

जबकि युद्धपोत के निर्माण में काम आने वाले शतप्रतिशत पुर्जे भारत में ही निर्मित हों ? और उस के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यक्रम अपनाया है ?

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : जहां तक माननीय सदस्य के पहले प्रश्न का सवाल है 15 प्रतिशत इंडियनस इक्विपमेंट्स का इस्तेमाल इस फ़िगट के निर्माण में किया गया है बाकी फौरन पार्ट्स इस्तेमाल किये गये हैं लेकिन मजदूरों के सेबर चाजज मिला कर आधा खर्चा देश के भीतर हुमा है और जैसा मैंने बतलाया कि फ़िगट की कीमत जोकि 18-19 करोड़ रुपये होगी उसमें विदेशी मद्र करीब उसकी आधी होगी

श्री यशबन्त सिंह कुशवाह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे दूसरा सवाल पूछने दिया जाय ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं क्या कर बारह बज चुके हैं ।

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION Shortage of Raw Rubber

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SNQ. 6. SHRI D. N. PATODIA:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI SHRI CHAND
GOYAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to acute shortage of raw rubber, the manufacturers of rubber goods are facing a crisis and some units have already closed down their operations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation;

(c) whether it is a fact that the ruling prices of raw rubber are considerably higher as compared to the prices fixed for the same; and

(d) the long term measures proposed to be adopted by Government for continuous and regular supply of

raw rubber to ensure that the industries manufacturing rubber products are not affected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Supply of indigenous rubber is not sufficient to meet the demand. However, Government is not aware of any unit having been closed down on this account.

(b) Even normally production of rubber in the country is less than the requirement, and this year production suffered due to heavy rains and then a strike by plantation workers. Government have allowed imports to ease the deficiency.

(c) Ruling prices are considerably higher than the minimum prices fixed for raw rubber.

(d) It is proposed to build up and operate a buffer stock, issues from which are to be regulated by Government to ensure reasonable prices and supply, both in the interest of rubber growers and the manufacturers of rubber goods.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: This phenomenon of shortage of raw rubber in our country is not new. Right from 1952 onwards there is a continuous shortage every year and India has to import to feed its industries. In the last two years some avoidable restrictions were imposed on imports as a result of which the industry is facing this crisis today. The hon. Minister stated they are not aware of certain industries having been closed. I beg to submit that this is not very correct. The Minister was informed by the respective Ministries that certain units had closed, and since he has denied it, I would like to say that four industries including Shri Krishna Rubber Manufacturing Company, Calcutta, were closed as early as 20 days back.

May I know whether it is a fact that during the current year there would be a total shortage of 20,000 tonnes

to meet the full demand of production of the industries in the country, and in that context the programme of the Government of India to import 7,500 tonnes is most inadequate, and unless immediate measures are adopted to import the required quantity; many factories will have to close down rendering thousands of labourers unemployed? In what manner do they propose to import the balance of 12,500 tonnes within the current year?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: The gap between the supply and demand of rubber would be fully met by imports.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Does he agree that there is a shortage of 20,000 tonnes, and what are the arrangements being made? That was my question.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: The requirements of rubber normally imported are 12,000 tonnes natural rubber and 3,000 tonnes synthetic rubber, but because of heavy rains in Kerala and the strike, additional requirements to the tune of 6,500 tonnes will have to be imported. So, taking all these factors into consideration, we are importing 11,000 tonnes and whatever deficiency remains after that will be met by additional imports.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Has Government made any assessment of the projected demand of rubber in the course of the next five years taking into account the expansion programme of the industry, and in that context do they have any plan of regular import of raw rubber so that this difficulty faced this year may not be repeated again and planning of imports may be properly regularised month after month?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: We shall have to import rubber for a considerable time, upto the time we have increased our indigenous production of rubber. Government is assessing the situation every year and

