties: one is the shortage of raw material and the second is the lack of modernization.

At the present, our cotton production is not sufficient to meet the entire requirement of the industry. The consumption of cotton by the industry in 1965-66 was 58.21 lakh bales; in 1966-67 it was 57.63 lakh bales; and in 1967-68 it was 61.66 lakh bales, whereas our production in the country was 50.76, 50.05 and 58.99 lakh bales, respectively. As such, we imported cotton worth Rs. 51.60 crores in 1965, Rs. 42.01 crores in 1966 and Rs. 91.23 crores in 1967. In 1968, we have imported about Rs. 92 crores worth of cotton. The reason for this, which can be avoided, is that our production per acre is not sufficient to meet the requirement. In America, they produce cotton in 10 million acres and they produce 90 lakh bales whereas in our country the area under cotton cultivation is 28 million acres and we produce hardly 60 lakh bales. So, there is ample scope for increasing the per acre production of cotton and if this is done, the country will become self-sufficient. Therefore, efforts should be made to increase the per acre production. Our production per acre is the lowest. In U. S. A. it is 482 lbs., in Sudan it is 369 lbs.,

in U. A. R. it is 528 lbs., in Mexico it is 600 lbs., but in India it is only 116 lbs. So, there is ample scope to increase the per acre production and if that is done, the country will become self-sufficient; the farmers will be benefited and the prices will go down.

Here, I want to make one or two suggestions. At present, Government have fixed a support price for cotton and if we compare it with the existing price, we find that there is a lot of difference, the gap is very big, and this has resulted in the support price not becoming very attractive to the farmers. Therefore, I suggest that the Government should increase the support price, so that the farmers may feel assured that if they produce more cotton, if they increase the acre yield, they will be able to get reasonable prices. Now there is a fear in the minds of the farmers that, if they increase the production, they will get lesser prices and as such, there will be no advantage for them. This fear should be removed from their minds, so that they can concentrate on producing more cotton per acre and may also invest more money to achieve this thing. I would, therefore, like this suggestion to be considered.

Secondly I want to say that at present we have sufficient cotton to manufacture up to 40 counts. Upto 40 counts global cotton is allowed. Sir, I want to suggest that the use of global cotton up to 40 counts may be prohibited so that the requirement of the industry is met from indigenous cotton and the farmers get better prices.

Thirdly we are short of long staple cotton, that is above 40 counts. We do not produce sufficient cotton. We should give incentives to the farmers for the production of long staple cotton. My suggestion is that Government should give some concession in excise duty on the cloth and yarn manufactured by Indian cotton. I do not want to say that the incentive should be increased. I would say that the excise duty on the cloth manufactured by Indian cotton should be less so that the industry can use it and attract more Indian cotton so that the farmers can get the benefit. This is a long term measure. I think the hon. Minister will consider the suggestion but I am definite that it is going to benefit if this suggestion is accepted.

[Shri S.R. Damani]

There are so many points but the time allotted to me is very short. Regarding modernisation I would like to say one thing. Out of 646 mills, 89 mills have closed down. That is because of unremunerative working of the mills. They are not modernised. Here, our engineering industry are able to manufacture about 90% of the plant and machinery for textile industry and they are running idle capacity. Therefore something should be done so that the industry can be modernised. Government has established Textile Corporation for this purpose. I am sorry that so far they have taken over some mills but on the general modernisation of the industry, they have not taken any action. Mr. Vasavada, is chairman of the Textile Corporation. We expected that the textile Industry would be soon modernised so that the industry can be put on a permanent footing. This industry is spread throughout the country and small cities also like Sholapur with a population of 4 lakhs have some mills. In Sholapur one mill which was employing 10000 workers was closed down throwing out 10000 workers in the streets. There are many cities where the mills were closed down. What is important is that modernisation should be taken on hand so that our engineering industry get the work and at the same time modernisation of textile industry is effected. I would request that the Minister should give more importance to this and take definite and immediate measures for modernisation of the industry. Lastly, about the Textile Commissioner's office something should be done and as my time is short, I am not able to say about other things. I thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI (Mandsaur) : It is rare for an opposition member to pay compliments to the Minister. But, in this case, I feel it is a welcome feature of the recent reshuffle that Mr. Bhagat has been placed as what I would call a round peg in a round hole. He has the back ground of considerable experience, particularly of the economic Ministries. I think he is an able Minister and with Cabinet rank, I hope he will do justice to his new job. Presently, Shri Lall, the Secretary of the Ministry, is also a competent senior secretary and I hope they would be able to deliver the goods.

The Ministry has been blowing its own trumpet with regard to a break-through in exports. I am afraid do not agree. There is no doubt a marginal increase of 5 to 6% in our exports. In 1967-68, the exports are much better at about Rs. 1350 crores. In 1964-65, the exports were Rs. 1287 crores. Then there was a decline. What the Government has been able to do is to make up the losses the increase is only Rs. 63 crores. That way the country has benefited by this small increase. But there is an important feature and; that is this. The exports, during the first plan period financed 83.7 per cent of imports. During the second plan period, the exports financed only 62.5 per cent of imports. And, during the third plan it has financed 61.5 per cent of the imports only; that means there has actually been a deterioration in the overall position. That is something which the Minister must look into. Sir, dark-clouds on the export horizon are visible. There is a growing shortage of steel. The country was able to achieve the export of 75 crores but now there is likely to be a decline of about 20 to 25 crores in the coming year. The recession is receding, and export of the engineering goods is likely to suffer. When the internal demand increases, it would be more attractive for industries to sell in the domestic market and the consequence would be that exports are likely to recede on this account. Besides exports of pig iron, and billets amounted to about Rs. 20 crores. They are likely to be either nil or only a few crores this year. Basically due to cost-push inflation in our country, industry has been finding difficulty in promoting exports. The prices of commodities have increased considerably. There is sizeable excise duty on raw materials and intermediate goods, which enter into the cost of production of the finished goods or the final production.

16.20 hrs.

[SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD in the Chair]

This high-cost economy has contributed to difficulties for exports. That is another aspect which the Government must look into. The export targets for 1967-68 are Rs. 1350 crores and for 1973-74 Rs. 1840 crores. That means, exports must increase by about

100 crores a year. That is possible only if a startegy is built up to look after exports in respect of each important commodity, so that the exports may increase on a sustained and expanding basis.

Incentives to production and export have to be given a wider front. Only if you give considerable stimulus to production of exportable commodities, you will be able to achieve this target of Rs. 100 crores.

I shall now take up the traditional and the non-traditional exports.

Sir, the Government has been practising what I would call, fiscal brinkmanship. They go on imposing duties and export duty in particular, in this case upto the extent where the export trade is on the brink of disaster.

Take the case of export of jute goods. Such a high export duty was imposed, that the jute industry had considerable difficulties in meeting competition from Pakistan, which gives 50 per cent bonus voucher in respect of jute exports. There is a big gap in this respect and our exports are going down. Government decided to reduce export duty a little. Subsequently, this year also export duty was further reduced in the Budget. I ask: Why should you practice this fiscal brinkmanship? Why push the industry to the point of disaster and then try to give it oxygen in the form of relief? Rather than that, why cannot you have a consistent and planned policy which would result in there being a continuous increase in the export of traditional goods as well. If the export of non-traditional goods goes up and if exports of traditional goods are also stimulated, the result would be that there would be an all-round spurt in exports. Any export policy should be of a lasting nature. Therefore, I depreciate this tendency of fiscal brinkmanship which has caused in calculable harm both to industrial growth and to the economy.

While I am on this subject, I would like to touch the position with regard to ceiling prices on B-Twill. We are told that it is Rs. 200 for 100 bags. But the industry says that

it is supplying 30,000 tonnes of B-Twill and would suffer a loss of Rs. 75 lakhs. It is for the Government to have the matter investigated; it has the Tariff Commission, it has other agencies as well. Let them enquire into the cost structure of B-Twill and then arrive at a conclusion as what would be the fair profit and thereafter let them fix the price. This type of arbitrary fixation of prices and control over B-Twill prices has not helped the industry. Besides, raw jute prices are increasing and the conversion costs, wages, cost of spares are also increasing. Wages have to increase when there is a high-cost economy as otherwise labourers will suffer. In order to compensate industry, we have to enquire into the cost structure and see that the industry makes legitimate profit. Profit should not be excessive, but it should not be such that they are not able to rehabilitate and modernise their industry. I am particularly concerned about this because it is an export industry and we have to see that it does not suffer to such an extent that the exports go down.

Coming to the textile industry, it is Common knowledge that about 54 or more—now the figure must have gone up further—mills have closed down. There are sick textile mills and Government have been tinkering with the problem. That is not a satisfactory state of affairs. Some of these mills have to be modernised and rehabilitated. Government must find funds for that. NIDC was supposed to do this, but it failed. If mills close down, the poor labourers will be thrown out of employment. It must also adversely affect production, with the result that the consumer is also adversely affected.

One of the solutions that has been suggested I think it is a good one and it should be put into effect—is that sick mills should be merged with some of the stronger industrial units. Why should big industrial units take over the sick textile mills? If a provision is made that the unabsorbed development rebate and unabsorbed depreciation of a sick mill are allowed to the stronger unit, then they will take over these sick mills, in which case the economy will benefit, and the sick textiles mills will also be benefited because they would be rehabilitated and their machinery modernised. In that way, the industry will be placed on a far better footing

[Shri S.S. Kothari]

They will then start production and the labourers will also get their jobs.

With regard to tea industry, may I submit that the realisation of tea exports, instead of looking up, has been going down. Even Ceylon is benefiting at our expense. We are very friendly with Ceylon and are trying to have some common marketing arrangements. But the fact is—I would not say that we are making fools of ourselves, but I would definitely say—that they are taking advantage of our naivety or weakness or lack of proper bargaining capacity with the consequence that while we do the propaganda in U. K. and other countries, they take advantage of it and Ceylon succeeds in actually pushing up her exports.

As regards realisation, the Indian tea has realised about Rs. 2.56 per pound which is the average price realised in the Indian market, whereas in U. K., it is selling between Rs. 7.30 and Rs. 42 per pound. Similarly, while we realise only Rs. 3.77 per pound, in the USA the consumer is getting tea at Rs. 18.78 per pound.

Now, this is a tremendous amount, which is being lost by our country in the form of foreign exchange. In order to obviate this loss, attention must be given to blending of tea and exporting it in packages. I would even go a step further to state that we should not only establish a Corporation for blending tea but that Corporation must also have blending factories on foreign soil, say, in New York, London, Stockholm and various other places. We must have our own blending factories. Government is strong enough to withstand any competition from any monopolist in the world. After all, the Government of India is not a small entity; they should be able to withstand the competition. It only requires an imaginative building up of this trade. Then alone our country would be able to realise the correct prices that it should get for the tea on which it is now losing financially. It is also necessary that funds should be provided for rehabilitation of the tea industry. There I think that the Tea Board proved to be an utter failure. I think that it is because of its inaptitude that the tea Industry is not able to replace the tea bushes. That is affecting the quality of the tea that is produ-

ced and the prices that are realised for it. The Government must look into that also.

The total export duty burden is about Rs. 73 crores and I believe it is mostly on traditional commodities.

The government's policy should act as a catalytic agent for stimulating production of exportable items. But, it has failed to do so. The only thing that seems to guide the Government is the revenue consideration. But, with regard to foreign trade, may I submit to the Minister that it is not revenue consideration but the long-term, well-planned interests of the export trade of the country that should induce the determination for export duty. Export incentives are necessary. With regard to non-traditional items like engineering goods, leather goods, and various other items as also iron and steel, I submit that they have elasticity of demand which is high. That means that if you are able to provide the requisite export incentives, the export of these commodities would be not so small. This is something which has to be looked into.

With regard to procedures, in respect of drawbacks and payment of export promotion incentives, there is a complaint from the trade. The procedures need to be simplified and placed on a reasonable and equitable basis, so that there is no difficulty on that account.

There has been a proliferation of export agencies—there are 19 export promotion councils, five commodity boards—probably four or five—but the purposive direction to export trade has not been given. A considerable amount is being spent on these export promotion agencies. But it should be seen as to which of the agencies are performing their functions properly and have actually brought about promotion of exports. There are some industries which are neglected. It is necessary that these should be looked after and exports encouraged.

Coming to the S. T. C., may I submit that the Corporation should have better rapport with industry. I should think that the S. T. C. is profiteering. The fact is that commodities like Sodium Nitrite, Chloram

phenicol and Aniline Oil, are imported at low prices but are supplied to the consumers at high prices. The S.T.C. should do the work in national interest; it should serve a social purpose. There is no reason why should it make super-profits in all these commodities? This should be looked into.

Some time back, the predecessor to the present Minister, Shri Dinesh Singh had said that there would be canalisation of all industrial raw materials through the S. T. C. Firstly, in my opinion, it is an impracticable proposition. Secondly, it would upset all the existing channels of import trade. Moreover the immense suffering and hardship that would be caused to the myriad of small and medium middle class traders needs to be taken into account. They are concerned only with the interests, shall we say, of some big industrialists.

