

12.00 hrs.

RE. ATROCITIES COMMAND ON HARIJAN WOMEN IN BIHAR

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) :

अध्यक्ष जी, हरिजन महिलाओं पर जो अत्याचार हुए हैं उन के बारे में हम ने काम रोको प्रस्ताव दिये हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : काम रोको प्रस्ताव तो मुझे बार बार बताना पड़ता है कि काल अटेंशन के बाद आता है ।

12.02 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED HUNDRED PER CENT INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF NYLON AND ARTIFICIAL YARN

श्री मधु लिम्बे : (वांका) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अविलम्बतीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर वाणिज्य मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस बारे में एक वक्तव्य दें :

“नाईलन तथा कृत्रिम सूत की कीमतों में शत प्रतिशत वृद्धि और उस के परिणामस्वरूप देश के विभिन्न भागों के बुनकर्मों के लिये उत्पन्न व्यापक संकट के समाचार ।”

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the production of man-made fibre in the country covers a wide range of cellulose and non-cellulose. In 1972, the production of viscose staple fibre was 70,337 tonnes, viscose filament yarn 39,900 tonnes, nylon filament yarn 11,812 tonnes, acetate yarn 1,988 tonnes, polyester fibre 6,604 tonnes, and polyester filament yarn 682 tonnes.

Production figures, therefore, suggest that so far as weavers are concerned, the most commonly used variety of yarns are viscose spun yarn (spun from viscose staple fibre), viscose filament yarn and nylon filament yarn, in that order. The other types of yarn are used only by organized large scale units.

According to available statistics, there are just over 1 lakh powerlooms in the country, of which as many as 66,000 are in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

However, most of the powerlooms in the decentralised sector use viscose spun yarn or viscose filament yarn. While there has been considerable discussion in the Press and elsewhere, it is worth emphasizing that only 10 per cent of the consumption of these powerlooms consists of nylon filament yarn. The bulk of the nylon filament yarn is consumed by organized weaving units and by warp knitting machines and hosiery units.

I will now briefly explain the position in regard to prices and distribution of the three most commonly used types of yarn.

FIRST

The price of viscose spun yarn have been voluntarily regulated by the spinners since December, 1969, when they agreed to supply yarn at prices ruling in July, 1969. However, an agreement was reached between spinners and weavers in February 1972, which covered 50 per cent of the requirements of each State, and stipulated the maximum prices at which spinners would supply the yarn. In May, 1972, this agreement was further revised covering the entire production of viscose spun yarn and with an increase in prices of roughly 80 paise per kg. There has been no increase in prices in this category of yarn since May, 1972. The distribution of this yarn is made through the Directors of Industries of the State Governments

SECOND

In the case of viscose filament yarn, there is a voluntary agreement between the spinners and weavers from July, 1969, which regulates its pricing and distribution. According to this agreement, while 10 per cent of the total production is earmarked for allotment to exporters of rayon fabrics by way of replenishment, 60.5 per cent is available to actual users and the balance of 29.5 per cent is allowed to be sold in the open market. The prices under the voluntary agreement have been fixed at Rs. 11.35 per kg. for exporters and Rs. 14.35 per kg. for actual users. There has been an increase in prices in respect of the open market sales, from Rs. 20.81 per kg. in March, 1973, to Rs. 33.61 per kg. in June, 1973. A substantial part of the price escalation can be related to the fall in production consequent on power cuts, the abolition of

differential in excise duty enjoyed by four smaller units and the lock-out in one of the units leading to a further curtailment in supplies. One of the units has not honoured its commitments under the voluntary agreement. They have been firmly asked to conform to the agreement being followed by the other spinners, failing which Government would take suitable action. The increase in exports of rayon fabrics has also contributed to smaller domestic availability leading to further pressure on prices.

THIRD

Prices and distribution of nylon yarn have been similarly regulated on a voluntary basis by an agreement between the spinners and weavers which has been in force since 1st July, 1970. Under the agreement, the distribution of the entire production is to be made available through dealers. The agreed prices are subject to revision by mutual agreement, and such a revision was made in April, 1972. These prices were being maintained till February, 1973. Since then, the global shortage of caprolactum resulted in a significant decline in production of yarn from about 1,200 tonnes per month in March, 1973, to about 900 tonnes in April, 1973, and 800 tonnes in May, 1973. There was also some impact on prices due to fiscal changes introduced in the current year's budget. A contributory factor to the upward tendency in prices was the conduct of the cotton yarn dealers who switched over their trading/speculative activity to nylon yarn after the imposition of the Yarn Control Order in March this year.

The voluntary agreements between spinners and weavers had, therefore, been working, by and large, satisfactorily until February, 1973. There was no reason for Government to interfere with these arrangements, as the needs of the decentralised weaving sector were being met. Government have been fully alive to the subsequent developments and have taken a number of remedial steps like—

- (1) State Trading Corporation has already bought 9,200 tonnes of caprolactum. A part of this purchase has already arrived and the balance is in the pipeline. This is expected to meet the immediate needs of industry.

