

in those sections arises because of the social conditions there. The few TTE's that we have got are not in a position to cope with the situation. Particularly in those sections we are trying to detail the squads to make periodical checks so as to remove this to some extent, at least.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: The question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

All-India Small Paper Mills Association

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*1445. **Shri R. Barua:**

Shri C. C. Desai:

Shri D. N. Patodia:

Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Shri N. K. Sanghi:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All-India Small Paper Mills Association has recently demanded relief from Government to save its units from closure;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether any paper mills have closed down during the last year and if so, the number of workers rendered jobless as a result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri Raghunath Reddy):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of Government.

(c) The Association of Small paper Mills have stated that some of the small paper units have closed down due to financial difficulties.

Shri R. Barua: Have Government made an assessment of the existence of outmoded machines in some of the small-scale paper mills and are they prepared to give them import facilities to procure proper type of machines?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): So far as the small units are concerned, the trouble is that they have to import pulp. On account of import duty and devaluation, they have been in difficulties. It has not been brought to my notice that many of the difficulties are due to outmoded machines.

Shri R. Barua: In view of the mounting demand for paper in the country, will Government take urgent steps so that these mills do not go out of production?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: That matter is being considered. They have made some representations and we are examining those things and taking up with the Finance Ministry the question of giving some relief to these small units.

Shri D. N. Patodia: It is not very correct to say that this small scale industry is facing the problem only on account of difficulty in getting pulp. The country has been burdened by these uneconomic units on account of indiscriminate and injudicious distribution of licences in the past. May I know whether in future before issuing any such licence Government will always examine the economics of giving it so that after 10 or 20 years they are not confronted with the possibility of closure or uneconomic working of these units?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: It is true that these small units have to compete with the bigger units and they are finding it difficult, but we also cannot think of putting out of action all these small units which have been in existence for a long time.

Shri N. K. Sanghi: These small manufacturers of paper are suffering because of the keen competition with the bigger manufacturers. May I know from the hon. Minister if he would think on the lines of putting some duty on the bigger manufacturers, so that the small manufacturers of paper can survive in this country?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: In order to help these small units, we are considering the question of giving them relief so far as import duty on pulp is concerned; we are also considering the question of excise duty so far as production up to 1,000 tons is concerned; we are also considering the question of excise duty on machine-made paper, and also finished paper. All these things are under consideration.

Shri S. S. Kothari: May I know whether the price of paper produced by the small mills is also controlled, and whether there is any proposal for giving a price rise to the paper industry?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: The paper industry generally has been asking for a price increase. Last time the price was increased in 1962. That matter is also under consideration.

Shri Sradhakar Supakar: What is the definition of this small paper mill, and how far will any incentive given in the form of raising the price of paper have an undesirable effect of hampering education etc.?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: All those matters are being considered.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : कागज के जो छोटे कारखाने हैं, वे अपनी लुगदी या पल्प कभी पैदा नहीं कर सकेंगे। जैसे हम जुलाहों को सूत देने के लिए सहकारिता के माध्यम पर कताई की मिलें लगाते हैं, क्या सरकार ने कभी इस प्रस्ताव पर गौर किया है कि उसी तरह से कागज बनाने के छोटे कारखानों को लुगदी सप्लाई की जाये और सहकारिता के माध्यम पर लुगदी बनाने का प्लांट लगाया जाये, ताकि उसको विदेशों से न मंगाना पड़े ?

Shri F. A. Ahmed: The small units have been utilising traditional raw materials, the pulp, and now they are being encouraged to use bagasse and other waste material. If they make use of it, I hope they will overcome the difficulty of only depending on raw materials imported from outside.

Production of Dhoties and Sarees

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*1447. **Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee:**
Shri M. S. Murti:
Shri R. Barua:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided in their Resolution dated the 2nd June, 1965 that the production of sarees and dhoties by the Textile Mills should be pegged at 1963 level and that the mills and powerlooms should be prevented from producing coloured sarees both yarn-dyed and piece-dyed to afford protection to the handlooms; and

(b) if so, the machinery set up for the proper implementation of the above decision?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The maximum production of sarees and dhoties has already been fixed at the appropriate level and the production of these varieties by the mills is closely watched by the Textile Commissioner. The production of coloured sarees by mills and powerlooms has also been prohibited statutorily and their observance of these regulations is also being watched by the Textile Commissioner.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हाथकरवा वालों ने शिकायत की है कि सरकार द्वारा लिया गया निर्णय ठीक तरह से कार्यान्वित नहीं हो रहा है और इसको देखने के लिए जो तन्त्र स्थापित किया गया है, वह मिल मालिकों के साथ मिल कर इसमें गड़बड़ कर रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार को इस भ्रमण की शिकायतें मिली हैं; यदि हाँ, तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई ठोस कदम उठाए गए हैं, जिससे उनकी पुनरावृत्ति न हो सके।

श्री दिनेश सिंह : समय-समय पर टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर के आदमी इसकी जांच करते