

जायगा जिस के लिए साढ़े सत्रह सौ एकड़ जमीन का अधिग्रहण किया जायगा जो जमीन बिलकुल उपजाऊ है। इस नाला खोदाई योजना को लेकर किसानों में काफ़ी रोष है। संभव है जमीन अधिग्रहण के समय अप्रिय घटना भी घट जाय। इस सम्बन्ध में किसानों के प्रतिनिधि ने उपराज्यपाल, दिल्ली एवं प्रधान मंत्री से भी पिछले माह मिल कर अपनी समस्या को रखा था।

किसानों की मांग है कि वर्तमान नाले को ही यदि आवश्यकता हो तो चौड़ा किया जाय और नया नाला निकालने की अव्यवहारिक एवं किसान विरोधी योजना को रद्द किया जाय। इस सम्बन्ध में किसान 25 मार्च, 81 से बोट क्लब पर भूख हड़ताल पर भी जा रहे हैं।

सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में कार्रवाई कर सदन को भी अवगत कराने का कष्ट करे।

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DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1981-82—Contd.

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MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER

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श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल (कोटा) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, वाणिज्य मंत्रालय पर कल से बहस चल रही है। मुझसे पूर्व वक्ताओं ने ट्रेड डेफिसिट के बारे में चिन्ता व्यक्त की है उनके साथ अपने आप को जोड़ते हुए मैं अपने विचार यहां पर रखना चाहूंगा। यदि यह कहा जाए कि वाणिज्य मंत्रालय—उसके काम करने का ढंग और उसकी उपलब्धियां, हमारे देश के आर्थिक तन्त्र की मेरुदण्ड

हैं तो यह अतिशयोक्ति नहीं होगी। यह इस विंग की ही परफार्मेंस है जिससे आर्थिक क्षत्र में दुनिया के बाजारों में हमारे देश की साख बनती या बिगड़ती है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, 1975-76 में, जिसको कि इमर्जेंसी का गोल्डेन पीरियड कहा जाता है, व्यापार में 1222 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ था। गत वर्ष 1979-80 में यह व्यापारिक घाटा 2328.2 करोड़ हुआ और इस साल 1980-81 में व्यापार का घाटा 4200 करोड़ तक पहुंचने की सम्भावना है। इस प्रकार से लगातार व्यापार में ट्रेड डेफिसिट होता चला जाए तो उसका प्रभाव कुल मिलाकर हमारे फारेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व पर पड़ता है और उसका प्रभाव अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में हमारे रूपए का जो मूल्य है उसके ऊपर पड़ता चला जा रहा है। जो हमारे फारेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व हैं वह 1976-77 में 2863 करोड़ थे, 1977-78 में बढ़कर 4499 करोड़ हो गए, 1978-79 में 5219.9 करोड़ हो गए लेकिन 1979-80 से उसमें घटाव शुरू हुआ। 1979-80 में वह घट कर 5163.7 करोड़ रह गए और 1980-81 में जो अभी तक जनवरी तक के आंकड़े दिए गए हैं उसके हिसाब से 4850.5 करोड़ फारेन एक्सचेंज था। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि इसके अन्दर इन्टर-नेशनल मोनेटरी फंड (I. M. F.) से 800 करोड़ लिया हुआ भी जोड़ दें और उसके अलावा फरवरी-मार्च, दो महीनों में जो फारेन एक्सचेंज में और गिरावट आ सकती है और आयेगी उसको जोड़ दें तो हमारा फारेन एक्सचेंज 4 हजार करोड़ ६० से भी कम रह जाएगा। यह चिन्ता का विषय है, मैं इस पर कोई आलोचना नहीं करना चाहता, लेकिन जो वस्तुस्थिति है, वह

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यह है कि हमारा फारेन ट्रेड डेफिसिट बढ़ता चला जा रहा है और हमारे रुपए की कीमत गिरती चली जा रही है। इन सब बातों के पीछे जो तर्क दिया जाता है और हमेशा दिया जाता रहा है, जैसाकि वाणिज्य मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट में है, कि आज अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में मन्दी है, रिसेशन है, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार के अन्दर विकसित देशों ने प्रोटेक्शनिस्ट टेंडेसी एडाप्ट कर रखी है, चाहे वह कोटा लिमिटेशन के द्वारा हो, चाहे वह क्वालिटी कन्ट्रोल के द्वारा हो और चाहे वह काउन्टरवेलिंग ड्यूटी लगाकर के जो कुछ हम हमारे लोगों को फायदा देते हैं, उसको मीट करने के लिए काउन्टरवेलिंग ड्यूटी द्वारा खत्म कर देते हैं, लेकिन फिर भी बार बार यह कहा जाता है कि इन कारणों से हमारा ट्रेड डेफिसिट बढ़ रहा है।

इसलिए मैं वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह बात जो बार बार कही जाती है, क्या आपको लगता है कि निकट भविष्य के अन्दर आप इन बातों से छुटकारा पा सकेंगे? क्या आपको लगता है कि विकसित देश जो इस मॉटेलिटी से ग्रसित हैं, अपनी हठवादिता को छोड़ेंगे। वे नहीं चाहते कि हमारा इंडियन गुड्स उनकी मार्केट में जगह पा सके, क्या आप इस वृत्ति को कभी तोड़ पायेंगे। यह ठीक है कि हमारे पास आज बोट व अटॉड जैसी संस्थायें हैं। वहाँ पर कई मीटर रैफर भी हुए हैं, वे कई बातों पर एग््री भी हुए हैं, लेकिन मैं आप के माध्यम से वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ, खास करके यू० एस० ए० में वहाँ के व्यापारियों ने हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर जो सौदे किए गए हैं, उस समय की यू० एस० ए० की ड्यूटी के आधार पर किए गए हैं, वे गुड्स उनकी

मार्केट में ना जा पायें, खासकर के गारमेंट्स व टैक्सटाइल्स, उनकी मार्केट में जाने से रोकने के लिए जो उन्होंने काउन्टरवेलिंग ड्यूटी लगाई और जो माल यू० एस० ए० में नहीं जा पाया, क्या इन संस्थाओं के अन्दर उन प्रश्नों को रखने के बाद आपको किसी प्रकार का इजाफा मिला है? क्या हम जो यू० एस० ए० ने काउन्टरवेलिंग ड्यूटी लगाई, उसको खत्म करने के अन्दर और हमारे इंडियन माल के साथ कान्ट्रेक्ट हुआ, उसको वापिस यू० एस० ए० में भेजने में सफल हुए? जहाँ तक मेरी जानकारी है, हम सफल नहीं हुए हैं। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि यह तर्क तो बार बार दिए जाते हैं कि इन कारणों की वजह से हम एक्सपोर्ट नहीं बढ़ा पा रहे हैं, तो एक्सपोर्ट में यह डेफिसिट बना रहने वाला है।

उपाध्यक्ष जी, मेरी यह स्पष्ट मान्यता है कि हमारा जो फारेन ट्रेड, है, हमारा जो विदेशी व्यापार है, वह जैसी हमारी विदेश नीति होगी, उसका ही अनुसरण करेगा, विदेश नीति हमारी क्या है? जैसी हमारी विदेश नीति होगी, वैसे ही हमारा विदेश व्यापार चलेगा। इस विश्व के अन्दर कौन हमारे मित्र हैं और कौन ऐसे व्यक्ति ह, जो बिल्कुल हम से दूर रहना चाहते हैं, चाहे मित्रता का ढोंग करते हों, लेकिन मित्र नहीं हैं, उसी आधार पर हमारे विदेशी व्यापार का संचालन होना चाहिए। यहाँ पर आंकड़े दिए गए। कई कन्ट्रीज का 1970-71 के अन्दर अमुक कन्ट्री का हमारी कन्ट्री के अन्दर इम्पोर्ट में कितना शेयर था और वह जाकर के 1978-79, 1979-80 या 1980-81 में कितना हुआ—इसी प्रकार से एक्सपोर्ट के आंकड़े दिए गए। यदि उन आंकड़ों को देखा जाए, तो उन आंकड़ों को

देखने के बाद, जहां तक मैं समझता हूँ कोई इन्फ्लेक्शन पिक्चर वाणिज्य मंत्रालय नहीं दे पाया है। यह ठीक है कि हमारा टोटल एक्सपोर्ट 10 प्रतिशत बढ़ा है, लेकिन जहां पर इन्फ्लेक्शन है, घाटे का सवाल है, उस और आप को अधिक ध्यान देना चाहिए। हिन्दुस्तान हरेक कन्ट्री के साथ व्यापारिक घाटे के अन्दर है। दूसरी कन्ट्रीज से हमारे देश के अन्दर ज्यादा आवात हुआ है और उसके मुकाबले में हम निर्यात कम कर पाए हैं। इस लिये मैं अपने वाणिज्य मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमें थोड़ा व्यावहारिक बनना पड़ेगा। जिन कन्ट्रीज के साथ हमारी मित्रता है, जिनके आधार पर हम अपनी विदेश नीति को ले कर चल रहे हैं, उन के साथ हमें बैलेंस-ऑफ-ट्रेड को बनाने का प्रयास करना चाहिये। आज हम जितना आयात करते हैं, उतना निर्यात नहीं हो पाता है। स्थिति इस लिये भी खतरनाक है कि हम तेल का आयात करते हैं और तेल के दाम प्रतिदिन बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में जिस अनुपात में पेट्रोल और पैट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स के दाम बढ़ते जा रहे हैं उसी अनुपात में हमारे देश द्वारा निर्यात की जाने वाली वस्तुओं के दाम नहीं बढ़ रहे हैं, परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि घाटे की स्थिति भयंकर होती जा रही है। इस लिये मैं निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि हमें अपने एक्सपोर्ट को ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़ाना चाहिये और इम्पोर्ट को जितना भी मिनिमाइज कर सकते हैं उस को घटाना चाहिये। हमारी टैकना-लाजी के लिये, साइन्टिफिक डेवलपमेंट के लिये तथा एक्सपोर्ट को बढ़ाने के लिये जिन चीजों की जरूरत हो, केवल उन्हीं को मंगाना चाहिये, दूसरी वस्तुओं के लिये इम्पोर्ट को एन्करेज करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

इसी आधार पर मैं एडिबिल-आयलज के बारे में भी इस समय कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। मैं ने पिछली बार भी इस सम्बन्ध में कहा था कि हमारे देश में एडिबिल-आयलज का आना कुछ अनिवार्य सा लग रहा है, क्योंकि इस समय देश में जितनी मांग है उतना हम उत्पादन नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। मैं आप से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि हम ने सब्स्टीट्यूट एडिबिल आयल के उत्पादन को एन्करेज करने के लिये क्या किया है? आज मलेशिया में जो क्लाइमेट है, जिस प्रकार की भूमि वहां पर है, उसी के आधार पर दक्षिण भारत में और विशेष कर अण्डेमान-निकोबार आइलैण्ड्स में हम पाम के प्लान्टेशन को क्यों नहीं बढ़ा रहे हैं? पाम के प्लान्टेशन को एन्करेज करने के लिये क्या हम ने कोई फेज्ड प्रोग्राम बनाया है या पंचवर्षीय योजना में उस को कोई महत्वपूर्ण स्थान दिया है? इस और आप को विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये। इसी तरह से एडिबिल आयलज के सोड्स की समस्या है—हम ने इस के लिये जो सर्पोट प्राइस निर्धारित की है, वह बहुत कम है। चाहे सरसों हो, मूंगफली हो, मार्केट में सर्पोट प्राइस पर बिकने के लिये कभी भी ये सोड्स नहीं आये। इस लिये मेरा आप से निवेदन है कि इन के इम्पोर्ट को कम करने के लिये जरूरी है कि हम सोड्स के उत्पादन को अधिक से अधिक प्रोत्साहन दें ताकि इन का उत्पादन देश में बढ़ सके।

आज हमारे जो ट्रेडीशनल आइटम्स हैं—उन का प्लान्टेशन भी आप के पास है और ट्रेड भी आप के पास है। आप सब से पहले चाय को लीजिये—मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस के लिये आप ने क्या किया है? आज चाय के एक्सपोर्ट में जो यूनिट वैल्यू आनी चाहिये वह कम होती चली जा रही

[श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल]

है। क्या हम ने अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में चाय के जो दूसरे उत्पादक हैं, खास कर लंका जो हमारा पड़ोसी देश है, उस के साथ बैठ कर कोई समझौता किया है। मेरी मान्यता यह है कि ट्रेडिशनल आइटम्स में, जिन का कि हम आज तक एक्सपोर्ट करते आये हैं, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में दूसरे उत्पादक देशों के साथ यदि हम संयुक्त रूप से व्यापार करें तो इस में ज्यादा लाभ हो सकता है। सीलोन, कोनिया को अपने साथ ले सकते हैं। आज ओपेक कन्ट्रीज अगर अपने तेल को बेचने के लिये इकट्ठे हो सकते हैं और इकट्ठी ताकत के आधार पर जो मूल्य वे मांगते हैं वह देनी पड़ती है, तो क्या हम अपनी ट्रेडिशनल आइटम्स के लिये, जैसे जूट के लिये बंगला देश, चाय के लिये सीलोन और कोनिया के साथ ज्वाइन्ट व्यापार नहीं कर सकते हैं। अगर हम जूट के व्यापार में बंगला देश को अपने साथ नहीं ले सकते तो हमें इस बात को मानना पड़ेगा कि हमारी विदेश नीति जो होनी चाहिये, उस में हम सफल नहीं हो पाये हैं। चाय के व्यापार में यदि हम सीलोन को अपने साथ नहीं ला सकते, ज्वाइन्ट मार्केटिंग के लिये उस देश को तैयार नहीं कर सकते तो मैं यह महसूस करता हूँ कि हम अपनी विदेश नीति में सफल नहीं हुए हैं। मैं चाय के बारे में आप से एक जानकारी चाहता हूँ—वर्ष 1979 के अन्दर हमारे देश में चाय का उत्पादन 546 मिलियन किलोग्राम हुआ था। आक्शन सेंटर पर 333 मिलियन किलोग्राम चाय आई, तो बाकी जो चाय थी उस का क्या हुआ। इसी प्रकार से 1980 के अन्दर कुल चाय का उत्पादन 575 मिलियन किलोग्राम हुआ और इस के मुकाबले में 306.7 मिलियन कि० ग्राम चाय आक्शन सेंटर पर आई, तो बाकी चाय कहाँ चली गई।

क्या इसके बारे में वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने कभी गंभीरता से सोचा। मेरी ऐसी मान्यता है और मेरा चार्ज है कि यह जो बाकी चाय थी, यह डाइरेक्ट टी गार्डन्स से बेची गई और दुर्भाग्य से वह हिंदुस्तान के बाजारों में न आ कर स्मगल हो कर पाकिस्तान गई। क्या इस के बारे में कोई जानकारी आप ने की कि हम इतनी सुविधाएँ इन टी गार्डनों को देते हैं लेकिन चाय का जितना उत्पादन होता है, उस का कुछ हिस्सा ही आक्शन सेंटर पर बिकता है और बाकी स्मगल हो कर कैसे पाकिस्तान में चला गया? इस की कोई जानकारी आप ने प्राप्त की।

इस के बाद में एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ। वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने एम० एम० टी० सी० और एस० टी० सी० की अपनी रिपोर्ट के अन्दर उन की परफार्मेंस की बड़ी प्रशंसा की है।

प्रो० मधु बंडवते (राजापुर) : देर से वह रिपोर्ट मिली है।

श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल : जी, हाँ, वे देश से आई है। उस को कल ही मैं ने थोड़ा पढ़ा है। उस में कहा गया है कि एस० टी० सी० और एम० एम० टी० सी० टर्नओवर बड़ी एनर्जेजिंग है। माननीय वाणिज्य मंत्री कम से कम उस से संतुष्ट नहीं हैं, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ। वह एक सोल मोनोपली एजेन्सी है सारी चीजों की और गवर्नमेंट का प्रोटेक्शन उस को मिला हुआ है। चाहे वह एस० टी० सी० हो और चाहे एम० एम० टी० सी० इन का अगर आप इम्पोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट का अनुपात देखें, तो वह कितना है? 90 परसेन्ट इम्पोर्ट है और 10 परसेन्ट एक्सपोर्ट है जो इन गवर्नमेंट एजेंसियों के द्वारा होता है। तो फिर हम उस के बारे में यह कैसे कह

सकते हैं कि कुछ कर के उन्होंने दिखाया है। उन की सोल मोनोपली है और वे इम्पोर्ट कर रही हैं। जो इम्पोर्ट आप ने बैन किया है, उसको भी वे इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं। बाकी उन्होंने अपने लेबिल पर, जो टोटल टर्न-ओवर है, उस में कितना एक्सपोर्ट किया है, जिस की कि आज हमें जरूरत है। यह ठीक है कि आज हमें कुछ आवश्यक चीजों को इम्पोर्ट करने की जरूरत है लेकिन हम अपनी फॉरेन एक्सचेंज बढ़ाना चाहते हैं और हमारे पास जो फॉरेन एक्सचेंज है, उस को अगर बचाना चाहते हैं, तो हमारा एक्सपोर्ट ज्यादा होना चाहिए लेकिन हमारी ये जो स्टेट एजेंसियां हैं, ये अगर ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट नहीं करवाती हैं, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह हमारे लिय बड़े दुःख की बात होगी। इसलिए एक बात खासकर एम०एम०टी०सी०के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा और वह यह है कि आज माइका की जो हालत हुई है, माइका का एक्सपोर्ट जो मिटकों के द्वारा हो रहा है क्या वहीं हालत इसकी नहीं होगी। एक समय का उसका एक्सपोर्ट देखिये और आजका इक्सपोर्ट देखिये। उस में जिस प्रकार की शर्तें लगाई जाती हैं कि सोदे प्राइवेट पार्टियां करें और उसका शेयर मिटकों को दें, उस तरह के एक्सपोर्ट के मामले में आप कंट्री को आगे कैसे ले जा सकते हैं और हमारा एक्सपोर्ट कैसे आगे बढ़ सकता है। इस लिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि हमारा जो एक्सपोर्ट है, वह गवर्नमन्ट एजेंसियों के माध्यम से अधिक होना चाहिए और उन को इन्क्रीज किया जाना चाहिए। इम्पोर्ट में उनकी मोनोपली है। यही आप का नेफंड का हाल है। नेफंड की जो हालत है, उस को मैंने देखा है, वह मेरे पास थी। यह ठीक है कि मूंगफली का निर्यात करने के लिए उस को परमीशन दी गई है। जहां तक मेरा प्रश्न है, मैं इस बात को मान कर चलता हूँ कि एक्सप्लोरबिल (Explorable) सरप्लस के अलावा हम को एक्सपोर्ट

नहीं करना चाहिए। यह ठीक है कि जो माकिट हमारे हाथ में है वे हमारे हाथों से जायेंगी, मैं यह मान कर चलता हूँ और आज कई जगहों पर हमारे माकिट हैं लेकिन मूंगफली के तेल का कीमत आज क्या है और किस कीमत पर लगभग 10 हजार टन मूंगफली निर्यात करने की आपने इजाजत दी है। यह मूंगफली नेफंड अगर डाइरेक्ट एग््रीकल्चरिस्ट्स से परचेज करता, गरीब किसानों से परचेज करके किसानों को पैसा देता, तो मुझे आपत्ति न होती लेकिन नेफंड मूंगफली की खरीद व्यापारियों से करता है, लाबीज से करता है, कुछ लाबीज गुजरात के अन्दर बनी हुई है और प्रेशर डालकर इस धंधे को करती आ रही है और वे कहती है कि एक्सपोर्ट हम को दिया जाय। मैं यह निश्चित रूप से कहना चाहूंगा कि एग््रीकल्चरल कोमोडिटीज को एक्सपोर्ट करने की बहुत गुंजाइश है लेकिन क्या आपके वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने और इस के विभागों ने आर्टिकल्स को आईडेन्टीफाई किया है कि कौन कौन सी वस्तुएं एग््रीकल्चरल क्षेत्र के अन्दर ऐसी हैं जिन को हमें निर्यात करना चाहिए और क्या उन के लिए हम ने मार्केट देखे हैं? क्या हम ने यह भी देखा है कि उनका टोटल प्रोडक्शन हमारे देश में कितना है और हमारे देश की रिक्वायर-मेंट्स कितनी है और अगर इस समय हमारे पास एक्सपोर्ट करने की गुंजाइश नहीं है तो क्या उन कोमोडिटीज के प्रोडक्शन को हमें एन्क्रेज नहीं करना चाहिए। हमारे देश में सरप्लस प्रोडक्शन हो, इसका क्या आपने प्रयास किया है और अगर प्रयास नहीं किया है तो वह आपकी थॉर्था नीति है, थॉर्था धोरण है कि एग््रीकल्चरल कोमोडिटीज को हम एक्सपोर्ट करेंगे और उन के लिए हमें माकिट देखना है।

अन्त में मैं एस० टी० सी० के संबंध में रबड़ के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहूंगा।

[श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल]

जैसी मेरी सूचना है कि प्रोडक्शन के मुकाबले में डिमांड बहुत अधिक होने से एस० टी० सी० ने रबड़ का इम्पोर्ट किया। मैं माननीय मंत्री जो से जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो दस हजार टन रबड़ इम्पोर्ट किया गया था उस में से केवल 4 हजार 2 सौ टन ही क्यों डिस्ट्रीब्यूट किया गया और 6 हजार टन यू ही पड़ा रहा? यह जो रबड़ प्रोड्यूसर आख मिचोली करते हैं इन पर भी आपकी निगाह रखनी पड़ेगी। मैं इस बारे में इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि रबड़ प्रोड्यूस करने वाले अधिकतर मोनोपलिस्ट्स हैं, छोटे कारखाने बहुत कम हैं। वे डिमांड को बाट करने के लिए दूसरे लोगों को रबड़ प्रोड्यूस करने की इजाजत नहीं देते। इस लिए मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि एस० टी० सी० ने जो इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट से रबड़ इम्पोर्ट किया है उस का आप डिमांड को मीट करने के लिए प्रयोग में लायें।

अन्य में मैं कड़वा चाहता हूँ कि इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट के सरकमटानसिज आपके समाने मौजूद हैं वाणिज्य मंत्री होने के नाते हिन्दुस्तान को आख आपके हाथों में है। आपको डाईनेमिक होना पड़ेगा। और इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट में अपने माल के लिए आपको नयी नयी मार्केट्स को ढूढना पड़ेगा। हमारे जो मित्र देश हैं उनको भी बाध्य करना पड़ेगा कि फॉरेन ट्रेड में उनके साथ हमारा बैलेंस रहे, डेफिसिट न रहे। अन्य मार्केटों में भी हमें अपना एक्सपोर्ट करने का प्रयास करने चाहिए। अब ये प्रयास आप कितने कर पायेंगे कितने नहीं कर पायेंगे, यह तो समय ही बतायेगा।

इतना ही कह कर मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

**SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI** (Bhubaneswar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce. Sir, it is how one views a thing that matters. If there is a glass full of milk and if one says that the glass is full of milk then this is a positive approach. One the other hand if somebody comes and says that the glass is one-fourth empty then it is a negative approach. Listening to the speeches of the hon. Members from the Opposition I find that their approach to the problem is a negative one. They see all darkness whereas we see light.

