

Brook Bond and Liptons. By this way, the Government is misusing the goodwill of the Darjeeling Tea. So, my specific question this. By exporting the Darjeeling Tea and other Tea, we are earning foreign exchange of about Rs. 700 crores every year.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is your question? Don't go to monopoly system and all that.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : I am coming to the question. What is the concrete proposal of the Government to take over the entire tea trade under the STC?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Well, at present, we have no proposal to take over the Tea gardens and all that.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : I am asking not about Tea Gardens, but about Tea Trade.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Trade is allowed to be done by the tea growers. What we have done is that the tea is sold in the auction market. It is not allowed to be sold by private contractors unless tea comes to auction platforms. Then, proper gradation is done there; there are purchasers and the buyers and there would be competition in purchasing of tea. So, we have adopted this procedure. And we are not intending at present to take over the tea trade as such.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Recently last year Coimbatore started a tea Auction Centre and in Cochin also there is Tea Auction Centre. South has been having very good tea export in earlier days. Now it has come down. What is the experience that Government have gained after opening of Auction Centres in Coimbatore? Is the Government proposing any action to encourage the tea trade in the Southern region?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The policy of the Government would be to have the auction platforms every where in the country not only in one part of the country. The experience of the Government is this.

When the tea comes to auction platforms, there is proper gradation; there is competition between the buyers also. Generally the price available under this kind of arrangement is more accepted.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The Minister said that there are two international companies which are in the tea trade. Is the Minister not aware that both these companies today are being controlled by one company in England, that is, Liver Brothers. They are no longer two separate companies. This is being controlled by the same company. This is part (a). Part (b) is this: What incentives have been given and what has been the result to export tea in value-added form?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Our intention is to give encouragement to the export of tea in value added forms. Incentives are given. The marketing of tea is very important. In fact, the marketing aspect of tea is more important than the production itself as far as the export of tea to the other countries is concerned. We are helping the Indian growers to sell their tea under Indian names, under Indian brand, in foreign countries. We are giving them loans and all those things. And then we have a programme, which is a pilot programme, under which we are spending 50 lakhs and then we are providing warehousing facility. Cash compensation is also given to see that taxes (imposed on tea which is exported to other countries) are reduced, and that burden is not there, so that our tea becomes competitive in the international market.

[Translation]

Proposal to set up a Sugar Mill in Mainpuri (U.P.)

*664 **SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAV :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent a proposal to set up a sugar mill in the district Mainpuri in the cooperative sector, and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon so far?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The application was considered by the Government. A rejection letter was issued on the 29th November, 1985.

[Translation]

SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, firstly I want to know from the hon. Minister the grounds on which the application of Uttar Pradesh Government was rejected. Secondly, Mainpuri district tops in crime rate in the entire State of Uttar Pradesh, As there are no industries or other vocations there, the people take to crime. Therefore, in view of this, will the hon. Minister reconsider the application of U.P. Government for the issue of licence ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do you want permission regarding sugar industry or for some other industry you want permission ?

SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAV : Sugar industry.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, so far as the first portion of the question is concerned, the reasons were given and in fact they were written in the rejection letter also. The reasons were two-fold. First is : As the Government is in the process of formulating a new sugar policy, so it was not rejected finally; the letter mentions that at this stage it has to be rejected. The second was : The proposal as it stands now, is not in conformity with the existing policy.

So far as the second portion of the question, i.e., Mainpuri, is concerned, it is true that there is no sugar industry there, but after the policy is announced when, according to the conditions laid down, if any application is made and we find that it is according to the form and feasibility and

viability there, of course where there are no-industry districts but sugarcane is grown in abundance to make such industry viable, we shall consider such an application.

[Translation]

SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a clause in the Press Note No. 14 of 1984 issued by the Ministry of Industry, Government of India which laid down a condition that sugar mills should be set up only in those districts where sugarcane was extensively grown, Sir, in this connection, I would like to say that extensive cultivation of sugarcane is done only in those districts which already have sugar mills, because it involves lot of labour, etc. As such, the farmers in the rest of the areas grow only that much of sugarcane as is required for making jaggery, etc. Therefore, while the process of framing new policy is on, with the hon. Minister kindly consider my suggestion that the districts which have good land suitable for sugarcane cultivation and where sugarcane can be grown extensively are also brought under the new clause ?

