

Shri G. S. Pathak: So far as Jammu and Kashmir State is concerned, a question was asked whether some seats would be reserved for the Pakistan-occupied areas. This question has been raised here repeatedly and I have pointed out that under our Constitution under which parliamentary elections will take place, such a thing is not possible (Interruptions).

12.00 hrs.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या सरकार इस्तीफा देगी या नहीं ?

श्री गुलशन : पंजाब के बारे में कुछ नहीं बताया गया है ।

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There have been other suggestions also which might be considered by the Government in all their details.

श्री हुकूम खन् बख्शबाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जम्मू-काश्मीर के कई हजार लोगों को मत देने का अधिकार नहीं है । मंत्री महोदय ने उस के बारे में नहीं बताया है ।

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दफा 144 का जहाँ तक ताल्लुक है,

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Bagri would kindly resume his seat.

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दफा 144 के बारे में इन्क्वायरी कमीशन क्या करेगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि गवर्नमेंट उस को कन्सिडर करेगी ।

श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) मंत्री महोदय ने "अनफोरसीन कान्ट्रिजेंसीज" के बारे में कोई जानकारी नहीं दी है । वह बहुत जल्दुरी है । इस के पीछे क्या रहस्य है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : इसके पीछे रहस्य है ।

Shri G. S. Pathak: I shall mention it. Unforeseen circumstances are those which are mentioned in, for example, section 57 of the Representation of the People Act, ballot box may be removed or something destroyed and so on. They are already mentioned in the Act itself. There are no unforeseen circumstances which are outside that.

12.02 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. FOOD AID FROM CANADA

The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri C. Subramaniam): I am happy to inform the House that the Government of Canada have announced their intention to offer food aid to the Government of India of \$21 million during the current Canadian fiscal year ending 31st March, 1967 and further aid of \$50 million during the next fiscal year beginning 1st April, 1967. The provision of these funds would enable the supply of about 900,000 tonnes of Canadian wheat and would be of very great help to us in meeting the difficult food situation during the coming months. I would like to convey on behalf of the Government of India our gratitude to the Canadian Government for this generous and timely assistance to tide over this difficult period.

12.03 hrs.

QUESTIONS ON STATEMENT RE: RAW COTTON SUPPLY POSITION

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Madhu Limaye.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Our names are there.

Mr. Speaker: I will call them if their names are there.

श्री मधु लिमये : (मुंबई) अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने अपने बयान में कहा है कि द्रह दिन के लिए जो मिलें बन्द होने जा रही थी, उस को उन्होंने रोका है और अब मिलों को सप्ताह में एक दफा बन्द किया जायेगा। मंत्री महोदय ने यह नहीं बताया है कि वह कितने सप्ताहों के अन्दर रूई के बारे में स्थिति को सुधारने की उम्मीद रखते हैं, नहीं तो ऐसे 53 दिन बन जायेंगे। इस लिए मैं इसका खुलासा चाहता हूँ।

उन्होंने पृष्ठ तीन पर कहा है कि मिल वालों ने कहा था कि नियंत्रित कपड़े के दाम बढ़ाये जायें और उन्होंने कहा कि यह नहीं हो सकता है —

"There will thus be no increase in the price of controlled categories of cloth of mass consumption."

लेकिन इसके साथ साथ क्या मंत्री महोदय इस पर भी ठोसनी डालेंगे कि जो अनियंत्रित कपड़ा है, जिसके दामों की वृद्धि के बारे में मैंने कई दफा पूछा है, उस में कितनी वृद्धि होने जा रही है ?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): Regarding the first part of the question, it is not possible to precisely forecast how long the extra lay-off day will be necessary but as I have said in the concluding portion of my statement, it is our hope that as soon as the arrivals of the cotton crop improve in the coming few weeks, we shall again review the situation. The firm intention of the Government is to have as few closed days as possible.

Regarding the second part of the question regarding non-controlled cloth, we have no machinery, barring keeping a broad vigilance, to control the price of that factor of the economy which is not under statutory control.