Artificial yarn (CA)

- (2) There is a global shortage of caprolactum and prices over the past few months have escalated very sharply. In order to make maximum purchase, purchase teams have been and are being sent to locate all possible sources of caprolactum and make-on-the-spot purchases.
- (3) In addition to direct purchases being made by State Trading Corporation, purchases are also being permitted directly by the spinners through the Letters of Authority granted to them.
- (4) Indigenous production of caprolactum from the Gujarat Fertilizers Complex is expected to commence in early 1974. This will augment substantially the availability of raw material for the spinning industry.
- (5) Unfortunately, there is a concurrent shortage of nylon yarn along with that of caprolactum. Nonetheless, State Trading Corporation has already purchased over 400 tonnes of nylon yarn. Efforts are being made to locate and purchase further quantities.
- (6) In the case of visco-e filament yarn, in order to conserve the available supplies and meet the requirements of weavers in the country, exports have been banned.
- (7) With the restoration of power-cuts in States, the production of all types of artificial yarn is expected to go up and this is already beginning to have a downward effect on prices.

I am aware that complaints have been voiced about the distribution of the available supplies of yarn, particularly nylon yarn. While we are taking all possible steps to augment production and improve availability, I intend to take additional measures along the following lines:—

- (i) Prices of yarn have to be related to the costs of production, and if there is any propensity on the part of some spinners to make undue profits, this has to be brought down to reasonable levels.

(ii) Under the present pattern of distribution, some intermediaries are not functioning in overall national interests and are indulging in speculative activities. These tendencies have to be curbed.

(iii) An appropriate distributive mechanism will be evolved so that yarn at reasonable prices are made available to the actual users, particularly the weavers in the decentralised sector. In the implementation of the above measures Government will continue to seek the co-operation of all sections of industry both producers and consumers.

I hope all sections of the industry and trade will themselves act with full sense of responsibility in the interests of the weavers and the consumers, failing which, I can assure the House, Government will not hesitate to take firm action.

श्री म. लक्ष्मण मंडोदय, इस पर बोलने के पहले मैं एक बात की और आप का ध्यान दिखाना चाहता हूँ कि आप की अनुमति से कुछ दिन पहले मैंने सूत के बारे में यहाँ पर एक बयान दिया था। उसी समय राज्य सभा में मंत्री महोदय एक प्रश्न का जवाब दे रहे थे। लेकिन पहले में नोटिस देने के बाद भी व्यापार मंत्रालय के एक भी प्रतिनिधि ने, एक भी मंत्री ने यहाँ प्रश्न का मुझे मैंने उठाया था उन के बारे में सफाई नहीं दी। आप ने मुझको आश्वासन दिया था कि व्यापार मंत्रालय से बात कर के जो सूत के दाम और वितरण का मामला है, मैं काटन यार्न की बात कर रहा हूँ, वह एस्टिमेट कमटी का मज दिया जाये या नहीं इस के बारे में आप निर्णय करेंगे। इस समय मंत्री महोदय आये हुए हैं, यदि आप आदेश देंगे तो वह इस सम्बन्ध में भी बोलेंगे।

अब जो ध्यान आकर्षण का विषय है उस के बारे में मैं कुछ बोलूंगा। हमारे देश में जो कृत्रिम धागे का उत्पादन होता है, वह है वह सेलुलोज हो या गैरसेलुलोज, एक बात स्पष्ट है कि इस उद्योग पर चार-

पांच बड़े पूंजीपति हावी हैं, यानी प्रोक्सिम-पोषी बाने। यह स्थिति क्या रेयन और क्या नाइलन, दोनों ही के बारे में है। स्वीडा के जरिये दाम बढ़ेंगे, यह बातें कम से कम इस उद्योग के बारे में नहीं हो रही हैं। जहाँ तक नाइलन का सवाल है सिघामिया गुञ्जरमल मोदी, बिडला, नानूभाई और गरबारे यह पांच इन लोग नाइलन फिलामेंट यार्न पर हावी हैं और जहाँ तक रेयन का सवाल है, बिडला, गायकवाड-शाह, कापडिया, नायडू, जे०के० आदि लोग, इस यार्न पर हावी हैं।

जहाँ तक विकेन्द्रित उद्योग का सवाल है, बुनने वाला उद्योग, उसमें सूत और अमृतसर में ज्यादातर नाइलन यार्न का इस्तेमाल होता है, लेकिन अभी मैं दक्षिण हो कर आया हूँ। सेलम के बुनकरों में मुझे एक आवेदन पत्र दिया और कहा कि काटन यार्न के अलावा वह बड़े पैमाने पर स्टेपल, कृत्रिम धागे का भी इस्तेमाल करते हैं, और उस के दामों के वितरण के बारे में उन्होंने मुझ में शिकायत भी की। जहाँ तक बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश का सवाल है, वहाँ पर भी सूत के अलावा स्टेपल, कृत्रिम धागे का इस्तेमाल होता है। इस तरह से पुरे कृत्रिम धागे का सवाल लिया जायेगा तो इस बात का पता चल जायेगा कि उस के ऊपर लाखों बुनकरों की जिन्दगी मुल्हसर है।

विगत तीन चार सालों से स्वेच्छा से दाम और वितरण के सवाल को हल करने की बात चल रही है, बालेंटरी एग्सीमेट से। लेकिन इस में हो क्या रहा है? जो छोटा बुनकर है छोटा आदमी है, उस के हित का विन्कुल खयाल नहीं किया जा रहा है, और व्यापार मंत्रालय की नहन जो टेक्स्टाइल कमिश्नर है वह साधारण बुनकरों को राहत पहुँचाने में विन्कुल प्रसफल रहें हैं। सूत के बारे में जब मैं आपके सामने वक्तव्य दे रहा था उस समय मैंने टेक्स्टाइल कमिश्नर के ऊपर कई आरोप लगाये थे। मेरी भाग है कि इस टेक्स्टाइल कमिश्नर को तत्काल हटाया जाये और साधारण

