

prepared to bear the loss sustained in implementation of the Wage Board's award?

Shri Abid Ali: I do not think such an announcement was made. That was pertaining to the export of sugar, not with regard to the recommendations of the Wage Board.

Shri P. C. Borgoin: The report in the press is this that Government would try to make good the loss if the Wage Board Award had to be implemented.

Shri Abid Ali: As I said earlier, there was no such proposal.

Shri K. N. Pande: In view of the fact that the Food Minister announced in this House that in case the employers are reluctant to implement the Sugar Wage Board's recommendations they would bear the loss on exports, has the Ministry found out the reaction of the employers in this connection?

Shri Abid Ali: The Food and Agriculture Ministry is in contact with the Association of the representatives of the Sugar Mills and as I have said earlier, we hope that they will be successful in persuading them to implement these recommendations.

Shri Yadav Narain Jadhav: May I know whether any target date has been fixed for the implementation of the Wage Board Award? If not, why not?

Shri Abid Ali: There is no question of a target date. The implementation has already become overdue. It should have been implemented earlier and we want it should be immediately implemented.

Shri Goray: Wage Boards are appointed when a particular question becomes acute. If the factory-owners or the State Government do not implement these recommendations, they become futile. What is the remedy that Government is going to suggest in this regard?

Shri Abid Ali: The experience gained so far is very favourable. The directions of the Wage Boards are being implemented substantially with regard to the other Wage Boards as well. And in this too, as I have said already, it will be implemented. Even so far as the other awards are concerned, some of their directions are not being implemented partially, and by some units fully. That difficulty exists everywhere.

Shri K. N. Pande: In view of the fact that the recommendations of the Wage Board are being implemented by some of the factories under the control of the Food Ministry and certain issues are arising, are Government prepared to create a machinery to clarify the issues?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, Sir, whenever an occasion arises, of course, appropriate machinery will be created, most probably at the State level and, if necessary, we will also help.

Machine Tool Factory at Ludhiana

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*1692. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri Bahadur Singh:
Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to have a Machine Tool Factory at Ludhiana in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the total production potential of this factory and its employment potential?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The question of location of the H.M.T. factory in the Punjab will be decided in consultation with the Government of Punjab. No firm decisions about the exact location in Punjab have yet been taken. The factory will be designed to produce 1,000 machine tools at full capacity. It is premature to assess the employment potential but

about 2,000 workers in all are expected to be employed.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: It is mentioned in the reply that "the factory will be designed to produce, 1,000 machine tools at full capacity". But the period is not mentioned. Is it monthly?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is hoped that within three years we shall reach the full capacity.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: I wanted to know whether the production of 1,000 machine tools is yearly or monthly?

Shri Manubhai Shah: 1,000 machine tools per year.

Shri Basappa: May I know in what way this is different from HMT?

Shri Manubhai Shah: We need so many H.M.Ts, as I have said in the House. The HMT programme in the Third Plan is to establish three more machine tool factories. The second one will be in Punjab, and it is with the East German Democratic Republic's collaboration.

Export of Bengal Deshi Cotton

*1695. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a communication from the President of the East India Cotton Association requesting for release of the undisposed Bengal Deshi Cotton for export;

(b) if so, how much of such cotton is lying undisposed; and

(c) what is Government's decision thereon?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A little over 60,000 bales at the time of receiving the communication from E.I.C.A.

(c) After taking all factors into consideration Government decided to release a further quantity of 60,000 bales for export and the decision has been duly announced to the trade.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether there was any delay involved in the release of the export quota and, if so, to what extent this accumulation has caused a reduction in prices?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There was no delay at all.

Shri Damani: May I know whether Government has surveyed the demand of such quality by our foreign friends annually and how much of it we can meet?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I cannot forecast how much we can release, but it is after proper assessment of the demand and all other factors that the quota is released.

Shri Damani: May I know whether the inferior qualities like *kala gin* and *wagad* will also be allowed for export?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I would not like to make any guess on that. The hon. Member knows very well the import of such a guess.

Eighth Congress of International Silk Association

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*1696. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Radha Raman:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is participating in the Eighth Congress of International Silk Association at London to be held in June, 1961; and

(b) if so the nature of participation?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The