Therefore, I can assure the House that as regards controlled cloth of mass consumption, there shall be no price increase.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta South West): The statement has emphasised the fact that the ceiling price of cotton is going to be raised by 5 per cent. May I know whether the beneficiaries of this increase will be the growers? If that is so, it is understandable. But if this 5 per cent increase is also to be given to those big cotton traders who hold huge stocks of cotton which they had previously acquired what is the purpose except to allow them to make profits?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Generally, the benefit will go to the grower; the new crop has still not passed into the hands of the trader as the hon. Member has apprehended; the crop is still coming from the ground to the towns and then will pass on to the traders. That is why there is the present crisis. If cotton has actually been coming out, things would not have been as difficult as they are today. The present price benefit will pass on mostly to the growers.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member has also asked about those who had already got stocks and are withholding them.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Very little stock is there. If there were such stocks, we would have requisitioned them.

श्री बड़े (खारगोन) : कल और परसों के समाचारपत्रों में श्री कुतकर्णी का यह स्टेटमेंट छपा है :

"The scarcity of cotton is like the wolf cry when there is not even a lamb."

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने कपास के भावों की जो सीलिंग प्राइस

निश्चित की है, क्या उस का इरादा उस को हटाने का है। कपास मार्केट में घाना बन्द हो गया है। काटन मिल वालों की तरफ से कपास की प्राइस को लोअर, कम करने की कांशिंग हो रही है।

Shri Manubhai Shah: The first part of the statement is totally incorrect that neither the wolf nor the lamb is there. The situation is difficult. As for the second part, the derived price of kapas is already known to the growing and other regions and even today the derived price of kapas is higher than the normal ceiling price.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Anand): In a government publication on the requirements of raw cotton for the textile industry, it is stated that the yield per acre in India is one of the lowest in the world; between 1960-61 and 1963-64 the yield per acre in India has gone up by only ten lbs. whereas the increase in the same period in Pakistan, UAR and the United States as has been 46 lbs., 34, lbs. and 71 lbs. respectively. What are the reasons for the low yield and what steps are proposed to be taken to increase the yield?

Shri Manubhai Shah: My colleague the Minister of Food and Agriculture is attending to that suggestion and we hope that the lasting solution to India's cotton problem is in the direction which the hon. Member has indicated.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchurapalli): May I know whether the Government are aware that the workmen are to lose a part of their wages due to the lay-off every day in a week and whether the Government would exert pressure to see that the workmen who lose their wages would be compensated by subsidy from the management or from other sources?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is no possibility of any subsidy and the sacrifice has to evenly spread. Instead of too many closures in each

region and for long periods or reducing the spindles and looms which will cause unemployment to lakhs of workers, this is the minimum hardship which should be borne.

श्री बे० शि० पाटिल (यवतमाल) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इम विभाग में विचार की गंगा उल्टी बहती है। सूती कपड़े की समस्या को हल करने के लिए यह कदम उठाया गया है, किसानों को अपने उत्पादन की उचित कीमत देने के लिए नहीं। कपास की कीमत तीन चार महीनों से सीलिंग प्राइस से बारह, पंद्रह प्रतिशत ज्यादा है। इसका फायदा व्यापारियों ने उठाया है। आज किसान का कपास मार्केट में घा रहा है और मिल मालिक और व्यापारी अधिकतम मूल्य पर यानी 15 प्रतिशत ज्यादा पर, माल लेने के लिए तैयार है। सिर्फ किसान ही है, जिन के माल की सीलिंग प्राइस फिक्स की जाती है। जवार की बात हो, कपास की बात हो...

अध्यक्ष महोदय अब आप सवाल करिए।

श्री बे० शि० पाटिल : उसकी सीलिंग प्राइस कब फिक्स की गई थी और प्रति एकड़ उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए क्या मंत्री महोदय बुनाई के पहले, यानी मौसम से पहले यह सीलिंग प्राइस बढ़ाने का विचार कर रहे हैं क्योंकि इम्पोर्टिंग काटन आजकल जो है उसकी प्राइस बहुत ज्यादा है।

Shri Manubhai Shah: May I say this? We have revised the ceiling price of cotton upward three times in a very substantial manner in the last five years. Today, the price of cotton at the appropriate ceiling is practically touching the roof of the world; it is higher than the cost of production or the price of cotton in any country anywhere in the world. Even in spite of that, our sympathy for the growers was always there. Therefore, we announced the ceiling price at the beginning of the season. This is an extraordinary step which

[Shri Manubhai Shah]

we have taken for the first time in the last 20 years, when, in the middle of the season, in order to see that there is parity between what is available in the market and what the growers should get, the Government have agreed to raise the ceiling by five per cent.