SHRI RANGA : Probably only big people are interested.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI; No, they are small people. If, Shri Ranga feels, I shall bring some of them to him.

The tentacles of the STC are spreading. I have a feeling that this does not enure to the benefit of the country. It is necessary that STC must confine itself only to those commodities, where it is absolutely in the national interest for it to deal with.

When STC enters into trade in an item, there is another point that arises. That is with regard to the additional point of sales tax payable. To the ultimate consumer, the total amount of sales tax payable increases. He has to pay at two points; this is something STC must examine. Either the State Governments must be persuaded or there must be some arrangement worked out by which it is ensured that the sales tax does not impinge upon the ultimate consumer twice.

With regard to the Supply department, may I say that greater co-ordination in the field of import substitution is necessary? What is happening is that there are considerable stocks of items in the country and still import is permitted. Take, for instance, zinc which Hindustan Zinc is unable to sell.

It has considerable stock on hand. Yet Government has been importing zinc. I do not know how DGS and D allows such a thing to happen. In the case of aluminium also, there was a complaint that the production here was not selling while the Supply department permitted such imports.

As for the public sector undertakings, may I submit that they must run in such a way that they are able to earn at least the foreign exchange required by them?

Coming to quality and reliability of export goods, while I was abroad a year ago, I had met some bankers, traders and others in foreign countries. In UK, on the continent, West Germany, France and other countries' businessmen who import goods are highly quality conscious and are very particular about the quality of the goods that they obtain. It is very necessary to ensure this. You may charge a little more, but if the quality is up to the mark, it will sustain the trade on a long-term basis. So there must be stricter inspection of commodities exported and it must be ensured that the goods sent out are of the requisite quality.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): Has he received any complaints?

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: We received certain complaints.

SHRI RANGA: There have been complaints all these years.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: With regard to the UNCTAD, I am afraid it has been a failure because the tariff against Indian goods is very high still. An effort must be made with the ECM countries to ensure that these tariffs are brought down.

May I say that some members of the Congress Party were lucky enough to be invited to take part in the UNCTAD?

SHRI SITARAM KESRI (Katihar): He was not.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: No. I do not have that ambition now. But it is necessary to see that MPs are associated in such inter-

[Shri S. S. Kothari]

national conferences and there should be a continuous dialogue so that hon. Members may be able to contribute a little to these conferences.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He should conclude now. I have already rung the bell twice.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: My last point concerns the trade with the East European countries. There is a criticism that this has resulted in switch trade. Everybody knows what it is. The Minister must see that this does not recoil on our country and does not work to the harm or detriment of this country. They purchase from us and then re-export to third countries.

Another criticism concerning this trade is that they are able to rig up the prices. In their countries, it is a state monopoly. But when we sell goods to them, they are able to buy from a number of sources. As a result of competition inside our country, they are able to get goods cheaper from us, but they sell dearer to us. Thus they get the benefit both ways. This is something the Minister must look into.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: My last point is this. It is a welcome development that this country is able to export technical know-how and provide turn-key projects. But there is a stumbling block. While we earn a lot of foreign exchange on this, it is necessary that the collaborator here should be allowed to send cash about 10-15 per cent of the cost of the project. This would enable our country to have more of such exports which would ensure to the benefit of the country.

Finally...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Shri Sitaram Kesri. Nothing further that the hon. member says will go on record.

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI:**

श्री सीताराम केसरी (कटिहार): सभापति महोदय, वैदेशिक व्यापार तथा पूर्ति मंत्रालय की

मांगों का समर्थन करते हुए मैं आपका ध्यान आयात और निर्यात जो हमारे देश से होता है उसकी ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

अभी यहाँ वैसे बहुत सारी बातें हो चुकी हैं मगर सर्वप्रथम मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान उस ओर दिलाऊंगा जोकि अभी उनके सेक्रेटरी श्री के० बी० लाल ने अपने वक्तव्य में प्रेस प्रतिनिधियों से कहा है कि 317 व्यापारियों को जो इम्पोर्ट करने के लाइसेंस दिये गये वे इस शर्त पर कि 10 प्रतिशत वे निर्यात कर सकेंगे जिनमें से सिर्फ 37 व्यापारियों ने, 10 परसेंट ऐक्सपोर्ट किया है और 27 व्यापारियों ने 5 परसेंट ही ऐक्सपोर्ट किया है। अपने उस वक्तव्य में उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि यह सच है कि अभी तक हमने कोई स्टर्न ऐक्शन उनके खिलाफ नहीं लिया है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूंगा कि ऐसे इम्पोर्टर जिनको कि आपने लाइसेंस दिया है, इम्पोर्ट करने के लिए, अगर वे डिफाल्टर हैं तो आप उन पर सीरियस ऐक्शन लीजिये क्योंकि जो इम्पोर्ट होता है उसमें मैं आपसे कहूँ कि उसमें घपला भी होता है। उसमें अंडरइनवाए-सिंग और ओवरइनवाएसिंग यह सारी चीजें होती हैं। इसके लिए मैं मंत्री जी से आग्रह करूंगा कि जैसा कि इस पर आपके सेक्रेटरी ने अपने वक्तव्य में कहा है उसको आप ठीक कीजिये।

एक दूसरी ओर मैं ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जो अभी बैंगकाक में एक कान्फ्रेंस हुई है, एशियाई देशों का सम्मेलन हुआ था जिसमें कि आपके पहले के मंत्री श्री दिनेश सिंह उसमें सम्मिलित हुए थे। इस तरह का सम्मेलन जो हुआ वह व्यापार के लिए एक आदान-प्रदान और दूसरे देश से हमारा आयात-निर्यात करने में एक सहायक हो इस बात के लिए हुआ था, मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय उस ओर ध्यान देकर उसे सबल करें, मजबूत करें जिस तरीके से यूरोपियन मार्केट है, यूरोपियन देशों का एक

बाजार है और जिससे कि वह आपस में आयात निर्यात करते हैं ।

एक चीज और मैं कहना चाहूंगा । इस बात के लिए मैं जरूर मंत्री जी को बधाई दूंगा कि इधर इन्होंने इम्पोर्ट करने में जो कमी की है और एक्सपोर्ट करने में जो तरक्की की है वह आपकी और हमारे देश की तरक्की की निशानी है । इस निर्यात से हमारे देश को लाभ होता है और यह हमारी प्रगति का प्रथम सोपान है । मैं यह भी मानता हूँ कि हमारी जो वैदेशिक व्यापार नीति है वह हमारी वैदेशिक राजनीतिक नीति के ऊपर आधारित जो हमारी तटस्थता की नीति है, वह हमारी नीति, उस आधारशिला के आधार पर परिलक्षित होती है, और रिफ्लैक्ट होती है कि दूसरे देशों के साथ हमारे व्यापारिक सम्बन्ध कितने मधुर हैं कितने सुन्दर हैं ? इससे यह बात साबित होती है । मैं आपसे कहूँ कि आपका निर्यात जो मुख्यतः बहुत सारी चीजें हैं जैसे आयरनओर है यह आपके खनिज पदार्थों में जैसे आर्ट सिल्क है और जैसे ईरान के साथ जो हमारा हाल में व्यापार हुआ और आपके हिन्दुस्तान स्टील की ओर से एक लाख 25 हजार टन रेल जो ईरान को दी गई है, मैं समझता हूँ कि खासकर आपने इस दिशा में एक बहुत बड़ा व्यापारिक कदम उठाया है और यह प्रशंसनीय है ।

मैं एक और बात की ओर आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ । अक्सर इस हाउस में इस बात की चर्चा होती है कि तस्कर व्यापार के द्वारा हमारे यहां बहुत सी चीजें आती हैं और हमारे यहां से बहुत सी चीजें जाती हैं । विशेषकर अभी नेपाल के सम्बन्ध में बहुत बातचीत हुई । चूँकि इस सम्बन्ध में मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह किया गया था इसलिये नेपाल के सम्बन्ध में एक प्रश्न का उत्तर देते हुए उन्होंने कहा था कि नेपाल द्वारा हमारे देश का बहुत-सा माल स्मगल होता है जिससे हमारे फारेन एक्स्चेन्ज में कमी होती है । इस विषय में मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाऊंगा कि नेपाल हमारा समीपवर्ती

राष्ट्र है इसलिये उसके साथ हमको मधुर सम्बन्ध रखना चाहिये । सिर्फ इसी आधार पर कि नेपाल के द्वारा हमारा माल दूसरे देश को जाता है हम इसमें कुछ दखलअन्दाजी करें, मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके पीछे कोई औचित्य नहीं है ।

हमारा देश कपड़े का भी बहुत बड़ा उत्पादक है । इसलिये इसके सम्बन्ध में भी हमको बाजार खोजना चाहिये । जहां तक आयरन ओर का प्रश्न है, जापान हमारा सबसे बड़ा खरीदार है । लेकिन रूस में साइबेरिया में भी आयरन ओर मिला है और जापान और रूस में एक सन्धि होने वाली है, जिसके कारण आपका सबसे बड़ा खरीदार जो जापान है वह आपसे कम खरीदेगा और रूस की ओर उसका ध्यान जायेगा । रूस एक डेवेलप्ड कंट्री है और अन्वटाड में उसने स्पष्ट रूप से आश्वासन दिया था कि विकासशील देशों को इन्सेन्टिव देने के लिये इस तरह के व्यापार में वह नहीं आयेगा लेकिन आस्ट्रेलिया भी आपका, मेरे खयाल से, एक कम्पटीटर होने वाला है ।

श्री ब० रा० भगत : हो गया है ।

श्री सीताराम केसरी : मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि हो गया है । इसलिये आपको इसके लिये नया बाजार ढूँढना चाहिये । मुझे पता चला है कि कोरिया आपको एक नया बाजार मिलने जा रहा है क्योंकि विशेषकर आयरन ओर की उसको बड़ी आवश्यकता है ।

आपने यह ठीक ही किया कि सिल्क और रेयन यार्न का इम्पोर्ट बन्द कर दिया । लेकिन एक्स्पोर्ट को आपको तरजीह देनी चाहिये । चूँकि हमारे आर्ट सिल्क का निर्यात विदेशों को होता है इसलिये मेरा खयाल है कि उससे बहुत से वीवर्स परवरिश पाते हैं । जो हिसाब मैंने देखा है उसके अनुसार 1960 से लेकर आज तक आपका निर्यात 10 करोड़ से घटकर 3 करोड़ तक हो गया है । मेरे एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में बतलाया गया था कि 3 करोड़ 18 लाख के निर्यात में सरकार को 3 करोड़ 80 की विदेशी

[श्री सीताराम केसरी]

मुद्रा का अर्जन होता है। मैं आपसे बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आपका निर्यात बढ़ेगा तो आपको विदेशी मुद्रा मिलेगी। हमारे देश में सिल्क का जो बुनियादी उद्योग है वह आज का नहीं है, हजारों वर्षों का है। हमने अपने घर्म-शास्त्रों में पढ़ा है कि लोग पीताम्बर के कपड़े पहन कर पूजा करते थे।

यह सबको मालूम है कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय के अन्दर बड़ी जबर्दस्त अनुभूति है क्योंकि वह नीचे के घरातल से आये हैं। मैं उनसे आग्रह करूँगा कि देश में कोटि-कोटि गरीब बसते हैं और उनका चित्र उनको अपने सामने रखना चाहिये। उनके चित्र को सामने रखकर एस० टी० सी० के बारे में उनको राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर सोचना चाहिये। आज एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट को उनको नैशलाइज कर देना चाहिये। इससे देश के गरीबों की भलाई होगी और उनका स्तर ऊँचा होगा।

एक दिन मैं अखबार में पढ़ रहा था कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर के जो व्यापारी हैं, जो एक्सपोर्टर हैं, उनमें और एस० टी० सी०, दोनों में प्रतियोगिता हो गई है कनाडा में सिल्क को लेकर। आपकी तरफ से जो आफर हुआ था वह कम कीमत पर था बजाय एक्सपोर्टरों के। इस पर उन लोगों ने एस० टी० सी० को बायकाट कर दिया और जहाँ तक मुझे खबर है आपका विभाग इस पर उनके आगे झुक गया। लेकिन आपने मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में जो कहा उससे मुझे खुशी हुई कि अब आपने इम्पोर्ट ही बन्द कर दिया है और एक्सपोर्ट की दिशा में उन्हें तरजीह न देकर आप एस० टी० सी० के थू व्यापार करेंगे।

मैं मंत्री महोदय के सेक्रेटेरियट के लिये भी उनके द्वारा एक सन्देश भेजना चाहता हूँ कि न तो वह हमारी प्रशंसा से खुश हों और न हमारी शिक्षायत से वह दुखी हों। उनका फर्ज है देश की कोटि-कोटि गरीब जनता को अपनी नजर के सामने रखकर आपकी प्रतिष्ठा और आपकी

