

Shri Kanungo: There has been a fall in exports to Canada and the U.S.A., which are the main dollar areas, compared to 1956.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether Government have ascertained any figures about the export from Ceylon to these dollar areas during the same period when there has been a fall?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the figures; if the hon. Member wants we can get them.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Lady Member was looking on while others were standing.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: I stood many times but you did not notice, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member has any important supplementary question let her put it.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Has the money available to the Tea Board been utilised to the full to promote the export of tea in recent years, particularly 1957-58?

Shri Kanungo: It is not necessary for the Board to spend all the money they have. They have got to use it for the best purposes. And, exports, as far as it can be seen, are not alarmingly low yet.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether Government is aware of the increasing competition of low-priced tea from Ceylon, South Africa and Indo-China and whether they are considering to reduce the duty on such tea to increase the export?

Shri Kanungo: We are aware of the competition which will continue and we have no proposal of reducing the duty at present.

Border Incidents

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—**Shri Shivananjappa:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bangshi Thakur:
Shri L. Achaw Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact a group of Pakistani armed men intruded into the border village of Jalalpur in Agartala in October 1957 and opened fire at the villagers;

(b) if so, the number of Indians died thereof; and

(c) the steps Union Government have taken in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon**): (a) and (b). The incident took place in village Jalalpur On the 13th October, 1957, four or five Pakistani nationals trespassed into Indian territory in that village under Police Station Kotwali, Tripura. On being challenged by three Indian nationals, one of the trespassers opened fire, which resulted in the death of two Indian nationals and injury to the third.

(c) The Government of India have lodged a protest with the Government of Pakistan and have requested them to take immediate steps to apprehend and punish the culprits and to pay adequate compensation to the injured Indian national and the relatives of the deceased.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether there are any appreciable reasons for the repeated incursions of the Pakistani armed men?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I do not know the answer for this. The reason why these people had entered the village was, they said, because they were chasing suspected smugglers.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether Government propose to take any fruitful measures in view of these oft-repeated occurrences?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: There are certain procedures laid down how to deal with these border incidents and those are followed very carefully in order to bring relief to the distressed.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether the Pakistani authorities have taken any action on our representation?

* **Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** From time to time several protests have been made to the Pakistan Government. Discussions have also taken place between Chief Secretaries of the areas concerned and we have been able to get some relief.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Just now the Deputy Minister said that they were chasing some smugglers.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I did not say; they said.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: May I know whether they were customs authorities who trespassed or ordinary people?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: One of the Pakistanis is a non-Bengali and there appeared to be a member of the Pakistan Armed Force.

Import of Cement

*824. **Shri Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how far the foreign exchange difficulty has affected the import programme of cement;

(b) whether the import programme of cement is behind the schedule;

(c) if so, how it will affect the pool price of cement in the country; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating the question of revising the present pool price of cement?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Except for imports against outstanding commitments, no fresh imports involving foreign exchange are made.

(b) Imports against outstanding commitments are generally according to schedule.

(c) The pool price already provides for subsidising imported cement and so the pool price is not effected.

(d) No, Sir.

Shri Narasimhan: May I have the figures for all the three?

Shri Manubhai Shah: We had contracted for 5,78,000 tons of cement of which 3,43,000 were expected to arrive by the end of October and it has arrived accordingly.

Shri Narasimhan: Was any representation received from the producers of cement in this country in this regard about the reasonableness or otherwise of the pool price?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This question has been before the House several times. The pool price had been agreed to by all the producers at a general conference and several meetings and this has been in force for a year and more and no protest has been received from any person.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: What are the countries from which we generally get the import?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Normally from Pakistan, Rumania, Soviet Union, Japan and others.

Shri C. D. Pande: In view of the fact that this pool price was fixed on the understanding that about 800,000 tons will be imported while only 300,000 tons have been imported, will Government consider the feasibility of reducing the price so that the consumer may gain—and, not the producer of cement?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As far as the current problem is concerned, there is not much variation as between what was likely to be imported and what has come. And so, we have no intention at the moment to change the price at all.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): There is one reason also. It is not possible to lower the price. It is not advisable because if we now lower the price there is going to be more black-marketing. Black-marketing has come