

श्री रामनरेश कुशवाहा : हमें लयता है कि केवल विषय को टालने के लिए जांच की बात कहीं जा रही है। स्पष्ट प्रश्न यह है कि क्या नियुक्ति नियमानुसार हुई है या नहीं। नियमों के बारे में जांच करने की क्या आवश्यकता है ? इस बारे में मंत्री महोदय स्वयं देखकर बता सकते हैं।

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कोशिक : नियम तो है, लेकिन तथ्यों की जांच करना आवश्यक है कि क्या दरअसल नियम के अनुसार पदोन्नति हुई है या नहीं। इसलिए इस बारे में सी० बी० आई० के द्वारा जांच करा रहे हैं।

National Textile Plan

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*86. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

SHRI S. D. SONASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a long term policy in respect of textile industry so as to establish coordination between the organised mills and the powerloom and handloom sectors; and

(b) whether a large number of sick mills have been taken over by Government while there are still a number of sick mills which need to be taken over?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 103 mills have been nationalised so far. In addition, the management of two more mills has been entrusted to the N.T.C. The N.T.C. is thus already over-burdened with the onerous responsibility of managing

105 sick cotton textile mills. The Central Government does not favour takeover of more sick or closed textile mills for management by the National Textile Corporation. However, if any concerned State Government is prepared to take over sick unit or units under its management, the Central Government would like to render all possible cooperation whenever such proposals are found viable.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : मंत्री महोदय ने मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर तो पूरा नहीं दिया है लेकिन फिर भी मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह बात सही है कि पावरलूम और हैंडलूम सेक्टर में जितना कपड़ा उत्पादित होता है वह देश में उत्पादित होने वाले सारे कपड़े का एक चौथाई भाग से अधिक है और उसमें लगभग 30 लाख से 50 लाख से ऊपर लोग काम करते हैं लेकिन ये दोनों सेक्टर असंगठित हैं और इस कारण मिलों का कपड़ा तो बाजार में आता है और बिकता है लेकिन इनका उत्पादन बिकता नहीं है ? कभी इनके सामने पावर का संकट होता है तो कभी सूत का संकट होता है। तो आप जो पालिसी निर्धारित करने की बात कह रहे हैं क्या कोई निश्चित अवधि बता सकते हैं कि कब तक यह पालिसी तय हो जायगी ? अन्यथा ये दोनों उद्योग बहुत ही संकट में हैं। अगर एक निश्चित अवधि के अन्दर नीति निर्धारित नहीं की जाएगी तो इनका संकट बढ़ेगा और वस्त्रोत्पादन भी घटेगा जो कि दिन पर दिन घट भी रहा है।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The hon. Member has raised certain important issues. I share the concern of the hon. Member. The production from these decentralised sectors—handloom and powerloom—is not only 25 per cent but nearly 50 per cent of our total production of more than 8000 million metres in the country. It is true that the whole of our textile industry is passing through a crisis and what is needed today is a coordinated and

integrated textile policy. We are having the handloom, the powerloom and the composite mills. There are also some spindleage mills and man made fibre. Now, having regard to the requirements of the country and also of our export, it is high time that we integrate and coordinate properly the whole of our textile industry. It is in this context that the policy is being formulated and we have divided the various issues subject-wise. The papers are being prepared as per my information. By the end of August, the papers will be ready. Then afterwards it will be considered by my Ministry in consultation with the industry, representatives of the labour and also the experts in the country who would like to give their views. After this consideration, the Government will take a decision. I can assure the hon. Member that all possible emphasis will be laid on this and all possible protection will be given to the decentralised sector, as it is the policy of my Government.

MR. SPEAKER: So many Members cannot get up like this. I am on my legs. Please sit down. The man who has taken the trouble of putting a question, you do not give him a chance to put a supplementary question. For every question, there are some friends who get up. I will give a chance to those Members who have not put any question. Next time, I will pick up somebody who has not put a supplementary question. There are some Members who do not get a chance. I will not deny them a chance.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय : मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा इस बात के लिए कि वे शीघ्र ही इस की नीति निर्धारित करने वाले हैं जिससे इन दोनों संगठित क्षेत्रों को पूरा पूरा संरक्षण प्राप्त हो सके। लेकिन मेरे दूसरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया। मैंने पूछा था कि कितनी ऐसी और मिलें हैं जो रुग्ण और बीमार हैं और जो ठीक से नहीं चल रही हैं? मैंने पत्र द्वारा भी मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया था होप टैक्सटाइल