बुनकरो के हित की रक्षा करने वाले किसी काबिल अफसर कोइ उसकी जगह लाया जाये।

नाइलन यार्न कुछही दिन पहले 140 रु० कि० ग्राम के हिसाब से बिक रहा था, जब कि स्वेच्छा वाला जो करार है उस के अनुसार 70 रु० के हिसाब से बिकना चाहिए। 70 रु० मे 35 रु० एक्समाइज ड्यूटी है। लेकिन वह बिक रहा था 140 रु० पर। यदि आप एकसाइज ड्यूटी निकाल दीजिये तो दामो मे शत प्रतिशत नही, 300 प्रतिशत वृद्धि वास्तव मे हुई है, क्योंकि बाकी जा दाम बढा हे उम मे सरकार का एकसाइज ड्यूटी भी नही मिल रही है।

इसी तरह श्री चव्हाण ने जब पलीगर्स पर एक्समाइज ड्यूटी लगाई पर उन्होंने कहा था कि वह मुविधा के लिख किया जा रहा है। लेकिन उम ड्यूटी का बग भी माभारण बुनकर न ऊपर उठ रहा है प्रो। जा यात पैदा करने वाल काख तार न स, चहाण डम डरटो का भार का तब म उ तार कर दिया है और मंगार उन न वार म भी समाप्त रही है।

जहा तर रेयान का गया ट और स्वयप मत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि उम का हिंसा बतन ज्यादा है, यह तय हुआ कि 40 प्रतिशत जा उम की पैदावार है वह जा स्वेच्छा वाला करार है उम क अनमार वितरित की जायेगी और वह बिक रहा था 11 80 रु० के० जी० के हिमाब से। लेकिन बाकी धागा जिस के ऊपर कोई नियन्त्रण नही था म आप की जान-बारी के लिये कहना चाहता ह कि वह 30 रु० के० जी० के हिमाब म बिक रहा था। इस का नतीजा यह हुआ है कि रेयान मे सूट हो रही है और अकले नाइल-मे जो पाच बडे उत्पादक ० कारखानेदार है वह चोरवाजारी मे। लाख रुपये मे ले-कर 2 लाख रुपये तक प्रति दिन कमा रहे है। अगर फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री इस मामले की जाच करेगी तो सरकार को बिना कोई नया टक्का नयाये कगोटा रणों की आमदनी

हो सकती है इन चोरवाजारी को पकड़ने पर। मैं जानना चाहता हू कि सरकार की जितनी टैक्स सम्बन्धी एजेसिया है वह इस मामले की जाच क्यों नही कर रही है।

जहा तक मुनाफे का सवाल है, पिछले सत्र म मैने 1972 के मुनाफे के घोषित आकड़े दिये थे। मैने यह कहा था कि 1972 मे उन को कितना मुनाफा हुआ। मैने पाच नाईलन स्पिनर के तीन साल क डिक्लेरेंड प्राफिट्स, घोषित मुनाफे का जोडा है। नाइलन स्पिनर को 50 करोड रुपये का मुनाफा हुआ और 50 करोड उन को चोर-वाजारी से मिला है। स्वयम एक एविनट मर के मंत्री ने कहा है कि मर जा आकड़े है वह नही है। पचास करोड चोरवाजारी का जा है उभे ऊपर टैक वमन किया जाग त मंगार ता रंगी र ग ता प्रामटना ता मण्य।

एक आशय की बात है। मुख्य उद्देश्य है। काम उदात्त रणों कि वरुण व म ते र र म गा री। उर। तन प्रति राम एर मर त पिम म पर। चार वाजारा त म पा री ता वा है वर अलग बात है।

एक और मन्त्रनेल प-राह। जे र- मिथ्या रण ने कभी कभी आनी तापित मभा म प्रत पापणा की है कि एक जेयर के प्रति दा बासन जेयर दिग जाणगे। ऐसी समय वाचना सरकार का कभी कबत नही बरनी चाहिये थी। उसने बार में जा करोलर आफ कॅपिटल इगूज है त इन् मन्त्रालय के अधीन नही है वह वित्त मन्त्रालय क तहत है और उसमें मरी माग है कि डम तरह वांस शेयर देने की इजाजत इ.रा विलकुल नही देनी चाहिए थी। विगत तीन साल मे रेयान और नाईलन माला ने जो लट मन्ट्री है उसका नतीजा यह ता रहा है कि आठ गुना इनके शेयरों के दाम दूढ गग है। उस राये के जे०के० और मोदी पी० के जेयर कस्सी रण्य वे वाजारा म अत्र काट हा रहे है। मुख्य ने वा दम

स्वयं का 45 रुपये में बिक रहा है। घाट क्लब शेयरों के दाम बढ़ने का कारण यही है कि इस में बड़े पैमाने पर तीन साल से लूट चल रही है जिस के बारे में सरकार कुछ नहीं कर रही है।