Sir, the hon. Members might have read the Report of the Ministry of Commerce. Well I must admire that it is a very practical and pragmatic Report. Sir, to counter what hon. Members are narrating I would like to quote a few lines from the Report:

“India’s foreign trade is passing through sever stains in the face of growing imbalances for the last few years. While domestic and external constraints like drought, shortage of power and basic inputs, global recession and growth of protectionist tendencies abroad have had an impact on the growth of exports.....”

These are the constraints at home and abroad. In this context we shall have to discuss our achievements in the field of foreign trade so far as 1980-81 is concerned.

Sir, when we look to the export of engineering goods, I must say that a remarkable achievement has been made. Export of engineering goods was declining during the last two-three years.

But on account of the measures taken in 1979-80 and 1980-81 the declining trend has been reversed and in 1980-81 we are going to achieve the target of Rs. 500 crores. I think, Sir, it is an achievement.

Similarly, look to the case of project contracts abroad. There also you will find that the total volume of project contracts overseas held by Indian parties was of the order of Rs. 3,965 crores in the beginning of 1981 which was a substantial increase over 1980. Similarly, if you look to the basic chemicals, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics you will find that the achievements are commendable. The target of Rs. 450 crores is going to be achieved in these fields.

Sir, as I come from the jute growing area, last year I was trying to impress on the hon. Minister that as he himself comes from the jute growing area he may please look to the interests of the marginal and small farmers who are mostly exploited by middlemen.

I am very happy to note that in the field of Jute, the Jute Corporation of India has procured Rs. 10.50 lakhs bales of Raw Jute which is higher by 20 per cent than the previous year's procurement. This procurement is the highest in the last five years. Out of this, 80 per cent has been procured from the small and marginal farmers at the time of festivals when they needed the money most. This step has come as a great help to these small and marginal farmers and jute growers in this area.

Sir, another good thing that the Ministry has done is this. We have been demanding from the Government nationalisation of the sugar industry, the jute industry and so on. I am very happy to note that slowly and steadily the Minister is moving in that very direction. The National Jute Manufacturing Corporation was set up in the year 1980. Six jute mills have been nationalised.

AN F.O.N. MEMBER : Sick only.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Whatever it is I am happy about it. This is a step in the right direction.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Other mills should not become sick.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : No doubt if they become sick, they will be taken over one does not know. Therefore, Sir, I hope that Government will take early steps to nationalise the Jute Industry. I say this because it is now in the hands of a few jute magnates who are only exploiting the farmers. I am very happy to know that to end this exploitation, a beginning has been made.

Sir, Rs. 5.63 crores of money has been provided for modernisation of these mills which are taken over. These mills became sick because they have been exploited to such an extent by those mill-owners. So, Sir, we have got to incur Rs. 5.63 crores. Why should you waste more time in taking over the rest of these mills? This is my submission.

Then, Sir, Government have issued Letter of Intents to the Governments of Assam, Bihar and Meghalaya, regarding the setting up of 5 new jute mills either in the public sector or in the cooperative sector. This is a step in the right direction. One jute mill in the public sector has been set up in Orissa and the Orissa Government has requested the Centre for the setting up of 3 or 4 jute mills in Orissa State. I request the Minister to help the Orissa Government to set up some more jute mills also in the public sector. Sir, Orissa is a jute-growing area. The farmers in Orissa are exploited by the middlemen, both from Orissa and Bengal.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I hope you do not mean our Pranab Mukherjee.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : No Sir, I don't mean him he is above all these things; actually he is trying to stop this exploitation.

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

Now, Sir, the recommendations of the Task Force for the Jute Industry has been received by the Government. This Task Force has made some recommendations which are not so good. But there are other recommendations which are very good. I hope that those recommendations which are very good will be implemented by the Government which will pave the way for a stable and strong jute industry in this country.

Then, Sir, the Kulkarni Committee has made some very good recommendations in the matter of streamlining the Jute Corporation of India. I do hope that the Government will look into these recommendations and implement them expeditiously.

Then, Sir, I come to the subject of exports of carpet-backing and also sacking materials about which some hon. Members spoke yesterday. Some of them were saying that no steps have been taken by the Government in this regard. But, I find from the Report of the Ministry that various serious efforts have been taken up by the Ministry in this respect. We know the constraints in the domestic market. We also know the constraints in the international market. When I look at the Import Bill for 1980-81, I find that this is of the order of Rs. 11,300 crores.

What we find is this: Oil forms 80.3 per cent. Iron and Steel forms 84.6 per cent. Fertilizer forms 8.7 per cent or about Rs. 640 crores. We are importing non-ferrous metals to the extent of 47.9 per cent. We are importing Vegetable Oils to the extent of nearly Rs. 400 crores. We have inbuilt unutilised capacity in the steel sector. The total output of steel in the six steel plants including Tatas is likely to be about 5.5 million tonnes as against 7.4 million

tonnes in 1976-77. Why can't we at least achieve the capacity utilization to the extent of 7.4 million tonnes which we achieved in 1976-77. Today, India has got an installed capacity of 11.4 million tonnes. Why can't we go upto 8 million tonnes and consequently reduce the import for which we are spending so much money? Similar is the case in respect of fertilizers. There is a link between the countries from whom we are importing and those who manage the import-exports here. So far as fertilizer is concerned, our capacity in all the fertilizer plants after so much investment is 5.2 million tonnes. But do you know what we produce? It is only 2.2 million tonnes. Can we not increase it upto four or five million tonnes and then reduce the imports?

Take the case of vegetable oil? We are importing vegetable oil for more than Rs. 400 crores. India is an agricultural country. I am very happy that the Government are trying to have a crash programme for increasing the production of vegetable oil seeds in the country.

We must see to it that the production in respect of iron and steel fertilizers, non-ferrous metals and vegetable oils goes up, so that our dependence on imports is reduced.

If you look to the import lists, what do we find? coconut oil for industrial purposes is one of the items included there. What does it mean? There are fifty-four items included in the list. Things like bright steel bar, aluminium etc. are included there. There are many loopholes in that list. The hon. Minister should go into the list. When we want to build up a self-reliant economy in India, why should we resort to imports more and more? Our annual import bill is about Rs. 11300 crores and the exports are only worth Rs. 6000 crores. We are having a deficit of



Rs. 4000 crores. We have, therefore, to take a serious note of this development and make all efforts to utilise the unutilised capacity in respect of iron and steel, fertilizers, non-ferrous metals etc.

I am very happy that news has come that in Bombay High, we can go upto a production of 17 million tonnes of crude oil in a year. We must expedite the process by 1983 or 1984. We have to expedite our oil exploration programme so that we do not heavily depend on imports of oil from the oil-producing countries.

Whenever we talk of higher rate of growth in this country, the question will come from where we would find the resources. It is a very vicious circle. If you want to have resources, what should we do? Should we go on exporting? To be very frank, I am against this export mania. I have not seen any country in the world which has progressed in this way. The Soviet Union built itself from scratch. All the western capitalist countries boycotted the Soviet Union when it started growing up in 1917. Today, it is one of the mightiest countries in the world. Did it bring anything from any other country? Any nation which wants to be self-reliant in its economy and become a great power has to do it by sacrifice, and not by going on importing things. Now, we import things worth Rs. 11,000 crores. You will say that for supporting the imports, we will export things worth Rs. 8,000 crores. Where do we get from goods worth Rs. 8000 crores exports? The way we are habituated to this kind of export mania, I think, we are binding the Indian economy hand and foot to the exporters. This requires serious consideration.

In 1971, the export subsidies that were given to the exporters were Rs. 110 crores and in 1978, we have given Rs. 625 crores as subsidy to the exporters. If you have gone

through the recent report of the Comptroller and Auditor General, you will find how these subsidies are not being properly utilised. There are a number of cases and I am not going to cite all these cases. But, there was one case of export of black pipes, where for export earnings amounting to Rs. 2.31 crores, the Government paid Rs. 1.78 crores in foreign exchange to import the raw material and further Rs. 71.78 lakhs by way cash assistance. I am very happy that the Finance Minister has taken note of all these things and how these things are not being properly utilised by the exporters, and said that he will review the entire question of subsidy being given to the exporters.

When we talk of a higher rate of growth, naturally it raises the question of resources. In this connection, I would like to mention that the capital accounted for less than one-fifth of the growth rate in the United States between 1948 and 1969. It is not necessary that we need more and more loans from the foreign countries to build up our own strength. If you look into our savings also, the rate of savings in India has peaked to a level of 22%, yet in the year 1979-80, we had a negative growth rate. So, the capital and growth are not very much interlinked. Let us look to the return on the investment that we have made. If we invest Rs. 20,000 crores and there is no return from this investment, how long can we go on investing by borrowing? We should be concerned with the yield of investment rather than the volume of investment. I am very happy that the Commerce Ministry in its report has stated that there must be careful investment management; it must be properly scrutinised otherwise we are going to be over-capitalised.

Sir, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce, but at the same time, I would like to bring a few things to the notice of

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:]

the hon. Minister. He is very sincerely trying to see that our export potential is fully utilised that we do not depend more and more on imports, and that we diversify our exports. Why have our exports to U. S. A. and certain other countries gone down? Well, we have to diversify. We cannot have in one basket all our trade. It is better that we diversify and export to various countries. We have connections with all the countries, not with this bloc or that bloc only. We must try to see that while gradually our export potential goes up, at the same time, whatever we import should not stand in the way of our becoming self-reliant.

In this context, I would like to give you one instance. If you look to the import of tin, there is an international cartel of four big countries. They have a control over production of tin in the wor'd. Whatever they send to India, they would charge 200 dollars per tonne extra, but if they send that material to Taiwan or other countries, they would not charge like that. Then, there are two companies in India, which monopolise the manufacture of cans in India. I have compared the prices: if one can is imported, it will cost Rs. 1.20 p but if it is manufactured by these two monopolies its cost would be Rs. 2.50 p. Therefore, if you import the cans, you save 50% in cost.

15'00 hrs.

These are the things which the hon. Minister should go into in details. We should not go on increasing our imports unnecessarily and on that basis try to build up everything, or surrender to exporters. That is not the economy we want to build up. We want to build up a self-reliant economy and with that purpose in view, we have invested Rs. 18,000 crores in the public sector, and we have to expand it. They are having the commanding heights of economy. Even if we sacrifice, even if we forego something, the shape of things

that are coming in within the next two or three years in the international arena, the way the confrontation and the crisis are developing, it is time for us to realize that we shall have to make whatever sacrifices may be necessary. We have to build our economic strength, so that in the next 2 or 3 years when the real test comes, India will have become very strong from the point of view of its economic and military strength.

With these words, I thank you and support the Demands for Grands.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : Sir, Almost all the Members who have participated in the debate have expressed their anxiety at the dwindling foreign exchange reserves, and at the increasing trade deficits.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRI K. RAJAMALLU in the Chair]

The Annual Report which has been circulated amongst us, also says that the import bill this year is likely to go up to Rs. 11,300 crores, whereas our exports will reach a target of Rs. 7,100 crores—a gap of Rs. 4,000 crores. It has been stated that this is because of the continuing rise in the prices of petroleum products. The Annual Report says:

“Imports of POL during 1979-80 were 19.1 million tonnes, valued at Rs. 3023.52 crores as against 18.7 million tonnes valued at Rs. 1676.77 crores in 1978-79.”

We have increased our imports by 1 million tonnes. The Report says further:

“Although quantitatively the increase was only 5.3%, the rise in terms of value of imports was by 80.3%.....”

It has been stated here that during the first half of 1980-81, imports of POL on a provisional basis were placed at 11.1 million tonnes at a cost of Rs. 2320.12 crores, as compared to 9.9 million tonnes amounting

to Rs. 1220.61 crores in the corresponding half of the previous year. Thus, the increase in the quantity of imports was about 12%.

Despite the fact that there has been a continuing rise in prices of POL, the import of Petroleum products has also increased; and we have also been importing other critical items like fertilizers. We have also been importing cement, sugar, edible oil, steel etc. The question is: If our export performance is not in a position to match the import bill, what should we do? It will be a long time before we could catch up with our imports and bridge the gulf between the imports and exports. In the meantime, can't we think of restricting or even stopping the import of some of these items? It has been observed in "Economic Survey" at page 58:

"The growth of oil demand has to be contained through appropriate pricing of oil products. The domestic prices must reflect the steadily rising cost of oil imports."

The consumption of petroleum products in India, I feel, can be restricted by us. During the War, we had done so. We may have to face some inconvenience, but it is nothing during a national emergency. Even if it means some inconvenience to people, we should not mind it, keeping in view the great foreign exchange saving that we will make.

Therefore, I would suggest that there should be a dual pricing system for petroleum products—(1) price for rationed stock and (2) free market price. Whatever we produce in the country should be rationed and distributed on a reasonable basis and should be sold at a reasonable price, whereas whatever we import should be sold in a free market and at a higher price. This will reduce the consumption leading to less imports. I seriously suggest to the hon. Minister to consider this point, because this is

is not a novel idea as we have a dual price system in respect of sugar and other commodities. Therefore, if we resort to this, it might cause some inconvenience to some people, but the saving in foreign exchange will go to the benefit of the country itself.

My friend Shri Chintamani Panigrahi had just now said that the Ministry gives subsidy to exporters. I am not sure about the figures. It is between Rs. 400 crores and Rs. 625 crores. Besides, it also gives subsidy to commercial banks and the financial institutions to compensate for concessional rate of interest charged from exporters. But in spite of this massive assistance, the exports are stagnating in volume and increasing only marginally in value. In *The Times of India* today, there is an article on the subject wherein Mr. Khanna had referred to the massive assistance to the exporters and their poor performance and has quoted from the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. One of the instances has just now been cited by Mr. Panigrahi. Therefore, my submission to the hon. Minister is that a time has come when the Government should have a reappraisal of this policy of subsidy because we have been giving them subsidy and the performance of these exporters does not match it; and the foreign exchange earned by some of these exporters is just enough or equal to the amount that we had paid them as subsidy.

The Ministry has several commodity boards and corporations under it. My friend Mr. Goyal has just now referred to the performance of the MMTC and had suggested that it has imported more than exported. Same is the case with other corporations. I would particularly submit to the Minister that it is necessary to appoint a special committee to go into the working of these corporations and boards to find out what is

[ Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha ]

the reason for their poor performance. Why is the performance not satisfactory? I do not want to make any kind of insinuation. I leave it to the committee to be appointed to go into the whole question.

I would, in particular, mention the National Textile Corporation which is managing 114 textile mills. It is unfortunate that it has been incurring losses all these years. Even for this year, a small amount of profit of Rs. 1.30 crores has been shown. But this is because of a boom in textile. But in the Budget for 1981-82 a provision of Rs. 14.74 crores has been made to meet cash losses of the mills. On the one hand, it has been shown that NTC has made a profit, on the other hand, the Budget provides for Rs. 14.74 crores to meet cash losses. It is intriguing. The management has not been satisfactory, it appears, and we have to go into the whole question again because if these mills are not being managed satisfactorily, what happens is that a doubt arises about the whole nationalisation policy.

I wanted to urge the nationalisation of jute industry where the jute barons have been making profits, and the jute growers have been denied their remunerative prices. When we were discussing the nationalisation of some jute mills here I made this submission to the Minister then for nationalising Jute Mills and would again say that the Jute Mills should be nationalised. With regard to some jute mills it is alleged that they have not carried out their obligations for exports, because they got higher prices in the domestic market. This point has to be taken into consideration. I would like the Minister to see that the management is streamlined so that no argument is advanced against nationalised mills and people should not feel that nationalised industries are not working satisfactorily.

With regard to the Textile policy, I am glad that the pride of place, as the Minister claims, has been given to the handloom industry. We have about four million handlooms in this country which employ about ten million people, out of 13 million people employed in the textile industry. The handloom industry has been suffering and it has been lagging behind. It is apprehended in many quarters, that the obligations placed on the handloom industry may not be discharged. I would like to say that if we go into the whole question we will find that the trouble is largely because of non-supply and non-availability of yarn which is responsible for the bad performance or unsatisfactory performance of the handloom industry; and I would make a submission to the Minister that the N.T.C. mills may be asked to reserve the surplus yarn for the handloom industry.

AN HON. MEMBER : There is no surplus.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : No. I read some where in the newspapers that the Minister of State for Commerce had stated that the NTC mills have been asked to reserve the lower count yarn for the handloom industry. I want to know, why only lower count yarn should be reserved. Whatever surplus is there in the textile mills should be reserved for the handloom industry so as to place it on a sound footing, if you want the janata cloth or the controlled cloth to be produced by the handloom industry the industry has to be supplied yarn. In this connection, I welcome the step taken in appointing the National Handloom Development Corporation to take care of the needs of the handloom industry.

One more thing I would like to say is that in the budget there is a provision for increased subsidy for controlled cloth. A sum of Rs. 76 crores has been provided in the Budget for 1981-82. Of course, it

is a welcome step because it is intended for the poorer sections of the society, but there have been some complaints that this does not reach the weaker sections. I would submit to the Minister that an inquiry may be made into the large number of complaints that this controlled cloth hearing subsidy does not reach the poorer sections for whom it is intended and they are being taken by the middlemen. So this has to be enquired into. In the end I say that the Government is quite conscious of the difficulties in its way. They are trying to take the necessary steps to augment exports and to reduce the trade deficit. I would repeat that if you can reduce the imports or cut down the consumption of petroleum products, if you take the necessary steps for that, I think the nation will be behind you. Even if it means inconvenience to certain affluent sections of the society, if the petroleum products are subjected to dual pricing, free market price being higher, we can cut down the consumption of petrol. The other day the Petroleum Minister said that it is not their intention to do so. But in other countries, we are finding that they are taking steps to curtail consumption of petrol. Today I read in newspapers that Tanzania has taken this step. They have restricted the sale of petrol to only 3 days. Even sale of petrol on coupons has been stopped on other days. I once again beg of the Minister to consider this suggestion seriously and take necessary steps to cut down the consumption of petrol.