मिल इन्दौर और दूसरी उर्जन की इन्दौर टैक्सटाइल मिल के बारे में जो काफी रुग्ण हैं और ठीक से नहीं चल रही हैं। आप इनके बारे में क्या कर रहे हैं? माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने भाग (ख) में इस बात की जानकारी नहीं दी है कि कितनी ऐसी मिलें हैं जो रुग्ण हैं जिन्हें सरकार को अपने हाथ में लेना चाहिए, जिनको टेक ओवर करने की आवश्यकता है।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: As per my information, as on April 1977, the number of sick units is 29, out of which 19 are spinning mills and 10 are composite mills. Of these, because of our efforts in the last two months, it may become possible for us, of course in cooperation with Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat, to take over three mills. So far as the others are concerned, I have been in dialogue with the concerned State Governments, and wherever it is possible to have a viable proposal, I would very much like to give them all possible assistance from the Central Government.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: In view of the Minister's pronouncement on assuming office about encouraging more domestic consumption than exports, I would like to know whether there will be a change in regard to the export policy on textiles. I would particularly like to know his attitude towards subsidised export of handloom goods from this country—a large number of subsidies were given during the previous regime. I would also like to know whether Government wishes to continue its policy regarding the sale of controlled cloth at subsidised prices. It is well known that the previous Government did subsidise to the extent of compelling the mills to suffer a loss of one rupee per metre for the benefit of the consumers. I would like to know whether Government's policy is going to be changed in that regard.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Regarding exports either by handloom or by powerloom, it will be the policy of the Government to give them all possible protection. So far as subsidies are concerned, the House will please appreciate that it should be our endeavour not to allow our economy to continue to rely on subsidies. Of course, with a view to giving protection, if something is necessary, it will be done.

Regarding controlled cloth, there are several aspects. It is very true that we shall have to provide controlled cloth at cheaper prices for the masses of our country. But so far as the present policy is concerned, we shall have to examine to what extent it has succeeded and whether some changes are necessary. But till the time a new policy is adopted, I can assure the House, the present policy will continue.

श्री ईश्वर शीखरी : मैं आपको द्वारा मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज से कुछ दिन पहले उन प्रदेशों में जहाँ हैंडलूम और पावरलूम बड़े पैमाने पर चलाए जाते हैं क्या कोई टीम भेजी गई थी ? यदि हाँ, तो उसने क्या रिपोर्ट दी है ?

दूसरी बात यह है कि जहाँ बड़े पैमाने पर हैंडलूम चला करते थे वहाँ आज वह अभावग्रस्त हैं, सूत की महंगाई के कारण वह बन्द होने जा रहे हैं तो क्या सरकार का ध्यान उन मरीबों की ओर भी गया है और उनके सस्ता सूत उपलब्ध कराने के लिए आपने क्या व्यवस्था की है ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: To go through the whole gamut of the handloom industry, the then Government had appointed a Committee known as the Sivaraman Committee. The Sivaraman Committee had visited several parts of the country and had gone into the details of the problems. So far as the handloom part is concerned, many of the recommendations of

the Sivaraman Committee have been under operation and implementation, and ever since I have assumed office, the House will be happy to know—as we have committed to the country that more and more protection will be given to the decentralised sector—we are trying to see how we can give more protection and more encouragement to this industry. I would very much like to apply my mind to this problem and I would like to know from the hon. Member if there are any specific difficulties.

Regarding prices of yarn, I do share the concern. The House may be aware that the production of cotton in our country, which is usually of the order of 71 lakh bales has gone down to nearly 58 to 59 lakh bales. Naturally this has adversely affected the whole trade. At one end we are trying to import cotton from outside and at the other, we are not charging even the import duty on cotton; not only that, we are even subsidising the sale so that yarn may be available at cheaper prices. But even then, on certain occasions, there are areas where it is not available. If the hon. Member brings it to my notice, I shall look into the matter.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: The Hon'ble Minister, in reply to part (b) of the question and also in reply to a supplementary question, said that the Central Government will assist those States which would like to take over sick mills, since the National Textile Corporation cannot take over more than 103 sick mills. In view of this, may I ask him whether he is aware of the fact that the Priyalakshmi Mills of Baroda and the Shubhalakshmi Mills of Cambay, the Ahmedabad Manek Chowk Mills and several other units in Gujarat have been sick for a long time and the Gujarat Textile Corporation is ready to take over, but there are certain obstacles including the difficulty of the Central Government not acting swiftly in enabling the States to have the necessary finances, capital, machinery etc. for bringing them into operation

again. Will he, therefore, see to it that the Gujarat Textile Corporation is enabled to proceed in the direction it wants, to go, so that these sick mills can be brought back to life and health as early as possible?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I don't know the exact date of the information of the Hon. Member, but I can tell him that about twenty days back the Chief Minister of Gujarat was here and we organised a meeting with the Chief Minister and other concerned officers, and have taken the responsibility of handing over the Subhalakshmi Mills and the Priyalakshmi Mills to the Gujarat Textile Corporation. Some problems are of course there regarding finances and others but we propose to hold a meeting to tackle these problems also.

So far as other mills are concerned, as soon as we receive proposals from the State Government we will look into it. I said we cannot take more than 105 as we will otherwise have to open a general hospital for the sick mills.