whatever additional demands are there, we are meeting them by importing more rubber.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL: I would like to know from the hon. Minister if the Planning Commission has admitted that the gap between the supply and demand has to be met by internal production. Have the Government taken adequate steps to increase production of rubber if the Government feel that the supply of rubber is not adequate enough to meet the demand, because my information is that on account of the price, the foreign dominated monopolists are not prepared to lift the indigenous stocks of rubber and the Government has just allowed the import from outside and departed from the principle of acquiring self-sufficiency. My second question is: the only synthetic plant in the country was burnt sometime back. Have the Government taken some steps to replace that plant? My next question is this. The matter was referred to the Tariff Commission to find out the reasons for increasing the price of rubber. May I know whether that report has been received by the Government and if so, what are the findings of the Commission. My last question is: this question of rubber is very important from the point of view of the economy of Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER: No explanation please.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL: Did the Government before importing this rubber, consult the Kerala Government, whose economy is terribly affected by these imports?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Replying to the last question first, whenever rubber imports are to be made the Government take into consideration the views of the State Government also. The views of rubber growers, manufacturers and small planters are also taken into consideration at the time of imports.

With regard to the indigenous production of rubber, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the Government has already spent Rs. 3,94,54,123 on the scheme of replantation subsidy upto the end of 1968. This scheme is under the constant review of the Government and more loans are given to these growers for plantation.

Another point is: the hon. Member wanted to know how long we shall have to import this rubber. As I said earlier, we are taking steps to increase the indigenous production of rubber. So till such time we are self-sufficient, naturally we shall have to import.

MR. SPEAKER: One more question he put about the synthetic plant.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: With regard to the synthetic plant, the production in 1968 was 2732 tonnes as compared to 678 tonnes in September 1967. Naturally there has been an increase of more than a thousand tonnes in the synthetic rubber production also and the Government are endeavouring to see that the synthetic production of rubber in the country also increases.

SHRI S. KUNDU: There is another thing before the production of rubber from indigenous sources and also import of rubber. There is about distribution of rubber internally. For a long time we know there is a great shortage of scooter tyres and cycle tyres and also cycle tubes and scooter tubes. The small industries who manufacture these tyres and tubes are facing great difficulty in getting raw rubber and a lot of corruption is going on in the market. Has the Minister got any scheme to see that the raw rubber is uniformly distributed to the small scale industries who manufacture these scooter and cycle tyres and tubes and also that they are not dominated by the monopolists?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: As I have already stated, the Government is keeping a regular watch over

the price trends of raw rubber which ultimately determine the price of the finished products also. In case the Government feels that the price fluctuations in rubber are affecting the industry, then the Government may take to state trading in rubber not only for the imported rubber but also for the indigenous rubber to regulate the market in a way that the growers and the manufacturers are benefited, and see that the consumer ultimately is not burdened heavily with high costs.

SHRI S. KUNDU: I asked about the distribution of raw rubber internally, and said that a lesser quantity of raw rubber is supplied to the cycle and scooter tyre manufacturing industries, and so, I asked whether he is going to give more rubber to them and whether he will distribute it in such a way that these people get it, and whether he will see that corruption is eliminated and greater production in this sector takes place.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I have already explained that at this stage there is no government agency to distribute rubber, but Government is thinking of having a Government agency which would distribute and regulate the distribution in the country.

SHRI NITRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Since both synthetic and natural rubber are being used in the manufacture of rubber goods, may I know from the Minister the per tonne price of synthetic rubber and the per tonne price of the rubber produced in this country from natural sources?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: The price has been fluctuating between Rs. 470 and Rs. 450 per 100 Kgs. The price of natural rubber today is ranging around Rs. 4700 per tonne, and it is fluctuating between Rs. 575 per 100 kilos and Rs. 470. This is the price range within which the price of rubber has been fluctuating of late.

SHRI RANGA: Have the Government received any complaint or any

representations from the rubber growers of Kerala and whether the Kerala Government also has made any report in regard to those representations that the minimum price that has been fixed is much too low and the production of rubber there has become uneconomical and something has got to be done by way of pooling the imports as well as the local production, and having a uniform price so that the local price which would be made available to the growers would be economical?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI:

It was to protect the interests of the grower that the Government removed the ceiling price of raw rubber recently, so that the price this time is now ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 470 as I stated earlier. As compared to the international price, this price is much higher, but the higher price for the grower is not to his benefit, because if the price of rubber is too high, it will give no inducement to him for replantation nor will a depressed price of rubber leave any enthusiasm in him to have replantation of old plantations. So, a reasonable price has to be given for the manufacturers and growers which would also be for the benefit of the consumer.

