

this malpractice and to prevent the generation of blackmoney, has the government thought of importing these raw materials themselves either through MMTC or STC and distribute it to the actual users ?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Or sell the licence in the open market.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: My hon. friend knows that most of these items are imported by the public sector organisations, either MMTC or STC, who distribute them to the actual users. But there have been cases where, even in this situation, some of the actual users have sold their licences or commodities. But their percentage is very low. The actual users who have been given import licences number 1,25,000 and the people found guilty number about 825 or so, who are being prosecuted. This is the latest information that I have with me. Most of the non-ferrous and scarce materials are imported through public sector organisations like MMTC or STC.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Is the government aware that out of Rs. 1,000 crores odd worth of import licences that they issue to the various licensees of the Government of India, the market value of these licences is something in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2,500 crores ? This is the additional burden that the consumer has to pay for the licence issued by the Government. Why is it that the government does not consider a scheme for the import or issue of licence that they auction it in public so that those who are prepared to pay the full market

value of the licence will get them ? This will take care of the black market in the matter of licence, this will take care of the irregular practices that take place because it will not be worth anybody's while to get a licence in the open market and then sell it in the market.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: This is one of the suggestions frequently made by one very important political party of this country. If we auction the licences, then the small people would not be able to get the licences. So, this suggestion cannot be accepted.

Increase in Export of Non-Traditional Items

*943, **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase registered in the export of non-traditional items in the last three years;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for the export of non-traditional items in the Fourth Plan;

(c) if so, an outline thereof; and

(d) whether the target is likely to be achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) India's Exports of major non-traditional items

(Value in Rs. Lakhs)

S. No.	Items	1968-69	'69-70	'70-71	%age change in 70-71 over 68-69	April- Nov. 70	April- Nov. 71	%age change in April-Nov. 71 over April-Nov. 70
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Engineering goods	6742	8932	11647	+72.7	6664	7618	+14.3
(a)	Transport equipment	1640	1677	3095	+88.7	1737	1872	+ 78

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
(b) Non-electrical machinery	1395	2404	2808	+101.3	1683	1818	+ 8.0	
(c) Electrical Machinery	1328	1455	1608	+21.1	905	1355	+49.7	
(d) Metal Manufactures	2217	3210	3880	+75.0	2182	2358	+ 8.1	
2. Iron ore	8840	9462	11728	+32.7	7458	6239	-16.3	
3. Iron & Steel	7445	7716	7923	+ 6.4	5435	3050	-43.9	
4. Handicrafts	6903	7329	6986	+1.2	4741	5322	+12.2	
(a) Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	4476	4388	4188	-6.4	2832	3304	+16.7	
(b) Handi made carpets	1145	1166	1057	-7.7	650	806	+24.0	
5. Leather & leather mfrs. (excl. hides & skins raw) incl. footwear of leather and canvas	8178	9055	8343	+2.0	5348	6346	+18.7	
6. Chemical and allied products	1751	2219	2936	+67.7	1726	1898	+10.0	
7. Fish and fish preparations	2217	3083	3128	+41.1	2151	2472	+14.9	
8. Sugar	1010	856	2757	+173.0	1489	2578	+73.1	
9. Wood, lumber and cork manufactures	495	784	762	+ 53.9	514	572	+11.3	
10. Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1210	949	1258	+ 4.0	988	599	-39.4	
11. Rubber manufactures	471	493	705	+ 49.7	429	557	+29.8	
12. Paper & paperboard	514	488	541	+ 5.3	379	231	-39.1	
13. Plastic and plastic manufactures	287	515	498	+ 73.5	281	190	-32.4	
14. Ferro-manganese & ferro-alloys	448	959	1139	+154.2	701	229	-71.0	
15. Cotton apparel	333	548	8692	+158.8	521	777	+49.1	
16. Other cotton mfrs.	1433	1299	1709	+ 19.3	1067	993	- 6.9	
17. Fabrics of art silk & synthetic fibre and spunglass	350	359	524	+ 49.7	318	529	+66.3	
18. Silk fabrics handloom	375	524	383	+ 2.1	270	248	-8.1	
<i>Total of above</i>	49002	55590	63829	+30.2	40570	404448	- 0.3	
<i>Grand Total of</i>	135787	141328	153516	+13.1	99793	105232	+5.4	
<i>Exports</i>								
Non-traditional items as %age of total expots	36.1	39.3	41.6		40.6	38.4		

NOTE:—The export figures from November '70 onwards are based on the original copy of the shipping bill after an adjustment made for short and shut out shipments returns received during the period. As such, these are not comparable to the export figures for a period prior to Oct. '70 which were based on the finally passed shipping bills.

