

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Every time, you are doing it.....

MR. SPEAKER : This Member is not behaving well.....

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Why are you in a hurry to gag me every time ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow that question. It is an irrelevant question. May I ask him whether he is going to behave or not ?.....

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I shall behave, and I am behaving. But you are not giving a Member their respect that he deserves. That is not expected of the Speaker. Respect is mutual. You are the custodian of the House and if you do not maintain our honour, you cannot expect your honour also to be maintained.

MR. SPEAKER : This gentleman is a great headache for me. What to do now ?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : If the question has relevance, how can you stop it ? He says that it has relevance, and he is asking the question. How can you stop him ? This is not fair.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not relevant at all.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Indonesia has...

MR. SPEAKER : It is not relevant at all. He cannot cow me down like that. I am not prepared for that. Let him take it for granted.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : On a point of order. On what basis do you say that it is not relevant ?

MR. SPEAKER : No points of order are raised during the Question Hour. Let him please sit down.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : This is absolutely wrong. This is not expected of the Speaker.

श्री रामरत्न शर्मा : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय को पता है कि रामचरित मानस की एक पाण्डुलिपि, उसके रचयिता श्री तुलसीदास जी के राम-राजपुर में अभी भी है। उसकी सुरक्षा के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी क्या कर रहे हैं ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि राजापुर को ट्रिस्ट सेन्टर बनाने की तरफ क्या सरकार का ध्यान गया है ?

SHRI MOHSIN : I have already said that these programmes are executed by that registered society and not on behalf of Government. They have asked for funds from the Government and we are considering it.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : I am grateful to the hon. Minister for having spelt out the correct meaning of *Ram-charitmanas*. After Valmiki and Kalidasa, he was the best poet. Is he going to be honoured just as Rabindranath Tagore has been honoured by us ?

SHRI MOHSIN : It is all hypothetical. If some societies are formed and some members of the public come forward and ask for funds, it will be considered by Government.

Preferential Tariffs granted by Japan on goods from developing countries

*1574. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japan has granted preferential tariffs on goods from developing countries with effect from the 1st August, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the concessions offered ; and

(c) how far these concessions will benefit India's exports to Japan ?

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

Statement

The Generalised System of Preferences which came into operation in Japan from 1st August, 1971 provides for duty-free entry for most of the manufactured and semi-manufactured products falling under Chapters 25—99 of the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature (BTN) originating in all developing countries including India. In respect of a few items like cotton textiles, leather, woven fabrics of jute and man-made fibres, only 50% duty reduction has been offered by Japan. Silk fabrics which are of export interest in India have been excluded in the offer of Japan under GSP. Items falling in the Agriculture sector (Chapter 1-24 of the BTN) have been included on a selective basis and will enjoy a small reduction in the Japanese tariff.

As a result of G.S.P. it is expected that India would be able to enlarge her exports to Japan, particularly of non-traditional manufactured and semi-manufactured products.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : From the statement I find that regarding the preferential tariff, silk fabrics which are of export interest to India have not been included, and we are not going to derive any benefit out of this. Therefore, may I know whether Government have taken any steps to specifically know from the Japanese Government why silk fabrics could not be included in the preferential tariff? Secondly what are the items falling in the agricultural sector which have been selected for this benefit for us? May I know also whether sugar is included in that list?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : It is from 1st August that Japan has allowed us some concessions under the generalised system of preference under the UNCTAD on certain items. They have given us 50 per cent duty concession on cotton textiles and some other items. But on silk fabrics they have not taken us any concession. We can

persuade them, but it is for the Japanese Government to decide where they will give us preference and where they will not. This is a voluntary arrangement made by the UNCTAD.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : May I know whether any further steps have been taken by Government to write to the Japanese Government in this regard?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : This has come into being only on 1st August, and today is 3rd August. It was for the Government of Japan to decide where they would give concession and where they would not. They have been good enough to give preferential to the developing countries on a number of items, and on some items they have given 50 per cent duty reduction, and on some items they have not given any reduction. There are other countries also which have come forward to give preferences. As far as Japan is concerned, we have every reason to feel happy about the fact that Japan has responded to the needs of the developing countries.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : Is sugar included in the items coming under agricultural sector?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I have already stated in the statement that the items included are those manufactured and semi-manufactured products falling under chapters 25-99 of the BTN. In non-traditional items especially engineering goods, we have got the preference in Japan.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Radio Station in N.E.F.A.

*1566. SHRI C. C. GOHAIN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) by what time the proposed Radio Station in the N. E. F. A., as assured while replying to the debate on the Demands for