

sector built up with so much effort by the nation under the leadership of late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

(v) **REPORTED FUNCTIONING OF TEXTILE EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad, that the hon. Minister, Shri Mohan Dharis, is present in the House. I am raising a very important issue, with your permission.

The Textile Export Promotion Council with its unhelpful attitude is leading to the devastation of the whole garment industry in India. It is a well known fact that a large part of the garment industry is coming under the small scale sector while, unfortunately, a few of them are in the grip of the monopoly houses, like, Binnys, Shaw Wallace, etc.

To look at the prospects of garments exports from India to other parts of the world, one has to go the very root of the raw material, viz. various types of fabrics used by the garment industry. Major items are prepared from the fabrics manufactured from the handloom sector and we may even say that the 'Bleeding Madras' variety has given way to crepe and other Madras checks. The export of garments as such naturally leads to the prosperity of the handloom sector, more so, in the way of giving employment to innumerable people.

The Textile Export Promotion Council which has been assigned the role of looking into the welfare of the small sector has turned into a profit making body; one of the leading papers published some time back an article on the misuse of Texprocil, buying the properties on the market value and selling them to their own people at the book value. Perhaps no action whatsoever has been taken on this malpractice.

Many unhealthy practices adopted by the Texprocil have come to light through the ready-made garment manufacturers/exporters when the misuse of quota was brought to the notice of the authorities concerned. The quota has been cornered by the big business exporters with the result those people who had orders were unable to execute. This lead to losing the image of some of the well known manufacturers/exporters of ready-made garments. The mere announcement by the Commerce Minister that an enquiry will take place into these dealing led to the resignation of the two top officials of the Texprocil and the Government has not taken any step to enquire into the matter. In one of the letters written to the Editor of Economic Times dated May 28, 1977 it has been pointed out that the Indian shippers have been unethical in sending the garments under false declaration as handloom. If proper care was taken by Texprocil and the inspecting authorities to check the origin of the fabrics before necessary certificates were issued, such a pitiable state of affairs would have been avoided. Texprocil naturally failed to play its role by not giving proper definitions with regard to the fabrics/garments to be exported.

Adding to the above, one is much annoyed with the further developments that have taken place. The Indo-U.S. Agreement accorded a special status to handloom fabrics. But once again the misinterpretation of the Agreement's provisions by the Texprocil has led to the piling of stocks in U.S. As stated in the Economic Times of July 24, 1978, "The U.S. Customs impounded the 14 million yards shipments on the ground that India had already exhausted its quota limit in the first five months of this year." It is indeed a serious lapse on the part of the Texprocil to have given such misinterpretations which led to the decrease in export; since the time of "impounding" no further

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

orders could have been booked. It is high time that this bureaucratic attitude of Texprocil should be stopped and unless and until the Government frames rules and regulations with the main intention of increasing the exports, India may have to face a serious situation when its textile exports themselves will come to a complete halt. Further, to infuse confidence in the heart of small scale industries, viz., the garment manufacturing units who were a pawn in the chess board of Texprocil, the Government should immediately appoint a Committee to investigate into the acts of Texprocil and take action against those officials, even if they resign, if they are found guilty. This is the only way in which the Export Promotion Councils could be made to play a constructive role. The act of Texprocil has led to the closure of quite a lot of garment manufacturing units, thereby leading to the unemployment problem.

The history of Texprocil may be taken as the history of ruining the small-scale industries in India pertaining to the ready-made garments and it is indeed surprising that no action, whatsoever, has been taken by the Government to go into these details and to punish the guilty.

I would request the hon. Minister, Shri Mohan Dharla, who is for taking up socialist programmes and policies should come out with a bold statement to do the needful in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2.05 PM.

13.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Seven Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

CONSTITUTION (FORTY-FIFTH AMENDMENT) BILL—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up further consideration of the Constitution (Forty-fifth Amendment) Bill. Prof. Mavalankar. You have already taken 13 minutes.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): The time should be extended.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We had allotted ten hours for the General Discussion.

श्री उपसेन (रेवरीया) प्राप समय नियत कर बीजिए कि प्रति व्यक्ति को इतना समय मिलेगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय प्राप जरा जान्त हो जाइए, अपनी ही बात कहने में मल्ल न हो, मैं बना रहा हूँ। इस पर डिस्कशन के लिए 10 बटे दिए गए थे। 4 बटे 45 मिनट हो चुके हैं और अभी 5 बटे 15 मिनट बाकी हैं। मेरा सुझाव यह है कि—यूँकि आज जो समय को डिस्कशन होना था 6 बजे से 8 बजे तक, वह पोस्टपोन हो रहा है—हम लोग वह टाइम इस कांस्टीट्यूशन (एमेंडमेंट) बिल पर ले लें, तो दो बटे और मिल जाते हैं। .. (व्यवधान)

श्री यमुना प्रभाव मास्त्री (रीबा) मेरा कहना यह है कि यह जो समय प्राप बढ़ा रहे हैं, इस समय को और अधिक बढ़ाया जाए क्योंकि यह सविधान (संको-धन) बिल का मामला है और इस पर बहुत से लोग बोलना चाहेंगे और अपनी राय देना चाहेंगे। 10 बटे का जो समय है, इसको काफी अधिक बढ़ाया जाए।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय . इसीलिए तो 12 बटे हो रहे हैं।

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): So, the total will be twelve hours?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It will be just twelve hours because we had allotted ten hours. Now we will be