I am happy that in the agricultural sector, we are looking up. We have achieved self-sufficiency and it should be possible for us to export our goods to other countries and increase our foreign exchange earnings. As I said earlier, we are also very anxious and it is not by way of criticism that we are saying that the trade deficit is

increasing. It is a matter of concern to all of us. Whatever measures you take, you can expect that the people of this country will support you in tiding over this crisis.

SHRI B. K. NAIR (Quilon) :  
Sir, I am very happy to have an opportunity on this occasion to offer my congratulations to the Minister of Commerce and the team of experts working under him for the very successful efforts made so far and the achievements already got. This Ministry is performing an intermediary function. It is dependent entirely on production of goods in this country so that they can be exported. It also depends upon foreign markets and foreign buyers for importing our goods. Nevertheless, it is performing a very important duty in the sense that our nation is passing through a very difficult and serious situation in regard to foreign exchange resources and trade balance. So, taking all this into account, I feel that the Ministry deserves to be congratulated for the efforts so far made and the plans already drawn up.

The gap between our imports and exports has been widening and our foreign exchange reserves are coming down. In this connection, I am happy to find that a substantial gap between our imports and exports and the deficit in the balance of payment position has been covered by our people who have been working hard abroad. Among those people I am happy to count my own countrymen

[Shri B. K. Nair]

from Kerala and also youngmen from Haryana and Punjab. The substantial contribution they have made is partly wiping out this gap and this is commendable. At the same time, I would like to add my word of appreciation for the liberal imports allowed in regard to crude oil and petroleum products by USSR and certain other countries. Their timely help has to be appreciated.

I belong to a State where production of export products is the main occupation. Our farmers do not pay so much attention to production of foodgrain crops. Almost all of them have shifted to cash crops. In regard to exportable items, our State enjoys a very high position. Various problems are there in regard to various crops. When we come to export it, is not only the quantity that is important but the cost also is important. In this connection I would say that many of the products that are exported to the Western countries especially to European countries where we have got a market, come from Madras and Calcutta ports. If a good portion of cargo is diverted to Cochin Port we can save a lot of mileage for the ships coming around Ceylon. At the same time, it would be saving a substantial amount of money by way of freight if we could expand the facilities at the Cochin port and also minor ports like Alleppy.

The other day, we were discussing about congestion at Bombay Port. But why not expand the Cochin port to the maximum possible extent so that congestion at Bombay can be avoided? If such facilities are created at Cochin, then good can be brought from central areas in Madras State there. Another factor is that the Cochin-Madura railway line should be constructed. It will provide for transport of goods to Cochin. Thus a lot of foreign exchange that we have to incur by way of road

transport and lorry transport can be minimised. It is much more expensive to take all these goods to Madras than to Cochin. Even though it may require substantial capital expenditure for the construction of a railway line, it will certainly be a net saving in the long run.

In view of the high cost of petroleum products and diesel we can go in for electrification of railways in Kerala. There is surplus of electricity and a lot of it is wasted in transmission. So, with some additional cost we can go in for electrification in Kerala. That way we will save a lot of foreign exchange by saving diesel.

In regard to the policy of export, I join my friends who have already spoken. There is a craze for exports by offering incentives, subsidies, etc. For example, a provision is being made for expanding the capacity and for legalising the additional capacity already created and for putting up new export oriented units. Suppose, something happens and after some time a situation may arise that the exports may not be possible due to extraneous reasons, what would be the position of the additional capacity created? Or it may happen that there may not be a demand outside. As a consequence of that, will the added capacity, remain idle or will be absorbed or legalised? That will have to be carefully examined.

About rubber products, we, in Kerala, produce about 90 per cent of the rubber in the country. At the same time, thousands of tonnes of rubber is being imported, which is not advisable. There is ample scope for increasing and expanding the production of rubber in the country. I have addressed the Planning Commission about it because the entire North Eastern Region is ideal for the production of rubber. Tea, rubber and cardamom require the same type

of land, moisture and climatic conditions. So, if we could only have extension of rubber cultivation in the north-eastern areas, tens of thousands of acres can be brought under cultivation, which will incidentally also prevent soil erosion. New people are not living in that area. If we bring that land under rubber cultivation, we can provide employment to thousands of people, we can settle people there, particularly the ex-servicemen for whom you could not provide opportunity elsewhere, this area can be colonised by ex-servicemen, and that may also prove to be an alternative source of defence for the outer periphery of the boarder States.

The production of rubber has been improving very fast. The hon. Minister has also referred to it the other day while participating in the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Rubber Research Institute. At that time, I had personally taken up with him the question of the payment of bonus to the employees of the Rubber Board. He has committed, though not formally, that he will try to make the payment in November. Four months have passed and I think the consideration stage is over and now is the time for action. I earnestly hope that the Minister will be able to make some sort of assurance about the actual payment of the money to these employees, we have been doing an excellent job. I would say that the Rubber Board is one of the top institutions in the country in regard to research and development, as compared to other Commodity Boards. So, they deserve all encouragement and support. They have been clamouring for bonus for a long time and I hope it will be paid.

Then I come to the Cardamom Board. There was a time when the entire production of cardamom was only 1,500 tonnes, because it was suffering from a particular disease. Now the position has very much im-

proved. Last year the production reached the peak figure of 4,500 tonnes, and a large part of it is entirely due to the effort of the knowledgeable, hard-working and intelligent farmers, who have taken up this job of expanding the cardamom cultivation.

With the expansion of production of rubber in the northern-eastern part of the country, I would even envisage a time when the flag of the Rubber Board will be flying in Delhi. The demand and production of rubber is expanding and it can be made an all-India crop, in which case the office of the Rubber Board will be shifted to Delhi and its flag can as well fly in Delhi, because it is a crop very much needed, and we have been encouraging it. Today the price of rubber is Rs. 14 a kilo and with sufficient encouragement and development, its production can be expanded still further and it can provide a means of livelihood for tens of thousands of people.

Then I come to tea, which is now in a dwindling stage in our State. Many of the tea estates are on the verge of closure, because they cannot meet the rising expenses. They cannot pay even the weekly cash to the workers, because they are so much hard up, particularly in our State as they have recently gone in for a high wage settlement. The employers say that they cannot stand the pressure of increasing costs and they are on the verge of closure. This question has to be examined in detail because tea enjoys a very high position among the commodities exported. I hope the hon. Minister will go into this question.

Coming to cashew, it is making a lot of noise, as always, because the growers of our State....

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY :** It is very tasty.

**SHRI B. K. NAIR :** But it is beyond the reach of many people,

[Shri B. K. Nair]

because most of it is exported to America and Russia. In Kerala, because the ruling party does not give enough encouragement, lakhs of people in the cashew industry are unemployed. There are about 250 factories. Why should we import cashew from Africa? That question is perennially asked. Even this year the first shot has already been fired by Shri Kodyan, by raising the question of import of cashew, under rule 377. In Kerala we produce 1.1 lakh tonnes of cashew. The Government has a huge machinery. Hundreds of cooperatives are there, which are controlled by men belonging to a particular party. What do they do? They are not able to give a remunerative price to the producers. What is the result? This year more than 50 per cent of the cashew produce in Kerala has gone out of the borders of the State.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : So what? What is the harm?

SHRI B. K. NAIR : Look at the Government. What happened? The Government has all the machinery and all the inducements, but they are not in a position to procure the entire cashew production. Whether it is in the case of cashew or anything, the reason is that they are not earnest in achieving this objective. Because of that they do not pay remunerative price to the cashew growers. The Tamil Nadu factory owners are prepared to pay Rs. 12 to Rs. 14 a kilo and the Kerala Government says that they would pay Rs. 7.50 a kilo to the grower. The Kerala State Government says that they are very anxious to provide employment to the people. What happens is that in Kerala the cost of processing one quintal of cashew is Rs. 1,250 whereas in Tamil Nadu it comes to Rs. 250 and in Karnataka it comes to Rs. 450. So, you cannot fill a tub carrying water in a leaky bucket. The entire thing will go out

of the country. You cannot hold it. All the Ministers in Kerala and all their party men cannot prevent cashew being taken out of the country.

AN HON. MEMBER : Smuggling?

SHRI B. K. NAIR : If I can go further, I would say that the cooperatives are helping the smugglers. Most of them are very corrupt because it is their monopoly for 10—15 years. The authorities in Kerala are interested in a certain party and they are aiding the smugglers and they are smuggling cashew during the night. So, I would suggest that if only they go in for remunerative prices for the growers, they can prevent smuggling. Look at jute or cotton or tobacco. What do we do? We are more interested in safeguarding the growers. We are not carried away by any other slogan. We want to ensure remunerative price to be given to the cashew growers. What happens to coconut husk? There also they are not prepared to pay remunerative price to the growers. So, the State is just conniving with the smugglers. They want the Centre to import cashew from Kenya. Look at the case of spirit. Rectified spirit was available in abundance in Tamil Nadu and the Government of Kerala wanted it for making alcohol. What did they do? They found the State machinery useless. The Tamil Nadu Government was prepared to give and the Kerala Government was anxious about it, but at the same time they had to entrust the import of rectified spirit to a private agency because the Government agency could not work properly. That is an admitted fact. We have a difficulty in getting cashew from Kenya. So I would suggest to the hon. Minister to lift the embargo on the import from traditional sources. Let the Kerala Government get cashewnuts from Kenya. The Cashewnut Development Corporation can go in for import from Kenya. Why should the Cashew Corporation



of India or the Commerce Ministry take the blame of not importing cashew from Kenya? Let the Kerala Government or the Cashew Development Corporation get it from Kenya.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI B. K. NAIR : Coir is merely an export commodity yet the Coir Board functions under the Ministry of Industry. It does not depend upon the Government for anything beyond export. Why should not the Coir Board be under the control of the Commerce Ministry? They are export-oriented jobs. Why should the Commerce Ministry not take it up? In all respects it should come under the Ministry of Commerce.

Coir Board has not been functioning for more than a year. Lot of coir yarn is being exported. Lot of manufactured goods are to be exported. Commerce Ministry should come into the picture and take up the responsibility.

We have the tendency to export raw material. I fail to understand why we export iron ore just for a crore of rupees. It is not a replenishable commodity.

Similarly, for coir yarn there is growing demand for manufactured goods abroad. Certain co-operatives are dealing in yarn. Coir manufacturers are not getting the yarn needed by them. Their leaders of the Cooperatives are interested more in the export of yarn. The export of yarn should be prohibited. Only processed goods or value added goods should be allowed to be exported. That should be a part of our policy.

There are some other points. But due to non-availability of time

I finish by saying that I wish the Ministry well and under the dynamic leadership of our Prime Minister alone this country can prosper. So, I support the Demands for Grants.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara) : I rise to speak on a matter, as complex as commerce, but as I heard my other friends speak with many generalities and a few specifics, I concluded that it would be better to confine myself largely to generalities. Are our exports a mere extension of inland trading or is it a means for dumping surplus domestic production? What is the necessity of exports in our national context? These are some of the points I will endeavour to make. Exports are necessary because no country in the world can produce all the goods that are required and because technological changes require cross fertilisation of ideas and production methods among the nations of the world. Exports in the context of India are even more necessary as we cannot reconcile our sense of honour with the encumbrance of foreign debts. Our export drive has been a continuous process since independence and a part of our struggle for economic independence. It is only through exports that we can pay back our foreign loans including interest. Even as recently as 1979-80, we made debt service payments to the tune of Rs. 884 crores.

I think, it would be over-simplification of issues by saying that export is merely a way of earning foreign exchange. Today time has come in the world where economic relations between two countries cannot be looked at in isolation of political relations between nations. It is my firm belief that it is trade between two countries which leads to development of economic relations, and economic relations play a great part in developing as well as changing of political

[Sbri Kamal Nath]

relations. In the past, it was political relations which built economic relations but in today's world and for this there are many examples—political relations between nations have many times to bow to the dictates of economic relations.

Looking at the economically strong nations of the world, we cannot but miss an important factor. All economically strong countries today have a direct link with the vitality of foreign trade. Recent instances reveal even more. It shows that a nation need not be a great military power to ensure well-being for its citizens, or to be economically sound and stable. We have examples like Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Yugoslavia and the German Democratic Republic. All these are aggressive—exporting nations in today's world and they all enjoy a comfortable growth rate of GNP and *per capita* income.

Growth of export leads to greater foreign exchange earning, but if our greater foreign exchange earnings are to be frittered away with lack of restrained import policy, I do not think we will be able to do much to cure our trade deficit. This year, our trade deficit is likely to be Rs. 5000 crores. I would like to retrace in fact, I think, I would be doing justice to facts—and take the last couple of years as to how our trade deficit came about.

Between 1970 and 1977, our exports rose from Rs. 1535 crores to over Rs. 3000 crores in 1974-75 and stood at Rs. 5146 crores in 1976-77. Let us not forget that in 1976-77, our country for the first time since Independence witnessed a small but significant trade balance of Rs. 72 crores which could have been a trend-setter. But come March

1977 and come the Janata Government, the surplus balance of Rs. 72 crores in 1976-77 was converted into a deficit balance of Rs. 621 crores in 1977-78. Despite a lot of research I tried to do in this, I could not understand why it was so in 1977-78 when there was no out-of-line increase in the price of petroleum products nor was the international inflation rate higher than that in the preceding year, it was not substantially higher but it was only marginally higher. Between 1975-76 and 1976-77, the rate of growth of exports was 38.6 per cent whereas in 1977-78, the rate of growth of exports was only 9 per cent, but, on the other hand, our imports rose by 10 per cent.

I would like to cite an example here and that is concerning edible oil imports. This perhaps could go down in the annals of economic history. In 1975-76, our edible oil imports were to the tune of Rs. 17 crores whereas, in 1977-78, our imports were of Rs. 738 crores. Similarly, let us take the case of steel. We were net exporters of steel and in the subsequent year, we became net importers of steel. In 1978-79, imports knew no bounds, galloping at the rate of 28 per cent, and the trade deficit also rose to Rs. 1,062 crores. These are statistics; these are not manufactured figures, These are not my opinions. These are hard cold statistics. Unfortunately, the Janata-Lok Dal Governments were exporting to and importing from their groups and caucuses. Our exports were getting stagnated and our imports were steadily mounting up.

Export promotion and import substitution are an exercise which calls for a long-term policy. It is like a surgical operation or like playing a symphony which you cannot interrupt in the middle. It is a strategy, not a tactic. It cannot be subjected to *ad hoc*

conveniences. It is only since the middle of last year that the broken cords of policy are again being tied together and a comprehensive policy is being evolved. The task before us is not easy.

Here, I would like to quote some figures. In 1958, India exported goods worth 1222 million US dollars against an overall world trade of 108,600 million US dollars. In other words, arithmetically, our country enjoyed a 1.13 per cent share in world export trade. But last year the same share shrank to 0.48 per cent and even this share is fast eroding. Even if the country has to maintain a 0.48 per cent share of world export trade, what are we to do? For this, I think, we have to aim at increasing exports by 12 per cent per annum and that means—I have worked it out—we have to get new export orders, in addition to what we are getting, worth Rs. 2.2 crores per day. This we have to do after considering inflationary effects which are taking place all over the world.

This is an uphill task but I am sure my esteemed friend the hon. Commerce Minister is making some long-range strategies and policies. We are the only country in the world which exports engineers, doctors, technicians, down to manual labour and one cannot but appreciate the fact that foreign exchange remittances of Indian employees who are working abroad hit a plateau of about Rs. 1,000 crores but we must not rely on this because in a world of changing technology, specially in the oil-rich countries, I am sure they will be evolving more labour-saving systems and more labour-saving technologies. I think the best solution suitable to Indian conditions is to lay great emphasis on project exports because project exports cover a wide spectrum of Indian know-how and do-how. In project exports, we export our equipment, we export our technicians, we export our technology and labour. But, there has been

an anomalous situation in this. From the figures which have been presented by the Government, I find that figures relating to remittances received from technicians, from engineers and from labour connected with project exports are not charged to export earnings account. They are treated as figures from invisible exports. I think it is a rather anomalous position and I would appeal to our Commerce Minister to remedy this situation. We must have correct statistical information on this because when any remittance arrived at or derived from export of equipment and export of plant and machinery, it should be charged to an export account and not to invisible earnings account. While there is no doubt that exports have to be encouraged, I would like to express some caution here. We would like to export but not export at any cost. Our country needs exports. There is no doubt about it. We must not and cannot have an export policy which is against the basic concept of social justice. Exports must arise out of a surplus in the supply situation. But even then we have to take into consideration the increase in domestic demand. We must very carefully make this projection. We must ensure that all our production in the country is first diverted to our people. Our surplus production should not bypass our people.

All our exports are for the people and should be for the upliftment of the people. A complete bias towards export promotion policy is, in my opinion, not only bad economics, but we have also had a bad experience of this policy. We have seen that that domestic inflationary pressures have arisen in the country. This is because of a tremendously biased export policy. So, we have to arrive at a balance between a rational and a balanced export policy not at the cost of the people but for the people, not bypassing the people but for creating a surplus situation in our production.

On the import side, we have an extremely dismal picture. It is here

Shri Kamal Nath]

that I would suggest dramatic control. The purpose of imports is to add muscle to our economy but a large part—and I am using the words 'a large part'—of our exports do not add muscle to our economy but add fat to our economy.

Even if we take the three Fs, food, fuel and fertilisers, it can be seen that in regard to fuel, we can develop alternative sources of fuel. I am happy in this year's Budget there are incentives, there are measures for encouraging alternative energy sources. The three Fs consume 69% of our import bill but I feel here there is still possibility, there is still scope, for conservation.

The Government has recently decided to set up a EXIM-Bank. EXIM-Bank means the Export Import Bank. It was announced that this EXIM-Bank is an agency, is a Bank, being set up to stimulate exports. I would request our hon. Commerce Minister to assure the House that this EXIM-Bank is going to stimulate exports and not imports. Why should it be called EXIM-Bank? Why cannot it be called the National Export Bank? Let there be no ambiguity in this so I would suggest that this EXIM-Bank be called the National Export Bank. Then only the real intention which has been stated on the floor of this House and which we have read in the press will be revealed.

The trade deficit problem has to be met with massive import substitution programmes, and we have to aim at a policy of curbing all non-essential imports and restructuring our domestic output so that our exports increase and our imports are curtailed. I would again come back to edible oil. We can have a massive import substitution programme for edible oil. This also has a rural aspect because all industries which will come up for import substitution programme would be in rural areas. So, it has a rural development strategy also.

Another aspect in our balance of trade position is that inflation—and this is a very vital point—has taken away most of the credit of exports since our quantum of exports is not rising. Monetarily, our exports may be rising. But is the quantum of exports rising? We have to remember that prices are rising fast in countries from where we are importing. But it is not necessary that the prices are also rising fast in those countries to which we are exporting. Consequently, we are continuously paying higher for imports and are receiving lower for exports.

We have also to break many of our psychological barriers in exports and imports. In this, I would specifically refer to one thing. We have this institution which we have continued for the last 30 years—the Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. We have talked about export promotion, but we have the 'Chief Controller of Exports'! Why can't his name be changed? Why can't we have an independent Department called the Office of the 'Chief Promotor of Exports'? Why can't we have a 'Chief Restrictor of Imports'? These are the psychological barriers which are coming in our way. We are terming a very important office in our Government, calling him, the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports! I would appeal to the hon. Commerce Minister to consider renaming the office of the CCIE and calling him as the Chief Promotor of Exports.