[English]

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, I have already answered. If we find that there is no industry, that is not under Category A as laid down by the Planning Commission, but there is no sugar industry, then we will certainly examine that from the angle, that is, whether sugarcane is available in the quantity required for the capacity of the industry applied. If we find that the quantity required is feasible and that the quantity required would be able to make the industry viable, then certainly such applications would be considered.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Supplementary must be on Uttar Pradesh and Mainpuri. If that is there, I am allowing. I do not want to go to other States.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Sir, the hon. Minister has said that only if adequate sugarcane is available, they would consider promoting a sugar mill. The point that the hon. Member was making was in areas

where there is no sugar mill, obviously no one would be growing sufficient sugarcane. Sugarcane will be grown only if there is an opportunity for its utilisation. So, it is not the question of actual sugarcane being grown but the potential that should be looked into and if the U.P. Government have recommended, obviously it is on the basis of potential. But may I know from the hon. Minister whether there are any other sugar mills recommended by the U.P. Government in any other district and whether they have also been considered? (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't go to Andhra Pradesh. If you are putting a supplementary about Uttar Pradesh I will allow.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Of course, it is not related to a district of Uttar Pradesh, but he also asked about some other district.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : At least, it should have some relevance to the question.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : The total number of applications including Mainpuri was 17. How many of them from U.P. State, is not with me. Out of the total applications, all of them were rejected except three which are still under consideration. Those applications were rejected not because those are not viable and rejected finally but because new policy is being formulated. After the guidelines are set down, they have to apply a fresh showing that they have complied with such conditions.

So far as the recommendation point mentioned by the hon. Member is concerned if the State Government recommends and we find that they have also made provision for the purpose of sugarcane to be grown there, i.e. the area has been earmarked for the purpose of sugarcane, then certainly those are the conditions which will be taken into consideration,

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let it be a supplementary relating to U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : By when the new sugar policy would be ready and the States like Andhra Pradesh...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not relevant.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Out of 17 applications, is there any from Andhra Pradesh,

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : At least, about Uttar Pradesh, if you ask it is O.K. Then Andhra, and then Kerala means, the Minister may not be ready for that.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : You are importing sugar. Kindly let us know the time by which you are going to formulate the new sugar policy keeping in view the interests of the cane-growers and announce it?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is about setting up sugar industry.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : The policy paper on licensing etc. has been circulated to all the Departments. I am expecting that it may be declared by the end of this month or beginning of May.

So far as A.P. is concerned...

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : He is very kind enough.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, he is kind enough. Otherwise, he may not be kind enough.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, there may not be any misgiving with my friends from Andhra Pradesh. I may answer. There

are 33 existing sugar mills working in Andhra Pradesh. Out of 17 new applications, 14 were rejected. Is there any one from A.P., I cannot tell you like this. I can certainly inform the Member, if he wants it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAFIJ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to set up sugar factories in sugarcane producing districts of Uttar Pradesh, such as Moradabad and Bareilly ?

[*English*]

SHRI A. K. PANJA : So far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, the setting up of the factory will depend on whether the application has been according to the parameters laid down. But at present, I find, out of 56 districts, they are already there in 35 districts. In the East U.P., there are 40 such factories; in the West Uttar Pradesh, there are 23 such factories and in the Central U.P., there are 38 such factories, quite high.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BRAHMA DUIT : In many districts of my State, there are sugar factories but due to low crushing capacity, the entire cane cannot be crushed. They have applied for increase in crushing capacity with due recommendation of the U.P. Government. I want to know what are you doing in the matter ?

[*English*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Combine sugar price also along with it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Just now you are asking. How the hon. Minister can answer it ? You could have asked the question in the beginning.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Regarding the question, it is not increasing the capacity but of expansion. That also will be considered after the policy is declared. We have

found there are certain factories which are not only taking all the sugarcane produced there but, there is some excess. So, it is also under consideration whether expansion could be made.

Decline in Sale of Products of National Textile Corporation (WBABO)

+

*665. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA
SINHA :
DR. V. VENKATESH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the sales of products manufactured by the units of the National Textile Corporation (WBABO) Limited, Calcutta have been on the steady decline as a result of which finished products and stocks of sealeable goods have accumulated to the tune of rupees ten crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the management of the Corporation including its Sales Directorate have failed to take effective steps to clear the stocks;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken for clearance of the stock and for imposing proper penalties on the concerned officials for neglecting their duties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (c). The sales during 1985-86 (April 1985 to January 1986) have been Rs. 28.67 crores, which is higher per month than the sales during 1983-84 (Rs. 29.71 crores) and during 1984-85 (Rs. 29.00 crores). The total finished stocks with NTC (WBABO) as on 31.1.1986 amounted to Rs. 7.25 crores of which controlled cloth valued at Rs. 2.34 crores is accounted as "sold stock". Steps are being taken continuously by officials of NTC (WBABO).