

श्री नीलक एम. एम. ए. सां : क्या एग्जीमेंट में ऐसा क्लॉज है, इसका जवाब मंत्री जी ने नहीं दिया ।

MR. SPEAKER: That is not under contract.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: The Minister has in his reply said that one of the reasons for cost escalation is non-availability of equipment on time. In view of the fact that the Soviet Union is the biggest supplier for Bokaro and Bhilai, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Soviet equipment has not been received in the order in which it should come and whether after it has arrived the Indian engineers have to re-design it or bring it to our own specifications. I would also like to know whether it is a fact that the Soviet supply to Bokaro and Bhilai is not according to schedule.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: We are receiving marginal sophisticated equipment from the Soviet Union. But the majority of the equipments have to come from HEL and MAMC and the delay is largely because of non-availability of the indigenous material.

DR SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I have to move a privilege motion, because the Minister has come with a different reply earlier.

Raw Jute purchased by Jute Corporation of India

*381. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the quantity of raw jute purchased by the jute Corporation of India from the jute growers in 1977-78, 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81 so far;

(b) the quantity of raw jute sold to the mills by the Jute Corporation of India in the above period; and

(c) the quantity of raw jute produced in these years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL & MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

| Year | Production of raw jute (lakh bales) | Procurement by JCI from primary markets (principally from growers) (excluding procurement by co-operatives) (lakh bales) | Sale of raw jute by JCI (lakh bales) |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1977-78 | 71.54 | Nil | 0.67 |
| 1978-79 | 83.33 | 1.61 | Nil |
| 1979-80 | 80.28 | 1.77 | 4.50 |
| 1980-81 | 80.00 (estimated) | 2.36 | 5.68 (upto 29-11-80) |

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to this question, I have to draw your attention to my Unstarred Question No. 2758 dated 5th December, 1980. The question which I asked was: "The quantity of jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India from the jute growers till October 1980". In reply to this, the hon. Minister stated:

"The Jute Corporation of India has purchased 6.04 lakh bales of jute till the end of October 1980."

But in reply to this question here, you will find that the quantity of procurement is 2.36 lakh bales, though it is mentioned "excluding procurement by cooperatives". To my previous question he might reply 'including cooperatives', but now he has mentioned 'excluding cooperatives'. It is convenient for the hon. Minister to say sometimes 'excluding cooperatives' and sometimes 'including cooperatives'. But it is a fact that the JCI has totally failed to serve the purpose of the jute growers. The jute was purchased by

two agencies, one is jute mills and the other is the JCI and this year there is a conspiracy between the JCI and the mill-owners and the raw jute sold is at the rate of Rs. 120/- per quintal by the growers of North Bengal. The JCI was a silent spectator to it. If you ask the JCI officials, they will say 'We had no money, no gram panchayat level godown, no purchasing employees so that they may cover all the markets and huts.'

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question then?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: So, I would like to know very clearly from the hon. Minister (a) what was the reason for this and what was the target for this year and why it was not fulfilled.

MR. SPEAKER: How can you put so many questions?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: (b) What are the steps that have been taken to meet the problems regarding money, village level godown and sufficient number of employees.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, whether the co-operatives, purchase will be included or not, it depends on the nature of the question, and in regard to the target the hon. Member wanted to know what was the target fixed for JCI. No specific target was fixed.

So far as the performance of the JCI is concerned, as I have indicated, they have purchased till 6th of December...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: 8 per cent.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: No, a little more, roughly 10 per cent, that is, 7.90 lakh bales. (Interruptions). Upto 6th of December, their purchase is 7.90 lakh bales. The total production is estimated to be about 80 lakh bales.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Mr. Speaker. Sir, if you look into the

