

Shri Kanungo: The total quantity purchased was somewhere about 70,000 maunds.

Shri A. C. Guha: How many bales?

Shri Kanungo: It is 400 maunds in a bale. The rest is arithmetic. The exports were supposed to be somewhere around two lakh bales and is still progressing.

Shri Tyagi: Have any efforts been made to organise these jute growers into co-operative societies?

Shri Kanungo: Where the co-operative movement is strong they have been organised well but where it is not strong this has not been done.

Shri Tyagi: Is it the intention to transfer the purchase of jute to these co-operative societies as and when they are organised?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir. The State Trading Corporation's policy is to purchase through co-operative societies only.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Is it a fact that ever since the State Trading Corporation has entered the market the export of jute has decreased?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir. In fact, export was made by STC alone.

Shri A. C. Guha: How far the Government's policy of putting up the co-operative organisations to act as agents of the STC has been successful and what is the programme for the next year for putting up co-operative organisation?

Shri Kanungo: I mentioned that the co-operative societies in some States are strong, that is, where the State organisation is good. Where the State organisation is not efficient the movement is not so well organised. Therefore it all depends upon the States.

Shri A. C. Guha: My question was as to in how many regions they have been able to put up the co-operative organisation to act as agents of the STC.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): It is for the State Governments to organise the co-operatives. They know that we have decided it as a policy that the State Trading Corporation will purchase raw jute only from the co-operatives. We do hope that every State concerned will organise them. Many of them have already organised good co-operatives. We do also hope that better co-operatives will be organised and all our purchases will be made from them only.

Shri Damani: May I know as to what Government propose to do with the jute which they intend to purchase through the STC or through other institutions? Do they want to export it or sell it in the local market?

Shri Kanungo: Both. The purpose is to enter into the market when the market goes down.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Will Government consider the necessity of fixing a minimum price of jute in order to ensure a fair return to the growers?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir. Several committees have gone into this question and have decided that the stage has not come to fix a minimum price.

पाकिस्तानियों द्वारा अग्रहृत भारतीय

*११. श्री वाजपेयी: क्या प्रधानमंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) नेहरू-गून समझौता होने के बाद से पूर्व बंगाल की भारतीय सीमा से भिजाकर अब तक कितने भारतीय नागरिक पाकिस्तानियों द्वारा अग्रहृत किये गये;

(ख) उनमें से कितने भारतीय अब तक छोड़ दिये गये हैं; और

(घ) शेष व्यक्तियों की रहाई के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई प्रथमा की जा रही है ?

बैरोसिक-कार्य उपमंत्री (बीजती स्कन्धी बेनन): (क) १३३ (एक सौ तीस):

(ख) ८० (अस्सी)

(ग) सितम्बर, १९५८ में प्रधान मंत्रियों का जो करार हुआ था, उसके मुताबिक यह व्यवस्था थी कि जो लोग भगा लिए गए थे, उन्हें गिरफ्तारी के बाद २४ घंटों के भीतर-भीतर दोनों तरफ से वापस भेज दिया जाय। राज्य सरकारें और भारत सरकार पाकिस्तानी अधिकारियों से इस करार पर प्रमल कराने की पूरी कोशिश करती रही हैं और जैसा कि आकड़ों से पता चलता है, इसमें उचित सफलता मिली है। जिन्हें छोड़ा नहीं गया है उनके बारे में यह कहा गया है कि उन पर किसी न किसी अपराध के कारण मुकदमा चल रहा है। उनकी ओर से पूरी कोशिश की जा रही है।

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if any steps are being taken to provide legal assistance to those Indian nationals who are rotting behind prison bars in Pakistan and, if so, to what extent?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): No, Sir. So far as we know no steps have been taken to provide legal assistance. Generally speaking, we do not even know that there is any case against them.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if Government have any information in regard to the treatment that is being meted out to these Indian nationals in Pakistani jails and if that treatment is satisfactory?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is part of a general question, Sir. I could not answer it off-hand.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chandhuri: Is the hon. Prime Minister aware that in some cases of kidnapping the persons concerned were put before military courts for trial? Was our Mission in Pakistan notified of these trials and did our Mission take any steps to interview them or provide any kind of assistance, legal or otherwise, to these persons?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Where Indian nationals are concerned it is the business of our Mission there to find out as to what has happened to them and to give such assistance as it can. That is the general position, but if the hon. Member wants to know about any particular case I can enquire.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: I want to know whether those Missions have found out.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member ask general questions. What is the use of that?

Shri Vajpayee: When a particular information is not forthcoming, what are Members to do? I would like to know whether any Indian official in Pakistan has visited any Indian national in prison in Pakistan uptill now.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That question I cannot straightaway answer.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: No. 12.

Shri Subiman Ghose: I request that question No. 43 might also be taken up with it.

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Minister answer both together? Question No. 43 relates to demarcation of boundaries.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think it has anything to do with it.