SHRI RANGA: What about the grower?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI:

The growers are getting much higher price at this time than the ceiling fixed earlier. Our ceiling was Rs. 416, but the price at this time is ranging from Rs. 470 and Rs. 510. per 100 Kgs.

श्री रणबीर सिंह : श्री कुंडू ने कार और स्कूटर के बारे में कहा और अभी भी सादर प्रार्थना की वकालत भी। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से पूछना चाहूंगा कि रबर की किल्लत की वजह से जब देश में 50 फीसदी ट्रेक्टर बेकार हैं क्योंकि उन 10 लिये टायर नहीं मिलते, और मिलते भी हैं 10 इतनी सब्त ब्लैक मार्केट है जिसका ठिकाना नहीं है, तब ट्रेक्टरों के

मालिकों को यानी किसानों को जो तकलीफ है उस को दूर करने के लिये और देश में प्रोडक्शन बढ़े, ज्यादा से ज्यादा अनाज पैदा हो इस नजरिये से, देश के हित के नजरिये से, चालीस करोड़ लोगों के हित के नजरिये से, जिनकी वजह से हम और आप यहां पर हैं, क्या सरकार इस खाम रबर की कमी को दूर करेगी ताकि देश में प्रजातंत्र बढ़ सके ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : खाम रबर की कमी की वजह से ही तो हम इतना ज्यादा आयात करते हैं ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Although I fully support the demands of the planters that the price should be much more remunerative and it should be increased, at the same time, I wanted to know from the hon. Minister if it is not a fact that the moment the price of rubber is raised, immediately the manufacturers will also raise the price of the various tyres, etc., which ultimately affects the consumer. I wanted to know, therefore, whether any policy has been evolved to the effect that the price for the growers is also increased, keeping in view that the price of tyres is not increased, which will affect the consumer? Has any plan been evolved for that?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI:

Government is thinking of State-trading in rubber in order to facilitate giving a good price to the grower and also to see that regular supplies are made to the manufacturers of tyres, etc. and to see that the consumer is also benefited and he does not have to pay a higher price for rubber products.

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : इंडस्ट्रीज की डिफिकल्टीज के बारे में हम ने अभी बहुत कुछ सुना । कन्ज्यूमर की दिक्कत के बारे में श्री बनर्जी ने जो सवाल पूछा उस के सन्दर्भ में मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो इंडस्ट्रीज इन टायर ट्यूब की कीमत बढ़ा रही हैं क्या मिनिस्टर

महोदय का ध्यान उस की तरफ है ? यदि उस की तरफ उनका ध्यान है तो आज टायर और ट्यूब पर जो ब्लैक मार्केट चल रही है उस को रोकने की दशा में क्या सरकार द्वारा कोई कदम जल्दी उठाये जाने को है ? अगर है तो वह कदम कारगर होंगे या नहीं ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : जैसा मैंने पहले भ्रज किया है हमारी जो जरूरत है वह पैदावार से काफी ज्यादा है। उस कमी को पूरा करने के लिये हम बाहर से रबर का आयात करते हैं। रबर के आयात का मतलब यह है कि जो रबर की प्राइसेज हैं वह कम हों, और रबर की प्राइसेज जब कम होंगी तो उस का फायदा कन्ज्यमर को भी मिलेगा।

श्री नबज किशोर शर्मा : मेरा सवाल यह है कि कोई कदम उठाये गये हैं या नहीं ?