answer to this question, you will find that the estimate is 80 lakh bales and out of that jute purchased is only 2.36 lakh bales and jute sold is 5.68 lakh bales. What a miserable figure is this! The raw jute production and jute mill are indispensably tied up with each other. The jute mill owners are profiting thousands of rupees by way of squeezing the jute growers. The Jute Corporation of India was not able to meet the situation to save the jute growers from the clutches of jute mill owners. The other day the hon. Minister stated that he has nationalised six jute mills. I would like to know very clearly from the hon. Minister whether the Government will agree to nationalise all the jute mills owned by Birlas and Jhunjunwalas and others just to save the poor jute growers?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have already replied to this question, while replying to the debate, that I have nationalised up to now six jute mills and I have no intention to have any further nationalisation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I understood the hon. Minister to say that no specific targets had been fixed for procurement of jute by the JCI. So far as we know, very year a certain amount of funds are sanctioned by the Government to the JCI for its procurement operations. Those amounts are given on the basis of certain targets. They cannot be given without being related to any target. Otherwise, I do not know how Mr. Venkataraman is allowing those funds to be sanctioned.

The amounts of jute which were bought as shown in this chart are, of course, hopelessly short of the targets which have been announced in the papers. In view of the fact that the JCI is apparently not able to buy more than six or seven per cent of the total crop, has the Government done any rethinking as to what purpose the JCI is serving in ensuring that remunerative prices or at least minimum support prices are paid to the farmers?

Secondly, what is going to be the total consumption of raw jute by the six mills which have been nationalised? You will find that even their consumption is not provided by the JCI. So, I would like to know whether the nationalised mills are going to buy raw jute direct since the JCI cannot do the job.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the target is concerned, I have already mentioned that the total amount sanctioned to the JCI is roughly Rs. 83 crores, and the understanding was that they should purchase as far as they could. We have discussed this problem a number of times on the floor of the House, namely that the JCI started this year's operations with a stock of 16 lakh bales. Therefore, I directed the JCI to dispose of the old stock even at a loss as quickly as possible, and for that I provided a subsidy of Rs. 13 crores. If they had disposed of that stock, they could have purchased another 16 lakh bales in addition to 8 lakh bales which they did purchase, and the total would have come up to 24 lakh bales. Unfortunately, they could not dispose of the old stock in 1978 or 1979. Only this year they could dispose of roughly 8 lakh bales.

In regard to the mills which have been taken over, the other day also I replied to question and said that they would get their raw jute from the JCI. Even for the current year they have taken 3.8 lakh bales from the JCI alone.

In regard to improving the functioning of the JCI, I have mentioned that unless they have control of at least one-third of the total production, they will not be able to give any substantial relief to the grower, and for that the necessary infrastructure has to be built up. I have decided to have a meeting with the Chief Ministers of the jute-growing States to find out in what manner they can help us even with co-operatives. In cotton procurement, for instance, co-operatives pur-

chase about Rs. 12 crores, the CCI about Rs. 16 crores, and so they have control over almost one-third of the total production. Similarly, there if the co-operative organisation purchase at least one-fifth, we can purchase one third, and then we will have total control, or at least substantial control, over the jute market. For that, we shall have to take certain measures and we are going to take them.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us from the experience that has been gained out of his file-reading whether it is a fact or not that one of his predecessors who was made to kick the bucket, Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra, had made a policy statement at a public meeting in Patna saying that Government procurement of jute would be absolute and complete in a phased manner, and that the target laid down for that was three years, i.e., at the rate of 30 per cent, and cent per cent would be achieved in three years? If so, may I know why the Government has not fulfilled the promise that he made to the people, especially to the jute growers? Is it due to the fact that the powerful jute lobby, the jute barons who have sucked Rs. 300 crores out of the flesh and blood of the jute growers of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa have purchased the ruling party and their power of thinking?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the first part of the question is concerned, it is true that we have not been able to provide any substantial relief to the grower by having a large procurement, but so far as the second part of the question is concerned, it is not correct.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: May I know whether the JCI has stopped purchase of jute from Assam and Tripura because of non-availability of facilities to transport the jute, and if so, may I know whether the Minister will consider purchasing jute there and storing it in godowns in the northeastern region?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: In fact one of the problems is that in Assam because of the blockade they are not permitting the jute to come out of Assam and whatever space we had there was almost completely blocked. As a result we did some purchase but not in a very substantial manner.

