

Dr. Ranen Sen: Is it a fact that the West Bengal Chief Minister has recently asked for aid of Rs. 51 crores from the Central Government for this purpose?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: No, Sir. In fact we discussed the question of residuary problem not long ago and except for some minor matter here or there, there is no difference of opinion between us at all.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya: May I know whether the West Bengal Government submits schemes for the residuary problems that are still to be solved and then sanction is made and then a demand is placed for the whole of them and then the Central Government consider it and sanctions the amount?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The residuary problem as such has been discussed and examined between us—various items relating to the residuary problem. The very questions that have been asked indicate one thing the quantum of the residuary problem, the amount asked for and the amount agreed to between us and the Government of West Bengal.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: What is the sum the West Bengal Government asked for the recent influx of displaced persons—I mean the 11,000 persons that have come recently. What is the sum the West Bengal Government asked for? Is it a fact that these persons are shelterless and have no food and are in great distress?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I will answer the second part of the question in the negative. We have tried to rehabilitate them; we have tried to give them relief. But they are not traceable. As regards the first part, Government of West Bengal hardly comes into the picture because the Government of India has accepted the responsibility of taking them to Dandakaranya and rehabilitating them there and the cent per cent expenditure devolves on the Government of India.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether any amount has been granted to the Corporation of Calcutta in response to their appeals made for providing civic amenities to the refugees who are living in *bastis* and unauthorised colonies?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I do not remember any specific requests having been made by the Corporation of Calcutta. The squatters' problem in Calcutta could be divided into two parts, those which come normally in the vicinity of Calcutta and those which form part of the Tollygunj scheme. That scheme has been examined in details. A blue print is to be prepared. There are going to be three parties to that scheme—the Corporation of Calcutta, the Government of West Bengal and the Government of India. We accept the responsibility on behalf of the Government of India.

Q Jute Production

*851. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the position of Jute production during July, 1962 and how far we have improved our production;

(b) whether huge stocks of products have been sacked up in factories due to the fall in market; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Jute goods production in July, 1962 was 103,500 tons; and this was the highest on record in any month in the last 15 years.

(b) and (c). The stocks have not been abnormal considering the increased production and demand and export.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether there was a representation from the Indian Jute Mills Association that they could not maintain

the minimum jute price of Rs. 30 on account of competition from Pakistan jute mills and if so what is the Government's attitude?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I have repeatedly said on the floor of the House during the current session and in the past also, Government has decided to continue to hold to the policy that the operational price of Rs. 30 per Bengal maund should be maintained at Calcutta for Assam bottoms and that policy still continues.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether the price in the mofussil areas is not Rs. 30 and if so whether Government will make any satisfactory arrangements in this regard?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am glad that this question has been raised. The buffer stock which was operated by the Indian Jute Mills Association has not been found either adequate or wholly satisfactory. Therefore, Government of India have decided that the State Trading Corporation should also enter the market and buy in a manner that the grower himself gets the maximum benefit of the operational price.

श्री विभूति मिश्र: अब कलकत्ते में जूट का भाव ३० रुपये मन है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे बिहार में कटिहार, चकिया और विभिन्न जगहों पर सरकार को कौन सी एजेंसियाँ यह जूट खरीदेंगी और जूट का हम लोगों को कम से कम क्या दाम मिलेगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह: फिलहाल प्रोग्राम ऐसा है कि इंडियन जूट मिल्स एसोसियेशन का जितना सहयोग मिल सके और अच्छे तरीके से मिल रहा है वह चालू रहेगा। उस के उपरान्त स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन, और नेशनल कोऑपरेटिव मार्केटिंग फेडरेशन के द्वारा और जितनी प्राइमरी सोसाइटीज बिहार, उड़ीसा, असम और वेस्ट बंगाल में हो सकेंगी उन के द्वारा भी माल खरीदा जायेगा। इसका परिणाम यह है कि जहाँ तक हो सकेगा जो