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN: Kerala is the main producer of rubber in this country. Because of the liberal import of rubber during the last few years, rubber cultivation has been badly hit. There has been a change in Government's policy recently and Government of India are giving various types of incentives and aids to rubber cultivators to intensify and also to extend rubber cultivation. May I know what percentage of the incentives and aid given to the rubber cultivators has gone to those whose holdings are less than 20 acres or to put it broadly, to the small cultivator?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: My hon. friend is not correctly informed about production of rubber. In fact, rubber production in the country has been going up. From 1963-64 when the production of natural rubber and synthetic rubber was 37,487 tons and 8075 respectively, the production today is 72,000 tons and 30,000 tons. There is no decrease, but a tremendous increase in rubber production. But the demand has also gone up. With regard to aid given to the small growers, I have said that Government have given more than

Rs. 3.94 crores by way of replanting subsidy.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN: What percentage of the aid has gone to the small cultivators?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I will have to work out the figure.

श्री प० ला० बाबूपाल : यहां पर बहुत से सदस्यों में से किसी ने मोटर की बात कही और किसी ने स्कूटर की बात कही, लेकिन मैं करोड़ों साइकिल वालों की बात कहता हूँ। जब भी इन लोगों को टायर खरीदने की आवश्यकता पड़नी है तब यह होता है कि पहले वह राशन कार्ड से जायें, साइकिल टोकन से जायें, उस के बाद जा कर वहाँ पर लाइन लगायें। इस के बावजूद साइकिल टायर और ट्यूब निकाल कर रखना होता है। उस के बाद भी उन को मिल नहीं पाता है। अगर श्री कुरेशी के पास साइकिल होनी और वह टायर लेने जाते तो उन को मालम होता।

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: Rubber is a very strategic raw material and we have been told that the demand has been increasing but the supply is not keeping pace with that. In the first place, I want to know whether the government has made any survey whether there are lands outside Kerala also which are suitable for plantation of rubber. Secondly, may I know whether it is a fact that increase in rubber plantation is not taking place adequately because of the so-called restrictions which make the Kerala Government and also the cultivators give more stress to food production? In view of the fact that this is a very strategic raw material and only certain particular areas can grow rubber, will the government see to it that enough food is supplied to those areas so that the cultivators and the government there may pay more attention to the plantation of rubber and other cash crops in preference to production of foodgrains? Then, since there is shortage of natural rubber, will the government pay more attention to the production of synthetic

rubber—Now we have only one factory which is producing 2,000 tonnes—so that the shortage can be met at the earliest possible time? Then, may I know whether the available supply including imports will be given on a priority basis first to the manufacturers of tyres because they are facing a lot of inconvenience on account of the shortage of rubber? Then, the import should not be channelled through the agency of the STC because their distribution system is wrong. So, there has to be free import in this case.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: There is no import of rubber through STC at this stage. What I said was that if there are violent price fluctuations in the rubber industry, it will affect the consumers as well and then the government might think of regulating the price through some State agency. Then, my hon. friend has been talking about the production of synthetic rubber. I have already given the figures of production of synthetic rubber. It has gone up. In September 1967 the figure was 678 tonnes. For September 1968 the figure is 2,732 tonnes. So, the production of synthetic rubber is going up.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Is he giving the monthly or annual production?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: For one month.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He should give the figures for one whole year so that we can judge whether that production is being maintained.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I can give the annual figures also. From April to September 1967 the production was 7,614 tonnes. In the current year the production for the corresponding period is 19,942 tonnes, showing a tremendous increase of 12,000 tonnes in the case of synthetic rubber. With regard to natural rubber, I have already said that government have a scheme for replanting subsidies. Under this scheme more than Rs. 4 crores have been spent by the government on new plantations.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: Sir, he has not followed my question.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I am coming to what we are going to do in regard to plantation of rubber in new States. The Rubber Board, which is charged with the responsibility of looking after the development of the rubber industry, is looking into the question of having rubber plantations in the various States like Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: I had been to Kerala recently and I found that some of the rubber plantations are being cut down and people are planting paddy. Can you assure that State enough of rice so that more and more land can be brought under rubber cultivation?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: The subsidy scheme is there. We are having certain schemes for having more and more rubber plantations. I have no information with regard to cutting of rubber trees for paddy cultivation.