Development of Golapur Landing Ground

*383. **SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for the development or extension of Golapur Landing Ground situated in the District of Nalanda in Bihar State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री विजय कुमार यादव : मैंने टेबल आफिस में जो जवाब सदस्यों के देखने के लिए रहता है उस में देखा तो इस प्रश्न का जवाब उस में नहीं पाया। तो ऐसा लगा कि हो सकता है कि यह बाद के लिए रख दिया गया हो। इसलिए मैं तो इत्मीनान से था कि यह क्वेश्चन आज जाने वाला ही नहीं है।

बहरहाल मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि नालन्दा जिले की यह जो जगह है और वहाँ जो बहुत सारे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्थान हैं जैसे राजगिरि है या नालन्दा है, इन तमाम जगहों को कनेक्ट करने के लिए जिस से कि आसानी से लोग वहाँ आ जा सकें, यही एक जगह है जहाँ हवाई जहाज से लोग जा सकते हैं, तो इस के महत्व को सामने रखते हुए क्या मंत्री महोदय इस के विकास की ओर ध्यान देंगे और इस के लिए वह कोई योजना बनाना चाहते हैं या नहीं?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री अन्नत प्रसाद शर्मा): पहले तो माननीय सदस्य को मालूम होना चाहिए कि यहाँ पर जो रन-वे है वह कच्चा है। एक छोटा सा कच्चा रन-वे है, इसलिए जिस तरह के जहाजों को वहाँ ले जाने की बात यह सोच रहे हैं वह तो अभी संभव हो नहीं सकता है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि यह जगह पटना से बहुत करीब है, अगर पचास साठ मील कहा जाय तो शायद गलत नहीं होगा। तो इतनी कम दूरी है और सड़कें बहुत अच्छी हैं। पटना से लोग सड़क से जाते हैं। इसलिए फिलहाल गवर्नमेंट का कोई ऐसा इरादा नहीं है कि इस एयर फील्ड को इस काम के लिए डेवलप किया जाय।

श्री विजय कुमार यादव : क्या सरकार की कोई ऐसी योजना है कि सूबे के तमाम जिलों को या तमाम जिलों के हेडक्वार्टर्स को एयर से कनेक्ट किया जाय? क्या ऐसी कोई योजना सरकार के सामने है?

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारी जो जानकारी है और उस के अनुसार सरकार इस सिलसिले में कुछ जमीन वगैरह एक्वायर कर रही है और इस के लिए कुछ नाप-जोख शुरू हुई है, तो यह बात कहां तक सही है?

श्री अन्नत प्रसाद शर्मा : यह बात ठीक है कि थर्ड लेवेल एयर सर्विस की योजना सरकार की है। लेकिन उस में हर जिले के हेडक्वार्टर्स को एयर लाइन से लिंक किया जायेगा ऐसी कोई योजना नहीं है। मगर बिहार में कुछ ऐसी जगहें हैं जहाँ थर्ड लेवेल एयर सर्विस इंट्रोड्यूस होगी तो वह उस में कवर हो जायेगी। उस में तीन चार जगहें हैं। मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उस में यह जगह नहीं है जिस का जिक्र माननीय सदस्य ने किया।

श्री अमीरुलहमान : मैं मोहतरिम वजीर साहब से यह बात जानना चाहूंगा कि बिहार के उत्तरी हिस्से, जिला पूर्णिया में डिफेंस का एक एयर पोर्ट है जिस को सब से बड़ा एयर पोर्ट कहा जाता है, चूनापुर एयर पोर्ट उस का नाम है, डिफेंस ने उस को एबंडन कर दिया है, छोड़ दिया है, मंत्री महोदय को इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ पत्र लिखे