

the training of the Police service to such an extent that such things do not occur in the country which depict the Police as a brutal force. That is the only answer and, for that, I have already informed the august House that we have now before us a well-planned scientific schedule for upgrading technical skill of the training. It is not that rude traditional training of Danda and catching people at will and then putting them through the mill and then discharging them after so many things which come in the press. We have really taken note of the better service for mobility of the forces having better vehicles with greater speed, better and efficient wire-less equipment, scientific aid for investigation.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : It is not a technical matter that we are asking...

S. BUTA SINGH : ...and training equipment, computerisation of crime records providing efficient and modern training to the police personnel with a view to having better quality and trained police force, raising the morale and to improve the welfare of the police personnel by providing them better housing facilities, introducing more welfare measures... (*Interruptions*).

On the national scale, these are some of the priorities that we have given to the training of the police in the States. (*Interruptions*). Such cases are happening. We are getting reports through the Press, through the Hon. Members. Wherever at least I get a representation from the Hon. Member, I immediately take it up with the Hon. Chief Minister of the respective State. Most of the cases are investigated. In case where they are not investigated, we follow them up. The only method with us in all such cases, is that we can use some Central Agency but that cannot be done without the consent of the States. Therefore, I would not really like that in every case we should intervene and try to see that this kind of things do not happen. Earlier also, my colleague had addressed a letter to all the Chief Ministers on this kind of reputation being earned by the Police. I will again take up with all the Chief Ministers, on the first opportunity, to see that such things do not occur in the States which give a bad name to the Police force. If the Police is discredited, let me tell you that law and order will be the first casualty in the country.

(*Interruptions*)

Diversification of jute products

* 433. **SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of possible product diversification in jute industry;

(b) the reasons for the industry not having gone for such diversification so far;

(c) whether Government are aware that Bangladesh and Thailand are making very good jute carpets and if so, the efforts being made to acquire and apply that technology in India;

(d) whether jute blankets have also proved successful; and

(e) whether any incentives is contemplated for non-traditional jute items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The possible product diversification in jute industry include manufacture of jute carpets, decorative fabrics, blended fabrics, jute reinforced rigid packaging for tea and apple packing etc.

(b) The main reason for the jute industry not going in for diversification in a big way is the inadequacy of funds with the industry for purchase of new machinery required for the purpose.

(c) Government is aware that jute carpets are being made in Bangladesh. One or two jute mills in India are also making jute carpets. It is hoped that the recently announced Jute Modernisation Fund and also the Custom duty exemption for import of modern carpet plants may induce more jute mills to go in for manufacture of jute carpets.

(d) Trial production of jute blended blankets has been taken up recently and appears to be promising

(e) Incentives for export of identified non-traditional jute products have already

been announced. Moreover, a provision of Rs. 10 crore has been made under the Special Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores mainly for promoting R&D efforts and product diversification. Special marketing programme have been launched by the Jute Manufactures Development Council (JMDC) to familiarise Indian consumers with new jute products.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It is a very easy way out to lay a Statement on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

I had asked in part (c) whether the Government are aware that Bangladesh and Thailand are making very good jute carpets and if so, the efforts being made to acquire that technology in India. In the answer he says that the Government is aware that jute carpets are being made in Bangladesh. But nothing is mentioned about Thailand. May I start from there by informing the Hon. Minister that out of only the two jute materials in Thailand, one is exclusively for the purpose of making jute carpets. Jute carpets are also—after giving this question, I found out—being made in Indonesia and in China. The answer says that so far as jute carpets are concerned, the Government hopes that through the Jute Development Modernisation Fund which is being made available and some exemption is being given, the industry will take to make jute carpets. Nothing is being made today. So, may I ask the Hon. Minister regarding jute carpets and other items which are mentioned in answer to question (a) viz. decorative fabrics, blended fabrics and blankets etc., now what public and marketing efforts are being made.

MR. SPEAKER : Jute blankets also ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : ...or contemplating to be made by the Government and by which institution of the Government for these non-traditional products made of jute and (b) what is there in the contemplation of the Government regarding utilisation of its own undertaking viz. the National Jute Manufacturing Corporation which is the largest Corporation, largest Company in the jute sector for these purposes and what has been done so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : In my answer I have mentioned about Bangladesh only because apart from other countries producing jute carpets, Bangladesh has produced a lot of jute carpets, machine-made jute carpets i.e. on the machine. In our own country, we are having two mills/companies doing it. The production as in the last three years is as follows : In 1983-84, it was 940 MT; in 1984-85 2,065 metric tonnes; in 1985-86 2,330 metric tonnes. So, production of jute carpets is increasing and among some of the concessions that have been given to the jute industry, a very important one is import of modern machines without duty. It is a very big concession and that, together with the jute modernisation fund, we believe, would enable the industry and the jute mills to import machinery for producing non-traditional items. Apart from this, the Jute Industry Research Association has been developing over the years a number of non-traditional items. Just to give one example of the latest effort they have made, they treat jute fabric so that it can be used for tea chests which consume a lot of plywood as well as small crates for apples. They have been successful in this. They had a discussion with the Central Tea Board and efforts are being made, so that gradually tea chests which are made of plywood are replaced by reinforced jute packing material. These two examples show that a lot of things are being done in this respect.