श्री विभूति मिश्र: सिंथेटिक रबर कितना हमारे देश में पैदा होता है और नैचुरल रबर कितना होता है और देश की डिमांड कितने की है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो डिफिसिट है उसको पूरा करने के लिये सरकार क्या उपाय कर रही है ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : मैं चार बार इस सवाल का जवाब दे चुका हूँ । अब भी चूँकि सवाल पूछा गया है, इस वास्ते मैं इसका जवाब देता हूँ । जहाँ तक नैचुरल रबर की प्रोडक्शन का ताल्लुक है, 1967-68 को वह 64468 टन है और सिंथेटिक रबर हम 19942 टन बनाते हैं । उसके मुकाबले में जो हमारा डिफिसिट है वह कोई बारह हजार टन नैचुरल रबर का है और तीन हजार टन सिंथेटिक रबर का है, यानी कुल पंद्रह हजार टन का है । इसमें से ग्यारह हजार टन आलरेडी था चुका है । चार हजार टन की जो कमी है और जो एडीशनल चार हजार की बारिश की

बजह से कमी हुई है, उसको हम आयात करके पूरा करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं ।

श्री जाबं फरनेन्डोस : पिछले सप्ताह टायरों के दाम साढ़े छः प्रतिशत कारखानेदारों की तरफ से बढ़ाये गये हैं । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या ये दाम सरकार से सलाह मशवरा करके बढ़ाये गये हैं ? आप रा रबर प्रोड्यूसर्स को सबसिडी देते हैं तो क्या आप ने कारखानेदारों पर भी दामों पर रोक लगाने के बारे में किसी तरह का नियंत्रण लगाया है ? यहाँ पर कहा जाता है कि टायर मॅमूफॅक्चरर्ज परेशान हैं । लेकिन अथश महोदय, इस में कोई तथ्य नहीं है । आप देखें कि फायरस्टोन टायर कम्पनी जैसा कारखाना रोज एक लाख रुपया मुनाफा कमाता है उस पर जो टायर वह बनाता और बेचता है । जो दाम बढ़े हैं इनके बारे में क्या आप को सूचना है और दाम न बढ़ें इस पर आप कोई रोक लगायेंगे और कोई कदम उठायेंगे ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : इस सवाल का ताल्लुक इंडस्ट्रीज मिनिस्ट्री से है और मेरी इत्तिला के मुताबिक इंडस्ट्रीज मिनिस्ट्री और कारखानेदारों के बीच इस वक्त इसके मुताल्लिक बातचीत चल रही है और वे किसी नतीजे पर जल्दी पहुंचने वाले हैं ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Reshuffling of Units of Hindustan
Aeronautics Ltd.

*363. SHRI ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to reshuffle the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Units in Bangalore and Kanpur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) Some organisational changes are contemplated in HAL Organisation as a whole.

(b) The main features are the appointment of a whole-time Chairman, division of the existing Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Organisation into three units, namely, Bangalore Division, MIG Complex and the Kanpur Division, and to give to heads of these Divisions increased authority and initiative.

हिन्दुस्तान एयरक्राफ्ट फैक्टरी में
विमान इंजनों का निर्माण

*366. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बंगलौर स्थित हिन्दुस्तान एयरक्राफ्ट फैक्टरी में किस प्रकार के विमानों के इंजनों का निर्माण होता है ;

(ख) किस फैक्टरी ने अब तक "प्रार-फियस" प्रकार के कितने विमान इंजनों का निर्माण किया है; और

(ग) यह इंजिन किस प्रकार के भारतीय विमानों में लगाये गये हैं ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ल० ना मिश्र) : (क) हिन्दुस्तान एरोनाटिक्स लिमिटेड (बंगलौर, इंडीज) में निर्माणाखिल प्रकार के विमान इंजनों का निर्माण किया जा रहा है :-

1. प्रॉफियस 701
2. प्रॉफियस 703
3. टॉट प्रार.डॉ.ए-7
4. प्रॉटॉटे 3-बी

(ख) इस सूचना को बताना जमहूर में न होगा ।