

[Shri K. Anusudhan]

you are going to build a strong India without making use of the available material. The major material available is the potential manpower, but that manpower is loitering here and there throughout India.

I come from Kerala. You always say it is a problem State. What is the problem there? I know that the majority of our men and women there, are loitering, idling, they do not have any work there. I understand that more than 4 lakhs of able-bodied, educated un-employed are between the ages of 18 and 25, are idling their time. They have school leaving certificates, matriculation and intermediate certificates, some are graduates and double graduates. There are 400 engineering degree holders who are wandering in the streets without jobs for the past two years, mind you. (Interruptions) If that gentleman is interested in more information regarding that, I will arrange for that.

So in my State, more than 400 engineering graduates are wandering in the streets without jobs. That is the present situation in India. After producing engineers, doctors, and other degreeholders, you say one fine morning that we are going to introduce automation. For what purpose? I cannot understand.

The hon. Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, six or seven months ago wrote to one of his friends, and the photostat of those letters is now with my hon. friend Shri Indrajit Gupta. He says that he had no idea of the implementation of this automation. When it is a case of Khadi and Gramodyog Bhavans, you are advocating their cause to get something out of them. On the other hand, LIC employees and those working in factories are being thrown out of employment, though you say you are not going to do so.

So, I cannot agree with this. So, if you want to build a strong India as you say, you should realise that the main potential is our unemployed people. You should realise why so many of our educated people remain

unemployed. So, Sir, I cannot agree with his arguments and I am pressing this Resolution.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Shall I lay this on the Table of the House? I was not told whether Mr. Desai repudiates these views? Now then do we know whether he adheres to these views or not? I shall lay it on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I shall put the amendments to vote.

17.25 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Mr. Speaker: I shall put all the amendments together.

The amendments were put and negatived.

Mr. Speaker: I shall put the Resolution to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"This House is of opinion that the Government should take immediate steps to ban automation in LIC, oil companies and other public and private sector companies."

The Resolution was negatived.

Shri Nambiar: They had it their way but temporarily. We will have it our way finally. We are going to sit there.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Esthose may move his resolution now.

17.26 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: CRISIS IN
TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Shri P. P. Esthose (Muvattupuzha):
Sir, I move:

"In view of the crisis in textile industry resulting in continued closure of mills and large scale unemployment of weavers, this House recommends to the Government to take over all the closed mills immediately".

Mr. Speaker: Are the amendments also moved?

Shri Umasathi (Pudukkottai): Sir, I move my amendment No. 1

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

“and re-employ all the retrenched workers on continuity of service and prior service conditions”. (1)

Shri Yashpal Singh (Dehra Dun):
Sir, I move my amendment No. 2
That in the resolution,—

for “to take over all the closed mills immediately” substitute—

“either to take over all the closed mills or hand them over to co-operatives of the workers employed in these mills.” (2)

Shri K. Ramani (Coimbatore): Sir,
I move my amendment No. 3.

That in the resolution,—

after closure of mills” insert—

“partial closure of mills, non-payment of wages to workers, non-payment of Employees’ State Insurance and Provident Fund contributions by mills to Government.” (3)

Shri P. P. Esthose: My resolution invites the attention of the House to an important problem which faces the handloom weavers and textile workers in this country. The Textile industry to day has been engulfed in a deep crisis and no improvement whatsoever is in sight. The oldest manufacturing and a leading export oriented industry in India is now pleading for relief from the Government.

The year 1966 witnessed sharp fall in the production of both yarn and cloth. The total output of yarn is estimated at 900 million Kg, against the 939 million Kg, spun in 1965 and 965 in 1964. Similarly the production of cloth is estimated at 424 crore metres, compared to 459 crore metres, in 1965 and 465 crore metres in 1964. The industry has now come to such a pass that the current level of production is no more than the beginning of the plan.

During 1966 there has been considerable decline in the machine activity. During first Nine months in 1965, 13, 484 million thousand spindles were

operating in the first shift all over the country which went down to 13,176 million thousand during the corresponding period in 1966. Similar drop was observed in second and third shifts also.

with regard to the actual working looms the position was equally bad in 1966. During the first Nine months in 1965, 1,86,392 looms were in operation which came down to 1,81,363 during the corresponding period in 1966.

The total number of workers employed in the industry during the months of January to August 1966 was 7,83,000; So, it was about 8, 34,000 in 1965, that is, a decline of 50,000 in a period of one year. The conditions have become still worse during the first three months of 1967. The cotton mill industry in India provides direct employment to nine lakhs out of the 45 lakh of industrial workers. The employment provided by handlooms and power looms is estimated to be between three million to six million. The 20 million acres which are under cotton should be sustaining five to six million growers. If we throw in the employment provided by the textile machinery manufacturing industry, the mill store manufacturing industry, the manufacture of textile chemicals and ancillaries, the total employment would be roughly about 20 million people.

There are 600 mills in India with an installed capacity of over 16 million spindles and 2,07,000 looms. The turnover of mills comprises Rs. 500 crores of cloth and Rs. 250 crores of yarn. Therefore, this crisis is bound to cause concern among a large section of the people.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member can continue his speech next time.

17.33 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—