

rations and it is only because of the re-organisation of States they have been separated. There are several joint projects for development of the area like the taming of rivers and hydel power projects. In view of the undefined and undemarcated nature of the boundary, is there any proposal with the Government of India to merge the Union Territory of Arunachal with Assam so that they can live together in amity and peace and the development work can be done in a better way?

MR. SPEAKER: That does not arise out of this question.

SHRI G. S. REDDI: Well, 30 years is a long period....

MR. SPEAKER: It is not 30 years; it is only three years.

SHRI G. S. REDDI: Even three years is long period to settle such disputes.

MR. SPEAKER: That does not arise out of this.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether any border dispute exists, because from the answer it appears that the problem is only of demarcation, which means that there are no disputes about areas? I am asking this question because in the North-eastern area claims have been made by various successor States of Assam. I would like to be re-assured that there are no border disputes, as such and the problem is basically one of demarcation. Secondly, it has been reported today in the press that there were some incidents of firing by police in the north-eastern area. Does the Minister know anything about it?

SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL: Yes, Sir; there is no border dispute as such; it is only a question of demarcation. But, then, some claims were made about some areas which were transferred to Assam in the year

1951 according to the decision of a committee of the then Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Medhi.

SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL: In 1947, a sub-committee was appointed by the Constituent Assembly. That committee made certain recommendations which were accepted by then Home Minister, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, and a notification was issued in 1951. In regard to that area, some claims were made, but not on the side of the Government. Some sections of the people are making these claims. So, there is no border dispute as such, only a question of demarcation.

The firing referred to by the hon. Member has come to my notice, but I have not received any report yet.

Changes in distribution system of paper

*950. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been urged by paper trade in the country to eliminate monopoly by making changes in the present distribution system; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI): (a) The Federation of Paper Traders' Association of India have suggested that there should be a broad based distribution system under which paper should be available in all major consuming centres through a wide range of distributors and that the Federation should have an advisory role in the appointment of the proposed distribution in order to avoid monopolistic tendencies in distribution.

(b) The Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. is building up a consumer

oriented distribution system to ensure that consumers get the products at company list prices through the Corporation's Depots. Concessional white printing paper is also being supplied to allottees in the educational sector directly by the mills. So far as other varieties of paper are concerned, there is no control on distribution at present and it is for the industry, trade and consumers to come to an agreement on a mutually acceptable system of distribution.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Just a year ago, paper manufacturers were bemoaning the fact that their godowns were overflowing with stocks, and, according to them, the trade had slipped into a big recession. Trade discounts were offered and even then there were no customers. Today, the genuine manufacturers are finding it very difficult to get their requirements and there is a crisis, there is shortage of paper and also rise in prices. These big manufacturers are creating and manipulating this shortage. Hence, may I know why Government is not thinking of nationalising this industry in order to have fair distribution and also some protection to the genuine consumers?

SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: I have already stated the facts. At the present moment there is no question of nationalisation of the whole industry.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I submit this is not an answer to my question.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made a suggestion. She has said that at present that question is not under consideration.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: It is found that a few jiffing agents are practically controlling the entire concession grade paper trade, thus depriving the small exercise note book manufacturers. May I ask why Government is not thinking of im-

porting paper with minimum import duty in order to avert a severe paper crisis in the near future?

SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: In regard to concessional white paper, arrangements have been made by the co-ordination committee. They will take all the paper from the mills, and then allot it to the different States. In the States, the State Governments have to form their own committees, and they will allot the paper to the real consumers.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: I asked whether they are going to import.

SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: At present there is no need. If the need arises, definitely Government will consider that.

श्री बरिन्द्र प्रसाद : सर्वो महोदया ने बतलाया कि इस में सरकार का कोई वितरण पर नियन्त्रण नहीं है, जिस के कारण काफी गड़बड़ी होती है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ—सरकार वितरण पर नियन्त्रण करने के लिये क्या करने जा रही है ताकि सब लोगों को कागज उचित मात्रा में मिल सके ?

SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: It is a fact that there is no control over the distribution of all varieties of paper. But there is control over the distribution of white paper.

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking, whether you are going to create new channels of distribution.

SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: Some-time back, we considered the proposal. But it is difficult because there are varieties of paper and also the prices are different. So, it is very difficult. In 1975, the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices which had studied the matter felt, taking into account the complexities of distribu-

tion system, that it would be difficult to evolve a proper system of distribution control.

SHRI K. GOPAL: On the one hand, the Minister says that there is no need to import paper and, on the other hand, she also admits that there is need for streamlining the distribution system. I would like to know what is the total demand of white paper in the country, what is the installed capacity and what actually is the production.

SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: We need, at the moment, for educational sector, 2 lakh tonnes of white paper for printing text-books and also for exercise books. We need some paper for Government which is through the DGS&D. The total quantity is 2 lakh tonnes out of which 80,000 tonnes is for DGS&D and the remaining 1,20,000 tonnes for educational sector.

As regards the installed capacity, previously, the paper mills used to produce as they liked. Now, we have asked them that those who have got the capacity of 25 tonnes per day or more are required to manufacture 30 per cent of the total production in the form of white printing paper.

खादी प्रामोद्योग में अतिरिक्त रोजगार के अवसर बनाने के लिए सहायता की मांग

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* 952. श्री रामसेवक हजारी :

श्री सुबोध सिंह :

क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खादी प्रामोद्योग आयोग पांच लाख अतिरिक्त व्यक्तियों को रोजगार प्रदान करने के कार्यक्रम को क्रियान्वित कर रहा है और उसने इस उद्देश्य के लिए सरकार से 75 करोड़ रुपये की राशि की सहायता मांगी है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ; और

(ग) सरकार का आयोग को कितनी सहायता देने का विचार है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI: (a) to (c). The Khadi and Village Industries Commission is playing a predominant role in providing gainful employment opportunities on a substantial scale in the rural areas. Within its limited resources, the Government provides funds to the Khadi & Village Industries Commission as far as feasible. During the current year (1978-79) an allocation of Rs. 65.73 crores has been made to the Commission. It is expected that employment in the Khadi & Village Industries sector will increase from 25.60 lakhs in 1977-78 to 28.41 lakhs in 1978-79.

श्रीराम सेवक हजारी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न था कि उद्योग मंत्रालय ने सरकार से 75 करोड़ रुपये की मांग की थी और सरकार की ओर से उद्योग मंत्रालय को 65 करोड़ 73 लाख रुपये का आवंटन किया गया है और 25.60 लाख लोगों को 1977-78 में रोजगार दिया गया और 1978-79 में 28.41 लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने की सरकार की योजना है । आप ने सरकार से 75 करोड़ रुपये की जो मांग की थी उस में से लगभग दोने बस करोड़ रुपयेकी कमी है मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यदि आप को पूरा रुपया मिल जाता तो जो आप ने 28.41 लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने की बात कही है, उस पूरी राशि मिल जाने पर आप कितने लोगों को रोजगार दे सकती हैं ? आज जो स्थिति बेरोजगारी की देश में है, उस को ध्यान में रखते हुए जो उद्योग मंत्रालय के लिए सरकार ने कटौती की है, वह मुनासिब नहीं है । इस साल जो 28.41 लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने की बात है और पिछले साल जो 25.60 लाख लोगों को रोजगार दिया गया, क्या इस सम्बन्ध में वे पूर्ण विवरण इस सदन को देंगी ?