इज्जत बढ़ायें और इस दिशा में राष्ट्रीयकरण करके इस देश का जो सिद्धान्त है कि हम लोकतान्त्रिक आधार पर देश की प्रगति करेंगे, उसकी ओर अप्रसर हों।

श्री शिवचन्द्र झा (मधुवनी) : सभापति महोदय इस फारेन ट्रेड विभाग की रिपोर्ट में, एकानामिक सर्वे में और वित्त मंत्री के बजट भाषण में तथा आज के अखबारों में भी आया है कि भारत का एक्सपोर्ट बढ़ रहा है। थोड़ी देर के लिये मैं मान लेता हूँ कि उन सबों के आंकड़े सही हैं और यह लोग झूठ नहीं बोलते हैं। लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि जिस रफ्तार से भारत का एक्सपोर्ट; भारत का विदेशी व्यापार बढ़ रहा है वह बिलकुल कम है उसके मुकाबले, जिसमें उसका बढ़ना चाहिये। वह उस रूप में नहीं बढ़ रहा है, इसके दो बुनियादी कारण हैं। पहला कारण यह है कि भारत का विदेशी व्यापार जो है वह प्राइवेट हैंड्स में है, प्राइवेट सेक्टर में है। एस० टी० सी० और जितने दूसरे कारपोरेशन हैं उनका कब्जा 2 परसेंट से भी कम पर है। आप समझ सकते हैं कि सारा व्यापार प्राइवेट सेक्टर के हाथ में है और यह एक बहुत बुरी बात है। इसलिये इस पर सरकार का कब्जा होना चाहिये।

दूसरी बात यह है जिससे हमारा व्यापार भारतीय नहीं रहा कि जो माल हम भेजते हैं उसके उत्पादन पर भी हमारा कब्जा नहीं है। वह तमाम प्राइवेट सेक्टर के हाथ में है। यह दो बड़ी बातें हैं बुनियादी तौर पर जिसकी वजह से यह नीति गलत हो जाती है सरकार की और हमारा व्यापार तेजी से नहीं बढ़ रहा है। साथ ही इस बड़ी गलती में जो सरकार की नीति है उसमें भी और गलतियाँ बढ़ रही हैं। वह कैसे? हिन्दुस्तान कामनवेल्थ में रहने की वजह से कामनवेल्थ प्रिफरेंसेज के प्रलोभन में जकड़ा हुआ है ताकि उसका व्यापार बढ़े। उसको प्रलोभन है, लालच है कि उसका व्यापार बढ़ेगा लेकिन कामनवेल्थ कंट्रीज में इंग्लैंड भी है, जिससे हमारा ज्यादा व्यापार होता है वह हमारे खिलाफ

उल्टा काम करता है। मैं इसके दो उदाहरण देता हूँ। एक तो है इम्पोर्ट डिपाजिट स्कीम। इसके अन्तर्गत इंग्लैंड ने यह किया है कि जब कोई यहाँ से इंग्लैंड को माल भेजेगा तब जो इम्पोर्ट करेगा उसको एक रकम जमा करनी पड़ेगी सिक्वियेरिटी के रूप में। तभी वह इम्पोर्ट कर सकता है। इससे हमारे एक्सपोर्ट को धक्का लगेगा।

दूसरी क्वावट जो ब्रिटेन से हमारे व्यापार में आ रही है वह यह कि अभी हाल में उसने 15 परसेंट टैरिफ बढ़ाया है टैक्सटाइल गुड्स पर जो कामनवेलथ कंट्रीज से उसके यहाँ जायेंगे। जो इंडियन गुड्स होंगे उन पर भी यह 15 परसेंट टैरिफ लगेगा। इससे हिन्दुस्तान के सूती कपड़े के निर्यात पर धक्का लगेगा। उनमें लालच है कामनवेलथ प्रिफरेंस के नाम पर लेकिन ब्रिटेन उसका दूसरा जवाब देता है। यह जो गैट ऐग्रीमेंट है उसके खिलाफ है, जो कामनवेलथ ऐग्रीमेंट है उसके खिलाफ है और साथ ही साथ जो टेक्सटाइल व्यापार के मामले में एक खास ऐग्रीमेंट है उसका भी ब्रिटेन द्वारा खण्डन है।

वह गलत नीति है, वह गलत कदम है सरकार का। पूंजीवादी बुनिया से ज्यादा तर व्यापार जो हमारा होता है वह मोटे तौर पर कामनवेलथ मुल्कों से होता है जिसमें ब्रिटेन भी है।

जहाँ तक दूसरे पूंजीवादी देशों का सम्बन्ध है, जैसे यू० एस० ए० है, उनसे भी हमारा व्यापार ज्यादा बढ़ नहीं रहा है। उसकी जो बुनियादी वजह है उसमें आपको जाना होगा। चाहे यू० एस० ए० हो या कोई दूसरा पूंजीवादी देश हो, बुनियादी वजह यह है कि हमारे माल की जो कीमत है वह दूसरे मुल्कों के माल की कीमत के मुकाबले में ज्यादा होती है। आप जूट को लें। जूट का पूंजीवादी देशों में आप निर्यात करते हैं। लेकिन पाकिस्तान के जूट गुड्स की कीमत हमारे जूट गुड्स की कीमत से कम है। हमारी कीमत ज्यादा है। आप चाय

लें। हमारी चाय की कीमत सीलोन की चाय की कीमत से ज्यादा है। इस वजह से हम उसके साथ कम्पीट नहीं कर पाते हैं। एक तो यह कारण है।

इसका एक दूसरा कारण और भी है। जो उत्पादन का सिलसिला है चाहे जूट हो या टैक्सटाइल गुड्स हों या चाय हो या जो भी उत्पादन हमारे कारखानों या इंडस्ट्रीज का है, उस सब पर प्राइवेट सैक्टर का कब्जा है। अगर आप निर्यात व्यापार इन चीजों का बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो यह जो प्राइवेट कब्जा है इसको आपको हटाना होगा। इन पर सरकारी कब्जा होना चाहिये। जूट, चाय, टैक्सटाइल आदि का राष्ट्रीयकरण आप करें। ऐसा करके आप एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट की नीति को अख्त्यार करें। जो ट्रेडीशनल माल है, जो ट्रेडीशनल एक्सपोर्ट है, उसके उत्पादन के जो कारखाने हैं, वे जिस सैक्टर में हैं, उस पर आप कब्जा करें। यह मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि इनको चलाने वाले जो उद्योगपति हैं चाहे चाय बागानों के हों, चाहे जूट के हों और चाहे टैक्सटाइल के हों, वे अपनी इंडस्ट्री को माडर्नाइज नहीं कर रहे हैं। पैसा तो वे सरकार से ले लेते हैं, फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशंस से पैसा तो ले लेते हैं, एल० आई० सी से और इंडस्ट्रियल फाइनेंस कारपोरेशन से पैसा तो वे ले लेते हैं लेकिन इस पैसे को वे इस ढंग से लगा देते हैं जिससे उनको तीत्कालिक मुनाफा ज्यादा हो। मैं उदाहरण देता हूँ। टैक्सटाइल इन्डस्ट्री वाले, सूती कपड़ा बनाने वाले पैसा ले लेते हैं गवर्नमेंट से लेकिन भागते हैं रेयंज की तरफ, कैमिकल्ज की तरफ जहाँ फारेन एक्सचेंज की सुविधायें हैं, जहाँ ज्यादा मुनाफा मिलता है। इसलिए वे अपने उद्योगों को माडर्नाइज नहीं करते हैं, टैक्सटाइल उद्योग को माडर्नाइज नहीं करते हैं और इस कारण से आपके सामने सिक मिलज की समस्या आकर खड़ी हो गई है। जिन उद्योगपतियों के हाथ में उत्पादन के जरिये हैं, जिनके हाथ में ये उद्योग धंधे हैं वे उनको माडर्नाइज नहीं करते हैं। इस

[श्री शिवचन्द्र भा]

वास्ते आपको चाहिये कि आप उन पर अपना कंट्रोल स्थापित करें।

17 hrs.

एक तीसरी बात भी है जिसकी वजह से हमारा निर्यात व्यापार बढ़ नहीं रहा है। हम पब्लिसिटी की ओर कोई खास तवज्जह नहीं देते हैं। सीलोन अपनी चाय का प्रचार इंग्लैंड में बहुत ज्यादा करता है बनिस्पत हमारे। हमारे प्रचार के साधन उतने नहीं हैं जितने उसके हैं। जहां तक अमरीका का सम्बन्ध है मैं समझता हूँ कि वहां सरकारी प्रचार की कोई व्यवस्था है ही नहीं। दूसरे मुल्कों में भी अच्छी पब्लिसिटी की व्यवस्था नहीं है। साथ ही हमारे माल की कीमत ज्यादा है। क्वालिटी उसकी खराब होती है। इस कारण से पूँजीवादी देशों में भी जिस प्रकार हमारा व्यापार बढ़ना चाहिए नहीं बढ़ रहा है। हम दूसरे देशों के माल के साथ कम्पीट नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। यह दूसरी खराबी है, दूसरी गलती है उस पहले वाली बड़ी गलती के मातहत।

अब आप कम्युनिस्ट देशों को लें। मैं मानता हूँ कि उनके साथ हमारा व्यापार थोड़ा आगे बढ़ा है। लेकिन वहां भी उस रूप में नहीं बढ़ा है जिस रूप में बढ़ना चाहिए था। उसकी भी वजह है। इनकी जो नीति है, इनकी जो स्ट्रैटेजी है व्यापार की इन मुल्कों के साथ, उस में ये इन कम्युनिस्ट मुल्कों को, समाजवादी देशों को कर्नाबिस नहीं कर पाते हैं कि हकीकत में ये समाज सेवा का काम करना चाहते हैं, ये समाजवादी देश हैं। वे जानते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान की जो योजना है, उस योजना से समाज कल्याण का काम आगे नहीं बढ़ा है, उस से पूँजीवाद ही आगे बढ़ा है। जो पब्लिक अन्डर-टेकिंग हैं उनकी व्यवस्था से भी वे खुश नहीं हैं। इस कारण से जिस रफ्तार से उनके साथ हमारा व्यापार बढ़ना चाहिए नहीं बढ़ रहा है।

तीसरा क्षेत्र वह है जिस को डिवेलोपिंग देश कहा जाता है, एफो एशियन देश कहा जाता है। मैं थोड़ी देर के लिए मान लेता हूँ कि इन देशों में हमारे डेलीगेशन जाते हैं, हमारी टीमज जाती हैं। लेकिन ये जो 77 देश हैं इनके साथ व्यापार में भी कोई वृद्धि नहीं हो रही है, खास तरहकी नहीं हो रही है। यह एक बहुत बड़ा क्षेत्र है जिस पर भारत कब्जा कर सकता है। इनके साथ अपना व्यापार काफी बढ़ा सकता है। मुझे खुशी है इस क्षेत्र में यह बढ़ा भी है लेकिन उस रफ्तार से नहीं बढ़ा है जिससे वह बढ़ सकता था।

एक जमाना था जब हमारे देश का माल बहुत सुन्दर हुआ करता था। हमारा मुल्क एक सुन्दर मुल्क था। इतिहास बताता है कि हिन्दुस्तान के कैलिको क्लायथ के ऊपर यूरोप के हुकमरानों की निगाह रहा करती थी, वे लालायित दृष्टि से उसकी ओर देखा करते थे। वे चाहते कि हिन्दुस्तान का कैलिको तथा दूसरा माल वहां जाये। तब हिन्दुस्तान का व्यापार बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ा चढ़ा था। लेकिन अब बहुत घट गया है। इसकी रफ्तार तेज होनी चाहिए। निर्यात की दृष्टि से हिन्दुस्तान को नम्बर एक के मुल्कों में आना चाहिये। लेकिन इसको सरकार नहीं कर पा रही है। इसकी बुनियादी वजह यह है कि हमारी नीति गलत है। फारेन ट्रेड प्राइवेट पार्टी के हाथ में नहीं रहनी चाहिये, इम्पोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट का नैशनलाइजेशन होना चाहिये। ट्रेडीशनल गुड्ज जितनी हैं उन पर सरकार का कब्जा होना चाहिए। प्लांटेशन्ज, टी, रबड़, काफी से जो मुनाफा होता है उसको विदेशी लोग हर साल यहां से भेज देते हैं। उसका इस्तेमाल यहीं होना चाहिये और विकास कार्य उससे हाथमें लिए जाने चाहिये। अगर आप बराबर लाना चाहते हैं, आप चाहते हैं कि आम जनता की हालत बेहतर हो तो यहां से जो मुनाफा बाहर जाता है, उसका आधार चाहे जो कुछ भी हो, उसको बाहर जाने की इजाजत नहीं दी जानी चाहिये, उस पर आपका कब्जा

होना चाहिये। अपनी नीति में आप बुनियादी परिवर्तन लायें। प्रचार कार्य आपको तेज करना चाहिये। जो नई उठती हुई दुनिया है, जो सोशलिस्ट देश हैं, जो कम्युनिस्ट देश हैं, उनको खास तौर से आपको विश्वास दिलाना होगा बुनियादी तौर पर आप समाजवाद की तरफ बढ़ रहे हैं, उसके अनुरूप कदम उठा है। वे यह समझते हैं कि आप हकीकत में पूंजीवाद को बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं और यह सही भी है। आपको अपने आदर्श में परिवर्तन करना होगा। एफ्रो एशियन देशों में भी आपको सक्रिय कदम उठाने होंगे तभी जो तीनों सैक्टर हैं, कैपिटलिस्ट, कम्युनिस्ट और एफ्रो एशियन देश हैं, उनके साथ आपका व्यापार बढ़ सकता है और आप उस पर पहुँच सकते हैं जो इतिहास में कभी हमारी थी।

SHRI M. B. RANA (Broach): Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Foreign Trade. I congratulate the hon. Minister for increasing the exports and reducing the imports.

SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN (Rampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member, Shri Rana, may resume his seat. Quorum has been challenged. The Bell is being rung.

17.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue his speech.

SHRI M. B. RANA: According to the Annual Report of the Ministry while in 1967 our imports amounted to Rs. 2,095 crores in the year 1968 it has come down to Rs. 1,866 crores. Similarly, while in 1967 we exported goods worth Rs. 1,209 crores the corresponding figure for 1968 was Rs. 1,315 crores, which shows an increase. Our export has mainly been engineering goods, iron and steel, leather and leather manufactures, handicrafts, precious stones etc. Our imports were food-

grains, fertilizers and cereals, machinery, transport equipment, industrial raw materials and metals.

My first submission is that there should be coordination between the Planning Commission and the exporters because the prosperity of a country depends upon its strength to export as much goods as possible. In the matter of exports it is an elementary rule that things which are of good quality and standard should be exported and goods which are rejected or of poorer quality should be used for home consumption. In 1951 when I happened to go to Huntley and Palmers Biscuit Company at Reading they told me that the best biscuits they manufacture are meant for export and only poor quality biscuits are diverted for home consumption. This policy is followed even by ordinary manufacturers—the best things are sent out and the poor things are kept for home consumption. That is the only way we can make progress in the country.

Here I would like to state that some of the manufacturers misuse the protection given to them by our import and export policy. For example, Birlas manufacture Ambassador cars, Walchand Hirachand manufacture Fiat and Mahindra and Mahindra, jeeps. When Henry Ford started manufacturing his cars he promised the nation he would make them so cheap that every labourer will go to his work in his Ford car. He kept that promise and began to produce as much as four cars a minute with the result that a Ford car was available in India at a cost of Rs. 2,200. As against that, what our manufacturers have done is to increase the price and reduce the quality of the car. As against the price of Rs. 2,200 for a Ford an Ambassador costs Rs. 22,000, Fiat a couple of hundreds of rupees less and a jeep costs Rs. 22,000. When Manindra and Mahindra started manufacturing jeeps in India after the last war they said they would make jeeps in India which would cost Rs. 4,000. Now it costs Rs. 22,000. So, the protection given to them by not allowing the import of cars is misused by the manufacturers of cars to the disadvantage of the nation. Therefore, either this protection should be withdrawn or they should be asked to manufacture cars at a cheaper rate. A third alternative is to import cars from

[Shri M. B. Rana]

outside. For instance, a Chevrolet Impala costs about Rs. 18,000 in its country of manufacture. So, most of the big luxury cars made outside India will cost much less than what we pay for our Ambassadors, Fiats and jeeps. In the alternative, we should be allowed to import some cars into India so that we can compete with our home manufacturers. Either they should reduce the price or increase the quality of their cars.

So also prices and quality. I suggested some time back that the cost of manufacture should be gone into by our statistical department. If we see the cost of manufacture of each item which is of daily consumption, we shall be able to find out what should be the profit earned by them; otherwise, the normal rule of economics, of supply and demand, always carries. The more supply we have, we shall be able to reduce prices.

For example, we have stopped imports of firearms and ammunition. We have in India lakhs and lakhs of rifles lying idle and sold at a very cheap price for want of ammunition which we are not allowed to import. If we allow the import of ammunition and of arms, we shall be able to balance the price. For example, Webley and Scott revolver which costs hardly Rs. 350 now costs Rs. 4,000. The same way, all other firearms. Therefore, Government should allow certain imports of arms and ammunition so as to make use of the weapons which are lying idle here.

Lastly, I must mention about the Textile Commissioner. I am a farmer. I have only about 72 acres of land and I grow mostly cotton. The Textile Commissioner's policy is such that he passes certain orders in such a way that when cotton is in the hands of the farmers prices slump down and when it passes from the hands of the farmers to the hands of the millowners prices shoot up; so, the profit which the farmer should get is taken by the millowners. The millowners make use of the Textile Commissioner in such a way that the farmers go into losses when the prices go down. So, there should be some control or some committee to see that the farmers do not suffer by the orders of Textile Commissioner.

I have got many more things to say but we are pressed for time; so, I thank you for giving me so much time.

SHRI K. G. DESHMUKH (Amravati): Sir, at the outset I would like to congratulate the Minister, Shri Bhagt, for the very good performance of export promotion that he has done during this period. No doubt, he has come here recently; still, the credit goes to him because he is in charge of the ministry.

Our overall exports during 1968 were the tune of Rs. 1,315 crores, which was an all-time high; at the same time, imports showed a fall of Rs. 228 crores or 10.9 per cent compared to imports in 1967. As a result of this India's adverse balance of trade which was Rs. 885 crores in 1967 harrowed down to Rs. 551 crores in 1968.

Though the export position was fairly good during this year, we suffered a great setback in some of the important commodities, mainly jute goods, tea, coffee and mica. These are very important commodities because they are our foreign exchange earners. I would like that the Minister should take some steps to have more and more exports of these commodities, specially of tea and coffee.

There was much said in this House for tea and coffee and I would only say that because of lack of proper publicity in foreign countries exports of these commodities are suffering.

I know that in some of the foreign countries and, specially, in our Embassies, the best way to advertise these commodities, tea coffee, is to serve them in the parties and in the seminars held in our Embassies. But in these parties tea or coffee is not served. They only copy the foreign countries and serve liquor and all those things. Why should they not serve tea and coffee? I do not understand. They are not doing that.

The next thing that I would like to urge upon the Minister is about the export of some of our horticultural produce. There is great scope for exporting our horticultural produce to foreign countries, specially, our oranges, lemons, mangoes, bananas and

pine apples. In last two or three years, some efforts were made for exporting bananas to the U. S. S. R. There has been a very good response from that country. But last year the exports went down. Same is the case of oranges and mangoes. I come from the area where oranges are grown. The traders from that area have tried to send oranges to the Arab countries where there is a demand for oranges. But no facility of transport was provided to them, specially, the air-conditioned transport. That is why they could not do it. Therefore, I would urge upon the Minister to give the transport facilities to the promoters of the trade and provide, specially, the air-conditioned transport.

Now, I come to the question of cotton. Upto this time, it is untouched. The position of cotton in this Ministry is just like a sandwich. In this House, big things are said about export and import but poor cotton is left untouched. That is why I would like to say a few words about it. The position of cotton is very unfortunate, that the production of cotton is with the Agriculture Ministry and the marketing and pricing of cotton is with the Foreign Trade Ministry. Whenever we say something to Agriculture Ministry, they point their finger to the Foreign Trade Ministry saying, "We cannot do anything. You go to the Foreign Trade Ministry." Then, when we go to the Textile Commissioner who is the boss of the whole thing, he is always partial to the traders, the mill-owners and the textile units. Nobody care for this cotton industry. I would like to give some of the figures here about cotton. One of my friends on that side has said that because cotton prices are ruling very high during the last one or two years, the textile industry has been hampered. I would like to ask my friend what are the prices that have been given to cotton in the last five or six years. At the most, last year, when we made an agitation about the ceiling prices, the ceiling prices were set off. That facility was given to the cotton growers only last year. There was no control or there was partial control on the textile industry in the sense that 40 per cent of cloth could be sold at controlled price and 60 per cent of the cloth could be sold at any price in the market while there were ceiling prices for the cotton upto the last year.

About the support prices, when we made an agitation last year, what was given to us by the Foreign Trade Ministry was only 2 to 5 per cent increase in the support price. Only that much was given to us. While the cloth prices have gone up 4 to 5 times during the last 20 years, what is the Floor price that we have raised in the last 20 years? I would like to ask the Foreign Trade Minister about that. In the last 10 to 20 years, not more than 10 per cent increase they have given in the floor price.

I would urge upon the Minister to take care of farmers. The industry has a big voice, but the farmers have no voice at all. So, they should take care of the farmers. The Government have reduced the control from 40 per cent to 20 per cent in cloth and they have raised the control price of cloth. But why is it that the support price of cotton has not been raised? There was a great demand from all the agriculturists last year that the support price of cotton should be raised by at least 10 per cent, but the support price has not been raised at all. Nobody pays any heed to that.

I would like to give some figures about the prices that we are paying for foreign cotton of the same quality. For instance, in the case of L. 147 cotton, which has a staple length of 31/32, the support price fixed by the Ministry is Rs. 1260/-, while for the medium cotton of staple length of one inch, i. e., just the same as L. 147, they are paying Rs. 1709/-. The Government are paying Rs. 1200 for the indigenous cotton and are paying Rs. 1709 for the foreign cotton of the same quality. Similarly, for cotton with a staple length of 1-1/16, CO2, i. e., long staple cotton, the Government are paying Rs. 1643 in the case of indigenous cotton and for the same thing which is imported from other countries, i. e., staple length of 1-1/16, they are paying Rs. 2303. Thus there is a difference of Rs. 600 to 700 between the prices paid for Indian cotton and foreign cotton. I do not understand why there is so much of difference. I would urge upon the Minister that if he wants the production of cotton to go up, he should raise the support price of cotton. Now there is shortage of cotton. Everybody knows that. Millowners and textile people also agree to that. There is a shortage to the extent of 10 to 12 lakh bales. Last year,

[Shri K. G. Deshmukh]

there were imports to the tune of 7.7 lakh bales of foreign cotton under P.L. 480. This cotton can be grown in Mysore, in Punjab and in Gujarat—the same cotton that is imported from America at such a high rate. Because you do not give the appropriate price for the indigenous cotton which is now grown in some parts, the farmers are not very eager to grow this. The Government are spending so much of foreign exchange on importing cotton from other countries. The same cotton can be grown in this country; though not the very high quality like the Egyptian cotton, many of the other varieties can be grown in this country. Therefore, if you want the people in this country to grow cotton, you must raise the support price. The hon. Minister should take note of this and he should raise the support price at least by 10 per cent.

About the policy of importing cotton, I would like to say a few words. Last year what happened was this. Government imported 7.7 lakh bales from America when there was not such a big demand even from industry, even from mills, because I had a talk with them last year and I know. Cotton was imported at such a time, between January and March, which was the peak time of harvest, and when there was no demand, when the cotton was lying idle here and nobody was lifting. Cotton was imported at that time and the millowners were forced to lift that cotton within a specified period, and all those millowners, I know, represented against that; they said that they did not want to lift such a big quota, they were not in need of such a big quota and still they were forced to lift the quota. What was the result? The cotton prices fell down to the tune of Rs. 160 or 150 per quintal. When there is a little rise in prices, our Textile Commissioner, sitting in an air-conditioned room in Bombay takes such a step that he imports cotton and the prices are brought down. But when the prices touch the floor prices, they put the support prices. Last year there was a debate when these prices touched the support price. The Textile Commissioner did not come forward. Our government did not come forward according to their promise given to the farmers. Whenever a little rise takes place in the prices, the foreign cotton is being imported. There are zonal restrictions. But last year and in the

preceding years, we had zonal restrictions. The cotton of Vidarbha cannot go to Khandesh, cotton from Khandesh cannot go to Mysore. Therefore, the marketing facilities are not given to the traders and the prices are coming down. These are some of the things which the Textile Commissioner employs in favour of the traders.

I would like to say one word about the credit restrictions on the farmers. Though I am not in favour of the traders, many times this is done only to put down the prices. Whenever there is a little rise in cotton prices, all these restrictions come in. All these restrictions come at the time of harvest. They are put on the traders.