सरकार ने कई राज्यों को सार्वजनिक पब्लिक सैंबटर में स्थैतिक यार्न बनाने के लैटर ग्राफ इंटेंट दिए। लेकिन आश्चर्य की बात है कि एक राज्य ने भी कोप्रोप्रिटिव या पब्लिक सैंबटर में एक भी कारखाना अभी तक नहीं लगाया है क्योंकि नाकरशाही और मोनोपोलिस्ट्स इन दोनों ने मिल कर इस बात का प्रयास किया है कि न सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में कोई यूनिट लगे और न ही कोप्रोप्रिटिव क्षेत्र में और न ही कोई छोटा नया प्राइमी इस तरह का कारखाना खोलने के लिए आगे आए ताकि कुल्लिता से अभाव पैदा करके जिस तरह से वे तीन साल से लूट मचा रहे हैं आगे भी मचाते जाएं।

इस वस्तु धागे का निर्यात भी होता है। मैं कपड़ा निर्यात करने के विरुद्ध नहीं हूँ मगर धागा और सू. के निर्यात से हमारे जो बुनकर हैं उन लोगों का रोजगार छिन जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि धागे का निर्यात बन्द कर दिया जाए और इन बुनकरों को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाए और जो ये कपड़ा बनाए वह सरकार बाहर भेजे। सूत के बारे में मेरा यह कहना है कि सूत का निर्यात करने के बजाय हैडलूम फेब्रिक्स जो हैं उसके निर्यात का काम किया जाए ताकि हमारे लाखों जो बुनकर हैं उनको काम मिल सके।

टैरिफ कमिशन की रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित होने के बाद एक दो रोज के लिए दाम बीस रुपये किलो पर निचे गए। बीच में सरकार ने चूकि कुछ भी नहीं किया इस वास्ते मोनोपोलिस्ट यह समझ रहे हैं कि सरकार कुछ भी करने वाली नहीं है, बालेंटरी एक्सीमेंट का नाटक चलने वाला है, इसलिये फिर दाम बढ़ा है।

इसमें दो बड़े सवाल हैं। एक दाम का है। स्वयं मंत्री जो मानते हैं कि स्पिनर्स वा जो खर्चा है, कास्ट ग्राफ प्रोडक्शन है, उससे दामों का सम्बन्ध होना चाहिए। उसके अनुसार सरकार स्वयं तय कर के जो डिसेट्टलाइज्ड सैंबटर है, उससे, बुनकरों से बात कर के जो दाम निर्धारित करने हैं, वह करे। इसको मोनोपोलिस्ट्स, रेयान मैन्युफैक्चरर्स के ऊपर छोड़ न दिया जाए। जहाँ तक वितरण का सवाल है मेरी भाव है कि बुनकरों की जो कोप्रोप्रिटिव है, छोटे लोगों के जो सगठन हैं उन्हीं लोगों को प्रायोगइज्ड लूज के आधार पर—क्योंकि बहुत में बड़े लोग अनप्रायोगइज्ड लूज उत्पन्न करके लूट का काम करते हैं—यह वितरण का काम किया जाए।

अमृतसर में, सूत में धागे के अभाव में आज हजारों बुनकर काम में हटाए गए हैं। वे भूखे मर रहे हैं। उस की जो भुखमरी की स्थिति है उस स्थिति में उनको बचाने के लिए मंत्री महोदय से मैं कहूँगा कि सरकार ने जो तीन मिडियम रखे हैं, वे तो ठीक हैं, उमी से इस कालिग एटेशन का औचित्य सिद्ध हो गया है और पता लग गया है कि इनकी जरूरत थी, तो मैं कहूँगा कि उन पर कड़ाई से अमल हो। पहले तो दाम निश्चित करते समय अनाप-शनाप नाफाखोरी जो चल रही है, उसको न चलने दे, उत्पादन का जो खर्चा है उससे दामों का सम्बन्ध जोड़ें। वितरण का जहाँ तक सवाल है जो छोटे लोग हैं उन लोगों की सस्थाओं की माफत वितरण किया गया।

अन्त में मैं कहूँगा कि मोनोपोली मैन्युफैक्चरर्स का जो आज उत्पादन के ऊपर कब्जा हो गया है, वे हाथी हो गए हैं, उनके वर्चस्व को तोड़ने की मंत्री महोदय कोशिश करें। जिन राज्यों को सैंटर ग्राफ इंटेंट दिए हैं वे कारखाने जल्दी

[श्री मधु लिमये]

से जल्दी लगाए। नीकरशाही और राजभोगति करने वाले लोग, सरकारी नेता जब मीनांपोलिस्टस से मिल जाए तो इस तरह के कारखाने नहीं लग सकते हैं। मेरा मांग है कि जिन-जिन लोगों को लेटर्स आफ इंटेंट दिए गए हैं वे कारखाने जल्दी से जल्दी खोलें। छोटे लोगों को मोटा दिया जाए। एकाधिकारशाही को खत्म करके उद्योगिकताओं को राहत देने का काम किया जाए, यह मेरी मांग है।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:

