

that import licence for one item is not used for some other item ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The advanced licences are given for a particular item to be imported. Up to now these advanced licences were given to the manufacturers and others, but now a decision has been taken that the advanced licences will be given only in the name of the exporter and then the exporter will naturally import the requirement for his export purposes and there will be no possibility of importing some other thing.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : My question is : Have you received complaint that using the import licence for industrial oil, coconut oil has been imported ? If so, what action have you taken ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I am not clear about the hon. Member's question whether it is about the advanced licences or about the general licences.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : You know how to answer it.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : But you have to tell me whether you want an answer for an advanced licence.

DR. K.G. ADIYODI : I would like to know whether it is a fact that our import has been alarmingly increasing while our export is stagnant, thereby a lot of change in the trade imbalance due to import subsidy.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Imports are definitely increasing but fifty per cent or more than fifty per cent of the import items in times of money like edible oils, POL, Fertilizers, etc. on which we have no control. Actually about ten per cent imports are linked up with the Aid. Therefore, only about thirty-five per cent items are there on which the Ministry can exercise some control. It is done according to the requirements. There is liberalisation of policy and capital goods are being imported.

Profits of MICA Trading Corporation and Bonus Given to Workers

*385. **SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the profit earned by the Mica Trading Corporation in the last three years and the percentage of the earning given as bonus to the workers;

(b) whether it is a fact that while the profit increased the bonus decreased; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The profit earned by the Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd., in the last three years and the percentage of earnings given as bonus to workers is as under :—

	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
(1) Net Profit (before tax) (in lakhs Rs.)	46.26	52.25	55.40
(2) Percentage of bonus to profit.	11.07	8.83	9.62

(b) and (c). Bonus has been paid in all the previous three years to the extent permissible under the provisions of the Bonus Act, 1965.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : My question is about the profit earned by the Mica Trading Corporation for the last 3 years and the percentage of the earnings given as bonus to the workers. In part (b) I have asked 'whether it is a fact that while the profit increased the bonus decreased' and in part (c) I have asked 'If so, the reasons thereof'. He has given the answer that the profit has increased from 1981-82 to 1984-85. While profit increased the bonus has not increased, but on the other hand, it has decreased. So I want to know the reasons why more bonus could not be paid to the workers while the profit was increasing. He has not given this information in the statement.

(Interruptions).

[*Translation*]

The hon. Minister of Commerce has given the reply whereas the Labour Minister should have replied to it ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

My question is this: May I know from the Minister why the bonus has not increased according to the profit earned by the Corporation? What was the reason the bonus had actually decreased? That is my question.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The reason is this. The carry forward surplus from earlier years was reduced during 1983-84 and no carry-forward, surplus was available during 1984-85. The share capital of MITCO was increased during 1984-85 to enable it to take up manufacturing projects. Due to increased share capital, the deduction on account of 8.5 per cent return on share capital (as provided under the Bonus Act) increased. This resulted in reduction in allocable surplus in 1983-84 and no surplus in 1984-85. Hence, the reduction.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, this is not the reason why it has decreased. This is not the proper answer.

SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Prior to the introduction of floor prices and the setting up of the Mica Trading Corporation, some 12 to 15 middle-class and weaker sections were living in between mine owners and exporters. Now, after the introduction of floor prices and setting up of the Mica Trading Corporation all these people are now out of the market altogether. Only the mica owner and the exporter could live. So, as such, is it not wise to lift the floor price and also remove the Mica Trading Corporation altogether, in order to save these weaker sections?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, it is a suggestion for consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister the total turn-over of the

Mica Corporation during last three years and the amount of bonus given by them each year as against the profit earned.

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the profit and the bonus are mentioned in the Statement laid on the Table.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether bonus was paid in proportion to the profit or not?

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Actually the question was there about the bonus and the profit made. But the other information is not available.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Sir, certainly there has been profit, that is why bonus was given. But the amount of bonus paid is not according to the quantum of profit earned. It is because of this that I want to know the quantum of profit earned and the amount of bonus paid.

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : This information is not readily available with me. I can furnish it to the hon. Member later.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue. The position regarding payment of bonus by different industrial undertakings during the last many years has been very unsatisfactory and some corporations such as Textile Corporation or other corporations do not even pay the minimum bonus ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You ask the question. On Mica Trading Corporation you have to ask. Don't go to textiles.

Why are you going to textiles? Now, Mr. Pradhan may put the question.

[Translation]

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, will the hon. Minister please state what were the demands put forward by the employees regarding bonus and what agreement was reached with the Management?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the bonus was paid and the employees accepted it.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I think in this case the question of bonus from the Mica Trading Corporation is one of the most unfortunate examples where you hear that the management stands up and takes a stand that 'I have increased the share that I hold and therefore, the amount of bonus that you get out of profit goes down.' Secondly, to a second question as to whether there is any agreement, an answer comes saying that 'we gave the bonus and they are yet to get it.' This is a typical case of exploitation of workmen by the management.

I would like to know from the Minister whether the Minister himself or his Ministry is going to intervene to set right such unfortunate happenings especially when it is within his jurisdiction.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, this is a good suggestion for consideration and we will look into it.

Views of State Government Regarding New Textile Policy

*273. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether in view of the around criticism of the new Textile Policy in Parliament, Government propose to ascertain the views of the State Governments with regard to the New Textile policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : The new Textile Policy announced by Government in June,

1985 has, by and large been welcomed in the country. In formulating the policy, views of all concerned interests including those of concerned State Governments have been taken into account.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Sir, this new textile policy has affected three kinds of persons. One side is the mill-owners and the other side is handloom weavers and the cotton growers who are very adversely affected. I would like to know, has the Government obtained the views of the mill-owners, of the cotton growers or their representatives and of the handloom weavers or their representatives either before the departure the old policy is enunciated or immediately after the formulation of the policy? These two sections, namely cotton growers and the handloom weavers are adversely affected because of this new policy.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, before this policy was formulated, a very detailed questionnaire was sent to the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments to elicit their opinion. Unfortunately, only three State Governments have replied and none of the other state Governments have sent their reply.

As far as the handloom weavers are concerned, recently in the Handloom Board meeting, they discussed this policy and they were appreciative of the policy as it is felt that the benefit are likely to flow from the policy to the weavers.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Sir, he did not give me the information about the cotton growers. (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, why don't you allow half-an-hour discussion?

(Interruptions.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have already discussed these things.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : The Minister should reply to my question categorically.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is replying.