Similarly, our two Corporations, the STC and the MMTC, have, I think, outlived their necessity. The STC was set up to do trade with the rupee-trading countries, and the MMTC was set up to deal with mineral exports and ore exports. The situation has changed now. I would suggest disbanding of the STC and the MMTC and formation of two distinct Corporations, one

to be called the State Export Corporation for exports and the other to be called the State Import Corporation for our imports, for canalising the imports. It is by dividing our expertise in imports and exports that we will be able to buy the best and the cheapest. The State Export Corporation can and must act as the export house for the small scale sector, for the tiny sector and for the cottage sector which have a lot of expertise and which have been manufacturing products sometimes of international standards. We have a large reservoir of skill in our countryside; we have a lot of small technology in our countryside. The State Export Corporation could act as the export house for the small scale sector, for the tiny sector for the cottage sector—and in market research facilities and in providing the marketing infrastructure because the small scale sector, the cottage sector and the tiny sector cannot have such elaborate marketing operation or marketing infrastructure, they cannot have fancy telex operation etc.

The State Import Corporation should import, obviously, only the basic necessities of the country other than defence requirements. Today we have both the STC and the MMTC, importing and exporting sometimes to the same customers and generally to the same countries. This, I think, is a very ridiculous situation.

This year, our exports will reach a figure of Rs. 7,500 crores and for this, I applaud the Commerce Minister. In the beginning of the year it never appeared that we could even reach the 7,000 crore mark, it appeared that we would reach only 6,500 crores mark. But looking at the statistics, looking at the trend, I am sure that the export figure will reach the 7,500 crore mark and our imports will be Rs. 12,500 crores, leaving a rough deficit of about Rs. 5,000 crores. The

task before us is to step up our efforts, both individually and collectively; we have to raise the production, we have to raise our gross national product. It is only by increasing our gross national product, it is only by increasing our production, that we can raise our exports.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : (Mavelikara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, much has already been said and many of the hon. Members have dealt with in detail. So, I am not going into the details and like my friend, Shri Kamal Nath, would confine myself to general points.

But, Sir, I must disagree with him when he says that export means surplus export, namely, whatever we have surplus we have to export. If that is the policy I do not think we can survive because by the time you have surplus in many commodities you may lose the market. To maintain our traditional market even if there is no surplus we may have to export.

Sir, everybody is talking about imports and exports but in my opinion the total amount of export and our deficit balance depends not on the performance of the commerce Ministry alone. It actually depends on the performance of many other Ministries, viz., Agriculture Ministry, Industries Ministry, Energy Ministry, etc. It is alarming that our import bill is increasing year by year. Hon. Member, Shri Kamal Nath, was saying that our export is increasing. There is no point in increasing the total export. We should be alarmed at the gap between the import and export which is increasing every year. That is to be seriously viewed and solutions are to be found out. I am sure that Commerce Ministry is having an efficient and able Minister. Of course, inspite of my being on the opposition I am prepared to accept the reality but why are we lacking in export. Shri Kamal Nath was blaming the previous regime.

[Prof, P. J. Kurien]

May be to a certain extent it is true. But I want to blame the whole Government including the other Ministries because Commerce Ministry cannot perform independently. How can you export unless you produce—whether surplus or otherwise? So, basically if you want to increase export then you should increase production not only in the industrial sector but also in the agriculture sector. When I say production I would like to emphasise export-oriented production. But unfortunately in our country there is not sufficient infra-structure even now to promote production. Our infra-structural constraints are standing in the way of production.

#### 16.00 hours

So, if we want to improve the exports, bring down the import bill and have better performance of the Commerce Ministry, then the Industries Ministry, the Agriculture Ministry and the Energy Ministry, all have to improve their individual performance and work in a better coordinated way. I say this because all these things are correlated. There is no point in saying, we will improve our exports by some legislation or by some control or this or that, which the Commerce Ministry is saying. By all these methods your exports cannot be increased basically. For these things, we should first identify what are the commodities which we can export. First we should identify them in proper way. Sir, ours is an Agricultural country. I charge this Government, and this charge applies in a larger measure to the Janata Government also. There has been no long-term policy undertaken by the Government in respect of our exports. You are planning for this year. You are not planning for a long number of years; you are not having a long-term policy. Ours is an agricultural country and nobody here will dispute the importance of export. You export and survive; you import and perish. In other

words, the slogan is : 'Import and Perish; export and Survive'. That is what one can say about it. We should first identify what are these agricultural commodities which can be exported. We should have a proper long terms policy for increasing our production of those commodities. But unfortunately, that has not been done. I have heard Mr. Kamal Nath mention about this point. If there is surplus, we will export such things. But there is no special efforts made to produce such commodities more and more, which can be exported and foreign exchange earned. I can quote a number of instances. I do not know whether I have got the time for it. I will quote one example. My friend Mr. B.K. Nair spoke about cashew cultivation. I am not bringing in any controversy about that. But what I wish to say is this. Everybody knows that we are earning foreign exchange by exporting cashew kernel, but, unfortunately, we are not having sufficient raw cashew in the country itself. Then there was some controversy about the import and all that, but I am at present not going into that. It is not specifically in this year only that we know that cashew can be exported, and foreign exchange can be earned. This thing has come down to us ever since our independence. We are exporting our cashew kernel and earning foreign exchange. But we have not so far tried to produce enough cashew in the country, so that we can earn more of foreign Exchange. I am sure that in Kerala, Tamil Nadu Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, cashew can be planted in a big way. But these are all left to the State Governments and the States go in for paddy cultivation or some other cultivation. My point is this. Since cashew is an exportable item, there should be a specific programme drawn up by the Central Government. There should to produce enough cashew in the be a specific programme country. I think such a thing is

quite possible. But I am sorry to find that the Government of India is doing nothing in this direction. I ask you : why cannot you have a Cashew Board ? Why can't you set up a Cashew Board on the same lines as the Rubber Board or the Cardamom Board ?

**SHRI B. K. NAIR:** I support you there.

**PROF P. J. KURIEN:** I am sure you support all sensible things. I know that. You should set up such a Cashew Board. This is my request. You should have a long-term policy to produce enough cashew in the country.

Of course the Minister of Commerce cannot do it alone. He has to take up with the other Ministries, I agree there. But let him have an objective study carried out. Let him conduct the necessary survey whether we can establish necessary plants in the country to produce enough cashew that we can export. I am sure that we have got such a potential. I know that in this country there are some areas where the growers can cultivate cashew more profitably. But what we find is that some of these areas are being used for other types of cultivation. For example in Kerala, if you plant and cultivate cashew you can get more income than cultivating tapioca. But thousands of acres of land in Kerala are going under tapioca cultivation, which, of course is a substitute for rice. Why should they cultivate tapioca! If the government encourages them, they will cultivate cashew and we will have enough cashewnuts, and we can export it and earn foreign exchange. For that we require a long-term policy and coordination of Ministries.

In pepper we are a major exporter? What is being done to produce more pepper? You may say that I should make this speech in Agriculture Ministry. But I am

saying all this so that we should think about this. The Commerce Minister howsoever efficient he may be. He can do nothing unless there is production. So, pepper is a commodity which can give us foreign exchange and it should be interesting to note that at least one-third of the total area in Kerala can be utilised for pepper cultivation. It is also profitable for the growers. But the thing is that there is no encouragement from this side. As Mr. Kamal Nath has said we are exporting surplus, but what is the effort to produce the actual surplus!

Take wheat and rice. Rice you can grow in Andhra Pradesh and wheat in Punjab. Similarly thousands and thousands of acres of land in Kerala which are being wasted by growing tapioca can be utilised by growing rice. That is my opinion. The policy should be changed to see that where you can produce exportable commodity, encouragement should be given to produce it. Therefore, my concrete suggestion to the Commerce Minister is that he should take up these two issues. This year you may not be able to produce big results, but let us not forget the long-term aspect which is very important. We should know our potentialities for the production of exportable commodities and exploit these potentialities. This country, I am sure can have a surplus export margin, but the only thing required is long-term planning. Then we can produce four times or five times of pepper of what we are producing now. This country can produce cashew double of its total requirements, but we are not doing that. I am not saying you should give better price, but you should give reasonable price. There is no doubt about that.

So, have a pepper board and cashew board. Take up this issue with the other Ministers. Conduct an objective study as to what is the total amount that we can

[Prof. P. J. Kurien]

produce within the next five years. Spend more money on that. You will get the returns in hundred folds as foreign exchange. Therefore, revise and recast all these short-term policy of improving the exports. You cannot export in that way. I have quoted only two examples, but you should not restrict yourself to that. Throughout the country specific studies should be made as to what are the commodities which have an international market and which have a shortage; and special effort should be made as we have made in the field of rubber. We have got Rubber Board and production increased by 10 times in the country. Now we are more or less self-sufficient in rubber. Of course even that you can increase.

I support the point made by Shri B.K. Nair why should we export raw materials? It is very bad for the country that after 33 years we are exporting raw materials. If we export iron-ore this year, you may be able to show a better margin, but that is detrimental. Therefore no raw-material should be exported from this country. Only finished products should be exported. Even in Kerala I was told that 700 tonnes of cocoa was excess last month with the Federation. The whole cocoa was exported. I also want that it should be exported. But why should we export cocoa beans. We should be able to export the finished products. That will earn us more money and give us more employment. So, let us not export raw materials. Even if we are incurring a loss for the time being we should have a long-term master plan by which we can export only the finished products. That should be the basic policy for the country.

In industry, of course, there is already incentive for that. But I would like to make some specific point. In the electronics industry, I am not saying that you are not giving encouragement. I am sorry I should have spoken about this to the Industry Minister and the Finance Minister. But it is very important. Look at

Japan. How that country has flourished! Are we not having sufficient technical know-how! Our own scientists are going abroad and working there and giving them all this. We are exporting scientists and technologists and engineers. It is very bad. They should be called back. For sometime we may suffer, but in the electronics industry we should attempt a breakthrough I am sure, if we do that, our import-export margin can be made up and we can have exportables. But unfortunately you are going in for some big industries, where you will have to import so many machineries giving foreign exchange and the product may not be labour intensive in the country and finally we may not be in a better position. The speciality of electronics is that it is job-oriented and it is export-oriented. So, all I say is that there is no point in talking about increasing the export this way or that way unless long-term master plan is chalked out for increasing export. For that there should be better coordination of some of the Ministries. Then exportable commodity will be produced; of course, even at the risk of internal consumption, we will have to adopt that policy. What I am saying is you grow more rice in Andhra Pradesh and supply to Kerala; and ask the Keralites to produce more pepper and cashew. You can even bring a legislation. I will welcome even that. You give more concessions to Andhra Pradesh to produce more of rice and ask Keralites not to produce rice but to produce more of pepper and cashew.

If you keep this as the national perspective, you will find that this country is full of potentialities. If we lack oil, let us not cry over it. We can beat the oil-producing countries by re-casting the commodities that we produce, and having an export-oriented production policy, for a long period. That policy should be chalked out. That is the only solution to the problem that we are facing.



**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH (Banka):** I rise to support the Demands for the Ministry of Commerce. I have no doubt that the Government and the Minister of Commerce known for his ability hard work and dedication to his purpose, are trying to make the best of a very difficult situation in respect of foreign trade.

All our friends have referred to the widening gap between exports and imports. In fact, since 1976-77 the trade balance is steadily worsening. This year, the gap is likely to be of the order of Rs. 4200 crores—which is a matter of deep and serious concern to all of us.

I would not like to take the time of the House in giving export-import figures. But the situation, as has been referred to by all the participants in this discussion, clearly points to the difficult situation that our country is facing. What are the prospects for the future? The World Bank Report for 1980 presents the international scenario with all the relevant details. The growth rate in all the industrialized countries has been sluggish; and they are resorting to a series of protectionist measures to meet the recessionary trends in their respective countries. These trends are not likely to be reversed in the near future. The Brandt Commission has brought the realities into focus. But there is hardly any perception of the shared mutual interests, by the developed countries. In spite of so many dialogues, conferences and seminars, the situation is not moving forward in any positive direction. The balance of trade is steadily moving against the developing countries. The balance, for oil-importing developing countries was only \$6.2 billion in 1972-73. It has reached \$63.3 billion in 1980. The developing countries had to live with this situation, and plan their strategy on terms of equality with the developed countries. An equally important thing is that the

structural and institutional changes, with a different set of priorities must be made within the developing countries themselves, in order to induce a situation of sustained growth and development. The developing countries are rich in physical resources, in human resources. but they have to take positive steps to remove the institutional hurdles in order to enter an era of hope in the future. I am firmly of the opinion that unless we devise certain new systems, we would not be able to plan a strategy properly in the future. We have to build up a stable domestic demand also to make full use of our human resources in order to take the entire economy to a new level.

We are faced with a situation where the "locomotive effect" of developed countries is losing momentum and also production constraints and unavoidable inflationary pressures are very much in evidence in our economy. Imports are rising mainly because of the—as my friends had referred—rising prices of petroleum products, fertilisers and machinery. The hon. member Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha had rightly mentioned that we have to take effective steps to conserve energy wherever it is possible and as far as it is practicable. I fully endorse his views. Even today's *Business Standard* refers to the National Productivity Council's study report where it has been made out that the wasteful uses of energy are rampant in a situation where we are facing an inflationary pressure mainly because of the rising prices of petroleum product. We must have an effective realistic energy policy. It is there and it is being implemented, but greater vigilance, greater care has to be taken that it is vigorously pursued and implemented.

We find, therefore, that the foreign exchange resources are getting depleted to finance our import. In spite of what I have said, there is a very little scope for reducing the import of petroleum product because, as it is,

[Shri Chandra Shekhar Singh]

we are on a very low level of consumption of petroleum product in the entire world; and we have to import petroleum product and also critical equipments in the future. We cannot avoid it. So, we have to face this situation properly and vigorously.

The pace of import substitution has been accelerated. We have noted with very great warmth that proper steps have been taken, but really its pace depends on the maturity of the entire economy, on our industrial sector and its capacity to produce a wider range of technologically sophisticated goods. The future, therefore, compels us to take bolder measures and strike a proper strategy.

Whatever our friends had just now referred to I fully appreciate that. We must give up our adhocism; we have given it up to a very large extent, but we must move forward in the direction of giving it up so far as a proper policy in respect of world trade is concerned. We must view the situation in the long perspective. The 6th Plan has gone into this problem depth and suggested a minimum of objective to secure a volume growth rate of 10 per cent per annum. Some economists have suggested even a higher target for the growth rate but this is perhaps the minimum requirement of the situation. But that depends on the present export policy. We have to really identify areas where in the production of certain goods and services we have natural advantages, and we must concentrate on our energy and resources on these areas, which can be fruitful as fast as possible. Regarding subsidies I would like to say a word. An impression is generally sought to be created specially in the developed countries like the United States of America and other countries—that our exports are highly subsidised. This is certainly far from truth and fact. Out of a total subsidies of Rs. 450 crores, Rs. 350 crores are made to offset the levy of

customs duty and the rest are allowed on market research and intelligence. In fact, these efforts have to be pursued more vigorously so as to keep up our sensitivity to world market. While another hon. Member was referring to massive subsidy it is perhaps not fairly and properly projected. I would certainly like that in areas where we have a natural advantage, or an edge over other countries, we should provide subsidies and if necessary we should provide subsidies in the beginning but as we provide subsidy we must evolve a policy of scaling down the subsidies in subsequent years so that ultimately as quickly as possible the use of creches for these is reduced and the industries can progress and move forward; the subsidy should be given up and they should be able to stand on their own. I would certainly most emphatically urge upon the Commerce Minister to present a paper in this House which may clearly state the world trade policy of this country at least in the coming five years or during the period of the Sixth Plan. All our industries, exporters and importers would be able to plan their own strategies on the basis of that policy.

A word about import substitution. No doubt, the effort has been accelerated but it should be realised that export promotion and import substitution are closely inter-linked and they are an integral part of the foreign trade policy. We would therefore suggest that imports should be linked to foster economic growth and exports. I would give an example. Instead of importing cement we should import cement machinery and augment cement production in our country. If cement machinery of one hundred tonnes cement plant with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 15 crores is imported, it can earn the amount of Rs. 15 crores in four months, at C.I.F. prices of Rs. 600 per tonne. We are glad that our Government have sanctioned five mini cement plants just now. We would like such

areas to be explored and efforts should be made to foster and develop our foreign trade exports. I would like also to mention certain short term measures which should be pursued more vigorously. We have seen the Commerce Ministry's report and we are glad that the Government have taken package of measures in this spare and admirable results have come as is evident.

16.29 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Our friend Shri Chintamani Panigrahi had referred to the rise in the export of engineering goods and the very steady rise during the last three to four years in the sphere of promoting exports of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, household tea and coffee and medicines and garments.

Some of my friends have referred to the functioning of MMTC. It has made very good progress and the turnover this year is Rs. 1335.74 crores. Many friends have suggested some closer watch on the functioning of MMTC and STC. I would not go into citing any more examples, but we have come across of certain cases where MMTC has opted for lower prices. They have found some justification for opting lower prices in preference to higher prices for their export. These things have to be looked into more carefully.

I would suggest that greater emphasis should be laid on joint ventures and turnkey projects where we can earn a good amount of foreign exchange. We are the third largest country with technical manpower and we have also cheap skilled labour available in the country. So, we can very well make use of these in getting contracts abroad and pursuing this policy. He should also try to form monitoring cells for different groups of commodities and services in the country, so as to take follow-up action and convert export potential into orders and their fulfilment. India

has perhaps a bad reputation that we cannot be relied upon for regular and timely supplies of specified quality. I think Government have certainly taken some positive measures in this respect, but this impression has to be eliminated by our performance. Similarly, the functioning of the Export Promotion Councils has to be viewed more carefully, so that the entire expenditure as far as possible should be concentrated on promotional activities and not on other activities.

I would just say a word about the textile policy. We are glad that the new textile policy has laid proper emphasis on expansion of the handloom sector, on promotion of khadi sector and increasing the production of cloth to meet the domestic requirements in our country. I want to make a special mention of the present policy towards manmade fibres. We are glad the Government is encouraging it, but it should be encouraged more vigorously and given all the help, because even the common man today, because of washability and durability is beginning to use manmade fibres more and more and it will go a long way to meet the clothing requirements of our country. Similarly, about the handloom sector, as another friend rightly mentioned, it should be given all protection and support in the shape of timely supply of yarn, proper marketing, etc. You have said that the powerloom sector can be expanded upto 5%. Actually I have no objection to this policy, but the powerloom sector should be restricted as far as possible and contained within the given parameters so as to protect the handloom industry, which particularly caters to the very poor artisans living in the countryside and rural areas. I hope the Government would take note of these observations. Last year our competent Commerce Minister has taken all pains and pursued policies very carefully and he had been able to meet the situation as best as anyone could have. But I have given certain suggestions. I would again repeat my suggestion that the Government must evolve a

[Shri Chandra Shakhar Singh]

long term comprehensive policy to meet the situation because this situation is going to persist for a longer period.

**SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur):** You know Sir, the report of the working of the Ministry of commerce has got very much to do with the overall direction of our economy. So whatever indications are there on the trade front and also of the foreign exchange reserves they have got a direct bearing on the overall economic situation in the country. If you go through the trade position the features are very clear. In 1976-77 we had a surplus of about Rs. 68-46 crores. After that year deficit has been persisting. In 1977-78 the deficit was Rs. 621.03 crores. In 1978-79 it was Rs. 1088.60 crores, 1979-80 Rs. 2439 crores and in 1980-81 Rs. 4000 crores.

We know the direction in which our economy is moving. If we go through the report, it would be very clear in which area our export goes. The report says :

“Direction-wise the export trade has considerably diversified. Four countries viz USA, UK, USSR and Japan were our major trading partners and together account for about 50 per cent of our exports, a decade ago. Their share has gradually declined to about 40 per cent only in 1979-80; the fall being steeper in case of USA, from 16.8 per cent to 12.6 per cent and UK from 11.7 per cent to 7.4 per cent. The share of East European countries has also declined from 21.8 per cent to only 13.3 per cent during this period. On the other hand, all ECM countries other than UK and all oil exporting Middle eastern countries have improved their share considerably from 7.2 per cent and 6.3 per cent in 1969-70 to 18.8 per cent and 9.5 per cent respectively in 1979-80.”