श्री हुकम चन्व कछुवाय : (देवास) : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि जब काश्तकारों से कपास लिया जाता है तो जो घटिया किस्म का है वह कम दामों में लिया जाता है और उसी कपास को लाखों की तादाद में अच्छे कपास के भाव पर मिल मालिकों को दिया जाता है तो क्या सरकार ऐसा इंतजाम करेगी कि किसान को कम पैसा दिया जाय।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : ऐसा अनुमान तो नहीं होता है लेकिन उन एरियाज में जहाँ प्रोग्रेस कोऑपरेटिव में गठन नहीं कर सके हैं, या जहाँ प्रोग्रेस को उतनी तादाद में प्रागे नहीं बढ़ा सके हैं, वहाँ पर कहीं कहीं ऐसा होता होगा लेकिन सवाल सारा यह है और मैं माननीय सदस्यों का उस में ताव्वन चाहूँगा कि वहाँ पर प्रोग्रेस को अच्छी तरह से आगेनाइज करें।

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : (नांदेड़) : यह काटन की कीमत कम करने से आज बाजार में कोई काटन की खरीद नहीं रह गई है जिससे प्रोग्रेस को बड़ा नुसाना रहता है एक बात और दूसरे में कहना यह है कि काटन की कीमत आप बढ़ा दें। आज कच्चा माल नहीं मिलता है, बाहर से लाना पड़ता है। अगर काटन की कीमत बढ़ा दें तो प्रोग्रेस ज्यादा पैदा करेगा। तो यह बात क्यों नहीं करती सरकार कि इस की कीमत बढ़ाकर और उधर फाइन और सुपर फाइन क्लास जो है उसकी कीमत चाहे तो बढ़ा दे जो कि बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति लोग पहनते हैं, तो ऐसा क्यों नहीं सरकार करती जिससे देश

में कपास ज्यादा पैदा हो और सुपर फाइन और फाइन क्लास की कीमत बढ़ा दे ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : बढ़ाते बढ़ाते तो यहाँ तक आ चुके कि अब ग्राम ग्राम मी का हिन्दुस्तान का कपड़ा इतना मंहगा पड़ता है। अब इसकी हद होनी चाहिये और खाली प्राइस बढ़ाने से आ उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ता। टेकनिकल चेंडिज या और इन्टेसिफाइड प्रोडक्शन वगैरहा करना चाहिए, भ्रमण भ्रमण किस्म इस्तेमाल करना चाहिए। खाली पैसे की बात करने से कोई प्रोडक्शन नहीं बढ़ता जहाँ तक सुपर फाइन और फाइन का ताल्लुक है वह चार पांच परसेंट सारे हिन्दुस्तान का है, बाकी के कपड़े की ज्यादा फ़िक्क करनी है।

डा० राम मन्नेहर लोहिया (फरुखाबाद) मन्त्री महोदय ने अपने पहले बयान में बड़ी ताकत से कहा था कि मिल मालिकों की इस कार्यवाही को वह रोकेंगे मिलों को बन्द करने की और वह सिर्फ पन्द्रह दिन बन्द करना चाहते थे। लेकिन आज के बयान से मालूम होता है कि 15 दिन क्या और ज्यादा शायद वह बन्द कर लेंगे या हफ्ते में एक दिन। तो पहले वाला बयान कहा जाता है ? तो मैं सब से पहले मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह ताकत से दिए हुए बयान को इस तरह से नरमी के साथ या झुकावट के साथ चार दिन के अन्दर तब्दील करना न हमारे लिए शोभा की चीज है और न मंत्री के लिए शोभा की चीज है। और यह क्यों होता है? इसके कारण क्या हैं ? उस दिन जब मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिए उसके लिए मैं इनकी तारीफ करता हूँ, इन्होंने आंकड़े बताए थे कि 4 सौ करोड़ रुपया अगर खर्च किया जाय तो हिन्दुस्तान के कपड़े की मिलें और दूसरी मिलें प्राधुनिक बन सकती हैं। चार सौ करोड़ की रकम कोई ज्यादा नहीं है, चार सौ करोड़ पांच सौ करोड़, छः सौ करोड़, आखिर को आज 6 हजार करोड़