Most of the questions raised by the hon. Member have already been referred to, if not answered in full, in my original statement. However, I would like to say something about the other points which have been emphasized, not that I have not referred to them before. Firstly coming to the excise duty, in our country the sort of garments using synthetic yarn are used by the elite and affluent sections. So, if excise duty has to be imposed, it is a very suitable and permissible area for taxation. Even then, I would like to assure my friend that his view will be conveyed to the Finance Ministry. Secondly, coming to the recommendations of the Tariff Commission, I had occasion to say something about it on the floor of the House, which is public record and which everybody can look into. It will be very clear from the Report that the Tariff Commission suggested the prices on the basis of detailed study of the factors of production, relative weightage of the factors of production, the prices of the raw materials and also some desirable parity between the international prices and domestic prices and the actual prices till February this year did not deviate from those prices in any significant manner. It has deviated in some cases very marginally, almost negligibly. To bear out my point, for example, for nylon yarn of 20 denier the price prior to the agreement of 1st July, 1971 was Rs. 75 per kilogram. After the agreement it was

brought down to Rs. 70 per kilogram. That was valid from 1st July, 1970 till 28th February, 1972. The agreement price from 1st March, 1972 was a gain Rs. 70 and not more. The market price was Rs. 73 in December 1971, Rs. 77 in June, Rs. 73 in December and Rs. 71 in January. It should be remembered that the Tariff Commission, which had submitted its Report in 1970, had suggested some prices.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Don't forget that U.P. elections are coming.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:

Let him take care of that. He has no *locus standi*, no influence, nothing of the sort in U.P.

The price of 20 Denier was Rs. 30 per kg. It is only after taking into account the excise duty that it comes up to something more than that. So, the actual price between the Tariff Commission's price recommended in 1970 and the actual price obtaining in 1973 was almost comparable....

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: What about the July price?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:

I have already said in my statement that it was much more; it was hundred per cent more. I did not deny it. But what is more interesting to know is that the Tariff Commission's Report about which so much has been said in the House that it has been suppressed—the suppressed thing is surface—is now available for everybody and everybody can see that the price recommended by the Tariff Commission in 1970 was maintained by the Government till March this year. It is only between March and June that it has gone up. My hon. friend is correct there. As to why it has gone up, I have said very clearly and, firstly, it is a world-wide phenomenon....(Interruptions) I listened to you patiently. You have to listen to me now.

It is very interesting to know that when in 1970 the Tariff Commission suggested the price, they assumed that the price of raw material caprolactam would be

Rs. 6,800 per tonne. Mr. Madhu Limaye must know that when the Tariff Commission suggested the price in 1970, it was on their assumption that the price of caprolactum was Rs. 6,800 per tonne. Now, this year, in February, when the caprolactum price went up as high as Rs. 9000, even then the price in Indian market was the same. It rose only between March and July. Why? Firstly, it was because the caprolactum price had gone up in the world market. The whole world knew that caprolactum was a scarce commodity and it was physically non-available. It is not price debarred; it is physically-debarred, absolutely non-available. (*Interruption*) Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, you will have your time and I will listen to you. Now, it is your turn to listen to me patiently.

Now, the world price of caprolactum is Rs 12,000 to Rs. 13,000 per tonne. That is one reason why between March and June it had gone up....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU This Minister was a professor. He thinks he is addressing his students.

PROF. D P CHATTOPADHYAYA If a tea-taster can be a good parliamentarian, a professor can also be a good parliamentarian. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Don't consider us to be your pupils.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: An antecedent does not make a man competent or incompetent.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Irrelevant.

PROF. D P CHATTOPADHYAYA: It is very much relevant. If the physical shortage and high prices are not relevant to the cost or price of a thing, what else is relevant I do not know.

I come to the second question ...

MR. SPEAKER: Being a professor is not bad. It is a great honour in any country to be a professor.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We know you were a professor also. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This gentleman does not like professors.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have said that that was one reason. I have not denied that. The first reason is shortage and high price of caprolactum.

My second point was, after the introduction of cotton yarn scheme, some speculators and traders hoarded some nylon yarn. That is a fact. I have said that. Now the question is why some people have made exorbitant profits....

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief. The tip to success is being brief.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The third point is, there are some people who have made exorbitant profits. I have already said that against those who are making exorbitant profits, we are taking firm action, and some administrative measures have already been taken to curb the profitability.

श्री मधु लिमये अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मंत्री महोदय को कहा है कि वह ब्रीफ जवाब दे। इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि वह मेरे मुद्दों का जवाब ही न दे। मैंने स्पेसिफिक सवाल उठाया है कि इस इंडस्ट्री में लोग बड़े पैमाने पर प्राफिट कर रहे हैं। अगर उत्पादन के खर्च और दाम में रिश्ता ही, तो इतना अधिक प्राफिट, तीन साल में 50 करोड़ रुपया, नहीं लिया जा सकता है। मैंने इम्पोर्ट के बारे में भी पूछा है।

MR. SPEAKER: He should answer all your points.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have already said that some units have made some unjustified profits and we are coming with a scheme to control and curb that, and against those who have done wrongs, firm actions are being

[Shri D. P. Chattopadhyaya]

taken. In respect of one particular firm, it has already been taken.

MR. SPEAKER: May I remind the House again that we have decided in the Committee that the time allotted to each member on this motion is five minutes each. The reply should also be equally brief. We were to finish this call-attention motion within 45 minutes, but already the first member and the Minister have taken 40 minutes. I would, therefore, make a request to everyone to stick to the time-limit.