Our export position and credit position are very much to do with the export area in which we operate because we are hanging on to a

market that is especially a market of capitalist economy where all push and pulls high rate of inflation recession and crisis are the order of the day. So, the malady of our overall trade position is that if we are going to follow the World Bank philosophy of having export oriented trade with capitalist countries, with all our best wishes and with all our best efforts we cannot solve the problem because the market mechanism of the capitalist countries is to fleece the undeveloped countries. They follow the policy of neo-colonial economic approach. That is why I am saying that we have to work out our over all strategy. If you go through the figures you will find that every year the export subsidy is going up. In 1970-71, it was Rs. 34.92 crores. In 1974-75 it was Rs. 66.32 crores, 77-78—Rs. 311 crores, 79-80—Rs. 358 crores and in 1980-81 Rs. 625 crores. This is the export subsidy which we have pumped into our economy. Now I am surprised that most of the speakers from the ruling party are speaking about self reliant economy, independent economy, sustaining economy and all those things. What I find now is, we are switching on everything for export, all for export; “export or perish” is the slogan that is now being advanced just to see that the country carries on. Why is this slogan being advanced? If it is because of the self sufficiency of the economy, if it is because our internal economy has expanded to that position then we can understand our exporting to that extent. But that is not the position here. In a country where 50 per cent of the people are below the poverty line, where there is no purchasing power for the common man, then the only remedy or solution of a capitalist State to tide over the crisis is to have export, orientation to export, priority to export; that is why the slogan “export or perish”. Though the hon. Minister seems to have an optimistic note about next year's performance, I am sorry to say that this story is again going to be repeated, perhaps in a more bad way, because the over-all economic situation in the capitalist world is

facing a recession and the crisis is going to become more inflationary.

What is the position now? There is diversion of all major resources for production for export, in preference to all other sectors. There is priority in the matter of imports to all exporters. Then, all other considerations, such as curbing economic concentration, or growth of monopolies, their regulation of investment and production, improvement of indigenous technology, securing regional dispersal of industry, protection to small scale and labour, intensive industries, all these have to set aside, because of this policy of export promotion being given absolute priority. The new year began with the Commerce Minister's resolution that 100 per cent export-oriented units can be allowed foreign collaboration freely, without being subject to the provisions of FERA and that they are permitted to import capital goods without any restriction. They will be exempted from export duty on raw materials, or excise duty on their finished goods. They will also be exempted from excise duties and levies. The exports are the total turnover for determining whether a company is a "dominant undertaking" under the MRTP Act. The maximum duration of pre-shipment banking credit on exports has been extended from 135 to 180 days, all considerations have been given for export.

I would like to know the whether this strategy, which is being worked out, regarding the exports for the eighties, is going to materialise according to our wishes, because over and above your hopes, there are other factors which you have to take into consideration, for you are depending on a capitalist market which is working under duress. That is why I say that our Government have to switch over from the capitalist to the socialist countries, where there is no serious crisis, recession or inflationary pressure, because that is the only salvation for a far-sighted export policy for this Government.

Now I want to impress upon the Government one point regarding their export performance in the field of marine products. It is mentioned in the Reoprt :

"However, the volume of export suffered a marginal fall by 493 tonnes or 0.57 per cent from 86,894 tonnes in 1978-79 to 86,401 tonnes in 1979-80. This fall is mainly attributed to poor fish catches in India."

First of all, I would like to emphasize that the marine export should be diversified. Otherwise, there is no hope of any solution to this problem. Unfortunately, we are now concentrating only on shrimps for exports. Unless we diversify the exports and also find out new markets, we cannot hope to have a bright future, because we are already facing stiff competition from Malaysia, Japan, China and other countries. If we want to have increased export earnings from marine products, diversification is very much necessary. I am sorry to say that this task is not being done well. I would like the Minister to go into this problem.

Coming to cashew, I do not want to go into the details. Our cashew nut-industry has to depend on import because we are not producing enough cashew in our country. Now most of the under developed countries are slowly having their own cashew processing factories. So, we cannot hope to import so much of cashew, as was used to do in the olden days. I would suggest that the import of cashew should be canalised through the public sector agencies and no private agency should be allowed to come into the import market of cashew.

Government should encourage indigenous plantations of cashew so that our industry could sustain.

Sir, one more sector about which I would like to impress upon the hon. Minister is the handloom sector. You know the importance of the handloom sector, I need not go into the details. But you should see

that so many workers are employed in the handloom sector. Also, certain protections which are already given to handloom sector should be given in a bigger way, because you are now coming up with a policy of giving protection to yarns below 60 counts. If you work out the policy properly you can revise it because the situation in respect of the handloom sector has been bad during the last two or three years. You have imposed the restriction that in this handloom sector you will be giving protection to yarn to 60 counts. So, I would request/that this restriction should be removed because there are certain areas and certain states where ordinary people wear clothes woven with yarn of more than 60 counts. So, protection should also be extended to yarns above 60 counts. Thank you.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास (भीलवाडा):  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं वाणिज्य मंत्रालय की जो डिमान्ड प्रस्तुत हुई हैं। मैं उनका समायन करता हूँ और मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देता हूँ उन्होंने इस कठिन परिस्थिति में इस विभाग को किस प्रकार से सम्भाला है वह बड़ा प्रशंसनीय कार्य है। मगर जिस तरह से हमारा एक्सपोर्ट 1975, 1976 और 1977 में चलता था और जितना पैसा हमने 1976 और 1977 में बैलेंस आफ ट्रेड को ठीक करने के हिसाब से बचाया था उस भारी व्यवस्था को जनता पार्टी के लोगों ने मटियामेट कर दिया।

खास कर के दो, तीन विषयों के संबंध में कहना चाहता हूँ। स्टील के हमने बड़े बड़े कारखाने लगाये मगर जनता पार्टी ने एक ऐसे आदमी को मंत्री बना दिया जो स्वयं स्टील में इंट्रेस्ट था और उस के कारण हमारे स्टील प्लांट को उस ने किस प्रकार खराब किया, हमारे प्रोडक्शन को किस प्रकार से खराब किया

और पब्लिक सैक्टर को किस प्रकार से धक्का लगाया यह बात देखने योग्य है। और इस से सम्बन्धित होता है कि जनता पार्टी किस प्रकार से पब्लिक सैक्टर में इंट्रेस्ट थी और उस को पीछे धकेलने का उन्होंने प्रयत्न किया। स्टील की कीमते कम रहीं और बाजार में स्टील ज्यादा भाव में मिलता था। इस प्रकार पब्लिक सैक्टर को ज्यादा नुकसान पहुंचाया और पब्लिक सैक्टर को इस प्रकार उन्होंने बहुत धक्का लगाया जिसके कारण उसका प्रोडक्शन गिरा और पब्लिक सैक्टर का प्रोडक्शन उस लैवल पर नहीं पहुंचा जितना पहुंचना चाहिए था। और ऐसा इस लिए हुआ कि जनता पार्टी के मंत्री इस बात में इंटरेस्ट थे विदेशों से माल मंगाया जाय और अपनी इंडस्ट्री को फलते फूलते देखना चाहते थे। इस से हमारे देश को धक्का लगा और हालत यह हो गई कि अब हम स्टील को इम्पोर्ट करने की इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था जनता पार्टी की शासन काल में आयी।

इसी प्रकार से सीमेंट के मामले में हुआ। जो हमारे सीमेंट के कारखाने थे उनसे हम इतना सीमेंट पैदा कर सकते थे कि अपनी आवश्यकताओं को पूरित कर सकते थे। मगर जनता पार्टी के शासन में सीमेंट के कारखानेदारों को इस बात की छूट दे दी कि वह कम प्रोडक्शन करें और सीमेंट की कमी पैदा करें जिसकी वजह से सीमेंट ब्लैक में बिके। ऐसी परिस्थिति इन्होंने पैदा करने की कोशिश की। आज सीमेंट की यह हालत है कि उसको बनाने के लिये हमारे देश में ही कच्चे माल की कोई कमी नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Vyas there are no Member from the Janata Party.

भी निरधारों का अर्थ : जनता पार्टी के तीन चार हिस्से हो गये मार्क्सिस्ट भी उनके सहयोगी थे कम्युनिस्ट भी सहयोगी थे । सब लोगों ने मिल कर के सब लोगों ने मिल-जुलकर इसको कराया है उसको आप अच्छी तरह देखिये ।

सीमेंट के सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे राजस्थान में लाइम स्टोन का विपुल भंडार है अगर 10-15 सीमेंट फैक्टरियाँ भी आप वहाँ लगा दें कोटा, बूंदी, भीलवाड़ा, चित्तौड़, और मध्य प्रदेश का जिला मन्दसौर है इनमें इतना लाइम स्टोन है कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान के लिये सीमेंट उपलब्ध करा सकते हैं बल्कि ऐसी स्थिति भी हम पैदा कर सकते हैं कि सीमेंट को विदेशों में भेज सकते हैं एक्सपोर्ट कर सकते हैं । अभी एक माननीय सदस्य बोल रहे थे कि सीमेंट के एक कारखाने पर 15 करोड़ रुपये की मशीनरी की आवश्यकता होती है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि अगर एक बार 15-15 करोड़ की लागत लगाकर यहाँ 4, 5 जिलों में सीमेंट के 10-15 कारखाने आपने लगा दिये तो आपकी सीमेंट की सारी कमी पूरी हो जायगी और हमारा देश इस मामले में आत्मनिर्भर बन जायगा और हम सीमेंट का एक्सपोर्ट भी करने लगेंगे । इस प्रकार की स्थिति हमारे देश में हो सकती है ।

कपड़े के मामले में जो आपने नीति प्रस्तुत की है उसकी मैं प्रशंसा करता हूँ । मगर मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि कपड़े के व्यापार में टेक्सटाइल के मामले में जो हमारा भीलवाड़ा जिला है, वहाँ काफी अच्छी रई काटन पैदा होती है । 4,5 आदमियों ने वहाँ कारखाना लगाने के बिना एप्लाइ कर रखा है हम चाहते हैं कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा यान बनाने के 5,6 बड़े-बड़े कारखाने वहाँ लगा दिये

जाएँ । वहाँ इस बात की बहुत गंजाइश है अगर आप वहाँ के लोगों को परमिट देंगे तो निश्चित तरीके से यान के मामले में हम आत्मनिर्भर हो जायेंगे ।

भीलवाड़ा जिले में माइका अमरक की बहुत बड़ी खान है । बिहार के बाद हिन्दुस्तान में अगर माइका के बारे में देखा जाय तो भीलवाड़ा का दूसरा नम्बर आता है । वहाँ इतना माइका पैदा होता है मैंने पिछले सेशन में भी निवेदन किया था कि मिटको बहुत कम माइका खरीदती है । वहाँ के उत्पादनकर्ताओं को दूसरे व्यापारियों पर निर्भर रहना पड़ता है । छोटे-छोटे लोग कारखाने चलाते हैं । इसलिये ऐसी व्यवस्था सरकार को करनी चाहिये कि मिटको जितना अमरक वहाँ निकलता है वह खरीदे जिससे गरीब लोगों को लाभ हो । मिटको ने बिहार में माइका पेपर का कारखाना लगा रखा है हमारे यहाँ इतना रा-मैटिरियल वेस्ट पड़ा हुआ है कि अगर वहाँ कारखाना माइका पेपरका लगा दिया जाय तो बहुत बरसों तक रा-मैटिरियल की कमी नहीं होगी और देश में भी पेपर की मांग को पूरा किया जा सकेगा । मेरा निवेदन है कि इस कारखाने को भीलवाड़ा में लगाया जाय तो वहाँ के लोगों को भी रोजगार मिलने में लाभ हो सकेगा और जो वहाँ वेस्ट पड़ा हुआ है वह भी देश के उत्पादन में काम आ सकेगा और यह पेपर एक्सपोर्ट हो सकेगा । इसी तरीके से मेवाड़ टेक्सटाइल मिल को पहले सरकार ने अपने हाथ में लिया था और उस वक्त जब यह गवर्नमेंट के हाथ में था तो हर साल 50 लाख से ऊपर इतने कमाया और इस प्रकार से उस मिल का गवर्नमेंट प्रॉडरेटिंग के हिसाब से डेवलपमेंट हुआ । मगर फिर सरकार ने उस मिल को उसी मालिक को दे दिया । आज उसकी क्या परिस्थिति है ? आज वहाँ की हालत यह है कि मेवाड़ टेक्स-

[श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास]

टाइल मिल करोड़ों बकज में दबा हुआ है वहां के मजदूरों को नया पैसा भी नहीं दिया जाता है। जो मजदूर सविस् पूरी कर लेते हैं वह अच्छी पाने के हकदार होते हैं लेकिन उनको वह भी नहीं दी जाती है। इस मिल की कंडीशन ठीक नहीं है। जो काला यहां पर कन्ट्रोल के भाव से आता है उसको कालाबाजार में बच दिया जाता है। टूल इम्प्लीमेंट व अन्य आवश्यक सामग्री के अभाव में कई खाते बन्द पड़े हैं।

सन् 1975-76 में राजस्थान को सरकार की तरफ से यह एक एग्रीमेंट हुआ था टेक्सटाइल एसोसियेशन और मजदूरों के संगठनों के बीच कि साढ़े 28 रुपये एडवलांस मजदूरों को दिया जायगा लेकिन टेक्सटाइल मिल ने साढ़े 13 रुपये के हिसाब से पैमेंट मजदूरों को किया और 15 रुपये के हिसाब से आज तक बकाया है। वह केस हाईकोर्ट जोधपुर में पेंडिंग है। मिल की मनेजमेंट को यह हालत है कि 15 रुपये के हिसाब से मजदूरों का पैमेंट भी वह नहीं कर पा रही है। इस मिल पर प्राविडेंट फंड का भी लाखों रुपा बकाया है। उन्हे मजदूरों से पैसा ले लिया है, लेकिन खुद अरना शेयर जमा नहीं कराया है। भारत सरकार की तरफ से उसपर बीस लाख रुपये का जुर्माना किया गया है, लेकिन उसके अतल पैसा भी जमा नहीं कराया है और जुर्माना भी जमा नहीं कराया है। प्राविडेंट फंड का सारा पैसा गायब हो गया है। इसके अलावा ई एस आई का शेयर भी जमा नहीं किया जाता है, जिससे मजदूरों को वह बनिफिट भी नहीं मिल पाता है।

मेवाड टेक्सटाइल मिल का मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर\*\* अन्दर ही अन्दर ब्लैक मनी पैदा करके उसको दूसरे कल कार-

खानों में लग रहा है और इस मिल को सिक स्थिति में ला रहा है। अगर यह मिल बन्द हो जाये, तो इस में काम करने वाले तीन हजार लोगों को बेरोजगारी का सामना कर पड़ेगा। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि स से पहले की हालत बिगड़ जाये और यह मिल बन्द हो जाये, सरकार इसका अपने हाथ में ले ले और इसको चलाये ताकि तीन हजार मजदूरों को रोजा रोटी मिल सके और उन्हें बकाया जल्दी मिल सके।

पिछले साल मैंने निवेदन किया था कि हमारे काटन वारपॉरेशन ग्राफ इंडिया का काम चला, लेकिन वह पूरी तरह से नहीं चल पाया है। मेरी बिनम्र प्रार्थना है कि भीलवाड़ा जिला एक काटन प्रॉडिंग एरिया है, इस लिए वहां काटन कोरपॉरेशन का काम सुचारू रूप से होना चाहिए। उस के द्वारा सारा काटन खरीदा जाना चाहिए, ताकि बिचालियों के द्वारा उनका शोषण नहो। सरकार को इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था निश्चित रूप से करनी चाहिए कि इन लोगों को पूरा पैसा दिलाया जा सके।

SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL (Muvattaupuzha) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I congratulate the hon. Minister for presenting a fair budget and I support the demands.

I would just like to bring to his notice the difficulties of plantation crops cultivators of our country. First I come to rubber. Rubber is still being imported into this country. A few year back, we are exporting rubber. Rubber thread is also being imported because rubber lobby is working in Delhi and they can manipulate things. Actually there is no shortage of rubber in India. Some of my hon. Friends who spoke a few



minutes earlier said that rubber cultivators are big felllows. It is very unfortunate to say that because the actual fact is that 90 percent of rubber cultivators numbering about 1-1/2 lacs are very poor and marginal cultivators. They are themselves cultivating and selling their products. So please show some mercy to them. A few years back, there was subsidy for spraying of rubber. Unfortunately, two three years back, it was stopped. If you are giving again that subsidy the growers will spray rubber and the production will increase and we can even export rubber. If you are giving some incentive and help to poor rubber cultivators we will become self sufficient in rubber.

As regards to cocoa a few years back, we were importing cocoa. Now there is a huge stock of cocoa lying idle in the Kerala Marketing Federation godowns. The pity is that for exporting apple products, you are giving export incentives and cash subsidy. Why cant you give subsidy for exporting cocoa products like cocoa butter and cocoa powder? Some factories have started producing some of these products. If you give export incentive and cash subsidy they will also export cocoa products like cocoa butter and cocoa powder and earn foreign exchange for the country. So, I request the hon. Minister to see that cocoa is exported and some incentive and subsidy is given for the export of cocoa products. Let the STC come to the help of cocoa farmers till the factories are ready by purchasing cocoa beans at a fair price.

Coconut oil and copra is imported into this country. It is actually for Hindustan Lever and Tata oil Companies all big felllows for making hair oils and soaps, etc. The pity is that nearly Rs. 50 crores loss is suffered by the coconut cultivators because of the root wilt disease. If we spend some money for preventing this disease the production will increase and we will become self sufficient. A coconut Board has also been formed. I congratulate the Government for that. They

can help in extensive planting and we can become self-sufficient in coconut oil production and copra production also.

Coming to nutmeg and cloves formerly, we were importing into this country by paying a high import duty.

**17.00 hrs.**

But unfortunately, a few years back the Janata Government allowed import under UJL nutmegs and cloves. Some of the cultivators are removing these crops from their fields and planting alternative crops. The price has crashed to some 30% of the original value. They cannot afford to maintain their plantations because of the low price. The majority of them are 1 acre and 2 acre marginal cultivators. This is a long term cultivation. They have to wait for 7 or 8 years to get income from these crops. If you give some encouragement and a fair price to cultivators, they will cultivate these plantations. So, I request the Minister to ban the import to nutmeg and cloves or at least impose 100% import duty on these products.

Another suggestion I would like to make is about ginger and turmeric. Last year, the Minister agreed for the removal of export duty on turmeric. So, I think some people have started cultivating turmeric. Like that, ginger price also crashed. So, I request the Minister to see that ginger and turmeric are purchased through the STC and export and help the poor farmers. They are all small farmers. The price of pepper has also crashed. This is a traditional export item. But, unfortunately prices are very low now. Competition from Indonesia and Brazil and other countries is very stiff.

For pepper and cashew-nut, I suggest that pepper board and a cashew board be formed so that plantation can be extended. There is plenty of suitable land in Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa.

[Shri George Joseph Mundackal]

I am a member of the Agriculture Consultative Committee. I was astonished to see that so much land is lying wasted, instead of being planted with cashew-nut for which this land is suitable. Cashew-nut is a labour-oriented plantation.

I also request the Minister to see that two Boards, one, for pepper and the other for cashew-nut may be formed.

I thank you once again and request you to stop the import of nutmogs and cloves and rubber and rubber ber threads and cocoa and cocoa products and thus save the poor cultivators.

I request that the actual small growers may be nominated to the Rubber Board and now it is the time for nomination to the Rubber Board.

