

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)**

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\*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).

to improve sales and reduce stocks of finished goods.

(d) The following measures have been taken to increase the saleability of NTC products :—

- (i) introduction of cash discount at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  on ex-mill value on receipt of payment within three days;
- (ii) in addition to sales through agents, directed sales have been resorted to by the mills as well as by the subsidiary's office, at a price not below the floor price fixed by the subsidiary corporation :
- (iii) up-country markets in Assam, Bihar, Orissa, etc. are being tapped by sending sales personnel : and
- (iv) the mills are being made quality conscious with better product-mix, more suited for market requirements.

**SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the reason which has led to the accumulation of stocks to the extent of Rs. 7.25 crores.

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :** It is a fact that these days there is a slump in the market of textiles and this is one of the reasons for the accumulation of the stocks. It is not only confined to this subsidiary but in other subsidiaries also.

**SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA :** In view of the huge accumulation, would the hon. Minister think of taking positive steps so that these huge stocks can be reduced? I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is thinking in terms of revamping the Sales Directorate of NTC or changing the Managing Director in order to improve its functioning.

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :** All possible steps are being considered and

taken to improve the sales but the mere change of the Managing Director will not help. In fact, the whole of the organisation has to be reorganised to make it more efficient.

**DR. V. VENKATESH :** Whatever information the hon. Minister has given, is not correct at all. Actually, the NTC is the temple of corruption. Actually, 37% people live below poverty line. The Government is not able to provide them clothing. This is a serious thing. In the name of modernisation, they have brought some machinery and, with corrupt officials and procedure, they are getting only to threading. They are not at all bothered about the weaving process. Weaving is most important. They have neglected it.

Apart from it, I want to ask a direct question to the hon. Minister. The sale counter can be opened. I do not know why the Government is not coming forward to open the counter in the rural areas where there are unemployed youth. They can make use of the unemployed youth by opening these sales counters.

They have been encouraging the corrupt officials. Time and again, the hon. Minister assured me last year that he would eradicate corruption and all that but so far he has not done. What is the reason? The reasons are not at all clear. Let the hon. Minister give the proper reason.

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :** In the first place, I was not in this Ministry last year. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** The Ministry can say that.

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :** It is very easy to make a sweeping remark about corruption. Certainly, if there are any specific charges, please let me know. We will examine them and hand them over to the CBI. But this is not the way of finding out the corrupt officials. If specific charges are there, we shall try to weed out those officials. I can assure the hon. Member.

**DR. V. VENKATESH :** He is not clear.

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :**  
Will you allow me to answer ? I can assure the hon. Member. Let him send me specific charges and I will straightaway hand them over to the CBI for inquiry.

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :**  
I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that huge accumulated stocks...

**DR V. VENKATESH :** What about the sale counters ?

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :**  
It is not clear for the simple reason that the sale counter...

**MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** Already Shri Das Munsi is putting the question about counters. Please take your seat.

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :**  
I want to know whether it is a fact that the huge stocks were not cleared on the ground that where there is a peak season for the stocks, usually in the early December to February in the semi-urban and rural areas. The NTC time and again complained to the authorities—I mean—the Ministry and others that they need to open more retail counters. In West Bengal we have 115 small and medium towns and the retail counters do not cover even one-fourth of the whole State. Will the Minister go into it and finalise arrangements so that from the next season such problems do not crop up ?

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :**  
Our experience of opening our own retail counters has not been a very happy one. But we have decided that we will give as money agencies as the people will come forward in small towns, big towns and medium towns.

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :**  
Earlier I had suggested to the NTC several times that they form groups of women in rural areas because they are the most potential buyers and very good sellers. So I want to know whether the NTC has really taken any initiative with regard to organising these women groups or taken the help of voluntary women's organisations,

giving them the goods at some concessional rate of so. If not, whether the Minister will examine that ?

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :**  
Their husbands will be put in difficulties.

**SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :** I am grateful to the hon. Lady Member for giving this suggestion. I will welcome if any initiative is taken by her in this regard.

#### Transfer of officers of Punjab and Sind Bank

\*666. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that officers of Punjab and Sind Bank working in the North are at the same station for ten years and more;

(b) the number of officers who have joined the bank from the North and never gone out of their home town;

(c) whether it is a fact that Punjab and Sind Bank authorities have transferred some officers out of North/Punjab but they have not moved therefrom; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

#### Statement

(a) The Punjab and Sind Bank have reported that the total number of Officers is 3695. Of these the number of Officers from North Zone consisting of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Chandigarh is 1953 but the number of Officers working in the North Zone are 1542. Only 28 Officers of Punjab and Sind Bank out of 1542 Officers working in the North Zone are at the same station for more than 10 years.