

- (d) the steps taken by Government to help these mills; and
- (e) the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) :
 (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) 72 cotton textile mills closed during the year 1968. 39 of these have reopened, while 33 were still lying closed.
- (c) About 31260 workers.

(d) and (e). Eight mills have already been investigated under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, and the reports are under examination. Eight mills are currently under investigation and their cases will be considered after reports of the investigation Committees are received. Cases of four mills are under litigation. The steps to be taken in respect of the remaining 13 mills are under examination in consultation with the State Government's concerned.

Coir Scheme in Kerala

*10. **SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI :**
SHRI P. P. ESTHOSE :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government of Kerala have requested the Central Government to take over the Coir Scheme as a Central sector Scheme;
- (b) if so, the decision taken thereon;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Kerala Government have requested the Centre to provide Rs. 13.38 crores for giving loans and Rs. 212 lakhs for giving grants to the societies;

(d) if so, whether the same has been provided; and

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R.

BHAGAT) : (a) to (e). The Kerala Government have submitted a detailed plan for reorganisation and development of coir industry in the State. The plan involves an expenditure of Rs. 13.45 crores as loans and Rs. 2.11 crores as grants. The State Government have suggested that the entire expenditure should be met by the Central Government. The plan is under detailed examination in consultation with the concerned authorities.

Import of Tallow

*11. **SHRI J. B. SINGH :**
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

- (a) The quantity of tallow imported during the last three years ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the consumption of tallow in the manufacture of soap is less than what is imported;
- (c) if so, the quantum of soap manufactured during the last three years;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that tallow is being used in the manufacture of vegetable ghee by some concerns; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take to stop the use of tallow in the manufacture of vegetable ghee ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

1. Statement Showing the Quantity of Tallow Imported During the Last Three Years

Year	Quantity (in tonnes)
1965-66	43,342
1966-67	19,552
1967-68	1,27,395

2. *Statement Showing the Quantity of Soap Manufactured in the Organised Sector During the Last Three Years*

Re-Export of Indian Goods by Nepal

*13. SHRI HIMATSINGKA :
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :

Year	Quantity (in tonnes)
1966	1,81,000
1967	1,91,634
1968	1,62,672 (Approx.)
(January—September)	

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported recent switch in the pattern of India's export trade that goods are/were being routed through Nepal in order to obtain the benefit of export incentive of 60 per cent, and import entitlement ranging between 50 to 70 per cent allowed in that country to boost Nepal's export trade;

(b) Tallow is used for the manufacture of not only soaps but also of metal polishes, fatty acids, packing and jointings, lubricating greases, etc. and in the textile and leather industries.

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian exporters have already set up their Office in the Nepal and have had influential Nepalese as partners for the said purpose;

(d) Government is not aware of this.

(c) if so, how far these practices are detrimental to India; and

(e) Does not arise.

(d) government's reaction thereto ?

The Gardens in Assam

*12. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH :
SHRI HEM BARUA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister of Assam has urged the Central Government to take over the Tea gardens in that state; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) The Government of Assam has suggested the setting up of a tea corporation on the lines of National Textile Corporation for taking over of closed tea gardens.

(b) The suggestion is being looked into.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) :

(a) Reports have been received by Government from time to time that some Indian goods like jute, mica, oristles and goat-skins are being exported to Nepal for diversion to third countries, in order to gain bonus vouchers for exporters in Nepal. The bonus earned on such exports is reported to vary from 40 per cent to 60 per cent. To the extent that there is diversion of Indian goods to third countries through Nepal, there is an element of loss of foreign exchange to India. According to available information, some Indian parties have set up industries in Nepal in partnership with Nepalese Nationals, for manufacture of goods based on imported raw materials. The complaints regarding exports to Nepal intended for diversion to third countries have been discussed with the Government of Nepal in the recent trade talks. In the case of raw jute, it has been agreed by the Government of Nepal that they will limit their exports to their exportable surplus. It has also been