हमारी ऑपरेशनल प्राइमस ३० रुपये मन कलकत्ते में है वह रहे।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी: बिहार में जूट १७ और १८ रुपये मन खरीदा जाता है और वहीं जूट कलकत्ते में जाने के बाद और उसका बोरा बनने के बाद १६५ रुपये प्रति सौ बोरा विकता है, तो यह अन्न एकोनामिक प्राइस जो जूट प्रोडर्स को मिल रही है उस को भी बढ़ाने के सम्बन्ध में क्या सरकार कुछ विचार कर रही है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह: अब दोनों के बीच में कोई मुकाबला ही नहीं है क्योंकि रेलवे और गोडाउंस के अखबारत और किराये को भी ध्यान में रखना होगा। लेकिन जूट प्रोडर्स को उन के माल का ठीक और मुनासिब दाम मिले उसी के लिए यह इंतजाम किया जा रहा है।

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it not a fact that in spite of the efforts of Government to give to the grower the minimum price of Rs. 30 per maund, a lot of growers have not been able to receive this price? Is it not due to the fact that the jute industry has not co-operated with the Government in this matter?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Partially I agree with the hon. Member that in some cases, to our distress, the price has not been sometimes maintained, but I must also remind the hon. House that throughout the year as a whole the prices have been maintained well and that is due to the co-operation of the Indian Jute Mills Association. But, as I said earlier, their operation from the nature of things itself is not wholly satisfactory or adequate and that is why we are strengthening it.

Shri Vishram Prasad: May I know whether the Government have any plan to utilise the surplus jute in any other industries like cloth-making, etc., and, if not, what are the steps contemplated?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Generally, no cloth can be made for human apparel from jute. We are certainly trying to diversify so that goods of the type such as upholstery, covers and various types of hanging curtains are made of jute. But today we are not surplus in jute in that respect. We can still export more and also meet the domestic requirements of hessian and sacking which are increasing.

Dr. Ranen Sen: May I know if the Government of India is aware that the Jute Enquiry Committee set up by the Government of West Bengal fixed the minimum price of raw jute at Rs. 35 per maund, and if so, what is the reason of the Government of India for lowering the price?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am afraid there was no such price fixed. There have been different committees which have recommended, from different sectional interests, the price of raw jute. As an hon. Member earlier on said, the industry thinks that this price is too high; the growers interests in the past put up the prices at different levels. But, after consideration, the Government decided the policy which was announced last year, and that was that the price should be Rs. 30 per maund. That operational price continues today for the current season and there is no change.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: The minimum price of Rs. 30 hardly reaches the grower and it reaches only the middle purchaser. If that is so, may I know what steps are the Government taking to see that that price reaches the grower?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what I explained: the co-operative societies are being strengthened now. The Natural Co-operative Marketing Federation is also entering the market for purchase. The State Trading Corporation will be the overall agency to hold this buffer-stock in co-operation with the Indian Jute Mills Association over and above their own JBSA. The entire scheme of things is to ensure

that the grower gets the maximum benefit of the operational price.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जिस तरीके से काश्तकारों के लिए कैश क्रेडिट प्राप्त करने के लिए अनाज के लिए गोडाउन खोले गए हैं, क्या उसी तरह जूट के लिए भी गोडाउन खोले गए हैं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जी हाँ ।

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Since the agency which was set up for building-up buffer-stock has not worked satisfactorily, is it the intention of the Government to utilise the co-operatives in the building up of buffer-stocks?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes.

Q Export of Films to Pakistan

*852. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the effect, if any, the total Pakistan ban on the import of films from India has had on the Indian Film Industry?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): The curbs on the import of Indian films into Pakistan began to be placed by the Pakistan Government about the year 1954, with the result that Indian earnings from this source declined from about Rs. 15 lakhs in 1954 to about Rs. 3.3 lakhs in 1961. The total earnings from Indian films sent abroad, however, rose from about Rs. 97 lakhs in 1954 to about Rs. 163 lakhs in 1961. Thus, although the income of about Rs. 3.3 lakhs is likely to be affected as a result of the total ban imposed recently, it does not form a significant part of our total export earnings. The film industry in Bengal will be specially affected because their films had a good market in East Pakistan.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: May I know what further steps are being