श्री अशाफक हुसैन (महाराजगंज) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, तिरुवारूर इतना वसीज मौजू है कि इस महकमे की बहस में इतने कम वक्त में बात कह लेना मुनासिब नहीं है, फिर भी जो वक्त आपने दिया है मैं काशिश करूंगा कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा बात उस में कह दूं। रोटी कपडा और मकान ईसान की तीन बुनियादी जरूरियात हैं कि जिस में कपडा इसी महकमे का एक अहम हिस्सा है। इस लिए जो कलील वक्त मुझे मिला है उस में टैक्सटाइल और खास तौर से हैडलूम के मुतालिक अपने को महदूद रखूंगा।

अभी कुछ दिन पहले नयी टैक्सटाइल पालिसी का ऐलान भी इसी एंवाम में किया जा चुका है। नयी टैक्सटाइल पालिसी में कंट्रोल के कपडे की सारी तैयारी की जिम्मेवारी एन० टी० सी० और हैडलूम पर डाली गई है। हैडलूम पर यह जिम्मेवारी डालकर सरकार बड़ समझती है कि उस ने हैडलूम पर

भारी ग्रहसान किया है जबकि हकीकत इस के बिलकुल बरबक्स है। इस हकीकत कोई इन्कार नहीं कर सकता कि प्राइवेट कपडा मिलों का बहाने बाजी और लाफ इन्कार के बाद यह जिम्मेवारी और हैडलूम पर डाली गई है जैसा कि खुद मौजूदा टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर ने अपने एक बयान में कहा है।

हैडलूम की कमी एक राय से जरात के बाद दूसरी ग्रहम् सन्त मानते हैं। यह बात भी सभी मानते हैं कि जगत के बाद सबसे ज्यादा लांग इस सन्त से बास्ता है और यह हकीकत भी सब पर ग्रयां है कि इस सन्त से ज्यादातर वही लोग बाबस्ता हैं जो समाज के पिछड़े और दबे हुए लोग हैं और इस से बाबस्ता लोगों से हमदर्दी का इजहार भी सभी बिला लिहाज पार्टी और नजरिया करते हैं। लेकिन अमलन इस सन्त की बुनियादी जरूरियात से जानबूझकर बतराते रहना भी—एक आदत सी बन गई है। मौजूदा टैक्सटाइल पालिसी के जरिये भी हैडलूम से हमदर्दी का खूब बिदोग पिटा गया है लेकिन अमलन एक्सपोर्ट के नाम पर और मुल्क के कपडे की जरूरत के नाम पर मिलों पर से लूम बढ़ाने की पाबन्दी हटा ली है। हैं। मुल्क अंदरूनी जरूरत के लिए सस्ता और कंट्रोल का कपडा हैडलूम पर लादा जा रहा है जब कि यह सभी जानते हैं कि सस्ता और सीधा कपडा मिल या पावर लूम पर आसानी से तैयार हो सकता है। हां, यह जरूर है कि सस्ता और सीधा कपडा तैयार करने में नफा बरहुत कम हासिल होता है। इसलिए यह एहसान हैडलूम पर लादा दिया गया है। जो हैडलूम बनकर आज कल की घाती साडी और कंट्रोल का कपडा तैयार करने में लगे हुए हैं उन की असीत आमदनी चार रुपये यूनिया से ज्यादा नहीं है। दूर जाने की

जल्द नहीं है, दिल्ली के ही इंद गिर्द पानीपत, मुरादनगर, पिलखुआ, मेरठ और बहुत सी दूसरी जगहों पर नजर डालें तो उन्हें हकीकत बिलकुल दरअक्स नजर आयेगी। इन जगहों पर तौलिये, चादरें, बैडसीट ज्यादातर हैंडलूम में तैयार होती हैं जो ज्यादा से ज्यादा बाहर भेजी जाती हैं। यह भी एक खूबी हकीकत है कि हैंडलूम के कपडों की मांग बेरुनी मुल्कों में दिन व दिन बढ़ती जा रही है। हैंडलूम के कपडों और गारमैन्ट की मांग पिछले पन्द्रह सालों में पन्द्रह करोड़ रुपये से अधिक बढ़कर चार सो करोड़ रुपये हो गयी है। हैंडलूम और इस से वाबस्ता बेसहारा बुनकरों को कन्ट्रोल की धोती साडी तैयार करने के गैर-मुनाफा वक्स रोजगार में फंसाकर उन को एक्सपोर्ट का माल तैयार करने की तरफ से हटा कर हकूमत उन से अपनी हमदर्दी जताना चाहती है जिसका नतीजा यह होगा कि हैंडलूम बुनकर कुछ दिनों बाद चिल्ला उठेगा कि लिल्लाह मुझे मेरे हमदर्दों से बचाओं। कोई उन के हमदर्दों को किस तरह समझाये कि उन की कारीगरी और हुनर से हटा कर जिसका बाहरी मुल्कों में क्रेज बढ़ता जा रहा है और दिन व दिन मांग भी बढ़ती जा रही है, सीधे काम पर लगाना उन की कारीगरी और हुनर का न तो वाजिब और मुनासिब इस्तेमाल है और न तो सनत की तरक्की के रास्ते पर लगाना है।

दस्तकार और बुनकर चाहे चादर, तौलिये, बनासी साडी तैयार करता हो या लकड़ी या हाथी दांत पर नक्कासी करता हो, या मुरादाबाद में बरतन और भलीगढ में ताले, लखनऊ में चिकन और हाथरस में मूर्ति बनाता हो या फिर त्रिपुरा और शुमाल मशरकी भारत में बांस के तरह तरह के सामान बनाता हो, उसकी

बुनियादी जरूरत खास माल, सरमाया और मार्केटिंग है। हथकरघा और पावर लूम में 60 फीसदी खाम-माल सूत है। सूत के लिए कहा यह जाता है कि नेशनल हैंडलूम डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन सूत की फराहमी का इंतजाम भी करेगी लेकिन उस वा इंतजामी ढांचा क्या होगा इसका कोई जिक्र नहीं है। एन० टी० सी० मिलें सिर्फ 16 पसेंट हैंडलूम को सूत फराहम करती है जिस से सिर्फ 36 करोड़ मीटर कपडा तैयार होता है। एन० टी० सी० मिलों का सूत अक्सर प्राइवेट मिलों के सूत से महंगा और घटिया होता है। हकूमत ने कोई वादा नहीं किया है कि कपास की पैदावार के साथ साथ साल में एक बार सूत का दाम मुकर्रर करेगी। सूत के दाम में उतार चढ़ाव को रोकने वा भी कोई वादा हकूमत ने नहीं किया है। सिर्फ मुनासिब दाम पर नेशनल हैंडलूम डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन के जरिये सूत मुहैया करने का वादा किया गया है। सूत के दाम में उतार चढ़ाव का यह हाल है कि नयी टेक्सटाइल पालिसी के एलान के बाद 120 रुपये से लेकर 150 रुपये की फी गांठ सूत के दाम में इजाफा हो चुका है। रंग और कैमिकल का दाम भी बहुत बढ़ता जा रहा है।

सरमाये की फराहमी के नाम पर कीमी हैंडलूम डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन और गिमायती हैंडलूम कारपोरेशन का कोई रोल नहीं है। सरमाये के मामले में हैंडलूम बुनकर को बैंकों और दूसरे मालियाती इदारों का मोहताज होना पडता है। हां, मार्केटिंग के सिलसिले में जरूर कुछ काम आगे बढ़ा है लेकिन इस का फायदा सीधे बुनकर को नहीं पहुंच रहा है बल्कि सरकारी और कारपोरेशनों के अमले की सामेदारी में कुछ बिचौलिये जरूर फायदा उठा रहे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
Please come to your last point.

SHRI ASHFAQ HUSSAIN :  
I am speaking on handloom, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
So many Members have already  
spoken on handloom. You are only  
adding to that.

AN. HON. MEMBER : A new  
point.

श्री अशफाक हुसैन : डिप्टी स्पीकर  
साहब, हैंडलूम सनत का सीधा रिश्ता  
बुनकर से है। इसलिए इस सनत की  
तरक्की के लिए जरूरी है :— ॥

(1) हैंडलूम, पावर लूम और कपड़ा  
मिलों के अलग अलग दायरे मुकर्रर किए  
जायें। कपड़े की चौड़ाई और सूत के  
नम्बर के हिसाब से दायराबन्दा हो।  
इस के अलावा तौलिया, बेडशीट, चादरें,  
पट्टे, टपेस्ट्री, भी हैंडलूम के लिए मखसूस  
क दी जायें, रंगीन धोती साड़ी के अलावा।

(2) सूत की कीमत साल में एक  
बार मुकर्रर की जाय। नेशनल हैंडलूम  
कार्पोरेशन सूत की तकसीम में उस वक्त  
ही कामयाब हो सकता है जब कम्पोजिट  
मिलों, कोआपरेटिव मिलों, गैर-कोआपरेटिव  
मिलों और एन०टी०सी०की मिलों में सूत  
की कानूनी लेवी लगाकर उनसे हैंडलूम और  
पावर लूम के लिए सूत हासिल कर लिया  
जय। चीनी और गन्ने की तरह से दाहरों  
कीमत का तरीका जायज किया जाय  
जिससे लेवी का सूत हैंडलूम को कम अज  
कम तीन फीसदी और पावर लूम को दस  
फीसदी मिलों के मुकाबले में सस्ता मिल  
सके। घरेलू पावर लूम की रियायतों दर  
पर बिजली फराहमी की जाय।

(3) सरमाये की फराहमी के लिए  
और तैयार मा की आफ-सांजन में रोक  
रखने के लिए एक हजार पावर लूम  
और पांच हजार हैंडलूम पर ग्रामीण  
बैंक की तर्ज का दस्तकार बैंक खोला  
जाय।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
Please conclude.

SHRI ASHFAQ HUSSAIN : I  
will take only one minute more.

(4) हैंडलूम या पावर लूम और  
दूसरी दस्तकारियों पर मिर्च के लिए  
वसूली रकम मुकर्रर की जाए और उनके  
मरकजों पर क्राप्टस में ट्रेनिंग इन्स्टीचूट्स  
खोले जायें, जहां कम अज कम सर्टिफिकेट  
कोर्स तक की तालीम दी जाए। सर्विस  
सेन्टर्स को इन्स्टीचूट्स में बदला जा सकता  
है।

(5) मार्केटिंग से विचालियों को  
खत्म किया जाए। एक्सपोर्ट के इदारों  
में और टैक्सटाइल कमेटी में हैंडलूम  
के नुमाइन्दे रखे जायें।

(6) कन्ट्रोल का कपड़ा तैयार करने  
वाले बुनकर को कम से कम 15 रु.  
से 20 रु. रोज उजरत की गारन्टी दी  
जाए।

आखिर में, मैं इस बात पर जोर  
देकर अपनी तकरार खत्म करता हूँ कि  
अगर वाकई कार्मी-हैंडलूम डेवलपमेंट  
कार्पोरेशन को हैंडलूम की तरक्की का  
इदारा बनाना है तो उसको पार्लियामेंट  
के एक्ट के तहत एक आला-ताकती  
इदारा बनायें और अफसरशाही से दूर  
रखने के लिए इसका एक गैर-सरकारी  
चेयरमैन मुकर्रर कीजिए। इस इदारे में  
हैंडलूम बुनकरों के नुमाइन्दों को भी  
शामिल कीजिए। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ  
मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

### شری اشفاق حسین (مہاراج گنج):

ایادھیکس مہوے - تجارت افزا وسیع موزوں ہے کہ اس محکمے کی بھتت میں آنے کم وقت میں بات کہہ لیتا ممکن نہیں ہے - پھر بھی جو وقت آپ نے دیا ہے میں کوشش کرونگا کہ زیادہ سے زیادہ بات اس میں کہہ سکوں - روتی کپڑا اور مکن انسان کی تین بلیادی ضرورتیں ہیں جس میں کپڑا اسی محکمے کا ایک اہم حصہ ہے - اس لئے جو قلیل وقت مجھے ملا ہے اس میں ٹیکسٹائل اور خاص طور سے ہیلتھ لوم کے متعلق اچھے کو محدود رکھونگا -

ابھی کچھ دن پہلے نئی ٹیکسٹائل پالیسی کا اعلان بھی اسی اور ان میں کہا جا چکا ہے - نئی ٹیکسٹائل پالیسی میں کنٹرول کے کھڑے کی ساری تھاری کی ذمہ داری این - سی - سی - اور ہیلتھ لوم پر ڈالی گئی ہے - ہیلتھ لوم پر یہ ذمہ داری ڈال کر سرکار یہ سمجھتی ہے کہ اس نے ہیلتھ لوم پر بڑا بھاری احسان کیا ہے جب کہ حقیقت اس کے بالکل برعکس ہے - اس حقیقت سے کوئی انکار نہیں کر سکتا کہ پوائیویٹ کپڑا ملوں کی بھانے ہازی اور صاف انکو کے بعد یہ ذمہ داری اور ہیلتھ لوم پر ڈالی گئی ہے جیسا کہ خود موجودہ ٹیکسٹائل کمشنر نے اچھے ایک بیان میں کہا ہے -

ہیلتھ لوم کو سبھی ایک رائے سے زراعت کے بعد دوسری اہم صنعت مانتے ہیں - یہ بات بھی سبھی مانتے ہیں کہ زراعت کے بعد سب سے زیادہ لوگ اس صنعت سے وابستہ ہیں اور یہ حقیقت بھی سب پر عیاں ہے کہ اس صنعت سے زیادہ تر وہی لوگ وابستہ ہیں جو سماج کے پچھڑے اور دچے ہوئے لوگ ہیں اور اس سے وابستہ لوگوں سے ہمدردی کا اظہار بھی سبھی بلا لحاظ پارٹی اور نظریہ کرتے ہیں - لیکن عدلاً اس صنعت بلیادی ضروریات سے جان بوجھ کر کراتے رہنا بھی ایک عادت سی بن گئی ہے - موجودہ ٹیکسٹائل پالیسی کے ذریعہ بھی ہیلتھ لوم سے ہمدردی کا خوب ڈھنڈورا پیٹنا گیا ہے - لیکن عدلاً ایکسپورت کے نام پر اور ملک کے کھڑے کی ضرورت کے نام پر ملوں پر سے لوم بڑھانے کی پابندی اٹھا لی ہے - ملک کی اندرونی ضرورت کے لئے سستا اور کنٹرول کا کپڑا ہیلتھ لوم پر لدا جا رہا ہے جب کہ یہ سبھی جانتے ہیں کہ سستا اور سیدھا کپڑا مل یا پاور لوم پر آسانی سے تیار ہو سکتا ہے - ہاں یہ ضرور ہے کہ سستا اور سیدھا کپڑا تیار کرنے میں نفع بہت کم حاصل ہوتا ہے - اس لئے یہ احسان ہیلتھ لوم پر لدا دیا گیا ہے - جو ہیلتھ لوم بلکر آج کل ہی دعوتی سازی اور کنٹرول کا کپڑا تیار کرنے میں لگے ہوئے ہیں ان کی اوسط آمدنی تین چار روپے یومیہ سے زیادہ نہیں ہے -

### [شری اشفاق حسین]

دور جانے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے دلی کے ہی اورد گرد پٹائی پتے، مراد نگر، پلکھوا، مہرٹم اور بہت سی دوسری جگہوں پر نظر ڈالیں تو انہیں حقیقت بالکل برعکس نظر آئے گی۔ ان جگہوں پر تولیے چادریں بہت شیتس زیادہ تر ہینڈ لوم میں تیار ہوتی ہیں۔ جو زیادہ سے زیادہ باہر بھجی جاتی ہیں۔ یہ بھی ایک کھلی حقیقت ہے کہ ہینڈ لوم کے کپڑوں کی مانگ بیرونی ملکوں میں دن بہ دن بڑھتی جا رہی ہے۔ ہینڈ لوم کے کپڑوں اور گورمیلٹس کی مانگ پچھلے پندرہ سالوں میں پندرہ گروڑ روپے سے بڑھ کر چار سو گروڑ روپے ہو گئی ہے۔ ہینڈ لوم اور اس سے وابستہ بے سہارا بلکروں کو کنٹرول کی دہوتی سازی تیار کرنے کے فہرہ منافع بخش روزگار میں پھنسا کر ان کو ایکسپورٹ کا مال تیار کرنے کی طرف سے ہٹا کر حکومت ان سے اپنی ہمدردی جتاننا چاہتی ہے جس کا نتیجہ یہ ہوگا کہ ہینڈ لوم بلکر کچھ دنوں بعد اٹھے گا کہ اللہ مجھے مہرے ہمدردوں سے بچاؤ۔ کوئی ان کے ہمدردوں کو کس طرح سمجھائے کہ ان کو کاریگری اور ہنر سے ہٹا کر جس کا باہری ملکوں میں قرض بڑھتا جا رہا ہے اور دن بہ دن مانگ بھی بڑھتی جا رہی ہے سیدھے کام پر لگانا ان کی کاریگری اور ہنر کا

نہ تو واجب اور مناسب استعمال ہے اور نہ تو صنعت کی ترقی کے راستے پر لگانا ہی ہے۔

دستکار اور بلکر چاہے چادر تولیے بنارس کی تیار کرتا ہو یا لکڑی اور ہانہی دانٹ پر نقاشی کرتا ہو یا مراد آباد میں بون اور علی گڑھ تالے لکھنؤ میں چکن اور ہاتھرس میں مورتی بناتا ہو یا پور تریہورہ اور شمال مشرقی بھارت میں بانس کے طرح طرح کے سامان بناتا ہو اس کی بلیغادی ضرورت خام مال سرمایہ اور مارکیٹنگ ہے۔ ہتھکرگھا اور پاور لوم میں ۶۰ فیصدی خام مال سوت ہے۔ سوت کے لئے کہا یہ جاتا ہے کہ فیصلہ ہینڈ لوم تولیہ صنعت کاری میں سوت کی فراہمی کا انتظام کریگی لیکن اس کا انتظامی ڈھانچہ کہا ہوگا اس کا کوئی ذکر نہیں ہے۔ این۔ ٹی۔ سی۔ میں صرف ۱۶ پرسینٹ ہینڈ لوم کو سوت فراہم کرتی ہیں جس سے صرف ۲۶ گروڑ سینٹر کھوا تیار ہوتا ہے۔ این۔ ٹی۔ سی۔ میں اکثر پرائیویٹ میں سوت سے مہلکا اور کھٹیا ہوتا ہے۔ حکومت نے کوئی وعدہ نہیں کیا ہے کہ کھاس کی پیداوار کے ساتھ ساتھ سال میں ایک بار سوت کا دام مقرر کریگی۔ سوت کے دام میں اتار چڑھاؤ کو روکنے کا بھی کوئی وجہ حکومت نے نہیں کیا ہے۔ صرف

مناسب دام پر نیشنل ہیلت لوم قبولہ میٹ کارپوریشن کے ذریعے سوت مہیا کرنے کا وعدہ کیا گیا ہے۔ سوت کے دام میں اتار چڑھاؤ کا یہ حال ہے کہ نئی ٹیکسٹائل پالیسی کے اعلان کے بعد ۱۲۰ روپے سے لیکر ۱۵۰ روپے فی گانٹھ سوت کے دام میں اضافہ ہو چکا ہے۔ رنگ اور کیمیکل کا دام بھی بڑھتا جا رہا ہے۔

سرمائے کی فراہمی کے نام پر قومی ہیلت لوم قبولہ میٹ کارپوریشن اور ریاستی ہیلت لوم کارپوریشن کا کوئی رول نہیں ہے۔ سرمائے کے معاملے میں ہلت لوم بلنکر کو بلنکوں اور دوسرے مالیاتی اداروں کا محتاج ہونا پڑتا ہے۔ وہاں مارکیٹنگ کے سلسلے میں ضرور کچھ کام آگے بڑھا ہے لیکن اس کا فائدہ سودھے بلنکر کو نہیں پہنچ رہا ہے بلکہ سرکاری اور کارپوریٹڈوں کے عملے کی ساجھ داری میں کچھ بچھولنے ضرور فائدہ اٹھا رہے ہیں۔

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
Please come to your last point.

SHRI ASHFAQ HUSSAIN : I  
am speaking on handloom, Sir .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
So many Members have already  
spoken on handloom. You are only  
adding to that.

AN HON. MEMBER : A  
new point.

شری اشفاق حسین : دیپٹی اسپیکر صاحب - ہیلت لوم صنعت کا سودھا رشتہ بلنکر سے ہے۔ اسلئے اس صنعت کی ترقی کے لئے ضروری ہے :-

(۱) ہیلت لوم پارر لوم اور کھڑا ملوں کے الگ الگ دائرے مقرر کیے جائیں۔ کپڑے کی چورائی اور سوت کے نمبر کے حساب سے دائرہ بندی ہو۔ اسکے علاوہ تولیہ ہیڈ سوت چاندروں پر دے تو ہوسٹری بھی ہیلت لوم کے لئے مخصوص کر دی جائیں رنگین دھوتی سازی کے علاوہ -

(۲) سوت کی قیمت سال میں ایک بار مقرر کی جائے۔ نیشنل ہیلت لوم کارپوریشن سوت کی تقسیم میں اس وقت ہی کامیاب ہو سکتا ہے جب کمپوزٹ ملوں کو آپریٹو ملوں اور این۔ ٹی۔ سی۔ کی ملوں پر سوت کی قانونی لہوی لٹا کر ان سے ہلت لوم اور پارر لوم کے لئے سوت حاصل کر لیا جائے۔ چھلی اور گلے کی طرح سے دودھری قیمت کا طریقہ رائج کیا جائے جس سے لہوی کا سوت ہیلت لوم کو کم لاکم تھیں فیصدی اور پارر لوم کو تیس فیصدی ملوں کے مقابلے میں سستا مل سکے۔ گھریلو

[شہری اشفاق حسین]

پاور لوم کو رعایتی شرح پر بجلی فراہم کی جائے۔

(۳) سرمائے کی فراہمی کے لئے اور تیار مال کو آف سٹورن میں روک رکھنے کے لئے ایک ہزار پاور لوم اور پانچ ہزار ہیلڈ لوم پر گرامین بینکوں کی طرف سے دستکار بینک کے ذریعے۔

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
Please conclude.