As regards other items, as the House is aware and as particularly the Hon. Member very well knows, there is the Jute Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores which the Prime Minister announced recently and we have set apart Rs. 10 crores for research in diversification areas. It is very important. We know that the "traditional" users of jute have limitations, and unless we branch out into new areas, we cannot do much to promote this industry. Non-traditional jute items have got the concessional rate of CCS. That is another step we have taken to improve export of non-traditional items, and I hope that with the new research input that we have put and the existing ones which have been developed by our Research Association, we would be able to make some dent in this respect.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am not satisfied with the reply to the first. Let me move on to the second...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : It was a very good answer.

MR. SPEAKER : Still he is not satisfied.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Another item of diversification, and which can be produced in mass quantities, is jute blanket, jute blended with acrylic fibre. It is stated here that it is under trial production. I would like to know what has been the role of the Government of India in initiating this trial production, in seeing that it is successful and in getting further orders for the trial production by the company which is doing it. I wonder whether the Minister knows what that company is. I would like the Minister to deal in detail regarding the efforts being made to popularise and get jute acrylic blankets manufactured.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Jute blanket is a new item which has been developed. High quality jute, after being chemically treated and made soft is to be blended with various other types of fibres so that the blanket could be made. It is a very difficult proposition. Still even if we could technologically produce a satisfactory jute blanket, its acceptability by the consumer is a very important thing. Not only for this blanket but for all these non-traditional items, we are having a series of exhibitions all over the country, in Madras, in the south, north and east, and I am happy to say that it has had a very good response. For the first time, these new non-traditional products were shown to the people. They were surprised that these could be done. We are having a dialogue with the local manufacturers, for example, the luggage manufacture; there is a dialogue with them as to why they should not use superior quality jute which has been developed for making soft luggage, for example. So, one important step we are taking is to popularise non-traditional items. People just do not know about it. I do not think the Hon. Members know; there was an exhibition in Delhi itself...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We ourselves do not know. Then how will the other people know ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : In the last few months there have been a series of exhibitions all over the country.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What are you saying ? Last few months ! What about the last ten years ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I am not saying about the last ten years. In the last few months what we have done is, we have had a series of exhibitions.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You arrange an exhibition in Parliament House also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Provide Mr. Acharia the first blanket.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Hon. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt that they want to give protection to the jute industry, but is the Hon. Minister aware of the repercussions it has on workers engaged in other industries ? We want to take this country into the 21st century and plastic industry is rapidly developing in the country. With a view to replacing jute, hundreds of new plastic industries have come up which manufacture plastic bags and the lining, etc. used in irrigation. But in order to provide protection to the jute industry, the excise duty on these products has been raised. It is all right if you give protection to the jute industry for carrying out research and development, but now far is it justified if thousands of workers in other industries are thrown out of employment in the process ? Hundreds of plastic industries in Maharashtra are closed following Government's decision to provide protection to the jute industry and enhancement of excise duty on plastic products which resulted in thousands of workers losing their jobs. You carry out research in jute industry and increase its production, that will be a new thing. But the Hon. Minister must give it

a thought as to how far is it justified to ruin the plastic industry, which is helping the country march forward, by giving protection to the jute industry? After all, those engaged in plastic industry are also workers. It should not happen that at one place jobs are given to 2000 workers while at other place, 2000 workers are rendered unemployed.

[English]

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The jute industry is a very old and traditional industry. It occupies a very important position in our national economy. It supports as many as four million agricultural workers and the industrial workers' number may be anything upto 2.5 lakhs. So we want that this industry should not be put at a disadvantage when compared with the packaging materials from the synthetic sector.

Of late, a large number of synthetic substitutes have appeared for packaging and the Government's view point is that a proper adjustment between the requirements of the jute packaging as well as synthetic packaging is absolutely necessary and it should be undertaken. We are proposing a legislation. We have introduced it, the Rajya Sabha has passed it to make jute packages compulsory in certain industries.

I will go further than what the Member wants. It is not a question of protecting them. We want a very integrated development of synthetic packaging sector as well as the jute sector. We have brought a legislation. It will come before this House very soon in which we will try to see what percentage of packaging in a particular industry should go to jute and other things. We are conscious of the situation and we will see that the interests of both the sectors are properly protected and coordinated.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I appreciate that the Government is committed to diversification of jute manufacture and thus to increase the proportion of non-traditional manufactures. I would like to ask about two particular items; firstly about the possibility of production of rough paper from jute stock and secondly about the research in USA about the possibility of developing

canal lining impregnating jute fabric with synthetics. I would like to know about the possibility of manufacture of jute paper and canal lining from jute.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I am not sure as to how much of the jute stocks which are thrown away any way or even the rough type of jute is used in the paper industry. I have no idea as to what is happening on that front.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I would like to know whether the inner *danthal* which is burnt today can be used for paper.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I don't think we have come to that stage where it is profitable. In any case, our research organisation has not gone in a big way in this respect. If the paper research institute goes into this, we would be very happy to help them.

As regards lining, even now we have developed very thick mesh lining for sand stabilisation, stabilisation of canal banks, railway banks and we have drawn specifications and we are trying to promote it in the various authorities. This aspect is very well before us and we have gone pretty far in that.

Projection of India as an all weather destination for foreign tourists

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434. **SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :**
SHRIMATI JAYANTI

PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether different parts of India having a varied climate throughout the year offer ideal opportunities for development of all weather tourism;

(b) if so, how this tourist attraction is projected abroad to draw foreign tourists; and

(c) if the measures followed so far have not yielded results, whether any new approach is being contemplated ?