श्री यज्ञ दत्त शर्मा : मंत्री महोदय इस बात से परिचिन होंगे कि यहा विषय लगातार अनेक वर्षों से बड़े वस्त्र-उद्योगपति और छोटे कर्षा उद्योग में लगे हुए लोगों के बीच में चला आ रहा है। इस सदन में इस विषय पर अनेकों वर्षों में काफी विवाद हुआ है। आज घागे के ऊपर बड़े मिल मालिकों का एकाधिकार है, उनकी मण्डियों के अन्दर छोटे उत्पादकों को कोई आश्रय नहीं मिल रहा है। आपने अभी विके ड्रीकरण की बात कही, मेरा यह कहना है कि यह मामला केवल कपड़ा उद्योग तक ही सीमित नहीं है, आज करोड़ों लोग इस धंधे में लगे हुए हैं, जिनमें रिक्शा खींचने वाले भी शामिल हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ—क्या इस समस्या को एक राष्ट्रीय समस्या मान कर, इसको हल

करने के लिए सरकार कोई ठोस नीति तैयार करेगी, जिसका संबन्ध केवल आपके मंत्रालय से ही न होकर, समूची सरकार की नीतियों से हीगा ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : मैंने पहले ही बताया है—टैक्सटाइल का मामला एक बहुत गहरा मामला है, इसके लिए नेशनल टैक्सटाइल पालिसी और नेशनल फाइबर पालिसी दोनों की जरूरत है और दोनों को इटीग्रेट करना भी बहुत जरूरी है। मैं इस आश्वासन को फिर से इस सदन में दोहराना चाहता हूँ—न केवल मेरी मिनिस्ट्री की बल्कि हमारी पूरी सरकार की यह नीति रहेगी कि पूरी टैक्सटाइल इण्डस्ट्री के लिए नेशनल फाइबर पालिसी और नेशनल टैक्सटाइल पालिसी तैयार की जाय और यह काम जरूर किया जायगा।

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: The predecessors of the Hon'ble Minister had talked for about three years about an integrated textile policy, but that policy has not seen the light of day. May I therefore know from the Hon. Minister whether he will see to it that such things do not happen again and that the integrated textile policy is announced soon? Can he give us some time by which this policy will be announced? According to the present policy, the weaker mills have to produce more controlled cloth and the stronger mills have to produce less and they are also given some concessions. The result is that so many mills have closed down and the NTC had to take them over. If this policy continues, many more mills will close down. I would request the hon. Minister to examine this policy. May I know how long they are going to take to examine and introduce the new controlled cloth policy?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have already said that so far as the policy on controlled cloth is concerned, it is

under examination by the Government. I do not know whether the hon. Member was present or not. As regards the first question of the hon. Member, he is criticising his own previous Government. I would like the hon. Member to take into consideration the change in the country and what this Government says, it means and when we say, we shall do it, we will do it.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I would like to know if the hon. Minister is aware that during the last fifteen years, there has been a decline in the per capita consumption of textile cloth and in view of that, would you please tell us, what priority this textile plan will have particularly in regard to controlled cloth and the cotton price which is something about which the producer has a complaint?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I entirely agree that the per capita consumption has gone down from 15.5 metres to nearly 12 metres per year and it is a very serious matter. Regarding priorities, we will very much like the cooperation of the hon. Members also. All these priorities will be finalised in consultation with the Planning Commission.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It appears from the reply of the hon. Minister that the Government has once for all decided firmly not to take over any sick textile mills. In this background, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that there are at present about 41 textile mills in the country which have been closed throwing out of employment about 50,000 textile workers. It is also reported that about 8 textile mills in Bombay are on the verge of being closed. A huge number of workers are facing unemployment. He has stated that he does not want to take over any sick mills. In that case, would he allow the State Governments to take over the sick mills and provide adequate funds from the Centre to enable the

State Governments to take over the sick mills in order that employment is ensued to the employees?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have already answered this question. We would very much like to give all possible cooperation to the State Governments. I only said that the National Textile Corporation cannot now take over additional mills because the losses last year are of the order of 35 crores. I am trying to bring down this loss this year by taking certain measures and, therefore, some time will be required for the NTC to come up to the level of having all the transactions on 'no-profit-no-loss' basis. Even then, I would like to assure the hon. Member that we are equally worried over the problem of unemployment, and we shall give all possible cooperation to the State Governments in the matter of sick mills.

श्री लालजी भाई : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि गत तीन वर्षों में वर्षवार कितनी सिक मिल बन्द हुई ?

श्री मोहन धरिया : चक्र महोदय, जैसा मैंने बताया कि अप्रैल, 77 में स्पिनग और कम्पोजिट दोनों मिलाकर 29 मिल बन्द थे। इसके पहले 105 सिक मिले थीं। ये 29 और 105 मिलें मिला कर 134 होती हैं।

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Has the Kerala Government already revived the Kerala Textile Corporation to take over the closed mills in which thousands of workers are employed? May I know if the hon. Minister will be good enough to extend necessary financial aid to this corporation just to revive these mills?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It will be done irrespective of any Party. I would like to tell the Kerala Government also.