रुपया सालाना खर्च कर रहे हैं, तो ऐसा करके रुई और कपड़ा बगैरहा का ऐसा इन्तजाम करें और जरूरत हो तो मिल मालिकों को खत्म किया जाय और हां , उसके साथ साथ मुझे अफसोस यह भी होता है कि मन्त्री भी खत्म करने पड़ेंगे.....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : डाक्टर साहब, सवाल आप क्लैरिफिकेशन के लिए कर सकते हैं.....

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : तो सवाल यह है कि क्या आखीर तक कहीं कोई चीज पहुंचा करके हमारे देश की अन्दरूनी खपत साधारण आदमियों के कपड़े को और बाहर विदेशी निर्यात को अच्छा बनायेंगे ।

Shri Manubhai Shah: Regarding the first question of the hon. Member, the original purpose was a complete block closure of all the mills throughout the country for 15 days and a continuous cut of six per cent to 15 per cent throughout the year; he has not recognised the latter part of the question and therefore he thinks that one day in a week for as short a period as possible is something more than the original proposal. It is much less because a 10 per cent cut throughout the year plus 15 days would have been a terrible thing for this country. 7 million people would have been on the streets for 15 days 7/10 million people would have been on the streets for the whole year. We could not entertain that proposal at all

•Secondly, it is in the direction that the hon. member pointed out, i.e. gradual modernisation of these mills, that all our efforts are made. But there is a physical limitation; an under-developed country cannot launch on all projects all at once. There is a phased programme of modernisation which has been undertaken.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): May I know whether any

steps have been taken to ensure constant and regular supply of cotton to the mills for the twin purpose, viz., (1) the tempo of exports remains intact and should also increase and (2) common varieties of cloth are made available to the poorer sections of the people and the prices do not increase?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is the precise reason for the partial control on cloth of mass consumption like dhotis, saris, shirting, poplins, drills, etc., which are controlled in order to make them available at a reasonable price to the common people of the country. So far as tempo of export is concerned, it is not related to this; it is a different matter which we are tackling.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He has said:

"Normal lay-off compensation would be paid to all workers so laid off on this closed day in accordance with the provisions of Section 25C of the I.D. Act."

May I know whether a suggestion was mooted by one of the central trade union organisations that since we do not know for how many days these mills will be closed on account of shortage of cotton, the employers will be asked to pay full wages and not lay-off allowance? Then he has said "No sudden closure of individual units." I fully appreciate the sentiments he has expressed, but is he aware that in Kanpur no decision has still been taken about the Laxmi Rattan Cotton Mills and the New Victoria Mills? They are going to be closed down. May I know whether any definite action has been taken about them?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The hon. member is enlarging the scope. About the first part, I had the hon. member's full cooperation in arriving at the solutions written in the statement. It will not be possible to pay the full day's wages and it is possible to pay only the permissible lay-off

[Shri Manubhai Shah]

compensation under the I.D. Act. There were opinions expressed like that, but we considered them and decided that it would not be possible to put all that burden on the different sections of the society.

About the Laxmi Rattan Mills, an investigation committee has been already appointed and we are expecting their report soon. As soon as it is received, we shall consider it. About New Victoria Mills, all our efforts are to see that the existing management or any other new management is enabled to start the mill as early as possible.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): He has said that some mills have surplus stocks. May I know what has been done to mop up these surplus stocks and distribute them among those mills which are lacking in sufficient stocks?

Shri Manubhai Shah: All the surplus stocks have been requisitioned and speeded up to the needy mills.