(b) and (c). Export targets for 1973-74 have been set in the Fourth Plan in respect of the following three major non-traditional items:—

Marine products : Rs. 48 Crores.

Iron ore : Rs. 155 crores.

Engineering goods including Metals. : Rs. 190 crores.

(d) Every endeavour is being made and will continue to be made achieve the targets.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Before I put the question, Sir, I will just draw your attention to a serious discrepancy in the figures given here, on the basis of which we are supposed to ask questions. The figures for the export of engineering goods are given in this statement for the years 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71. They are totally at variance with the figures given for the export of engineering goods in a statement in reply to Starred Question No. 947, four questions later. For example, in that statement for 1968-69 you have given Rs. 84.97 crores as the value of engineering goods whereas in this statement the value is Rs. 67.42 crores. For 1969-70 while that statement gives the figure of Rs. 106.50 crores, this statement gives the figure of Rs. 89.52 crores. I cannot understand how one is to proceed.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Nor does he.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : With regard to the figures given here, which may be equally unreliable for all I know, regarding iron ore this figure shows that there is a declining trend between 1970-71 by 16.3 per cent in the value of export of iron ore. I would like to know from him what is the reason for this decline. Is it because the Japanese, who are our main customers, are now reducing their demand from us, or is it for any other reason? Secondly, when the export target for 1973-74 for iron ore has been fixed at Rs. 155 crores, what is this based on? Is it based on sale to the Japanese at lower prices so that they will buy more, or is the Minister depending on some alternative sources to which he may be able to export in future?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : About the discrepancy in the figure, while Shri Indrajit Gupta in Question No. 943 asks information for the whole of the engineering industry, Question No. 947 refers to sewing machines, bicycles etc. Therefore, this discrepancy is seen.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If you look at the statement of Question No. 947 and see what is written there, it says, "the exports of engineering goods have been rising as will be seen from the export figures given below." The figures for sewing machines and bicycles are given separately. The first set of figures relate to the export of engineering goods.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : This is for bicycles and sewing machines. About iron ore exports, there was recession in the Japanese market last year and the recession continues. Our export of iron ore to Japan has come down considerably. We are exploring new markets. I am glad to inform the House that we have been able to get some buyers in Western Europe. Our iron ore was not sold to Western Europe till today. Recently, we have been able to get some buyers in Germany, Italy and France also. We are trying to negotiate with these countries. I hope, we will be able to reach upto the target as given in the Fourth Plan. Last year has been really a bad year so far as iron ore export is concerned because of the recession in the Japanese market.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I think, you are not satisfied with the explanation given by the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a question of your satisfaction.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Your satisfaction, not mine. If you are satisfied, that is enough. He must not give misleading figures to the House. If there is a mistake, he can correct it. There is nothing wrong in owning a mistake.

My second question is this. In this list of non-traditional items, I do not find any

mention of cinema films which, I believe, are also non-traditional items. May I know from him whether it is a fact that the Indian Motion Pictures' Export Council has done good work in selling a large number of Indian films abroad, to various countries and getting quite good prices for them? If that is so, may I know why in the reply that he made to the debate on demands for grants of his Ministry, he said that the performance of the IMPEC has not been satisfactory. How does he reconcile these two things?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : So far as the IMPEC is concerned, I said, it is not hundred per cent a Government organisation. There are private share-holders also. What I said was that we are having some difficulties and its performance has to be improved. There was a judgment of the High Court which prevented us from taking over the exports. I only said that there was scope for improvement. I am glad that Mr. Indrajit Gupta has given a good word to them. I have no complaint against the IMPEC. The whole organisation needs to be reorganised, put on a better footing and given more of capital and private share-holders have to go out of it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Their exports have gone up now. I would like to know whether their exports have gone up in value.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : They have done a good job. The market for Indian films is very good in some countries, in Western Europe, in Soviet Union, in East European countries. Because of limitations, the IMPEC has not been able to meet the demand. That is why I said it needs to be re-organised. I have no complaint against the IMPEC.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : We thank, of course, the Minister for giving us wrong figures.

Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us what is the reaction to this in the context of his claim for higher exports?

"According to the survey made by GATT (International Trade, 1967) engineering

production in developing countries grew up more than 10 per cent for years between 1955 and 1966 but it still remains small in absolute volume and its share in the world total does not exceed 2 per cent."

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : He had raised the same kind of question when the debate on the demands of my Ministry were going on. I told him and I again tell him that instead of telling it to us, he should turn to the developed countries. Are we responsible? We have seen the proceedings of the UNCTAD as to how the developed countries have behaved. They have increased the tariffs; they have put in so many impediments, and all that. That is the main reason. There are barriers put by the big countries. That is the real difficulty. You must try to understand that The developed countries are coming in our way.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATTIA : After concluding an agreement with the USSR, will it be possible for us to export more non-traditional goods to USSR.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : The new provisions have got a wider scope for non-traditional items and also some of the new items on the import side.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : I find from the statement that there has been a steep fall in the exports of silk fabrics and handlooms. Sir, handloom industry is one of our main industries in the country. May I know whether the Minister proposes to explore other markets where these handloom goods can be sold profitably so that lakhs of people who live on handlooms can be helped?

MR. SPEAKER : The question is about non-traditional items.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Silk exports have luckily improved this year. Last year was a bad year for silk exports when countries like USA reduced their imports. This year is luckily a better year for silk.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I find from the Annexure that sugar exports from the year 1968 to 1971 have more than doubled.

Actually, it has increased by $2\frac{1}{2}$ times. When there is acute shortfall of supply of sugar in the country resulting in soaring of prices of sugar, is it the policy of the Government to export more sugar to foreign countries to earn foreign exchange and keeping the country starved here and allowing the soaring of prices of sugar ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : The export and import policy has to take this into account. If Prof. Guha carefully looked into the export policy resolution laid on the Table of the House last July, a time comes when the domestic consumption has to be curbed and exports effected. This is the economic policy of most of the developed countries.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, you have said nothing about it. If you look into the two charts, they are palpably contradictory.

MR. SPEAKER : I will see it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : They are absolutely contradictory. Please ask him to go through it and correct it as soon as possible.

MR. SPEAKER : Of course, I will personally look into them myself and later on, I will ask them.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We are now asking questions. Which of the two statements we are to proceed with ? 943 or 947 ?

MR. SPEAKER : Personally I am going to see into it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : In any case, I shall table a privilege motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lalji Bhai—absent.

Shri Onkar Lai Berwa—absent

Shri Vayalar Ravi

Participation of Coir Board in International Fairs

*945. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of International Fairs held since 1970 in which the Coir Board has participated and coir goods have been exhibited ; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon and the amount of orders for coir goods received at these Fairs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) During 1970-71 and 1971-72, the Coir Board participated in 41 Fairs abroad.

(b) A total amount of Rs. 61,749/- was spent thereon. Export Orders which resulted from Coir Board's participation in these Fairs cannot be precisely assessed as the Board's representatives are not sent to these Fairs.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : In reply the hon. Minister said that how much order received by the Coir Board cannot be precisely assessed and he also said that it is a matter of publicity. I would like to know from the Minister as to what steps they propose to take to increase exports of coir goods to foreign countries and what kind of publicity they are going to make. I would also like to know from the Minister whether there was any complaint received that the coir goods sent for display in these fairs were put somewhere in the corner. What steps will the Government take to make effective propaganda for coir goods ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Actually the Member is inspiring the answer.

MR. SPEAKER : It is both ways.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : We were not able to participate in these fairs in a big way because of budgetary limitations. The money at the disposal of Coir Board is not enough to go for these international fairs where expenditure is too large and this can very well be appreciated ; all the same we make our presence felt there. We are exporting products ; we are supporting it with pamphlets and attractive literature. In the Indian pavilion, regarding our exports, though we are facing competition from the synthetics our export figures are not discouraging. In fact it has gone up. This year's exports are