Lastly I would like to say a few words about the sick mills. There are sick mills in my part also. There are nearly half a dozen sick mills. It is a matter for satisfaction that the National Textile Corporation has been formed by the Government to take over the sick mills and run them. Our own experience is that the National Textile Corporation does not come forward to take over the sick mills. I will cite one instance. In Badnera there is a sick mill for the last 3 years. Our State Government tried their level best to give it over to some private man from Bombay. He was running this mill. This year he has closed down the mill. We approached the National Textile Corporation to take over this mill. They say 'Unless we get the report of the Central Government, they cannot take it over'. The Central Government say 'Unless we get a report from the State Government, we cannot move.' I would like the Government to make the procedure simpler. I want the Minister to take over this Badnera mill under the National Textile Corporation.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN (Trivandrum): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the 7th of this month while replying to a half an hour discussion in this House the Minister of Foreign Trade and Supply welcomed the Rs. 15.5 crore coir development scheme submitted by the Kerala Government and at the same time he left the responsibility of finding funds and executing the scheme squarely on the State Government. According to Shri Bhagat the State Government should include this scheme in the State plan and try to get loans from the Reserve Bank.

The reason he gave for non-inclusion of this scheme in the category of Centrally sponsored schemes is that it did not fit into the criteria set up for centrally sponsored schemes. In this regard I would submit that the industry cannot change itself to suit the criteria set up by Government. On the other hand, the Government should change the criteria to include this industry also in the category of Centrally sponsored schemes.

I would further submit that the Central Government have an obligation to take over the development of coir industry in the Central sector. By the Coir Industry Act of 1953 passed by Parliament this industry had actually been taken over by the Centre.

Clause 2 of that Act says:

"It is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the Coir industry".

It was because the Central Government and the Parliament felt that State Governments could not by themselves tackle the problems facing the Coir industry that the Central Act was passed.

I doubt very much whether the Minister of Foreign Trade and Supply is at all serious and sincere in the development of the coir industry. At one part of his speech he says:

"The real point is that the finances for this scheme should come either as a Co-operative venture or as an industry. This is the concern either of the Agriculture Ministry or the Industry Ministry."

Thus the concerned Minister washes his hands off in the matters concerning the development of an industry which is directly under his administrative control.

Then he said something about a conference which Shri Raghunatha Reddy, his colleague in the Ministry of Industrial Development held at Ernakulam on Feb. 21 last to consider the question of grant of institutional finance to the coir cooperatives. I have a copy of the minutes of that meeting. Not a single representative of the coir cooperatives

was invited to the meeting. Certain decisions seem to have been arrived at, at that meeting. I am sure not even 5 per cent of the existing Coir cooperative societies will be able to get loans from the Reserve Bank or other banks after fulfilling all the conditions that have been laid down by this meeting.

If the pattern of institutional finance as suggested by the Ernakulam meeting is accepted there is absolutely no scope for organising new Coir cooperative societies as envisaged in the Kerala Government's scheme I have been intimately associated with the Coir cooperative movement for the last 18 years and I am speaking with personal knowledge and experience. If Government are very particular about institutional financing to the Coir cooperatives I would suggest that institutional finance should only supplement the Government aid and it should never be a substitute to Government financial assistance.

Even while the Minister expresses his lip-sympathy for the Coir industry in this House, various cells in his Ministry, in the Ministry of Industrial Development and in the Planning Commission are busy trying to sabotage the Kerala Government's scheme. They even oppose the setting up of export houses in the public sector or in the cooperative sector. I may warn the Government of India that any attempt to sabotage the Coir development scheme and to ruin that export-oriented industry employing 5 lakhs of people is fraught with very grave consequences.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Who opposed the setting up of export houses? I am surprised by that statement.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN: It is going on in his Ministry. If the Government accepts that proposal I am the happiest person. I stand corrected if that is so.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am surprised by that statement that we oppose the setting up of export houses by the Kerala Government.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN: I am glad the hon. Minister has come out with the statement that they are in favour of setting up the export houses.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I said the other day also.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN; I am glad that Shri Bhagat has agreed to visit Kerala. But I would request him to expedite his visit and try to study the problems and intricacies of the coir industry with an open mind and open heart. I will further suggest that final decisions on the coir development scheme should only be taken after the Minister's visit to Kerala.

Now I come to fisheries. The Ministry of Foreign Trade is intimately concerned with fisheries even though it is under the administrative control of the Agriculture Ministry. Foreign exchange earning from this is increasing steadily year by year and last year it has exceeded Rs. 20 crores. I am proud to say that Kerala accounts for 85 per cent of the total export earnings from fishery products in India. With about 10 per cent of the coastal area of India, Kerala State covers 40 per cent of the total marine fish catches and 25 per cent of the total fishery production in the country. Our fishermen have taken to mechanised means of fishing, but they do not get the requisite number of trawlers, mechanised boats and other appliances. Kerala Government have already drawn up a Master Plan for the development of fisheries in that State. With 306 crores, the Plan envisages a five-fold increase in fish production and ensures employment to one million people in 20 years. Kerala's Fourth Plan proposals for fisheries envisage 50 per cent increase in production and 100 per cent increase in exports. I would request the Central Government to give their earnest, sincere and sympathetic consideration to this scheme. In the meanwhile, I would request the Minister of Foreign Trade to take steps to make available adequate number of trawlers, mechanised boats and other appliances to the enterprising fishermen. There is a general complaint that some types of indigenous marine diesel engines supplied to the fishermen are of very low quality. I would appeal to the Minister to take steps either to improve the quality of the machines that are supplied or to arrange for import of better quality engines. Now a word about the Department of Supplies and I have done.

This Department is perhaps the most corrupt department of the Government of India. It is a pity that even after several years of protracted investigations and inquiries, final actions have not been taken against the officers who are responsible for the loss of Rs. 2 crores to the Government in the notorious road-roller deal of the UPCC. Government have not cared to take appropriate action against the delinquent officers in spite of repeated recommendations and suggestions by the Public Accounts Committee.

The Public Accounts Committee have submitted to this House special report on this deal alone, but even then the Government have not cared to take appropriate action. I think Government is waiting for all the officers concerned to retire from service.

SHRI RANGA: Not only officers, but even those people who cheated them.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN: In this connection, I would quote a sentence from the 28th report of the PAC regarding this road-roller deal:

It would also be appreciated that delays may lead to tampering with the records, change of officers and directors and dissipation of assets.

This is already happening. This report was submitted to this House in April 1968. The first report on the subject by the PAC was submitted to this House in June 1967. I think that was the first report of the PAC of the Fourth Lok Sabha. I know that some action has been taken against the directors of the UPCC, but not much action has been taken against the officers concerned. On the 24th February 1969 this year, in reply to my question on this matter, the Minister stated...

I quote:

"The Report of the Central Bureau of Investigation has been received recently. They have recommended departmental action against a few officials. These recommendations are being examined."

Sir, it will be remembered that this case was referred to the C. B. I. in November, 1966. It took nearly 2½ years for the C. B. I. to submit its report. From the C. B. I.'s point of view, it may be said that the Government was not substantially helpful in completing their investigations earlier. The main culprit in this scandalous deal is the former Director General of Supplies and Disposals, Shri N. E. S. Raghavachari. It was he who passed the orders for the payment of 90% advance on certificate of inspection at works ignoring the decisions of the earlier D. G. S. & D and the directions from his own ministry as well as the Ministry of Law.

SHRI RANGA : Who were the Ministers at that time ?

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN : The request from the firm for 90% of advance payment condition was rejected six times by the earlier D. G. S. & D. The records were like that. Shri N. E. S. Raghavachari recommended to the government that payment of advance at 90% of the value of the rollers on inspection on certificate of inspection at works be paid. When the Government sanctioned, they stipulated certain conditions. And this Director General of Supplies and Disposals ignored all these suggestions regarding the conditions and issued the orders which ended in a loss of Rs. 2 crores to Government.

SHRI RANGA : He must have retired by now.

SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN : I am doubtful whether he is in service or not. I know that from here he was sent to Kerala as the Adviser to the Governor and from there he was sent as the Chairman of the Damodar Valley Corporation. I do not know whether he is still in service or not. I doubt whether this Government is waiting for his retirement to finalise his case. But, if he is still in service, I would request the Government to forthwith suspend him and to prosecute him as also all other officers who were connected with this scandalous deal.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI J. N. HAZARIKA (Dibrugarh) : On going through the Report of the Ministry I am convinced that this Ministry has been maintaining its tradition both in respect of efficiency as well as other aspects of administration. I am trying to support the demand for grants of this ministry in 1970. While doing so, I only want to speak a few words on tea industry.

Tea industry, as you know, Sir, has been going through a serious crisis from the year 1968. As a measure of relief, Government came forward and granted export duty rebate by increasing the rebate from 24 paise to 35 paise per kilogram with effect from 1st October, 1968. Also they gave relief by way of abolishing the special excise duty of 20% of the basic excise duty. This was done with effect from 1st October, 1968.

Then, Sir, as you know, in the budget proposals, some more concessions were given. They have in fact abolished the *ad valorem* export duty on packaged tea in metal containers. Also they have reduced the duty on packaged tea in other containers from 15% *ad valorem* to 5% *ad valorem*.

In respect of loose tea, they have reduced it from 20 per cent *ad valorem* less 35 p. per kg. or Rs. 2.65 per kg. whichever is less to 15 per cent *ad valorem* less 55 p. per kg. or Rs. 1.70 per kg. whichever is less.

After these relief measures, the tea industry has, no doubt, been feeling a certain amount of relief, but they say that unless the excise or export duty is reduced further they will not be able to compete in the international market. This should be examined by Government. Second only to jute, tea is our great foreign exchange earner and in spite of all difficulties, the industry is progressing nicely since the last 10 years. As you know, the industry depends on weather conditions on like other agricultural crops, and on prices in the international market.

I am happy to say that about 66,000 acres have come under tea plantation during the last 10 years with an additional production of 80 million kg. This is not a mean achievement. They have done it in spite of so many difficulties.

[Shri J. N. Hazarika]

Government have allowed a development allowance for plantations since 1965. But I am sorry to say many planters could not take advantage of this because, first they have to spend more money which they get back after a few years only. So they cannot spend the money they require as it is not available.

Then there is provision for loans. Many small tea estates receive loans, but since their success depends on weather conditions and international prices, they could not repay in time. Therefore, the loan scheme has succeeded only to a limited extent. Therefore, they demand some other facilities like depreciation allowance. In the case of other industries, this allowance is made, but so far as the tea industry is concerned, in its agricultural aspect at least, it is not allowed.

Will it be possible for Government to examine this suggestion of a depreciation allowance on tea bushes?

Another concession recently granted is the grant of replantation subsidy to the extent of Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 4,500 per hectare. This amount is, of course, not negligible, but compared to that given in Ceylon, is not very much. In Ceylon, probably more than Rs. 9,000 is allowed as replantation subsidy.

The ultimate success of tea cultivation in its industrial aspect is linked with the application of the results of scientific research also. We are glad that scientific research is carried on by the Institute run by the Tea Research Association. But we understand that the pay-scales for the scholars, research workers, technicians and scientists are not commensurate with their work.

I would like to request the Government to examine whether the pay-scales of the research workers could be increased. I am glad to note that the C. S. I. R. has a hand in it and it is giving 25% of the cost for this Institute. I am sure that under the auspices of the C. S. I. R. so far as the aspect of research is concerned, the industry will be very much benefited.

There are so many suggestions and recommendations made by the Tea Finance Committee which was appointed by the Government in order to help the tea industry. Besides the Tea Finance Committee, another Committee was set up, which was called the Barua Committee. We do not know what recommendations have been made by the Barua Committee, but we have been told that the recommendations of this Committee have not been implemented by the Government. The Report of this Committee has also not yet been published. May I request the Minister kindly to see that the recommendations which are immediately required to help the industry grow are accepted in the interest of the growth of the industry?

We are happy to note that in 1968 the production figure is quite all right. It has gone up to 403 million Kg., but the export is rather poor. It has been only 209 million Kg. That means only 50% of the tea produced in 1968 was exported. Many hon. friends who spoke earlier expressed the difficulties which the industry is facing. Therefore, it is necessary that certain steps should be taken by the Government in order to obviate the difficulties faced by the industry. I would like to suggest that in addition to the measures which have already been taken by the Government, the system of tax credit certificate should be re-introduced. Secondly, the deferred payment of excise duty should be allowed. Thirdly, the system of granting income-tax rebate on export profits should be re-introduced. I don't know whether the Ministry can do anything in regard to the West Bengal Entry Tax. The West Bengal Entry Tax is quite high. If the Government of India try, probably the West Bengal Government may agree to reduce the rate.

I appreciate the efforts taken by the Government in regard to international marketing of tea. We are glad that the Government of Ceylon and the Government of India have agreed to have a joint consortium for marketing tea, and also the F. A. O. has agreed to help the country with regard to this. The F. A. O. has also appointed a working party and they are going to meet very soon. Let us hope that their recommendations are accepted in full by the Government.