श्री सरजू पांडेय (रसड़ा) : अभी अभी उत्तर प्रदेश के कई सेक्टरों में यह सूचना मिली है कि मिल वालों ने सूत का दाम बहुत बढ़ा दिया। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय सूत का दाम घटाने के बारे में क्या कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह: एक तरफ तो हम को कहा जाता है कि कंट्रोल मत करो। दूसरी तरफ कहा जाता है कि कंट्रोल करो। दो माल पहले इस सवाल पर माननीय मदन में चर्चा हुई थी और यह कहा गया था कि यान को डीकंट्रोल किया जाय, अब कहते हैं कि दाम कंट्रोल करें।

श्री० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यहां बाहें जा कुछ कहा जाय, लेकिन आपका अपना दिमाग भी है या नहीं।

Shri Maheswar Nalk (Mayurbhanj): Sir, it is a happy thing to note that

through the good offices of the hon. Minister the Cotton Mills Federation have agreed to stop the closure of mills. Now, instead of 15 days they will close 52 days in a year which comes to twice a week. I would like to know how this closure will help to increase the stock for mills. Secondly, the price payable to cotton growers has been raised by 5 percent. At the same time it has been decided that there will be requisitioning from the growers in case their output does not come to the market. How will it help the growers?

Mr. Speaker: The first part has already been answered.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The calculations are obvious. 16 per cent saving in cotton is equal to 11 lakh bales if it is spread throughout the year. But, as I assured the House earlier, that is not the intention. The intention is, as soon as demand and supply position equalises and comes into equilibrium, we will withdraw the closure.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya (Serampore): Is it not a fact that every time the employers, either the cotton traders or the cotton millowners or the jute traders or the jute millowners I am talking of the big traders and millowners—create a fake crisis so as to put pressure on both the consumers as well as the workers, when consultation was done with the representatives of the different trade unions, the representatives of the All India Trade Union Congress strongly protested against this measure and demanded full compensation if at all there is any necessity for closure of the mills?

Shri Manubhai Shah: In the first instance, as I have repeatedly assured the House, the difficulties were not of a fake character but of a realistic nature because of the failure of crop due to delayed of monsoon in the month of September. Therefore, I

St. re. Cotton Supply

would like the co-operation of the House. Rather than condemning any particular section for a proposal they put forward, solutions have been found in close co-operation with all interests concerned and it will be for us to implement them so that the crisis is cut to the minimum.

The AITUC did represent that for a whole day's closure they should have whole day's wages. Other labour representatives also made similar proposals. After weighing the different proposals, after discussing matters with them, ultimately it was agreed that this is the best solution to give half-a-day's wage for a whole day's closure.

Shri H. C. Linga Reddy (Chikballapur): Sir, I am glad the Central Government are going to the rescue of a number of cotton mills which are being mismanaged and which are about to be closed. In Bangalore City, Mysore State, two mills, the Minerva Mills and also Mysore Mills, have been closed for the last six months and about 7000 labourers have been put to a lot of loss. They have not been paid for the lay-off period. I want to know whether the Central Government is taking over the management of these two mills because the management are not anxious to re-start the mills even though the State Government has given a guarantee of Rs. 60 lakhs.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am glad to inform the House that this question of these two mills in Mysore has been satisfactorily resolved. The State Government has guaranteed Rs. 55 lakhs in one case and Rs. 67 lakhs in the other. Both these are going through the State Bank of India and other banks in Mysore and the mills will start functioning soon.

12.25 hrs

RE: CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE
(Query)

Mr. Speaker: We will now take up the legislative business.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, you promised to give me a chance.

Mr. Speaker: What does he want?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Today is the last day of this session. I have tabled a calling attention notice on a very important matter which concerns the Central Government, rather the Ministry of Defence. Sir, as you are aware, there was a strike lasting 45 days in Hindustan Aeronautics, Kanpur. As a result of our good offices and the good offices of the Defence Ministry, we were able to persuade the workers to withdraw the strike. At that time Shri Swaran Singh was not the Defence Minister. Then a clear assurance was given by us to the workers that there will be no victimisation. Yet, 30 employees have been dismissed and about 100 employees have been discharged from service. I would only request you to avoid a similar strike in the future in Kanpur, where the situation now is very explosive. I would request the hon. Minister to make a statement that he will apply his mind and reconsider the whole matter, instead of leaving it to HAL. I have full faith in him.

Mr. Speaker: I will find out the position.

12.27 hrs.

RE: ENQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS
AGAINST MINISTERS

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंबई) अध्यक्ष
महोदय, क्वि प्राज प्राखरी दिवस है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने पहले ही इस का
उद्घोषणा चलाया है।