

tune of Rs. 17.68 lakhs and in 1972-73 it was slightly above Rs. 16 lakhs.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: How could it be?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Even in regard to the import of ingredients, there are certain items which are progressively being replaced, such as citric acid and some essential oils. If you like, I can go into the details. We are persuading them and insisting that progressively the import content must be reduced. Apart from proprietary ingredients, every other item is being replaced by import substitution.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Are we to understand from the hon. Minister that the policy of the Government of India remains Coca-Cola oriented and for how long this policy would remain oriented towards Coca Cola, and may I know whether Government are going to increase at least the participation of Government in this foreign-owned company so that Government can have a major share?

MR. SPEAKER: The main question relates only to foreign exchange.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Our policy is not Coca-Cola oriented but it is export-oriented.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: How is it export-oriented? They are importing concentrates for the Coca-Cola...

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Member start not taking it, and let others also be persuaded.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: The hon. Minister is trying to paint a very rosy picture about the advantages of the whole thing. May I know whether he is aware of the fact that whereas the pay-out of foreign exchange in 1970 as area office expenses was only Rs. 4.70 lakhs, in 1971 it went up to Rs. 41.98 lakhs?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Since this particular matter has been told to me by the hon. Member only now, I shall find out.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: They have taken out about Rs. 37 lakh.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Is it right for the hon. Minister to say that he does not know this, since this question has been discussed many times in both Houses, that the remittance in the name of headquarter expenses of this company runs into several lakhs? In terms of profits, it runs to some lakhs. So, how does the hon. Minister say that he does not know it? We know the whole story that it is about Rs. 40 or 50 lakhs. How does the hon. Minister not know it?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: If the question is gone into deeply, it would be obvious that it does not concern the Ministry of Commerce. We are concerned only with import and export.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister thought that the question was very innocent and he gave a three-line reply. If he could have given the details in reply to the main question, much of this could have been saved.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Subsequently, I had given all the replies.

MR. SPEAKER: If he has to give it in the House, it would be much better to give the details in reply to the main question itself.

Proposal submitted by S.T.C. for setting up of subsidiary Companies

*391. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has submitted any proposal for the approval of Government for setting up of several subsidiary companies or autonomous Departments to deal with imports and exports; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of Government.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : क्या मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह अभी विचाराधीन है तो क्या विचार करते वक्त आप कोई स्टडी टीम नियुक्त करेंगे जिस से और भी बारीकी से इस पर विचार किया जा सके ?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We have received a proposal for reorganising and restructuring STC, and are processing it and studying it in the Ministry. We have not set up any committee or study team for that independently of what we are doing in the Ministry and we do not think it is necessary either.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : अभी आप ने जूट की 5 लाख बल्स बहार भेजी हैं। क्या जूट के लिये भी आप कोई ऐक्सपोर्ट टीम बनायेंगे ?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We have not exported five lakh bales of jute. So the question does not arise at all. We are thinking of exporting five lakh bales of jute; we have some idea regarding the export of some raw jute. No quantity has been fixed and the relation with STC is not clear to me.

MR. SPEAKER: In 50 minutes, we have not done more than four questions. If I were to go by your wishes, this will be the position. That way there is nothing to gain out of these questions.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: May I ask a question?

MR. SPEAKER: You are welcome to.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister be kind enough to say whether STC has been suffering from the common disease of many of the government undertakings, the disease or gigantism? If so, will the reorganisation of STC be on the basis of commodities or zones/geographical areas/States, as today in the STC and its various committees many areas of the country go unrepresented particularly in the nomina-

tions to the various sub-committees and boards.

MR. SPEAKER: Smile a while while asking questions.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I agree that the STC has become very big organisation as its volume of trade turnover indicates. Because of that, we are thinking in terms of having some more subsidiaries. We have already three subsidiaries, the Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation, the Project Equipment Corporation and the Cashew Corporation. As to whether it is commodity-wise or area-wise, any commercial organisation should be commodity-oriented and it is like that in this case.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would like to know whether the Government is likely to establish a Leather Export Development Corporation for the export of leather from India and, if so, whether it is a fact that the Managing Director for this proposed Corporation is being brought from a private undertaking like Bata and, if so, whether no qualified person was available in the public undertakings.

MR. SPEAKER: This is about the setting up of subsidiary companies.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, kindly read the question; it says:

“...or autonomous Departments to deal with imports and exports;”

MR. SPEAKER: “Subsidiary companies or autonomous Departments”

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I am asking about the Corporation.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The Leather Export Development Corporation is still in the process of a proposition. No decision has been taken. About the other thing, there is a view and a widespread view at that, that in this sort of commercial organisations, professionally competent people rather than generalists should be inducted and utilised.