Lastly, I would like to say a few words about the auctions. Well-known auction centres are there in this country. Twenty years ago, the second auction centre was opened at Cochin. Then in Coonoor the other centre came. Recently at Amritsar another cooperative marketing centre for the sale of green tea has also come up. The people of Assam and the Government of Assam have been pressing that there should be an auction centre at Gauhati also. If there is an auction centre there, then the marketing of tea produced in Assam will be easier. As everybody knows, a large quantity of tea is produced in Assam, a major portion of tea produced in the whole of the country, and it will get an easy passage to foreign markets. By creating an auction centre at Gauhati I am sure the industry will prosper more and more I suggest that there should be a national port in every State, for instance, in Amritsar in Punjab so that the price fixed for a particular port should be applicable to that centre also, for that particular area or State. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to construct warehouses at Gauhati and also open an auction centre there.

SHRIMATI SUDHA V. REDDY (Madhugiri): Out of evil cometh good: so they say. Anyway, out of the evils of devaluation and recession came the exploits of our industrial concerns to find foreign markets; to some extent the Ministry needs to be congratulated in this respect.

In the last ten months, that is, between April 1968 and January 1969 our exports including re-exports have reached a new total of Rs. 1034 crores which is about 12.6 per cent more than the corresponding period for the last year. They are also higher by 6.7 per cent than the predevaluation period which is the real test. It is heartening to realise that as much as 82 per cent of the rise of Rs. 116 crores had been contributed to by non-traditional items. That means that we are really looking ahead. I do not want to waste the time of the House by enumerating various items but I should like to make a special mention of druggets which were also mentioned by Shri Birla and also pearls and precious stones

which interest women. "Gentlemen"—women will stand by you, if you produce new items for exports or even if you bring out traditional items of export, including hand-loom and handicrafts with a dynamic new look—you can conquer markets. I am reminded of what Kalidasa said in his own inimicable way:

पुराणमिति पक्वं न साधु सर्वं ।

न चापि काव्यम् नवमिति अवद्यम् ।

सन्तः परीश्यान्त्यतहार भयन्ते मुदर प्रीप्रत्य
मनेस बद्धि ॥

Which means: everything is not good because it is old; nor are things good because they are new. Great men accept things after keen examination; and only fools are led away by other's beliefs. I hope the Ministry belongs to the first category.

18 hrs.

Continuing, one cannot help regretting the fact that certain traditional items of export have cut a sorry figure; they have declined. It is all right to explain it away saying the unit price realised had decreased or by using other hackneyed phrases. But we must remember that uncompetitive prices offered by us have been edging and elbowing us out of the traditional markets, especially when we try to recall that the world consumption of these items has definitely not gone down; the consumption has gone up. Therefore, something must be done to explore newer and newer markets. It is certainly heartening to see that our trade with ECAFE regions has gone up by 46 per cent, with East Europe by 25 per cent, with the USA by 10 per cent and there is a small increase even with Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, etc. But the percentage of increase with western Europe is miserably small. A late realisation seems to have dawned on us that economic co-operation is a very primary facet of diplomatic relations with other countries. It is just like the handsome husband who never forgets to pay a handsome tribute and make a handsome present to his wife on her birthday or on their wedding anniversary. This is exactly the embellishment that economic co-operation lends to foreign affairs. Let us not always lay stress on a

[Shrimti Sudha V. Reddy]

multilateral machinery exercising pressure on the more developed countries to give us that miserable one per cent of aid. But let us have more and more bilateral arrangements with countries so that they give us vaster scope.

I am glad that this Ministry of Foreign Trade has been instituted.

I would like to mention that it was Samuel Butler—who said: “Man’s friendships, are like his will, invalidated by his marriage but they are no less invalidated by the marriage of his friends”. This keeps happening all the time in world affairs. The second half of the 60s has seen many furtive marriages not only among the big powers and their trade relationships but also amongst the developed countries and the developing countries. Well, these marriages are mostly the outcome of the art of brinkmanship which came about during the Kennedian times, proving that local brush-fires, pyrotechnics, could teach the art of gyrotechnics. The art of gyrotechnics is something which we must learn. A good example in gyration is that of the British. Their Ambassador may have been stripped of his shirt in China but still they lend China their nuclear ken, and they also percolated into the field of electronics and the whole of the market in China was captured by them. It is the same case with Japan. They have no other relationship with China excepting their 70 million dollar relationship by way of trade.

18.03 hrs.

[SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD *in the Chair*]

As Babcock said, business is religion and religion is business. The man who does not make a business of his religion has a religious life of no force and a man who does not make a religion of his business has a business life of no character. Therefore, it is for the Indian businessmen to build up a business of character which sometimes, I cannot help wondering, whether it is wanting in certain aspects, because we are second to none in the world where intelligence is concerned, where finesse is concerned. In fact, many of our European friends, when

I nodded have said this, have asked me whether I meant it.

It is here that the Government can step in and promote certain controls. By controls, I do not mean control in the absolute sense especially when I know that my friends in the Swatantra party are already glaring at me. I mean that trade can be blessed by Government which can prove a self-starter and a motivator for good diplomatic relations by exercising quality control, by seeing that businessmen adhere to certain schedules and quality.

SHRI RANGA : We are not opposed to these controls.

SHRIMATI SUDHA V. REDDY: Let us seek enlarged trade with Latin America and not only with UAR of which we are very fond—I need not say how fond—but with other Arab countries as well including Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and also the Lebanon.

Even the routing of our trade through epicentres of tradition should cease at sometime or other if we are to be progressive. Why should so much of our trade pass through London and London only? Is it because it is the capital of the Commonwealth? The Commonwealth was alright in the days of the joint family, but the Joint family is an institution, the death-knell of which we have sounded without much ceremony and the burial of which we have caused even without a commemoration stone. Why cling on to this great capital, especially when we remember that this big brother of ours could not even gain entry into the European Common Market? Why not we strengthen our trade relationship with France? Why should we route our trade through UAR alone? Why not we deal directly with other Middle East countries and why not we trade with Israel and also get technical know-how also from that country?

Most businessmen complain that there is complexity of procedure which absolutely devastates any efforts that they make towards export promotion. I am sure the Ministry will streamline these procedures and simplify them as early as possible.

A word about our public undertakings. They must resort to more and more diversification if they want to live and burrow their way into other countries, be they the nether countries. The same thing with the so called monopolists. It would be a good idea if they start more and more turn-key project in other countries, instead of getting a bad name in this one.

There is a false belief amongst us in favour of the optimum in everything and this is where I think we are even with our public undertakings. I thought it was always women who think of babies, but now when I recall it, there was a bachelor head of one of our public undertakings who always issued invitations to the public saying that the mother undertaking was about to present a baby to the nation. This mother presented about four or five babies, at the end of which she was bled white and no body wanted the babies. The consumers could not feed them and we have many machine tool undertakings-sucking their thumbs !

Take the Surgical Instruments Factory in Madras, which a new management is just trying to revive. Everybody knows that it was with Russian collaboration. I do not know whether the instruments were made according to the specifications of instruments for Russian anatomy. Anyway, they were unpopular with the more slender Indians, full of malnutrition. It is a good thing to hear that a panel of expert surgeons is now advising the management on the preparation of instruments which are accepted by Indian standards.

All this only shows that thought, more thought and more thought has to go into the planning of industries not only by the Ministry but by all industrial concerns, by its progenies including the STC and MMTC, and also by our Embassies and our so-called Commercial Attaches, who are woefully equipped where trade know-how is concerned. I think it was the Vollarath Mission from West Germany which visited nearly 70 companies in this country. They felt that a large number of well-managed Indian factories have the necessary conditions to offer for exports to Europe but that the European market must be better

cultivated, cultivated more intensively and that they (factories) must have the building up of a necessary sales organisation for this purpose. This Mission commented that many of the companies visited did not even have export managers. They also commented that our concerns must be tuned where export techniques are concerned. I would also suggest that the Ministry press the institution of an Export-Import Bank as soon as possible and also see that inadequacies in the export publicity which are plentiful at the present times are made up. More progressive countries invest almost 2 to 5 per cent of their export earnings on publicity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request the hon. Member to conclude now.

SHRIMATI SUDHA V. REDDY : I think a poor country like ours could invest at least half per cent.

With these words I would like to conclude as I have been asked to do by the Chairman. A woman is generally long vinded, but the Chairman will not understand.

I think our young and dynamic Minister for Foreign Trade will remember this that the world is not so much in need of brand new thoughts as when thought grows old and worn with useage, it should, like the correct coin be called in and from the mint of genius be reissued as a fresh and new coin. I am sure he will do that with our export-import policy.

श्री हेमराज (कांगड़ा) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आप ने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया है। मुझ से पहले मेरे साथी श्री हजारिका ने नार्थ इंडिया के चाय उद्योग का जो मसला था उसको हाउस के सामने रक्खा था। जो शुमाली हिस्सा है उसमें एक हिस्सा असम, बंगाल और दार्जीलिंग वगैरह का है और उसके साथ-साथ एक हिस्सा मगरबी शुमाल का है जिस में बिहार भी है और उत्तर प्रदेश व हिमाचल प्रदेश भी है।

पेस्तर इसके कि मैं इस हिस्से के बारे में कुछ कहूँ, मैं बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि टी बोर्ड ने इस हिस्से में कैसा काम किया है। उसने पहले

[श्री हेमराज]

से, कुछ ज्यादा काम वहाँ पर किया है। जो उस की इस साल की रिपोर्ट है उस से पता चलता है कि उस की आमदनी 1 करोड़, 70 लाख, 37 हजार और 315 रु० है और खर्च 1 करोड़ 74 लाख, 38 हजार और 537 रु० है। लेकिन अगर आप मुलाहजा फरमायेंगे तो जो ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव एक्पेन्सेज हैं वह 40 लाख के हैं और जो डेवेलपमेंट के लिये ग्रांट इन एड है उस पर 23 लाख से ज्यादा खर्च नहीं हुआ है। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि टी उद्योग के डेवेलपमेंट के लिये ज्यादा अखराजात मंजूर करने चाहिये ताकि वह इलाका, जिसकी पैदावार बहुत कम है, कुछ ज्यादा कमा सके। यह ठीक है कि उन्होंने कुछ तजुवों हिमाचल प्रदेश में शुरू किये हैं, लेकिन उन तजुवों के बाद वहाँ जो चाय पैदा होगी उस के काफी देर बाद वहाँ कुछ नतीजा निकलेगा। आज की हालत को आप देखें। कुछ इलाके मशरिफ में बाका हैं और कुछ मगरिब में। उनकी जो पैदावार है और उसकी जो कीमत वसूल होती है, उसको आप देखें। मगरिब के इलाकों की जो पैदावार है वह पर हैक्टियर 270 किलोग्राम के करीब है। उसके मुकाबले में मशरिफ के जो इलाके हैं उनकी पैदावार 1100 किलोग्राम है। जो कीमत वसूल होती है उसको भी आप देखें। मशरिफ की हिस्से में 6-7 रुपये तक होती है लेकिन जो मगरिबी हिस्से हैं उन में तीन साढ़े तीन रुपये होती है। इन दोनों को आपने एक ही एक्साइज जोन में रख दिया है, सिंगल जोन में रख दिया है, एक्साइज जोन नम्बर 1 में मिला दिया है। मैं बहुत दिनों से प्रार्थना करता आ रहा हूँ कि विहार, उत्तर प्रदेश और हिमाचल प्रदेश इनका एक्साइज जोन बिल्कुल जुदा होना चाहिये। जिस वक्त तक वहाँ की पैदावार मशरिफ की इलाके की पैदावार नहीं हो जाती उस वक्त तक एक जुदा जोन बना दिया जाए। जो इनके तजुवों चल रहे हैं, वे जब कामयाब हो जायें तो इन सब का एक

ही जोन बना दिया जाए, इन सब को एक ही जोन में रख दिया जाए।

जो ग्रीन टी है वह हिमाचल और देहरादून में होती है। जैसा हज़ारिका जी ने कहा है उसकी सभरी मार्किट अमृतसर में है। पहले जो हमारी इसकी तज़ारत थी वह लैंड रूट जब खुला था तो उससे अफगानिस्तान से होती थी। लेकिन जब से भारत और पाकिस्तान क़ी लड़ाई हुई है पाकिस्तान ने उस रूट को बन्द कर दिया है। इस चाय की मार्किट चूँकि अफगानिस्तान में है, इस बास्ते सीधे अमृतसर से अफगानिस्तान न जाकर पहले इसको बम्बई भेजा जाता है और वहाँ से अदन और अदन से यह अफगानिस्तान जाती है। इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि एक रुपये से लेकर सवा रुपये तक एक किलो पर अधिक खर्चा बैठ जाता है। कांगड़ा वालों की, हिमाचल प्रदेश वालों की बहुत दिनों से यह मांग रही है कि वहाँ के लिए एयर रूट डायरेक्ट खोल दिया जाए ताकि जिस सस्ते भाव पर वह पहले वहाँ बिका करती थी उसी सस्ते भाव पर अब भी बिक सके और जो हमारी चाय वहाँ बिकनी बन्द हो गई है, वह फिर से बिकनी शुरू हो सके।