Mr. S. M. Banerjee.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I have read the statement of the hon. Minister. He has made certain observations about price and about distribution. I agree with many of the points that were raised. He has also confessed in his statement:

"Under the present pattern of distribution, some intermediaries are not functioning in overall national interests and are indulging in speculative activities. These tendencies have to be curbed."

He has just said that there are some people who have hoarded and that has to be rectified. I was very happy to read yesterday the speech delivered by the President of this country in Lucknow. He was very angry that hoarding was going on and he said "I order my adviser and Secretary to go to urban and rural areas and put the hoarders in jail." All those who indulge in hoarding should be put in jail. I hope this will apply to the whole country.

Then two things are going on to-day. It must be remembered that nylon or rayon is not only the luxury because even middle class people are using it and even though initially it is costly, it can be mixed with other low-cost yarns. So, has the Government the courage and the conviction—I hope they have—to nationalise all the nylon and yarn mills because this is the only solution to stop this loot so that the weavers get their share? Are

they prepared and will they consider nationalisation of these nylon and rayon factories which are minting money at the cost of the nation?

Secondly, will the excise duty be charged from the source point? It should not be shifted to the consumers as in the case of cloth. Let it be charged at the source point. Then, I fully agree with hon. Shri Madhu Limaye that it should be distributed through the agency of weavers' co-operative societies and where co-operative societies are not there, they should be formed.

I am sure the hon. Minister's attention might have been drawn to the *Economic Times* of July 21 wherein a full article has been published saying "High officials join hands with powerful interests to defy Government's policy." I do not want to read the entire thing but I am sure Prof. Chattopadhyaya would have read it. Even the Textile Commissioner has been accused of siding with one group or the other. I have got nothing against the Textile Commissioner. I know him personally. He is a man of integrity. But the question is whether it is a fact that some organisations and especially, I am told, one organization headed by one Mr. Chokani who is a multi-millionaire—this organization is called Art Silk Manufacturers' Association—want to come in the queue. They have nothing to do with nylon or rayon. Art silk is something which can be mixed. Rayon can be mixed with it. I am sure this organization is not capable of distributing to the poor weavers.

When we talk of weavers, unless these mills are taken over by the Government, the distribution can never be fair or equitable. Therefore, my suggestion will be: take over all these mills and not to have any patronage with organizations like the Art Silk Manufacturers Association whether it is Chokani or Chutani and it should be clearly mentioned to them that the Government is interested to see that equitable distribution is made to all the weavers.

My call attention was meant for these lakhs of weavers, handloom weavers who

are dealing with cotton yarn but it has been classed and nylon has been given preference to cotton yarn.

I might also request the hon. Minister to let us know what arrangements he has made in this regard.

Previously he announced in this House and in the other House also that necessary arrangements have been made and I want to know whether on account of those steps the prices have been reduced and whether cotton yarn has been made available to these weavers. There are 14 lakhs weavers in UP alone and these weavers get only in 3 months or 4 months time 2½ kg of yarn. Sir, you can imagine how they are going to survive. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly let me know something about cotton yarn weavers also.

Last but not the least, I would request him to kindly let us know whether this will be taken over by the State Trading Corporation and a machinery will be evolved free from corruption (*Inter-ruptions*). The private trade may be efficient but it is out and out corrupt whereas the State machinery may be inefficient but not that corrupt. Private agency is corrupt, but the State Agency is inefficient though not corrupt to that extent. So, State machinery should be there to take over this particular distribution. Is the Government seriously considering taking over of the nylon and rayon mills? May I know whether excise duty will be levied at the point of the source and not at the point of the consumer so that the burden may not be put on the consumers? May I know whether distribution will be done through actual weavers' societies? May I know finally whether Mr. Gokani, Chairman of SASMA (Silk and Art Silk Manufacturing Association) will not be given any preference in this regard because they are the sort of people who loot the Government and cheat the weavers?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The hon. Member has raised three points. So far as curbing profitability is concerned, as I have already said, we have taken certain measures. We see that the supply

of raw material is regulated consistent with the object of guarding against profitability. But the question of nationalisation does not arise at this stage and there is no proposal at the moment with us. Regarding distribution, it is a very complex question. In the last few weeks we have received numerous complaints and also counter-complaints for and against the association, spinners, etc. etc. As I said, it is a very complex situation. We have looked into the matter and we are evolving the policy which has got three main features. They are: (i) Curbing the profit-motive of the spinners; (ii) Minimising the role of the intermediaries; and (iii) helping the actual users.

My hon. friend Mr. Banerjee has enquired if we are ready to give yarn to the actual weavers or their cooperatives. Certainly we will be very glad to help them and make any such arrangements whereby such actual users, will themselves get them, but I do not know whether it is possible at this stage. It is a very complex problem. But we are evolving the formula which will benefit the actual users and societies.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to certain facts so that we get at the whole matter in the right perspective. 85,000 powerlooms are there in the non-cotton fabrics sector in the country. 81 per cent of those who have 1 to 9 looms and only 19 per cent belong to those who have more than 10 looms. Hardly 5 per cent are those who own looms above 100. And now this so-called SASMA (Silk and Art Silk Manufacturing Association) is publishing huge advertisements comprising of whole page and even two pages. How much that would have cost, nobody knows.

AN HON. MEMBER: His name is Gokani.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am told that his name is Gokani.

I am told that this gentleman, the chairman is being given 3000 k.g. per month.

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

although he has not got a single running loom....

SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN (South Delhi): He is Gokani.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I do not know the name.

