

international Talks have been a flop and they have not succeeded. I should like to know from the hon. Minister the present status of Jute International, and whether we have been able to come to any agreement with Bangla Desh regarding not undercutting jute in international market.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): It is our endeavour that the jute community of India, Bangla Desh and Thailand which are the main producers in the world of jute should succeed and we are having a dialogue. In the meantime some understanding has been reached and the House will be happy to know, it is because of those efforts the exports of jute from both Bangla Desh and India this year have gone up, as against last year.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: With regard to both Pakistan and Bangla Desh, one of the major items of export could be coal but it is a tragic fact that large quantities of coal are still smuggled out of Delhi and other places to West Pakistan sector in the Lahour border. Have any talks been held with the Pakistani government to prevent smuggling of coal so that we can export coal to Pakistan through the normal trade channels.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: the policy of the government is very clear. We do not want any smuggl-

ing to go on from our country to any other country or within our country; we are very firm on this. At the same time if through bilateral discussions we could export coal and if it is beyond the needs of the country, we shall do so.

SHRI VINODBAI B. SETH: While the hon. Minister says that they do not want to allow smuggling of coal to Pakistan and Bangla Desh, may I draw his attention to the fact that a lot of animals, sheep and goats, are smuggled out of India from Jodia in Gujarat Border to Pakistan?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I appreciate the information of the hon. Member; I shall look into it.

Foreign Exchange Earnings from Jute and Rice

*537. **SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state the net foreign exchange earned by exporting jute, jute products and rice compared to the total foreign exchange earned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The requisite information is as follows :

	(Value in Rs. Crores)		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Raw Jute	17.52	10.10	1.23
Jute Products	296.79	250.80	200.83
Basmati Rice	21.50	13.04	6.12
TOTAL	335.81	274.03	208.18
Total Foreign exchange earned through exports	3328.83	4042.81	5143.35

SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: The statement shows that the foreign exchange earnings from raw jute had been steadily declining, from Rs. 17.52 crores in 1974-75 to Rs. 10.10 crores in 1975-76 and to Rs. 1.23 crores in 1976-77; similarly the export of jute products had declined from Rs. 298.79 crores to Rs. 250.89 crores in the year 1975-76 and to Rs. 200.83 crores in the year 1976-77. Again from an export earning of Rs. 21.50 crores in 1974-75, the export of Basmati had declined to Rs. 13.04 crores in 1975-76 and Rs. 6.12 crores in 1976-77. I should like to know from the hon. Minister the cause of this decline.

श्री आरिफ बेग : जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है पिछले वर्षों की तुलना में जूट प्रोडक्ट्स और बासमती चावल की एक्सपोर्ट में कमी आई है, और उन्होंने उसके कारण जानने चाहे हैं। सर्वप्रथम मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि दुनिया के बाजार में, वर्ल्ड मार्केट में जूट प्रोडक्ट्स के सामने सिन्थेटिक्स आ गए हैं और यह बिल्कुल सही है कि उसी के कारण हमारे एक्सपोर्ट में कमी आई है। उसी प्रकार जहाँ तक बासमती चावल का ताल्लुक है, बाहर के देशों में हम के बाजार में हमें जो प्राइस मिलती थी, वह डिकलाइन हुई है, और दूसरे देशों, खासकर अपने पड़ोसी पाकिस्तान, के साथ हमें काम्पै-टीशन करना पड़ता है। मैं यह भी सूचना देना चाहता हूँ कि बाहर के देशों का हमारी एक्सपोर्ट्स में अभाव्यही कमी आई है, लेकिन हमारे घर की मार्केट में इन बन्नुओं के इस्तेमाल में वृद्धि हुई है। गत वर्ष हम ने जितना एक्सपोर्ट किया था, उसकी तुलना में इस वर्ष हमने जूट प्रोडक्ट्स अधिक मात्रा में बाहर भेजी हैं। इस बात की धारा है कि धीरे धीरे मार्केट में हमारी स्थिति और मजबूत होगी।

श्री राज कृष्ण दान : मंत्री महोदय ने जो उत्तर दिया है, वह ठीक नहीं है।

पश्चिमी बंगाल में जूट की कमी की वजह से कारखाने बन्द हैं और मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि बाहर कस्टमर नहीं हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to your second question.

SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN: Due to the failure of the Government to examine the statutory prices of jute and paddy fixed on the recommendation of the Agricultural Prices Commission and revise it upward in the light of high cost of inputs and rise in the wages of agricultural labourers due to sudden imposition of Agriculture and Labour Wages Act in West Bengal since the commission recommended the statutory prices for these articles, the jute and paddy growers are incurring financial loss. They are not getting remunerative prices for their produce. In view of the above fact, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken by the Government to save the farmers from the huge financial loss, and to increase the foreign exchange earning through the export of jute and rice. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is ready to give remunerative prices to the farmers.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): As the House is well aware, it is for the first time that the Jute Corporation of India was asked to open several Centres in the jute producing areas and this year we have taken adequate care so that reasonable prices are available to the producers and that too in the villages concerned, where they produce. Regarding the export of Jute, this House will be happy to know that in the period, April to December 1976 the export of jute products were of the order of Rs. 130 crores and as against that, in the period, April to December 1977, they have gone upto Rs. 166 crores. It is because of the efforts made by the Government that the

exports are more and we are also taking care to produce additional jute crop and also to pay remunerative prices to the farmers.

श्री श्रोत्र प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि हमारे जूट के सामान की तुलना में पाकिस्तान में बनने वाला जूट का सामान क्वालिटी में भी अच्छा होता है और कीमत में भी चीपर होता है, जिसके कारण भारतवर्ष को पाकिस्तान के साथ काम्पीटीशन में कठिनाई होती है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पाकिस्तान के जूट के माल के मुकाबले में अपना माल अच्छा और सस्ता बनाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या प्रयत्न किया है।

श्री मोहन बारिया : अब तो पाकिस्तान में कोई जूट नहीं जाता है। बंगलादेश से जाता है। (व्यवधान)।

श्री श्रोत्र प्रकाश त्यागी : मेरा मतलब बंगलादेश से ही है।

श्री मोहन बारिया : अगर हमारा माल अच्छा न होता तो पिछले साल के 130 करोड़ के मुकाबले इस साल 166 करोड़ कैसे जाता। हमने यह सब ध्यान में लिया है कि हमारा माल अच्छा कैसे हो, अलग-अलग फैशन कैसे लाएं और वहाँ अच्छी ब्लेंडिंग कैसे करें यह सब ध्यान में लेकर हम कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं।

श्री दुबराज : मैं वाणिज्य मंत्री से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि जूट कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया के मैनेजमेंट में अव्यवस्था उत्पन्न हो जाने के कारण और झट्टाचार व्याप्त है उस के कारण भी निर्यात पर बुरा असर पड़ा है?

श्री मोहन बारिया : अव्यवस्था बहोदय, यह सच बात है लेकिन नहीं मगर मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा कोई अव्यवस्था का मामला नहीं बन रहा है। सामान्य

सदस्य अगर हमारी दृष्टि में ऐसा कोई मामला लाए तो मिनिस्टर आफ इंडस्ट्रीज जो इस को देखते हैं उनको मैं जरूर कहूंगा कि वे इस में जांच करें।

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has stated that since last year jute products are getting remunerative prices. But perhaps he knows that jute growers are demanding that the minimum price of jute should be fixed at Rs. 200 per maund. So, may I know whether the Government is ready to announce the minimum price as demanded by the jute growers? You know that many jute mills are closed and more than 40,000 workers are thrown out of job. So, in view of the reply given by the hon. Minister, may I know what steps the Government is going to take to reopen the jute mills so that the jute growers may get the price as they demanded earlier.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Again, this is a question dealt with by the Minister of Industries. But I can assure the Member that the Government has already taken several steps to see that these closed jute mills resume their work, and also from the point of view of giving remunerative prices to the farmers, it is for the first time that we have decided to purchase jute at the farmers/producers' centres themselves.

तत्करी तथा अन्य धार्मिक उपराध रोकना

* 540. डा० राजबी सिंह : क्या बिस्म मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस समय तत्करी और अन्य धार्मिक उपराध उस सीमा तक नहीं रोकें जा रहे हैं जिस सीमा तक वे आघातकाल के दौरान रोकें गए थे; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इन व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कोई विशेष अभियान चलाएगी?