

As far as the law is concerned, I have already stated that article 341 is already extended to the State of Jammu and Kashmir and article 342 is to be extended for this purpose. For that, certain formalities are to be done. We are to primarily consult the State Government regarding the memorandum which has been submitted to the Government. We are awaiting their comments.

**SHRI P. NAMGYAL:** Has the Prime Minister received any such Communication from the State Government?

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:** I will enquire.

#### Paper for Educational Sector

\*812. **SHRI AJOY BISWAS:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any order to paper industry regarding 30 per cent priority production to meet needs of educational sector;

(b) if so, how many manufacturers are not complying with the order; and

(c) what steps Government are going to take against the violators?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):** (a) In accordance with the provisions of the Paper (Regulation of Production) Order, 1978 certain categories of manufacturers are required to manufacture, in respect of every month or quarter, white printing paper to the extent of atleast 30 per cent of the total quantity of paper and paper board manufactured during the month of quarter, as the case may be.

(b) Most of the manufacturers have been defaulting at one time or the other in respect of the production of white printing paper.

(c) The performance of the mills is being reviewed from time to time and discussions are being held with the

manufacturers to ensure compliance with provisions of the order.

**SHRI AJOY BISWAS:** It is a serious matter that almost all the paper manufacturers are not complying with the Order of the Government. As a result of that, the students and the educational institutions are facing a serious crisis. So, my specific question is: What was the total demand of white printing paper in 1980, what was the total quota fixed for the paper industry for the manufacture of white printing paper for 1980 and for the period from January, 1981 to March, 1981 and the total quantity of white printing paper produced by them in compliance with the Regulation of Production Order of 1978?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):** As far as the question of compliance of the order is concerned, a few of the mills had gone to the court. The matter was sub judice. I called a meeting of the paper manufacturers and, my request, they withdrew from the courts the writs which they had procured from the Calcutta High Court.

As regards the hon. Member's question as to the crisis in paper industry, it is not true. What was lacking at that time was the rationalisation of distribution of white printing paper. Whichever the State the hon. Member refers to, wherever there is a crisis, he is welcome to bring that to my notice. As far as our information goes, there is no crisis as far as the supply of white printing paper is concerned. As far as the demand of paper is concerned, the total demand is 11.5 lakh tonnes. The supply of white printing paper for the students, for educational purposes, is 1,07,875 tonnes. Prior to that, the supply in 1979-80 was higher and, in 1978-79, was also higher. But after the meeting with the Education Ministry, paper manufacturers and the State Governments repre-

representatives, it was decided that the Karnataka model should be adopted for the distribution of paper. The gap between the demand and supply of paper was filled in by the import of paper for the extent of 52,000 tonnes. And, therefore, as far as the Ministry of Industry is concerned, we have not received any report as mentioned by the Hon. Member about the paper crisis. If there is any problem, we welcome a report from the Member.

**SHRI AJOY BISWAS:** May I know what was the quota fixed to the manufacturer and what was the production? I like to get this information so that I can know how much quantity of paper the manufacturers are not producing in accordance with the order.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Quota of what?

**SHRI AJOY BISWAS:** Quota for the manufacturers for production of paper i.e. 30 per cent.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You want to know what was the quota fixed for the manufacturers and how much they produced? Is there any quota?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The Hon. Member himself has replied to the question. The quota is in terms of relative percentage. If the Hon. Member wants figures mill-wise, I can place them on the Table of the House.

**SHRI AJOY BISWAS:** My second supplementary is this: It is clear from the reply of the Minister that the Government has totally surrendered to the manufacturers because Government is only negotiating and discussing with the manufacturers without taking any firm decision. My specific question is this: What specific action Government proposes to take in the near future against the defaulters?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The attention of the Hon. Member is drawn to reply to Part (a) of his question and the House has already

been informed of the fact that it is in accordance with the provisions of the Paper Regulation of Production Order, 1973, and it is under this law that they have been impressed upon—I am using the words 'impressed upon'—because the manufacturers had gone to the court of law and obtained their writ also. Now it was on our pressure that they withdrew the writ.

As far as the supply of paper is concerned, it is being procured under this very law. There is no discretion and there is no option at all in this matter. It is under this law that the implementation is being followed. The only thing is that the capacity utilisation in these mills has gone down. Therefore, it is the co-relation of the percentage of the total production and the white printing paper which is being adhered to. There is the deviation at all.

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that there was a crisis of distribution of paper because of the crisis of the educational system in West Bengal?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Next question.

**SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:** I just want to know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that there is a great shortage of copy books, particularly exercise books for the students these days and the copy books are not available even at double the price. What steps, if any, is Government going to take to make the copy books available to all the students?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The Hon. Member must appreciate that this Order was evolved only to meet this very crisis and all that I have submitted in the House is only to cater to that particular thing and to meet that crisis. But if there is any particular case which is noticed, I would only suggest to him that he should write to us.

**SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:** It is very unfortunate that the Hon. Minister is not aware of the problem. There is shortage of these copy books in Delhi, in Madhya Pradesh, in Rajasthan and everywhere.

मैं कितने कौंसिडर बताऊँ उनको ?

**SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL:** A large quantity of paper is imported to meet the crisis in our country. He has also mentioned that the production capacity is lower this year. Considering these facts, I would like to ask this question. The Vellore Newsprint of Kerala, which ought to have gone into production, is not going into production because of the negative and detrimental attitude of the State Government. The State Government's Forestry Minister is going to negotiate and sell the eucalyptus plants to the private sector. They are opposed to the public sector. I would like to know whether this fact has come to the notice of the Government and if so, whether Government will take speedy steps to see that the Vellore Newsprint goes into production without delay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Does it arise out of this Question?

Next Question.

#### Restricting Forest Area Allotted to Paper Mills

\*814. **SHRI K. A. SWAMI:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a policy to restrict the forest area allotted for exploitation by paper mills all over country;

(b) whether paper mills are proposed to be asked to grow bamboo and timber requirements in a scientific way in restricted areas of land; and

(c) if not, what are Government's plans to stop this gross mis-utilisation of our forest resources?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government consider that Industry Oriented Pulpwood plantations are necessary to prevent destruction of natural forests and also to ensure availability of raw material on a sustained basis. A Working Group has been constituted to study the possibilities of raising pulp wood plantations for meeting the requirements of the Paper Industry and proper utilisation of forest resources.

**SHRI K. A. SWAMI:** Has Government taken any steps to protect the forest areas?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):** Protection of forests is, in fact, a subject under the State List, as also under the concurrent charge of I.G. (Forests), Ministry of Food and Agriculture. But, as far as the paper industry is concerned, we do not promote deforestation at all through paper industry. We are, in fact, putting pressure for promotion or growth of commercial afforestation in the country to feed the paper mills the raw materials.

**SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL** Rose—

**MR. SPEAKER:** You want to have your answer now!

**SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL:** This is a serious matter. That is why I am putting this question. The State Forestry Ministry has written to the Central Government for sanction to sell the eucalyptus plants. If that is sanctioned, the Vellore Newsprint will not go into production at all. The State Government do not want any public sector to come in the State; they want to give encouragement to the private sector. Therefore, I would like to ask this question. What is the report of the Central Government with regard to the proposal to sell the