Now, what is the position? Consider the capacity of production in use. As you know, Government are alive to this problem. 75 per cent of the capacity is in the small-scale sector, at the rate of one to ten looms per unit, and it is only 25 per cent capacity which is in the larger sector. And yet, what is the demand and how is it being fulfilled?

It is true that there was shortage of caprolactum and therefore, there was a tremendous rise in prices from Rs. 400 to Rs. 1200, nearly three times, in the international market. It is these things which make the prices shoot up and create a scarcity. The result was that even those persons who were not dealing with yarn rushed for this yarn, and even cotton producers rushed forward and started indulging in speculation.

I must say that as is our habit in this country we talk too much about taking firm action against hoarders and black-marketeers, but I have yet to see any Ministry taking action. Do Government not have enough laws for the purpose? They have got even the MISA now and also the Essential Commodities Act. Why should they not put at least one man, one non-user behind the bars and then see what happens?

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): The MISA is only for the students.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: But the pity is that no action is taken. The demand by the large manufacturers is that we should import yarn, particularly what is known as 6X6. This is required by them for manufacturing fabrics whose cost per metre is between Rs. 50 to Rs. 500. Gwalior Rayons have put in the market a cloth which costs Rs. 500 per metre. It is these people who are demanding that this yarn should be imported. They alone are in

the advisory committee through representatives; the small man is not there. I would like to know whether Government are going to give representation to the small man also, on the advisory committee attached to the Textile Commissioner's office. There, it can be decided for whom this yarn is going to be imported.

The hon. Minister has stated that import has been allowed. The major question today is what protection Government are going to give to the small man. My hon. friend here was talking about the profits. May I point out the figures in this respect? In the case of JK Synthetics, it was 34.3 per cent of the sales and 21.6 per cent of the total capital employed. You know how fantastic by any standard this profit is. When, in the case of Modipon.—I do not know whether this has something to do with Shri Piloo Mody....

SHRI PILOO MODY: It has something to do with Pon-Pon.

SHRI VASANT SATHE:..it was 38.6 per cent of the gross on sales and 23.3 per cent on the total capital employed. In the case of Nirlon Synthetics, it was 18.3 per cent, in the case of Garwari Nylons, it was 42.0 per cent, in the case of Century Enka (Birlas), it was 56.2 per cent on gross sales and 28.7 per cent on the total capital employed. Now, this is absolutely a loot. (Interruptions) The chartered accountant, who is an expert, is saying it is an absolute loot, by any standard. Yet, you are not asking them to stop it. You allowed them to increase their capacity. At that time there was an understanding that they would reduce the price at least by 15 per cent. Did you see to it that they reduced the price? Today, I ask the Government, these questions. Will you get these manufacturers across the table, bring them round, rope them together, and tell them to have an agreement with the actual users, the small users, that a certain percentage—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am putting only questions, Sir; I, 2, 3—like that. My first question is, will you see that they have

a mutual agreement. Do not introduce a middleman; do not introduce this SASMA as a distributing agency. They will again loot and again hurt the small people. Therefore, will you have a straight agreement with them and see to it that that agreement is made before the Textile Commissioner and is implemented and protection is given to the small grower? Secondly, will you see that they reduce the price? Thirdly, will you see that the imported yarn is distributed and given directly to the actual users?

These are the basic things required to be done for the small weaver. Do not be carried away by those who talk in the name of the small weaver and who are, in fact, representatives of the big spinners—indirectly spinners and weavers themselves such as the association, SASMA, and monopoly weavers also. (Interruptions) I do not want anybody to plead the cause of those who are giving advertisements. I am sure you will not be carried away. The Government is already doing its best to import caprolactum. Up till now they have. I am sure they will do more. Kindly do. Please reply to my questions.

SHRI PILOO MODY: One question: what share did the Congress Party got in all this? (Interruptions)

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Nothing; whatever there was, went to others. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not allow; it is not permitted. Mr. Bosu, you take up the time unnecessarily. Now, the Minister.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have already said that some of the spinning units have made unjustifiable profits. It has been brought to our notice and appropriate action is being taken and in respect of one or two units some drastic action has to be taken. I can assure you that we will let you know sometime later on; this is being processed.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Political contribution...

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing? He is unnecessarily disturbing the House. Please sit down.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: What the hon. Member said is absolutely a baseless charge.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called him. I do not permit him.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: About the price, I have already said that a high-powered Commission like the Tariff Commission has gone into the matter, and recommended certain things and we are going to follow them with suitable modifications. Thirdly, as I have already said, our distribution system will take care primarily, of the interests of the weaker sections, namely, actual users... (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: He sits too near me; it is not only the Minister who is involved; the Speaker is also involved. He sits too near me distracting my attention every time.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order, under rule 376, arising out of your observations. Did they not receive Rs. 20 lakhs as donation to their party? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. He seeks protection, I seek protection from him.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am always in obedience to the Chair.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM (Tirunelveli): I would like to ask a few questions. In Tamilnadu large number of weavers engaged in the power looms are unemployed due to the sudden increase in the prices and the blackmarket. The actual number of power looms is higher than the authorised number. The weavers are unable to get sufficient yarn to work for 26 days to earn the wages.

Will the Government help to ensure the proper distribution of yarns on the basis of the actual number of power looms, and take necessary action to curb the black-market?