हमारा इलाका बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। वह बहुत डेवेलप नहीं हुआ है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैंने एक और भी प्रार्थना आप से की थी। मैंने कहा था कि यहाँ टैकनो इकोनोमिक सर्वे होना चाहिए। मैंने सवाल भी किया था। मुझे जवाब दिया गया कि जो इलाके आगे बढ़े हुए हैं, जैसे दार्जिलिंग, नीलगिरी, अन्नामलाई, त्रिपुरा, केरल उनका तो कर लिया गया है लेकिन जो अन-डिबेलेपड इलाके हैं उनका अभी तक इन्होंने कोई टैकनो इकोनोमिक सर्वे नहीं कराया है। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इनका भी टैकनो इकोनोमिक सर्वे कराया जाए ताकि ये जो इलाके अभी तक डिबेलेप नहीं हुए हैं, डिबेलेप हो सकें। यह भी खयाल हो रहा है कि काश्मीर में भी थोड़ी सी चाय की पैदावार की जाए।

में चाहता हूँ कि यह जो इलाका है इसके लिए भी कुछ कदम उठाये जायें।

आपने एक टी कोर्स असम में खोला है। वहाँ पर जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं उनके लिए जगह नहीं हो सकेगी चूँकि वहाँ पर आल इंडिया कम्पैटिशन होगा। जो पहाड़ी क्षेत्र के लड़के हैं वे शायद उतने अच्छे साबित नहीं हो सकेंगे। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि कोई न कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था की जाए ताकि जो टी ग्रीडिंग एरियाज हैं उनके जो लड़के हैं वे उस टी कोर्स में जा सकें वे अपने इलाके में वापिस आ कर तरक्की कर सकें।

मैं आशा करता हूँ कि नार्थ वेस्ट एरिया के मुताल्लिक आप विचार करेंगे और इसको ज्यादा डिवेलप करने की कोशिश करेंगे। इन शब्दों के साथ जो डिमांड्ज रखी गई हैं, उनका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru) : Mr. Chairman, there is a burning problem now in Andhra Pradesh in the tobacco industry. For several years the Government of India earned foreign exchange of several crores of rupees from tobacco but in spite of that now when there is a slump and the foreign market is not coming forward to buy it for various reasons, it is not coming to the rescue of the growers there. In spite of the so-called STC, which is there for the interest of the trade and specially for the growers' interest, sending so many officers to Andhra Pradesh and even delegations to foreign countries, not even one tonne of tobacco has been moved from Andhra Pradesh and crores of rupees worth of tobacco is lying in the fields and in the godowns. Unless it is purchased next year the grower is not going to grow tobacco. I am warning the Government that next year the tobacco-grower is not going to grow tobacco which has been the main foreign exchange earner up till now.

Last year when there were more taxes on tobacco we represented to the Government and they said, let them not grow it. How can you say, let them not grow it? If they

do not want it to be grown, let them ban its growing. Then they will give it up and take to some other crop. Let the Government decide the policy. On several occasions we have represented that they must declare the policy. The grower should know what the plan for the next year is. They have come here several times. Our Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has promised and has taken the assurance from the Government of India, but in spite of that not even one tonne has been moved from Andhra Pradesh. Last year's stocks, 12,500 tonnes, which are worth nearly Rs. 1½ crores are still with the growers. What is the harm if the Government purchases them, stock them and find out the markets? Several times in the last two years the growers as well as the traders from Andhra Pradesh have represented their grievances about markets and other things. But the STC always goes where there is profit and where there is demand. The other day when we represented, they said that there was no demand in other countries. If there were demand, where was the necessity for the STC coming in? The STC should come into the market to look to the interest of the grower first; then, there will be profits. Usually they get profits. But unless there is a guarantee of profits, they are not coming to the rescue of the grower or the trader. That is why I beg of the Government, through you, to look after this burning problem.

This year's crop worth Rs. 6 crores is lying with the growers and last year's stocks worth Rs. 1½ crores are there. They must find out the market. The biggest consumer is the UK and they must find out one or two other countries.

The price of one quintal of country tobacco is Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 but the excise duty is Rs. 1,300 to Rs. 1,400. There is no country where it is being taxed like this because they have got associations and so many representations in the ministries who will immediately come to their rescue and safeguard their interests.

I have no grudge against the growers of tea. I have no knowledge but I understand all the teagrowers are sponsored by foreigners and they are big firms. They are being

[Shri K. Suryanarayana]

financed for replanting and these things and Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 4,500 per hectare is given as subsidy. I am not grudging that. That also should be encouraged because it is also a foreign exchange earner. People are not dying without tea or tobacco but on account of the foreign exchange they are encouraging that. Other parts of Andhra have become richer because they are growing only food crops. Only in four districts in Andhra we are growing tobacco. That is why I humbly request the Government to associate the Finance Minister also with foreign traders. Unless the Finance Minister also associates with it and has direct knowledge of the troubles of these growers, the problems are not going to be solved. As my other friend also said whenever you approach the Agriculture Minister, he wants me to approach the Foreign Trade Minister. When I approach him, he says, "What can I do? The foreign exchange must be there." They will say so many things. We have no knowledge of foreign exchange or something. We want that the interests of the farmers should be looked after when he hands over produce to Government or to any trader. The Government should look after the interests of the growers.

One word more I will say in the interest of growers. This is what Mahatma Gandhi has said. So many birthdays and centenaries of Gandhiji are being celebrated by the Government of India. What Mahatma Gandhi said when he was alive has been quoted in *Kurukshetra*. January, 1969. I would request the Government to consider what he has said. I quote :

"To think that your occupation of the Ministerial chair will be vindicated if you serve the cities only would be to forget the India really resides in her 7,00,000 village units. What would it profit a man if he gained the world, but lost his soul in the bargain?..."

Our cities are not India. India lives in her seven and a half lakhs of villages, and the cities live upon the villages. They do not bring their wealth from other countries. The city people are brokers and commission agents for the big houses of Europe, America and

Japan. The cities have cooperated with the latter in the bleeding process that has gone on for the past two hundred years. It is my belief based on experience that India is daily growing poorer. The circulation about her feet and legs has almost stopped. And if we do not take care, she will collapse all together."

This is my request to the Government. The interests of the growers, the rural population, should be taken care of by them.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikodi) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Ministry. I look to the problem of foreign trade with a different angle. The foreign trade is looked at by me as a sort of business in which a certain community in this country is interested and prospers. I fail to understand what is the share of the weaker sections of the country in this business of foreign trade. I find it a Sahara desert for the weaker sections of the country as far as the foreign trade is concerned. But even in Sahara desert, there is one oasis. At least, there is one Scheduled Caste Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Trade. That is only thing. That is how the scheduled Castes of this country are sharing directly or indirectly in the foreign trade. I do not mean to decry the administrative machinery of the foreign trade.

Why are we interested in the foreign trade? We want to earn foreign exchange. Why do we want to earn foreign exchange? It is for the development of this country. Why do we want to develop this country? It is to have a welfare State, to give equal opportunity to all the people to bring up the down-trodden, the suppressed, people to the level of other people. That is how I look at it. For this objective and aim, I should say that this foreign trade should be nationalised immediately. But I am afraid this suggestion will not be acceptable to this Government. I do not mean to say that they do not desire to develop this country into a welfare State. But the circumstances do not permit this Government to nationalise the foreign trade. That is what I feel. In the circumstances, the foreign trade, as it is continued in this country, should continue to achieve the best results for the welfare of the State.

I want to know how the foreign trade is conducted. It is mostly conducted on a bilateral basis. I have not much time at my disposal. Otherwise, I would have dealt with bilateral foreign trade at great length. I should say we have been benefited to a great extent by having bilateral system of trade with East European countries.

One fear, as has been pointed out by my hon. friend on the other side, is this. The East European countries are, with the help of this bilateral system, having switch trade. The examples of this are well known. Recently one conventional machine-tool, which was produced by the HMT and was sold to one of the East European countries, was found in an emporium in West Germany. The USSR is also not out of this. The Coffee Board has got an example to show that coffee beans, which were the subject-matter of foreign trade with USSR, were found in a third country. The Coffee Board took an exception to this. And I am told that even political pressures were brought to bear upon this. In this context, I may point out that a question was raised in the House regarding having trade relations with North Korea. This country is exporting manganese. A question was raised whether North Korea was going to supply this, through switch trade, to China. I do not know how far the Ministry has dealt with this problem. But the Minister gave a reply that China is a manganese-producing country and that China might not be interested in getting manganese through North Korea.

Another thing that I want to point out is this. In this House a question was raised about fixation of prices of commodities in the bilateral trade. The hon. Minister for Foreign Trade said that the prices might be either high or low or high and low at the same time. When he was asked on what basis the prices were fixed, there was no answer.

I want to know how far the Ministry is taking interest to conserve and improve the foreign exchange position. In this connection, I wish to point out that there are certain Cut Motions. I do not want to read all those Cut Motions. I do not say that all these Cut Motions are deliberately made to offend the Government without a grain of

truth in it. There is a grain of truth. The Cut Motions say about corruption and malpractices in STC—corruption, malpractices and irregularities in licensing and so many other things. There is a lot of wastage of foreign exchange. I do not know whether the Ministry has given any thought to this.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member may conclude.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I must thank you before I conclude. You said that you have given me five minutes. I would not be able to exhaust all my points during this short time. I will just read out the points.

The oversupply of tea in the world market, as reflected in the huge stocks of tea in the U. K., has now reached crisis proportions, leading to a drop in prices during 1968 of Rs. 0.84 per kg. or Rs. 24.43 crores for North East Indian producers if Sterling devaluation is also taken into account.

During the same period the cost of production of tea in North East India has risen by Rs. 0.34 per kg. or Rs. 9.89 crores.

The combined effect of higher cost and lower prices is Rs. 1.18 per kg. or Rs. 34.32 crores decrease in earnings of North East Indian Tea Producers.

As compared to this, what is the benefit given by the hon. Minister on the 28th February? The benefit given is only Rs. 0.34 per kg., but that is also taken off by the imposition of taxes on fertilisers and oils which are necessary for the tea gardens. So I should say that the Government should take into consideration reducing of excise duty and also the expert duty as a whole and also a long term solution regarding the raising of sale price of tea at international level should be taken into consideration. Government should pursue these objectives vigorously and speedily implement them. I should say that Government give more liberty for persons who know the tea industry and who have an insight into export promotion and see that we earn a greater amount of exchange through these commodities.

I thank, you Sir.

श्री न० रा० बेबघरे (नागपुर) : सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि इस देश में हथकरघा जिसको कि हैंडलूम कहते हैं और मराठी में जिसे हातभाग कहते हैं वह इस देश का कृषि उद्योग के बाद सबसे बड़ा गृह उद्योग है। एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट की अभी तक जो बहस यहां चली है उसमें इस हथकरघा का जिक्र नहीं आया है। इसके लिए मैं आपके पास गया और मैंने प्रार्थना की कि मुझे हथकरघा पर बोलना है। यहां कोई भी बक्ता इस हथकरघा उद्योग पर नहीं बोला। किसी का भी ध्यान इस ओर नहीं गया। इतने बड़े इम्पोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट विभाग के साथ इस बेचारे छोटे से हथकरघा उद्योग को सम्मिलित किया गया है। मैं बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि यह एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रीय उद्योग है। इस उद्योग में 75 लाख बुनकर 30 लाख करघों पर कार्य कर रहे हैं। बुनकरों की आबादी इस देश में 2 करोड़ के करीब है अर्थात् इस उद्योग से 2 करोड़ व्यक्ति अपना जीविकोपार्जन कर रहे हैं। यह उद्योग देश के वस्त्र की माँग का एक तिहाई हिस्सा पूरा कर रहा है और कुछ निर्यात भी अब बह करने लगा है। लेकिन इस मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट को अगर आप देखेंगे तो इस उद्योग के बारे में दो लाइन भी आपको देखने को नहीं मिलेंगी। कुछ निर्यात के बारे में मैं समझता हूँ एक, दो लाइन है। जैसा मैंने पहले कहा इस उद्योग में 75 लाख लोग काम करते हैं लेकिन इसको रिजर्व बैंक आफ इण्डिया द्वारा सिर्फ 5 करोड़ रुपया कर्जा दिया जा रहा है। दूसरी और तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में इस उद्योग को काफ़ी बढ़ावा मिला। इस उद्योग ने कुछ तरक्की की है। इसके पहले इस उद्योग पर महान संकट आया था लेकिन पहली और दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में जो सहायता दी गई उससे यह कुछ तरक्की कर सका है और कुछ पनप सका है। लेकिन तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में फिर नई स्कीम शुरू की गई। इसको जो सरकार द्वारा कर्जा दिया जाता था उसका सूद भी नहीं लिया जाता था, इंटरैस्ट भी नहीं लिया