SHRI ASHFAQ HUSSAIN : I  
will take only one minute more.

(۴) ہیلڈ لوم پاور لوم اور دوسری دستکاروں پر ریسیرچ کے لئے خصوصی رقم مقرر کی جائے اور ان کے سرکیزوں پر گروانٹس مین ٹریڈنگ انسٹیٹیوشن کھولے جائیں جہاں کم از کم سرٹیفیکیٹ کورس تک کی تعلیم دی جائے۔ سروس سینٹرس کو انسٹیٹیوشن میں بدلا جا سکتا ہے۔

(۵) مارکیٹنگ سے بچھوڑوں کو ختم کیا جائے۔ ایکسپورٹ کے اداروں میں اور ٹیکسٹائل کمیٹی میں ہیلڈ لوم کے نمائندے رکھے جائیں۔

(۶) گٹھ جوڑی کا کپڑا تیار کرنے والے بلکر کو کم سے کم ۱۵ روپے سے ۲۰ روپے روز اجرت کی گرانٹی دی جائے۔

آخر میں میں اس بات پر زور دے کر اپنی تقریر ختم کرتا ہوں کہ اگر واقعی قومی ہیلڈ لوم ڈیولپمنٹ کارپوریشن کو ہیلڈ لوم کی ترقی کا ادارہ بنانا ہے تو اسکو پارلیمنٹ کی ایکٹ کے تحت ایک اعلیٰ طاقتی ادارہ بنانا اور افسر شاہی سے دور رکھنے کے لئے اسکا ایک غیر سرکاری چیئرمین مقرر کیا جائے۔ اس ادارے میں ہیلڈ لوم بلکروں کے نمائندوں کو بھی شامل کیجئے۔ ان شعبوں کے ساتھ میں آپ کو دھلے واڈ دیتا ہوں۔

SHRI R.Y. GHORPADE ( Bel-  
lary) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce. While some of my friends on the Opposition benches, as usual, have been critical of the Ministry and its performance, and while constructive criticism is always welcome in the larger interest of making the economy viable and self-reliant which is the main objective of our Government's planning, at the same time I wish some of the Members who have been critical of the performance of the Ministry had done some introspection and a little more of homework also because what the Government of today has inherited was an economy left in complete shambles and the finances in doldrums. That has been responsible for the difficult situation in the Commerce Ministry.

Sir, I must congratulate the dynamic, energetic and progressive Commerce Minister for having steered the ship through these troubled waters in the last one year. In fact, the results



of one year itself speak volumnes and, as such, I would like to quote a few. Our exports in respect of tea have increased by 8.4%, coffee has gone up by 13.7% and cotton by 27% and crude, vegetables and materials by 41%. This is no small achievement to the credit of Commerce Ministry.

Sir, a little while ago my friend from Kerala, Prof. Kurien, was very vociferous about the exports and the role that the Commerce Ministry should play. But I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that Kerala is the only State in the country which sells energy to other States. So, it speaks volumes of the seriousness with which they look towards exports and promotion of exports.

Sir, I would like to quote a few more examples to support my contentions of the impact that the Commerce Ministry has brought about in the course of last one year. The export of engineering goods has risen from Rs. 67.2 crores in 1968-69 to Rs. 566.29 crores in the year 1976-77. The average annual growth rate was 32% just before the Janata Government came to power. During the Janata regime in 1977-78 there was a precipitate fall in the growth rate from 33 to 9 per cent. Looking at the totality of the picture during 1977-78 to 1979-80, we see that the average annual growth rate of export was eight per cent. For the the three previous years the average annual growth rate was 27 per cent. This totally exposes the economic mismanagement by the people in power during the Janata regime.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
That Government has already gone. Come to the present Government.

SHRI R. Y. GHORPADE : Sir,  
we have to justify also what we have

done. Similarly, we have achieved quite a lot by Indian project contracts abroad in 1980.

In 1980 we took over the Government. The project contract in this year was of the order of Rs. 1961 crores as compared to Rs. 3965 crores in 1980-81—a rise of 300 per cent. This is no mean achievement today we can proudly say that we have emerged as an exporter of finished goods and also commodities like Cement Plants, Textile Machinery Plants, Heavy Electricals and other turn-key projects. We have become one of the biggest exporters of Railway Wagons. This clearly shows that massive break-through has been achieved during the course of the last one year. The deterioration in the balance of payment position was due to the steep hike in oil prices in the year 1980. Another factor was the high price paid to the imports of fertilizers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
Please conclude.

SHRI R. Y. GHORPADE : How to conclude ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will tell you how to conclude. Simply take your seat. That is all.

SHRI R. Y. GHORPADE : I would like one more important point to be brought to the notice of the House. I would like my friends in and outside Parliament to seriously ponder over the harsh reality. To put it in short, we are in the grip, on the one hand, of an imported inflation. On the other hand, we have got inflation which is generated within the country for reasons which I have already explained. In this critical position which our economy is passing through, it is a great shame and tragedy that our critics are taking political advantage by whipping up agitations in and out of season and also in every sphere.

[Shri R. Y. Ghorpale]

Having inherited an economy in total shambles and our finances in doldrums, our dynamic and imaginative Commerce Minister, deserves special congratulation for having pooled his wits and wisdom together to steer the ship of State through troubled waters in the year 1980-81.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :**  
Please conclude ; I will give you more chance when you speak on other Demands.

**SHRI R. Y. GHORPADE :**  
There is one more important point. That is a matter which emanates from my own State. I will be failing in my duty to my people if I do not mention that. This is about 'Coffee'. Coffee, as you know, has played a very vital role not only in generating foreign exchange but it has also massively contributed to the State Exchequer by way of Agricultural Income-tax.

Sir, Coffee occupies 0.09 per cent of the cultivated area in my State. It provides 75 per cent of the State's revenue from Agricultural Income-tax. The Indian revenue from all duties and taxes on exports in 1977 was of the order of Rs. 228 crores. From coffee alone it was Rs. 60—95 crores or 27.6 per cent.

So, Sir, I am trying to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the vital role played by this vital industry. But unfortunately, despite this massive role played by this industry, not only in earning foreign exchange, . . .

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :**  
With Coffee, you can conclude now.

**SHRI R.Y. GHORPADE :**  
Sir, I would like the hon. Minister to treat the coffee industry at par with other industries which are export-oriented. Today, none of the benefits, concessions given to export-oriented industry are given to the coffee industry and it is really very unfortunate. The Prime Minister has been

very keen that we should encourage the agricultural sector and this is very much in the agricultural sector. I think, the hon. Minister will bear this in mind and show certain consideration to this sector and given them not only concessions and other relief, but also exempt them from the purview of wealth tax.

It is very important that they are exempted from the wealth tax net. In this connection, I would like to give you a few examples of the coffee concerns in the State of Karnataka. The tax as percentage of gross profit paid by the Consolidated Coffee Ltd. in the Karnataka State is 63.49 and by Coffee Lands it is 63.57%. If you take similar figures in respect of other compaines under Central Taxation, in respect of TOMO, it is 31.46%, Bombay Dyeing — 17.48%, ACC — 35.34%, TISCO — 16.98% and so on. In view of this, kindly see the role played by the coffee industry.

In the end, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one important fact of which he is already aware. It has already been agreed to in principle that Government would establish Karnataka Cardamon Corporation of India. I would only request the hon. Minister to see that the Cardamon Corporation comes into existance as early as possible. The small and medium size growers have already suffered immensely. If this Corporation is established, it will go a long way to save the cardamom planters, and the cardamom industry would be able to play a vital role in augmenting the foreign exchange reserves of this country.

**श्री शिव कुमार सिंह ठाकुर (खंडवा) :**  
माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी तक जो प्वाइन्ट्स आए हैं, उन को छोड़ कर मैं केवल उन प्वाइन्ट्स पर अपने विचार व्यक्त करूंगा, जिन के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा गया है ।

जो हमारे लायक मंत्री श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी और श्री खुर्शीद आलम खान हैं, मुझे उन पर पूर्ण विश्वास है कि उन के नेतृत्व में कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री हमारे देश के उद्योगों और व्यापार को काफी आगे ले जाएंगी। कल श्री खुर्शीद आलम खान ने यह बताया था कि छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना में 25 स्पिनिंग मिल और खोले जाएंगे। आप के माध्यम से मैं उन से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि मेरी कांस्टीट्यूएन्सी में बुरहानपुर नगर में 15 हजार पावरलूम्स हैं और हमारे जो खंडवा और खरगोन जिले मध्य प्रदेश में हैं, वे कपास के बड़े जिले हैं। अकेले बुरहानपुर में पावरलूमों में 36 हजार किलोग्राम यार्न रोज लगता है और इस हिसाब से 25 हजार स्पिंडल वाले 9 मिलों की आवश्यकता है, बुरहानपुर का पूरा यार्न सप्लाई करने के लिए। इसलिए मैं उन से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर उस जगह पर आप 9 मिल नहीं दे सकते हैं तो कम से कम एक-दो स्पिनिंग मिल तो वहां पर दें। उस क्षेत्र में इतने मिल तो अवश्य खले और अगर ये भी नहीं खोलना चाहते हैं, तो मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहां जो किसान सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में इन को खोलने के लिए तैयार हैं। उन को आप इस बात का एसॉरेंस दे दें कि उन को शीघ्र मशीनें सप्लाई की जाएंगी। आज स्पिनिंग मिलों के लिए जो मशीनों की आवश्यकता होती है, वह छः सात साल से पहले नहीं मिलती है। या हमें पुरानों मशीनों विदेशों से आयात करने की इजाजत दें। हम किसान पैसा इकट्ठा करके एक कॉम्पारेटिव बना लेंगे और वे खंडवा जिले में 3, 4 स्पिनिंग मिलें खोलने के लिए सक्षम हैं।

मेरे क्षेत्र की जो बातें हैं, उन को ही मैं यहां पर कहूंगा।

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर ने 31-12-79 को अनप्रयो-राइज्ड पावरलूम को प्रयोराइज्ड करने के लिए एप्लीकेशंस मांगी थीं। मेरे क्षेत्र में बरहानपुर के तीन-चार सौ लोग गरीबी के कारण या पैसे की कमी के कारण समय पर एप्लीकेशंस नहीं दे पाये। इस सम्बन्ध में मुझे भी एक हजार पत्र मिल चुके हैं और आपको भी मिल चुके हैं। इसलिए मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी बुरहानपुर के लोगों को इस मांग पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार करके उनके पावरलूम्स को प्रयो-राइज्ड करें।

पावरलूम उद्योग को उठाने के लिए जब तक आप उन्हें बेअरहार्डसिंह कारपोरेशन और मार्केटिंग फेसिलिटीज नहीं देंगे तब तक यह उद्योग ऊपर नहीं उठाया जा सकता है। यह सब उद्योग में काम करने वाले लोग गरीब हैं। अतः केन्द्रीय शासन को देयरहार्डसिंह कारपोरेशन के लिए और मार्केटिंग फेडरेशन को सहकारिता के क्षेत्र में चलाने के लिए काफी मदद देनी चाहिए।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सेल्स टैक्स जमें अनेक प्रदेशों में काफी विविधताएं हैं। हालांकि यह स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है फिर भी मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इसकी वजह से इसमें दो नम्बर का व्यवसाय बहुत हो रहा है। सेल्स टैक्स के क्षेत्र में सभी प्रदेशों में एकत्वता लायी जानी चाहिए। महाराष्ट्र और अन्य प्रदेशों में सेल्स टैक्स दो परसेंट है जबकि हमारे मध्य प्रदेश में यह तीन परसेंट है। इसलिए इसके कारण एक नम्बर का व्यवसाय बहुत कम हो पाता है और इससे सरकार का रेवेन्यू का नोस होता है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि इसमें सभी प्रदेशों में एक रकत लायी जानी चाहिए।

[श्री शिव कुमार सिंह ठाकुर]

हमारे देश में एडिबल मायल का सात सौ करोड़ रुपये का इम्पोर्ट किया जाता है। नेशनल डेयरी डवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन के अध्यक्ष डा. कुरियन ने गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया को एक स्कीम दी है। उनका दावा है कि अगर उसको मान लिया जाए तो देश की सात सौ करोड़ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा बचायी जा सकती है। उनकी योजनाज का ठीक तरह से परीक्षण कर के क्रियान्वयन किया जाना चाहिए जिससे कि हमारे देश की सात सौ करोड़ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा बच सके। उनके नेतृत्व में गुजरात के खेड़ा जिले के किसानों ने सफलतापूर्वक दूध के घौर दूध के पदार्थों के उत्पादन में इसको क्रियान्वित किया है। इसी प्रकार से उनकी टेक्सटाइल के क्षेत्र में भी कपास जरे लेकर बाविग मिल तक के लिए योजना है। उनका योजनाओं पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार कर के अमल किया जाना चाहिए।

उपरोक्त महोदय, आज हमारे किसानों को मजदूत करना पड़ेगा। सी.सी.आई. जो कपास खरीदती है उसको खुले रूप से मार्केट में जा कर किसानों की कपास को खरीदना चाहिए। उसने काफी पैसा कमाया है। इसलिए स. सी.आई. को बिल्कुल नो प्रॉफिट, नो लॉस के बेसिस पर काम करना चाहिए जिससे कि किसानों को लाभ हो सके।

इतना ही मुझे निवेदन करना है।

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I am grateful to the hon. Members who have made their observations while participating in the Demand for Grants concerning the Ministry of Commerce.

Sir, this is the first in the series of the current year. I do appreciate the anxiety of the hon. Members when they look at the figure particularly to the gap on our trade account, which is staggering and the concern which they expressed in regard to the performance of export.

Sir, as I mentioned while replying to the debate on the floor of this House last year export performance depends on the general health of the economy. As a member has correctly pointed out, after all if something is being produced, then it is the responsibility of the salesman to sell it. And the role of the Commerce Minister is that of the salesman to sell the products of the country outside in the world. Therefore, if the production apparatus within domestic economy is not geared up naturally it will have its effect on the Export.

Secondly, Sir, the question which we shall have to take into account is what approach should we have? Unfortunately, the idea was permitted to be injected into the system that we must have sufficient to export. We must have exportable surplus. Here the point I would like to mention is this. In the Indian economy, and in the context in which we are living to-day, with such a huge population and a very big market with capacity to absorb, the concept of exportable surplus is not perhaps very relevant. We have to produce, to meet our demand. At the same time, a part of it must be earmarked for export. Otherwise, if we want to point out that after meeting the domestic demand fully, we can export whatever surplus is left, I would say that we have not reached that stage in the Indian economy. Therefore, export must be a conscious effort, and we must manage the demand and supply in such a

manner, and control our economy in such a fashion that we are in a position to keep our presence felt in the export market. At the same time, we can go on meeting our demand more and more.

I would first like to explain one point to the hon. Members, as most of them have drawn their conclusions from the figures which we have quoted in the Annual Report, and which have been quoted in the Economic Survey. Unfortunately, the system of our information collection and data processing is a little erroneous. The figure which we projected there, relate to the period upto September. And as the hon. Members are well aware, not only was the year 1979-80 a very bad year from the economic point of view ; but even up to the first six months of the calendar year and the first four months of the financial year, upto July 1980, the position was extremely bad. Therefore, if I quote the latest figures which I have, I think the hon. Members should come to this conclusion, viz. keeping in mind the picture depicted in the Economic Survey on the basis of the information which was made available earlier, and the figures which we have now, the picture is not so gloomy. The totality is this : if we take into account the figures from April to January, or April to December, in a large number of items in respect of cases both where our exports have increased, and where our exports have decreased in 1979-80 the total export was for Rs. 3700.99 crores ; and that was the figure on the basis of which I made the projection of our export targets for the current year. Ultimately, this figure of Rs. 3700.99 crores reached the figure of Rs. 6400 odd crores—Rs. 6426 crores or Rs. 6427 crores. That is the ultimate figure, which

was our export performance for 1979-80.

Compared to that, this year's figure for the same period in those items—both in cases where exports have increased, and cases where they have decreased—comes to Rs. 4261.08 crores. And the growth is 15.1%. On that basis, we are optimistic that it will be possible for us to reach the export target figure which we have fixed, viz. Rs. 7100 crores.

Let us look at the movement of the various commodities. In tea there has been a growth of 8.3% in coffee, of 40.4% ; in tobacco—unmanufactured, of 21.7% ; in cashew kernels, of 37.7% ; processed foods, of 51.4%, and of raw cotton, of 250.0%.

Somebody may say : "There are all primary commodities or agricultural commodities. What is your performance in respect of manufactured commodities " Therefore, I am coming to some of the manufactured commodities. In cotton textiles, the growth has been 17.7% ; in jute manufactures, of 34.7%, and in engineering goods, of 30%. These are the bulk commodities. The value which we have projected this year for engineering goods is roughly about Rs. 900 crores.

Somebody may say—and it is very often pointed out "This growth is nothing but inflation. The prices have gone high ; and that is why you have realized more amounts in the form of inflated prices. Therefore, it does not indicate the real position." I would say, it is partly true; it is not fully true. Where the growth is just about 10 to 12 per cent, we can take into account that there has been an

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inflationary reflection in the volume of growth; but where the growth is more than 20 to 25 per cent for 30 per cent, if we say that it is just because in terms of value, perhaps it would not be correct to come to that conclusion. Here I have got some figures where I can indicate that there has been some growth in respect of volume also and there too I will take a few agricultural commodities, a few manufacturing commodities. For instance, take the jute manufacturers. I am taking the figures from April to October. In 1979-80, it was 236.30 thousand tonnes; for the same period, in 1980-81, it is 242.4 thousand tonnes. In terms of value it has gone up from Rs. 143.36 crores to Rs. 193.51 crores. In terms of tea, it was 117.32 million kgs. in 1979-80; in 1980-81, it is 119.95 million kgs. In respect of coffee it was 49.65 thousand tonnes in 1979-80; in 1980-81, it is 17.34 thousand tonnes. Therefore in certain commodities, in respect of both volume and value, there has been an upward trend, but, at the same time, keeping an eye on our requirement and on the international scenario, I would not say that our performance is quite satisfactory. What I can say at a given situation is that we cannot expect to have perhaps the better results than what we have achieved during this year, particularly in the situation in which we allowed ourselves to think in terms of having something to export after meeting the domestic demand fully and that concept of exportable surplus which we allowed, that culture was unfortunately injected into the system which stood in the way of vigorous export promotion.

One point is to be kept in mind while we are considering about export. It is easier for a manufacturer and a producer to sell it in the domestic market because his return and profit is much more. Therefore, if one gives him the option to sell it in the domestic market, definitely, he would not like to go to the international

market where the competition is stiff and the atmosphere is hostile, at least not so friendly, unless he is provided with some sort of incentive—the question of cash assistance and cash subsidy.

Whether our export is highly subsidised or not, I will come to that aspect a little later. But before that I would like to explain the international situation under which we are placed today. Sometimes it has been pointed out that very often we are raising the question of oil. How long are we going to repeat that argument and whether we are utilizing that argument that the rise in the oil prices is a cover to our inefficiency? This is not so. It is not the picture in relation to India alone. According to the information provided by the World Bank about the state of affairs of the oil importing developing countries, I would just give you the figures which will indicate what is a staggering figure we have, so far as our import bill is concerned. It is relating to every oil importing country. In 1973, the total value of the oil import of oil importing developing countries was 7 billion U.S. dollars in 1980, the figure has gone up to 67 billion U.S. dollars—from 7 billion in 1973 to 67 billion in 1980 over a period of 7 years. What is the volume of import? The volume of import in 1973 was 4.6 million barrels per day; and it has increased to 6.2 million barrels per day. If we make a simple arithmetic, we will find that the volume is remaining more or less the same or a little improvement, but the net import bill has gone up from 7 billion U.S. dollars to 67 billion U.S. dollars over a period of 7 years. And what is the current account deficit? It is not merely India. It is so with all oil importing developing countries. In 1973 the total current account deficit was U.S. dollars 6.7 billions. In 1975 from 6.7 it went up to U.S. dollars 39.6 and in 1980 it has gone up to U.S. dollars 61. Therefore, this is the state of affairs.