[Shri S. A. Muruganatham]

Was the Century SIRKA of Birlas kept out of the voluntary price agreement on the plea that its earning capacity is less? Can the Minister give us details as to who examined the earning capacity of the concern, and what is the profit made by this concern in the last three years.

What are the steps that the Government are going to take to effectively check blackmarket in the distribution of nylon yarn and artificial silk and may I know whether the entire stock of yarn will be brought under control for effective distribution?

MR. SPEAKER. That is the right manner, the way in which questions should be asked in call-attention matters

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA. I have already said that action will be taken against the units which have gone out of the voluntary agreement. Secondly, I have said that the high price was due to many other factors, shortage of caprolactam, etc. We are aware of the difficulties of the powerloom weavers in Tamilnadu and we are evolving a scheme, the main features of which I have already submitted to the House

SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM. I have raised about Birla Mills.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The mill he mentioned was Birlas, so far as I know.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: The hon. Minister said in the statement that the voluntary price agreement was working quite all right and there was no reason for the Government to interfere with that arrangement as the needs of the decentralised weaving sector were being met. According to the voluntary price agreement you have fixed certain price for these commodities but the poor weaver goes to the market to buy these things according to the voluntary price agreement, only to find that he will not get it.

He will get a bill where the price is written according to your agreement, but he has to give some extra money to the

spinner. Only by paying that black money the weaver will get the artificial yarn. I do not know whether you are aware of it but that is a reality which the poor weavers are facing all over the country. I want to know whether the Government is going to take any step by which this malpractice will be removed. I have been going through various statements made by your predecessor, Mr. L. N. Mishra. From 1971 onwards he repeatedly said that we are going to bring down and control the prices, etc., but he failed. You are also failing in the same way because you came with a kind of complacency saying that the voluntary price agreement is wonderful. This dark reality of encouraging black money in the name of voluntary price agreement is scuttling the voluntary price agreement, Government sitting all the time as a helpless spectator. I want to know whether you will come out of that and take some firm measures against that

Secondly, I would repeat Mr. Muruganatham's question which you tried to evade successfully. That is about the Birla Company—Century. In another paper the name is given in a different way. That Birla concern has been exempted from the voluntary price control by the Government. Whether it was due to your excessive love for Birlas or due to something else, I do not know. I want a categorical answer whether the said Birla firm has been exempted, whatever might have been the excuse for that and if so, what are the reasons for that. Is it not a fact that this Birla concern has amassed huge profits?

In reply to comrade S. M. Banerjee's question whether you are going to nationalise this industry, the Minister said, the time has not yet come. That is a wonderful answer. This is a sector where the large monopoly houses of this country are entrenched so deeply and they are looting the poor weavers and the country as a whole. You simply say, the time has not come. But is it not a fact that you are taking over the sick mills because when the mills are sick, the monopoly houses are no more interested in them because the profit possibility is not there. You gracefully step in to help the mono-

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yarn (CA) Harijan Women

polists out of it. Here is an industry which is continuously being profitable and you say, we cannot nationalise it. I want to know when the time will come, what is the criterion for taking over these mills and whether you have a policy by which monopolies will be curbed and the interests of the poor man will be served.

I hope the minister will directly answer my questions without going round and round.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA. My hon. friend has said that the voluntary price agreement has totally failed. I do not share his view, nor his figures. I have already said that the price recommended by the Tariff Commission in September, 1970 for nylon 15 denier was Rs. 73.80.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA. I have said that the voluntary price agreement is there. The price will be written in the bills. But when the weaver goes to the market apart from what is written in the bill, he has got to pay black money to get the yarn.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA. I have said that in between September, 1970 and January, 1973 there was no question of price increase. I have already said that because of the scarcity of the commodity there has been some malpractice. I have also said very clearly that some units have went out of the voluntary agreement and action is being taken against them. I have already said that profit motive was evident from the high dividends declared by some companies. In the formula that we are evolving we will take care of these things so that the high profit rate is not allowed. Then he asked a question about nationalisation, which is a big question. There are two considerations for nationalisation. One is that it must be in the priority sector. Here it does not come under the priority sector. Secondly, if in the larger interest of the people and the employees some sick mills have to be taken over, they will be taken over.

SHRI PILGO MOBY: Thirdly, the most important thing is that you do not know how to manage them.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA. I will solicit your help in this matter.

I can only say that whatever voluntary statutory agreement we arrive at will be uniformly applicable and nobody will be exempt from it.

13.13 hrs.

RE. ATROCITIES COMMITTED ON HARIJAN WOMEN IN BIHAR—contd.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER. I have not allowed any adjournment motion.

(Interruptions)

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा (जयनगर) 27
तारीख को दिल्ली में नोगो पर लाठिया
चलाई गई है। ग्राम गैंग छोड़ी गई है।
इसके बारे में (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने किसी को काम रोकने का प्रस्ताव रखने की इजाजत नहीं दी है।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा दिल्ली में हुआ है, महिलाओं पर हुआ है, युवकों पर हुआ है...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने किसी को काम रोकने का प्रस्ताव रखने की इजाजत नहीं दी है।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : यह सदन में भ्रान्त चाहिए...

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: (स्वालिबर)
काम रोकने का प्रस्ताव बिहार में हरिजन महिलाओं पर जो अत्याचार हुए हैं, उसके