जाता था लेकिन तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस उद्योग को रिजर्व बैंक आफ इण्डिया द्वारा जो कर्जा दिया गया वह सिर्फ 5 करोड़ रुपये दिया गया। अब इस उद्योग की अगर उन्नति सहकारी क्षेत्र के द्वारा ही करनी है तो सहकारी क्षेत्र में जो 14 लाख करघे हैं और 500 रुपया प्रति करघा के हिसाब से जो निश्चित किया गया है 500 रुपया अगर प्रति करघा दिया जाय तो कुल धनराशि 70 करोड़ रुपये की इस तौर पर होती है परन्तु इस उद्योग के लिए रिजर्व बैंक के द्वारा दिया गया धन लगभग 5 करोड़ रुपए ही है। लेकिन सिर्फ 5 करोड़ रु० इस उद्योग को कर्ज के रूप में दिया जा रहा है। इस कारण जिन सोसायटियों के पास पूंजी नहीं है वह बन्द होती जा रही हैं। जो पूंजी इन सोसायटियों ने लगाई थी वह खत्म होती जा रही है और बुनकरों की दुर्दशा हो रही है। मैं सरकार से कहूँगा कि आज वह सहकारी क्षेत्र के बुनकरों की संख्या अगर 14 लाख नहीं तो कम से कम 10 लाख तो माने। 500 रु० के हिसाब से उनको दी जाने वाली धनराशि 50 करोड़ बनती है। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर 50 करोड़ बनती है तो कम से कम 30 या 20 करोड़ तो उनको दीजिये। 5 करोड़ से तो जो सबसे बड़ा उद्योग कहा जाता है देश का वह चल नहीं सकता है। महात्मा गांधी जैसे महान् नेता ने भी इस उद्योग के बारे में बहुत कुछ कहा है। कम से कम उसकी रक्षा के लिए आप इतनी धनराशि तो दें जिससे कुछ अनएम्प्लायमेंट प्राब्लेम भी हल हो।

यहाँ पर कुछ लोगों ने टेक्स्टाइल मिलें जो बन्द हो जाती हैं उसका सवाल उठाया। मुझे सहकारी क्षेत्र की स्पिनिंग मिलों का अनुभव है। जहाँ पर 300-400 आदमी काम करते हैं और 20,000 स्पिंडल की मिल है उनको सरकार ने लगभग डेढ़ करोड़ की सहायता दी, एक स्पिनिंग मिल, जहाँ सिर्फ स्पिंडल हैं और केवल स्पिनिंग का काम होता है, उनको डेढ़ करोड़ की सहायता दी, लेकिन जहाँ 30 लाख करघे हैं और जिनमें 70-75 लाख लोग काम करते हैं उनको

सिर्फ 5 करोड़ रु० सरकार देती है, यह क्या बात है ? इस देश में वह आसानी से हड़ताल नहीं कर सकते क्योंकि उनके पास कोई संगठन नहीं है, वह पढ़े लिखे नहीं हैं, अपनी भुग्गी-भोपड़ियों में काम करते हैं सरकार से काम निकालने के लिये हड़ताल नहीं करते, इसलिये क्या सरकार उनकी बातों पर ध्यान नहीं देगी ?

दूसरी समस्या खासकर महाराष्ट्र के बुनकरों के सामने आई है। जैसा मैंने कहा हिन्दुस्तान में 30 लाख हथकरधे हैं। आन्ध्रप्रदेश और मद्रास में करीब करीब 5-5 लाख हथकरधे हैं और महाराष्ट्र में 1 लाख 70 हजार हथकरधे हैं। उसमें एक लाख सिर्फ विदर्भ विभाग में है। नागपुर डिवीजन में आठ जिले हैं, जहां से मैं आता हूँ। नागपुर जिले में 50 हजार बुनकर हैं और नागपुर शहर में 30 हजार लोग यह काम करते हैं। नागपुर में बस्ती की बस्ती बुनकरों की बनी हुई है और सारे लोग उनमें काम करते हैं जो सिर्फ रंगीन साड़ियां बनाते हैं। पावरलूम एन्क्यायरी कमेटी श्री अशोक मेहता की अध्यक्षता में बैठी, उसने सरकार से सिफारिश की कि रंगीन साड़ियों का उत्पादन सिर्फ हथकरधों वालों के लिये रिजर्व रक्खा जाना चाहिये। कामर्स डिपार्टमेंट ने 2 जून, 1966 को यह सिफारिश मानी और मानकर यह तय किया कि 2 जून, 1969 तक देश में जो पावरलूम हैं उनको रंगीन साड़ियां निकालनी बन्द कर देना चाहिये।

इसके बाद नवम्बर महीने में टेक्स्टाइल कमिश्नर ने एक सर्कुलर निकाला, लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि वह सर्कुलर कागजों में ही पड़ा है, अमल में नहीं लाया जा रहा है। देश में जो 30,00,000 (30 लाख) बुनकर हैं उनमें से 15,00,000 (15 लाख) ऐसे हैं जो सिर्फ रंगीन साड़ियों का उत्पादन करते हैं। अशोक मेहता कमेटी के अनुसार इस देश में 1 लाख 75 हजार पावरलूम हैं। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि 74 हजार पावरलूम सिर्फ महाराष्ट्र में हैं। लेकिन

उसके बाद महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने एक कमेटी बनाई, जिसको कोगलेकर कमेटी कहते हैं। उसने कहा है कि महाराष्ट्र में 74 हजार नहीं बल्कि 95 हजार पावरलूम हैं। 95,000 में से 50,000 ऐसी हैं जो सिर्फ रंगीन साड़ियां बनाती हैं। एक पावरलूम आठ करघों के बराबरा होती है, जितनी कमाई आठ करघों में होती है उतनी एक पावरलूम में होती है। 50,000 पावरलूम अगर रोज साड़िया बनानी शुरू कर दें तो क्या हालत होगी ? चार लाख के करीब पैदावार हो जाएगी। आप देखें कि महाराष्ट्र में 1 लाख 70 हजार लोग करघों पर काम करते हैं और विदर्भ में एक लाख। ये लोग कैसे पावरलूम से कम्पीट कर सकेंगे।

मैं पावर लूम का विरोधी नहीं हूँ। अशोक मेहता कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा था कि बुनकरों को, हैंडलूम वालों को, पावरलूम दी जानी चाहिये। लेकिन उनको दी नहीं जा रही है। कौन इनको ले रहे हैं ? सिर्फ पूंजीपति लोग जिनका घंघा पूजा लगाना है, वे पावरलूम लगा रहे हैं। आप जा कर भिवंडी में, मालेगांव में, घुलिया में देखें। कोगलेकर कमेटी ने क्या लिखा है ? उसने लिखा है कि बहुत से लोग हैं जोकि टी० बी० के शिकार हो रहे हैं। उनके लिए कोई सुविधा नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : अब आप समाप्त करें।

श्री न० रा० बेवघरे : मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। पावरलूम में आठ गुना ज्यादा माल तैयार होता है। हथकरधे के मुकाबले में। वहां अगर मजदूर सी रुपया महीना कमाता है तो हैंडलूम वाला 50-60 रुपया महीना ही कमाता है और यह भी तब जब उसकी पूरी फैमिली इस काम को करती है। अब आप ही बतायें कि वह पावरलूम के कम्पटीशन में कैसे टिक सकता है। सरकार ने 2 जून, 1966 को एक रेजोल्यूशन पास किया था। उसको अमल में लाया जाना चाहिये। अगर उसको अमल में नहीं लाया जाता है तो महाराष्ट्र के ही नहीं, विदर्भ के ही नहीं बल्कि इस देश के सभी बुनकर बरबाद हो जायेंगे। वे पावरलूम का मुकाबला नहीं कर

[श्री न० रा० देवघरे]

सकते हैं। पावरलूम आठ करघों के बराबर काम कर सकती है। इन तमाम बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मैं चाहता हूँ कि पावर लूम पर रंगीन साड़ियाँ बनाने पर आप पाबन्दी लगा दें।

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): Mr. Chairman, I am glad that the Honourable...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister may resume his reply tomorrow. We will now take up Half-an Hour Discussion.

17.42 hrs.

HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSION

DEVELOPMENT AND REGULARISATION OF UNAUTHORISED COLONIES IN DELHI

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) दिल्ली हमारे देश की राजधानी है। यह दुनिया का एक महानगर शहर है। यहां की आबादी 40-50 लाख के करीब है। इनमें से दस बारह लाख ऐसे लोग हैं जोकि ऐसी 208 बस्तियों में रहते हैं कि जहां उनको ढोर डंगर की जिन्दगी बसर करनी पड़ती है। वहां उनको कोई सहूलियत नहीं है। उनको उन में से कोई भी सहूलियत हासिल नहीं है जो दिल्ली में दूसरे रहने वाले लोगों को हासिल हैं। इससे न सिर्फ हमारी राजधानी की बदनामी होती है अपने देश में बल्कि दूसरे देशों में भी हमारे देश की बदनामी होती है। दिल्ली में बाहर के देशों के राजदूत तथा दूसरे बड़े बड़े लोग आते हैं और जब वे इन बस्तियों की हालत को देखते हैं तो इसकी चर्चा दूसरे देशों की प्रेस में भी होती है। मैंने पढ़ा है कि रूस में, अमरीका तथा दूसरे देशों में हमारा जो रहन सहन है, हमारे जो मकानात हैं, जो लोगों को हम सिविक एमैनेटीज देते हैं, उनके बारे में वे लोग कोई अच्छे विचार नहीं रखते हैं। आज से हज़ारों साल पहले अरिस्टोटल ने कहा था कि शहर में आदमी आकर इसलिए आबाद होता है कि शहरी आबादी का फायदा उठाये, वह अच्छा शहरी बने और रहना सीखे। एडलाई स्टिवनसन जो एक बड़े पुरुष अमरीका के हुए हैं उन्होंने शहरी जिन्दगी की बाबत लिखा है कि शहर इस तरह से बसने लगे हैं और उनके सुबरब

में ऐसे आबादी बढ़ने लगी है कि उससे शहरों को वह सब प्रेस और सिविक लाइफ जो है, वह भी खराब होने लगी है। उनकी यह बात दिल्ली पर पूरी तरह से लागू होती है। जो वस्तियाँ हैं, उन में हमारे वे भाई आबाद हैं जोकि कमाऊ पूत हैं, जो स्कूल पूत नहीं हैं, जो एक्सप्लायटर्ज नहीं हैं। बल्कि जो तबका कमाऊ पूत है— गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के एम्प्लॉईज, या छोटे दूकानदार या गरीब मुलाजिम या मगरबी और मशरिफी पाकिस्तान से उजड़े हुए पाकिस्तानी गरीब भाई, या फौजी रिटायर्ड अफसर और जवान, वह लोग जो देश की जान हैं और देश की वेल्थ बढ़ाने में जिन का हाथ है, जिन की नेक कमाई है, खून पसीने की गाढ़ी कमाई है, वह लोग जंजाल में आ गए इन बड़े-बड़े कालोनाइजर्स के। कोई इनके रूल्स हैं नहीं, कोई रेगुलेशंस हैं नहीं, उन लोगों ने लाखों करोड़ों रुपया कमाया कालोनाइजर्स ने और ये लोग बेचारे इन बस्तियों में आबाद हो गए जो आज कल अनएथोराइज्ड बस्तियाँ कही जाती हैं। मुझे शर्म आती है अथोराइज्ड और अनअथोराइज्ड यह रूल्स हैं, रेगुलेशंस हैं चाहे डी०डी०ए० के हों, कारपोरेशन के हों या गवर्नमेंट के हों यह रूल्स लोगों के लिए बनते हैं, लोग रूल्स के लिए नहीं बने हैं। लेकिन ऐसा मालूम देता है कि ये लोग रूल्स के लिए बने हैं। जिन रूल्स से लोगों को नुकसान है, उन के हकों पर कुठाराघात है, उन रूल्स को फाड़ देना चाहिए। मैं इन से पूछना चाहता हूँ नई दिल्ली के राष्ट्रपति भवन में, वजीरों के बंगलों में और यहां जो हमारा इंडिया गेट है, कनाट सर्कस है या और दूसरी जगहें हैं बेकार की बिजली, बेकार सड़कें, बेकार स्कूल, बेकार रिक्रियेशन सेंटर्स, दुनिया भर की यह सब चीजें जब यहां हैं तो वह भी दिल्ली की बस्तियाँ हैं या वह दिल्ली शहर की आवादी नहीं हैं? वह भी दिल्ली में हैं। लेकिन नाम मात्र को भी वहां कोई सुविधा नहीं है। न वहां सड़क है, न कहीं बिजली है, न कहीं लैट्रिन है, न कोई आने जाने का ट्रांसपोर्ट का बन्दोबस्त है और मेरा ख्याल तो यह है कि