So far as our export earnings are concerned, hon. Members are fully aware that almost 65 per cent of our total export earnings is being spent on importing petrol and petroleum products alone. Some hon. Members have suggested that we should make serious efforts to reduce our dependence on imports of petrol. This is a matter which should be considered seriously. But if you just look at our total volume of import which is roughly 15 to 16 million tonnes a year, and if we have to reduce, which is the area for reduction? We cannot reduce on dieselisation of our pump sets for irrigation projects; we cannot reduce the import of kerosene oil to provide lighting facilities to 6,00,000 villages; we cannot reduce import of fertilizers if we want to maintain our agricultural production. We cannot reduce on our necessities so far as transport is concerned. You can say that we can reduce our consumption on personalised transportation. I have calculated it is not even five per cent. And India has the go over the volume of the total import order or stock order, compared to many other countries but so far as petrol consumption is concerned India has one of the lowest per capita consumption of petrol and petroleum products. Therefore, the international situation and the problems of the developing countries are not so easy and comfortable. Someone has asked why our shares are going down. It is not only our shares that are going down. Shares of any of the developing countries are going down. And in fact, according to the Report of the GATT the Volume of the growth in international trade was almost half compared to that of last year. In 1980 it is almost half compared to that of 1979. And both the developing countries and the developed countries are having problem. Their problem is to restriction to enter into the market of the developed countries. The developed countries have the problem of recession, they have the problem of demand constraint and inflation and the developed countries have the capabilities

and capacities to transfer their problems to the developing countries. They have the advantages, because even if you take the recycling of petrodollars which comes to a huge amount of money it is the developed countries who have the advantages and they are in an advantageous position. And it is known to hon. Members, particularly Mr. Goel, who was making his observations, he is aware of the problem. He was a Minister in this Ministry itself.

In every international forum, be it at the UNCTAD, be it the UNCTAD III at Delhi, or be it the Tokyo round of discussions in almost all international fora we have been trying to impress upon the developed countries that they should restructure and they must provide facilities to the developing countries in areas where they have developed the appropriate technology. We have pointed out that a developing country like India is not going to export sophisticated items like jets. We have the comparative advantage in textiles, we have the comparative advantage in certain products like those where we have the appropriate technology where we are in a competitive position and even in respect of these items the market is restricted to us. It will be very difficult for the developing countries to earn the requisite foreign exchange not merely by selling their goods but they cannot import the necessary technology, they cannot import the necessary inputs raw material, machinery and equipment which are absolutely necessary for the industrial development of the country. This battle is going on. The North-South dialogue has failed. The special session of the UN Assembly which was meant to evolve the strategy for the current decade could not materialise. But it should not be pointed out that we should give up all hopes or we should not try. We are making our efforts and I hope it will be possible for us over a period

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of years and by sustained efforts to convince them and to impress this upon them.

Coming to the domestic situation, as I have already pointed out, keeping this huge trade gap in view, what type of strategy can we contemplate? I do agree with certain hon. members when they have suggested that we must look at the import figures and see whether we can reduce our dependence on imports in certain non-essential areas. So, our strategy would be, in certain areas where we have the capacity, fullest emphasis should be laid on utilisation of capacities which have been created. If we can utilise the capacities to the fullest extent, it would be possible for us to meet our requirements to a considerable extent. Take the case of aluminium. We have the capacity of producing nearly 300,000 tonnes and our requirement at the present level of consumption is more or less the same. But unfortunately, last year we produced only 192,000 tonnes. This year the production may be about 200,000 tonnes or a little more. Therefore, there is a gap of nearly 100,000 tonnes and we have to import it. Same is the case with cement. Same is the case with steel.

Certain infrastructural constraints which stood in the way of greater utilisation of capacities fortunately have been taken care of and from September onwards, things have started improving. Particularly in respect of one of my own Ministries, as hon. members are aware, because of infrastructural constraints, we were not in a position to produce steel. If we just look at the steel production figures from April to September, the average monthly production was just 300,000 tonnes. From October onwards, the production picked up and as a result it would be possible for us to produce more. If the constraints would have continued, this year's production would have been a hundred million tonnes less than that of last year. But because of the improvement in the situation in regard to

availability of power and availability of coal, it may be possible for us to increase the production a little more from the level of the last year. Same is the case with many other industries. Therefore, we do hope that it may be possible for us to reduce our imports in certain areas where we have created capacity, by greater utilisation of that capacity.

Many hon. members have pointed out about edible oil and asked, why can't you do it? In fact, we wanted to reduce the import of edible oil. One hon. member quoted some figure; would not like to go into it. But in 1977-78 we took a very easy position, as at that time there was no constraint of foreign exchange and we thought that perhaps it would be easier for us to import edible oil by spending some foreign exchange. I would not mind a liberalised import policy which can widen our production base, which can help rapid industrialisation. I do not mind importing sophisticated technology, which we do not have. I do not mind importing critical inputs and raw materials which can strengthen my own production base. But definitely we must have a fresh look whether, taking advantage of the liberalised import policy, we can permit the import of those commodities which are not absolutely necessary for enlarging and expanding the economic activities of the country. I can assure hon. members that when the new import-export policy would be announced, many of the suggestions which hon. members have made will be taken into account.

AN HON. MEMBER : By what date ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Usual date. Surely I am not going to make you April Fool !

Coming to the general strategy of various policy measures which have been taken and their impact, some hon. members have pointed out that we have given a series of concessions to the exporters. Sometimes it has



been pointed out that export is going to be a pampered child. My submission is that export is not a pampered child.

Export is an absolute necessity. It is necessary for us to meet our debt services. It is necessary for us to enable us to import the essential raw materials, technology, inputs to widen our production base. At the same time it is necessary to create a situation in which our products are in a position to compete. Is our export highly subsidised? Very often this argument is played up that you are highly subsidising your exports. Unfortunately, sometimes, this argument is quoted against us particularly by those countries which want to impose counters voiling duty. Particularly in the USA they have been saying that in the Indian Parliament many of the Members have said that their exports are highly subsidised. If you just look at the volume of export and the amount which we spend on cash compensatory support you will find that it is not highly subsidised. Even then we make a regular review. As a result of the last year's review we have reduced or abolished cash compensatory support in 75 items. But we have to neutralise the tax element and incidence of direct and indirect taxes so that our goods become competitive in the world market. We are a signatory to the GATT agreement against subsidies and against dumping. Therefore, the countries which cannot compete with us, will not permit our products to be highly subsidised. In a few cases, particularly in the textile case, the United States Government took this position that your textile items were highly subsidised. We contested and ultimately we won the case. In certain cases we have referred the matter to the GATT and in due course, our view point will be strengthened. But what is needed to make our goods competitive and to see that our goods could find access to the foreign markets, is to provide the necessary support to them.

Coming to certain specific subjects which the hon. Members have mentioned particularly in regard to the textile policy which we have announced naturally some hon. Members have made their observations. In regard to handloom I would not like to discuss anything because my colleague, the Minister of State, Shri Khursheed Alam Khan, yesterday spelt out in detail the policies and programmes which we are going to have.

Textile is a very important sector not only for export purposes but also to meet our cloth requirement. I now come to the unfortunate policy which was adopted by the earlier Government in 1978. In fact, this morning, I was going through, the speech's of Mr. George Fernandes, who was the father of that Scheme, and I cared to find as to what prompted him to evolve that policy which put a blanket ban on the expansion of the organised sector. Then I found a very interesting passage about that new textile policy where he said that he would replace machine by hand. There is no objection. He can give maximum mileage to the handloom sector. But still there is a limit. If your total cloth requirement is 36,000 million metres by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan, can anybody say that these 36,000 million metres would be produced in the handloom sector alone?

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:**  
Yes.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:**  
No. Even if you produce it, what would be the cost, who will be able to purchase it? If you subsidise it, from where the money will come? It is not going to come either from my pocket or from Mr. Paswan's Pocket or Mr. Venkataraman's pocket. We will have to take it from the people and then we will have to subsidise one section of the economy. Therefore, in the new policy which I have announced have kept the predominant role of the handloom sector. 40 per cent of the growth is envisaged for the handloom sector

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At the same time, I have made certain changes on power looms. Some hon. Member has pointed out that there should be a review; I agree. We created a situation...

**AN HON. MEMBER :** What about a national wage policy for handloom weavers ?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE :** I am coming to that. You cannot have a national wage policy in respect of one sector, unless you take a totally comprehensive view.

So far as powerloom is concerned, we took a peculiar position, like the ostrich, keeping our nose and eyes sunk in the sand, thinking nobody is seeing us, because we cannot see anybody. Powerloom very much exists, but we did not impose any duty. At one point of time—perhaps, Shri Satish Agarwal would have seen the file—even the excise levy was not realised from the powerloom. Therefore, the growth of powerlooms was just like mushroom.

I do appreciate the stand taken by the earlier Government, by recognising this powerloom. What have I done? I have tended the policy to its logical conclusion, that all the powerlooms which have come to exist should be regularised, should be recognised, and they should be brought under some sort of control. At the same time, I have recognised the fact that at least five per cent growth should be permitted there.

There too we have taken into account that powerlooms do not stand in the way of expansion of handlooms. Therefore, in the new policy I have pointed out that these handlooms which would like to graduate themselves to powerlooms, will be given preference, and in the five per cent of growth that has been visualized, they will be given additional looms, so far as powerlooms are concerned.

In respect of the organised sector, unless we modernise them, it would not be possible for us to see that we can compete in export. For that we have to improve our quality. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to have some sort of expansion. I cannot permit them any blanket expansion, but expansion which is necessary for export, expansion which is necessary for modernisation. If you do not recognise this fact, you may have a particular philosophy or a particular ideology, but it would not ultimately help the economy. That is why we have to change the policy and make certain changes, which we do feel are absolutely necessary, in conformity with the objectives which we have before us.

Shri Goyal has very correctly pointed out, as some of the producing countries are trying to build up better relations in respect of certain commodities, why should we not try to do so. He has specifically mentioned jute and our relations with Bangladesh. Perhaps, he would appreciate that we are very much interested in having better relations in respect of certain commodities which we produce, so that we can realise better prices through collective—I would not use collective bargaining, so I would say—collective efforts in the international market so that there will be better prices and better realisation. But, there too we shall have to keep in mind the reality. Just take the example of jute. Our total export earnings from jute is roughly about five per cent. The export earnings of Bangladesh from jute is nearly 95 per cent. So, can there be any comparable point? At any price Bangladesh is bound to sell its produce. Also, Bangladesh will have its advantages, because there is no minimum price there. For the growers there is no minimum price; for the export also there is no minimum price.

I cannot create a situation in which resources will be transferred from a poor country to a rich

country. Whatever be the necessity for export earnings, whatever be the compulsion of export, I cannot create a situation when I will sell away my goods at a throw-away price and in that process, create a situation in which net resources will be transferred from a poor country to a rich country. So, I have fixed a minimum price both for growers and for export. Therefore, I am in a disadvantageous position. But, in spite of that, we are trying our best. As hon. Members are aware, we are going to have a meeting of the jute-producing countries, where we can evolve some arrangement, through which we can operate jointly.

In respect of tea, hon. Members would be happy to know that we have made some progress and some advance has been made in the right direction. Two or three meetings have taken place and I hope it will be possible for us to enter into some sort of arrangement.

One thing which has got to be kept in mind is that the producers of these commodities are the least developed countries, or the developing countries. So, in certain commodities their stake is very high. Therefore, it will not be possible to have a common stand. For instance, somebody was saying that there should be control on produce of tea. I am in a position to control production in tea because I can compensate in certain other items. Somebody asked that 'you don't produce tea and you don't export more tea.' I could not have accepted that position. Similarly, certain countries may have this position with the various levels of development and export R&D mechanism. So, we shall have to take into account those factors and through that we shall try to evolve a mechanism through which we can build up better understanding and try to sell our products in a better manner.

In respect of jute and tea Mr. Subodh Sen has made certain observations. Many times I have said that I am not quite happy with the performance of the Jute Corporation of India. But it is of no use whipping the dead horse because the situation was not created by me. The situation was created not because of me, but in spite of me. When I have had to inherit the administration and when I looked into the functioning of the Jute Corporation of India, I found that they are loaded with 16 lakh bales of jute, of which even one ounce they could not dispose of in two years, 1978 and 1979. Therefore, in 1980 I had to dispose of the accumulated old stock, and at the same time I had to procure a little bit and the procurement of the Jute Corporation last year was 10.25 lakh bales. Compared to their past performance, it is a little better. It may not be up to our satisfaction but compared to their past performance, it is a little better, and they have been able to dispose of 10 to 12 lakh bales and with the arrangements which we have made, I hope it would be possible for them to dispose of 6 to 7 lakh bales additionally, and if they are free from the old stock, it would be possible for them to go in a bigger way in the market in the coming season and they can operate to the tune of 20 to 25 lakh bales. Unless the total production is roughly 80 to 82 lakh bales and unless they are in a position to have control of  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the total production, it would not be possible to give substantial relief to the growers whatever we may think of. But still I agree with the suggestion of the West Bengal Government when they suggested to us that they will issue certificates to the growers and we will purchase jute from the growers on the basis of certificates or some sort of identity cards or the like which they will give, and we can improve that procedure.

In respect of the industry, as the hon. members are aware, we have taken control of at least 10 per cent

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of the industry by nationalising the sick jute mills. Sometimes suggestions come stating 'why do you take over the sick mills only, why not the healthy mills?' I will be very glad to take over the healthy mills, but at the same time perhaps the hon. Members are well aware that in respect of one case when some healthy textile mills were taken over by the Government, the Supreme Court had given the decision that even if we take over straightway, we shall have to give the reasonable opportunity of being heard to the owner of the company. Can you take over a single unit after giving the reasonable chance of being heard to the owner? He will dispose of everything. But unfortunately this has come and we are confronted with a problem like that.

So far as the other jute mills are concerned as the hon. Members are aware, we are not permitting the private individuals to have the jute mills, we have given, rather we have addressed certain State Governments that we are going to have some new jute mills particularly in Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya and all those will be in the public sector.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-  
GRAHI : Orissa also?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:  
In Orissa we are already having one.

In respect of certain commodities particularly, the Members from Kerala have expressed their views. Those items have also been discussed a number of times. In respect of rubber, perhaps the hon. Members would appreciate that because of our policy this time, rubber growers got a good price and the price which is prevailing in the market is roughly about Rs. 1300 to Rs. 1400. But the minimum support price is Rs. 825, and I agree with their views, but at the same time they shall have to keep in mind that if the total production is 150,000 tonnes and if the re-

quirement in the industry is 170,000 tonnes, there must be some mechanism to bridge the gap.

I produce 1,70,000 tonnes. If I take a decision that I am having 1,60,000 tonnes, whatever be the requirement, I will not import, I think that is not a very sound policy. That is why we are having a limited import.

Some hon. Members wanted to know that you have imported 10,000 tonnes and you have allocated only 8,000 tonnes. I have got the figures. I have checked it up that 6,000 tonnes have been allocated, 6,000 and odd tonnes have already been lifted and rest will be lifted. We are monitoring. The situation with which we were confronted some time back will not be repeated. I am keeping an eye on that. I am monitoring the whole thing. Whatever is absolutely necessary to meet the requirement of industry, I am going in for that. I am not going beyond that.

In respect of cashew nuts, the problem is such, practically I am afraid, I do not know what to do. The industry is suffering. I asked the Kerala State Corporation also that if you can import, you import it. They have not been able to import. My own Cashew Corporation has not been able to import. Private parties are in a position. But as the hon. Members will appreciate, both the Kerala Government and the Members of Parliament do not want the private parties to be permitted to import. I have not permitted them. As I have given word on the floor of the House, I will not permit private parties to import cashew nuts, I have not permitted them. But the fact remains most of the units cannot operate fully simply because it is not available. If anybody can suggest that he can bring, any public sector corporation can bring it may be my own or it may be of Kerala Government, I am prepared to permit. Bring it and feed your unit.

**PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** If the private parties say that they can import. Why not C.C.I. import from the same source ?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE :** It is for various obvious reasons. Private parties may have contacts and they may bring 5000 tonnes and after that their job is over. Your requirement is 1,20,000 tonnes. They bring from various odd sources. They have their own way of operation. You will not permit public sector corporation to do that.

**SHRI B. K. NAIR :** Kerala Corporation have been permitted.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE :** I have permitted Kerala Corporation. I have told them that if you can bring it, bring it, presuming my own public sector corporation is inefficient and they cannot do it. Almost eight or nine months back I told the Kerala Government that I am permitting your own Corporation to import cashew if you can do it, do it and feed your own units. I do appreciate that large number of people are not getting jobs because raw material is not available.

**SHRI B. K. NAIR :** They have complained that you are confining permission to non-traditional areas only. Is there any ban on traditional areas ?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE :** If they have procured from traditional areas or non-traditional areas we can consider. Whatever permission they wanted, I have permitted. It is no use having a permit. It is one of bringing in the goods. Upto now they have not been able to bring any goods.

It will take time where we can be self-sufficient in respect of cashew nuts, edible oils. In respect of edible oils I informed the hon. Members, even in the Plan document it has been

made clear that we cannot go on to import one million tonnes edible oils from various countries and spend foreign exchange. Therefore, we must create situation in which we can produce. It is not difficult for us. Our growers and farmer have shown that they are capable of producing. Hon. members will appreciate that in a short span of eleven years, 1966 to 1977 our total foodgrain production went up twice from 65 million tonnes to 127 million tonnes—only wheat and rice together. I am not taking into account other cereals. Therefore, the Indian growers and farmers are in a position to produce. India was a net importer of foodgrains even in 1970. If I remember correctly in 1974 we have to import certain wheat. Today whatever it may be, India Food Minister and Commerce Minister can say, I am in a position to export one million tonnes of rice or foodgrain. It is possible. Therefore, if we can make a break through in respect of food, we can make a break through in respect of edible oils. Appropriate steps have been taken. Due emphasis has been laid and I hope it will fructify.

Certain points have been raised and you, Sir, will appreciate that the hon. Members have made their observations for nearly five hours and I cannot cover all the points which they have mentioned. But, at the same time, they should not have a feeling that they will not receive our due consideration. Whatever suggestions the hon. Members have made, I will take them into account even if I am not in a position to respond to them immediately, particularly, Mr. Nair, who is just sitting behind me and who raised the question of bonus to Rubber Board employees. There is one problem about the employees of the commodity boards. We shall have to take a view in totality. That is why it has taken certain time and we shall have to see what we can do for them. I

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have not been able to cover many points and, I hope, the hon. Members will not mind it.

With these words, I request the hon. Members to withdraw their cut motions and to approve the demand.

**SHRI SUBODH SEN:** (Jalpaiguri) : Will the hon. Minister reply to one point? Would he please take some steps to stop the machinations of big traders in tea trading who are often found to bring down the prices in tea auction sales thereby causing suffering to small and medium producers?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:** We have accepted the recommendations of the Tandon Commission and we are monitoring. But here, I would like to request the hon. Member to impress upon his State Government, the State Finance Minister to see that they do not impose unnecessary levy on tea.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** If the House agrees, I shall put all the cut motions moved to the demands for grants of the Ministry of Commerce together.

**AN HON. MEMBER :** Yes.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** I put them together to the vote of the House.

*Cut motions Nos. 1, 3, 4, 13 to 30, 33 to 90 and 98 to 132 were put and negatived.*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Commerce to vote.

The question is :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1982, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 11 to 13 relating to the Ministry of Commerce.”

*The motions was adopted.*

*Demands for Grants, 1981-82 in respect of the Ministry of Commerce Voted by Lok Sabha.*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 13-3-1981		Amount of Demand for Grant Voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
<b>MINISTRY OF COMMERCE</b>					
11	Ministry of Commerce	32,52,000	..	1,52,60,000	..
12	Foreign Trade and Export Production	76,66,09,000	10,39,67,000	383,30,44,000	51,98,33,000
13	Textiles, Handloom and Handicrafts	53,40,34,000	8,40,33,000	88,01,71,000	42,01,62,000

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :** The demands relating to the Ministry of Commerce are passed.

The House stands adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at 11 A.M.

GMGIPND—L-43 LS—24-6-81—890

**18.13 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 25, 1981/Chaitra 4, 1903 (Saka).*