

الاشیو سکندرجت: آی ایم ساری ایرنٹو
 میجرس کے امپی مینیشن کی بات ہے قانون
 بنانے کی بات نہیں ہے۔ حکمہ کو سدھارنے
 کی بات ہے۔۔۔ "مداخلت"۔۔۔

श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा: श्रीमन्, महकमें में सुधार हो रहा है और महकमें में सुधार के लिए हमको जो भी करना पड़ेगा, वह हम करेंगे। हम सिर्फ मंत्री बनकर आराम करने के लिए यहां नहीं आये हैं।

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The Minister's attitude is very strange.

Utilisation of Jute Cess Fund

*283. SHRI MD. SALIM:
 SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Jute Cess Fund collected during last three years; and

(b) the pattern of utilisation of this fund on R&D training and marketing?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The total amount of Jute Cess Fund collected during the last three years is as under:

Year (April-March)	Cess Collected
1993-94	Rs. 1737 lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 1692 lakhs
1995-96	Rs. 1254 lakhs

(b) The Jute Cess Fund is collected and credited to the Consolidated Fund of India. Every year, the Government releases funds to Jute Manufacture

Development Council (JMDC) which are utilised mainly towards Market Promotion activities. The JMDC utilises a part of the grant received towards Training and Development by allocating funds to the Institute of Jute Technology. Funding for Research and Development activities is not made from out of grants to JMDC. The year wise utilisation of grants towards Training and Marketing activities are as follows:

Year	Training Expenses	Promotional Expenses
1993-94	Rs. 22.50 lakhs	Rs. 1647.77 lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 30.00 lakhs	Rs. 1625.38 lakhs
1995-96	Rs. 33.75 lakhs	Rs. 2630.93 lakhs (including arrears)

SHRI MD. SALIM: Sir, there is no denial of the fact that the jute industry needs technological upgradation and upgradation of product for export. Sir, in the answer the Minister has said that the jute cess collected by the Government, as per the Act of 1983, is handed over mainly to the JMDC. In response to my question, the reply of the Minister is that out of Rs. 16 crores or Rs. 17 crores collected as cess, they are spending the money mainly to meet the expenses incurred on market promotional activities. In spite of all these efforts, even with the establishment of JMDC there is not much development of marketing. Sir, there is a need for providing R&D support and transfer of technology from the Indian Institute of Jute Technology to the industry.

The Government is not spending a single pic for the R&D sector. There is only lip service. I would like to know whether at least 50 per cent of the Jute Cess Fund would be utilised for manufacturing exportable jute products by using the expertise of the IJIRA. There is proven R&D work by the IJIRA. But there is no money. I would like to know whether the Government would spend some money from the Jute Cess Fund for R&D support and for

†) Transliteration in Arabic Script.

venture capital to support the industry so that it can adopt proven technology. Development is already there. I would like to know whether the Government would look into this matter.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, no money is provided from the Jute Cess Fund. But the Government is giving money to the Indian Jute Industry Research Association, IJIRA for research and development. In 1993-94, we gave Rs. 70 lakhs under Plan Outlay and Rs. 2.5 crores under non-Plan Outlay. So we have given Rs. 3.20 crores in 1993-94. In 1994-95, the Government gave Rs. 3.15 crores and in 1995-96, it gave Rs. 3.57 crores. In 1996-97, the budget provision is Rs. 4 crores. There is no provision for giving money from the Jute Cess Fund. But the Government is providing separate funds for the R&D sector.

SHRI MD. SALIM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek your protection. My question was, "What is the total amount of the Jute Cess Fund collected by this Government?" Sir, this amount is being deposited with the Consolidated Fund of India. There is no denial of the fact. The Government is supporting the Indian Jute Industry Research Association. But the thrust of my first supplementary was this. The IJIRA is making a breakthrough in technology upgradation in laboratories and institutes. But what about the transfer of this proven R&D reserves to the industry? The Minister has not replied to it. The IJIRA is being supported by the Government. How did the Jute Cess Fund originate? In 1968, when this Jute Cess Fund was introduced, its name was Jute R&D Cess Fund. The Jute Cess Fund was introduced in the face of a challenge which the jute industry was facing because of obsolete technology and upgradation of manufactured products for export. We had to do it. When the Jute Manufacturers Cess Act was introduced in 1983, the R&D Cess Fund was transferred to Jute Cess Fund.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, your question is: Is the Government prepared to give 50 per cent or more money from the Jute Cess Fund for research and development?

SHRI MD. SALIM: And also transfer of technology from laboratory to industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is the question.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, whenever funds are required, the Government would provide funds from the Consolidated Fund of India. It may not be necessary to take that amount from the Jute Cess Fund. The Jute Cess Fund is meant for other purposes.

SHRI MD. SALIM: The whole problem is with 'other purposes'. Sir, the Minister has not answered my first supplementary very satisfactorily.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is saying that separate funds will be given for R&D.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Yes, Sir, If it is required, we will give.

SHRI MD. SALIM: But I want the upgradation of the manufacturing technology of the jute industry to face this challenge. Who will do it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: R&D is then!" obviously for that. Please put your second supplementary.

SHRI MD. SALIM: My second question is this. Money is being given to the Institute of Jute Technology. This problem is there with all industries. The Institute is having proven reserves in the R&D sector. But who will have its benefit, whether farmers or labourers or the industry? Who will give money for transferring technology from the Institute to industry?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: It is the duty of the R&D sector, it is the duty of the Jute and Textile Development Corporation and it is the duty of the Executive Department to pass on this

information and technological knowhow to fanners, jute manufacturers and jute growers.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I hope I am not repeating. But I would like to quote from the Act itself. The Jute Manufacturers Cess Act, 1983 specifies the objective. It says that cess is levied on jute manufacturers for the purpose, of carrying out development work in the production of Jute. I repeat, for the development of production of Jute. The development of production of Jute, cannot be limited to market promotion. I would like the Minister to go through this. It cannot be a part of market promotion. Out of Rs. 17 crores, Rs. 16 crores are being spent in the name of market promotion—on trips abroad. I am sure the Minister is aware of this. The main requirement of the jute industry is diversification and value-addition. Is he aware that so far as export of Jute products through diversification and value-addition—is concerned, it constitutes only two per cent of the export? In view of this, I would like to get an assurance from the Minister that he would look into this and include R&D and training as a major component of this Cess Fund. Would you please assure the House? Would you please go into it or form a committee, if necessary?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: I will go into this and find out what can be done.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me this opportunity to speak. Sir, because of environmental hazards, production of bio-degradable material is being encouraged. In the Western countries, jute fabric is being accepted even for clothing purposes. The value-addition in the case of this fabric is ten times that in the case of cotton fabric which we buy whether here or abroad. So, I would like to know as to what is being done in the R&D section of the Ministry or in whatever system we have. Are pro-motion efforts being made to promote this type of value-added products?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, the Ministry is aware that jute is being marketed at a higher value outside. The Government has already started a lot of developmental activities to see that some other yarn is added to jute so that our farmers get a better price and our mills get a better price. As far as any recent research made by the R&D department is concerned, I am not aware of it. If another question is put, I will come before the House and give a proper reply. Apart from this, funds are being provided by the Government to the R&D department of the industry. Rs.18.59 crores have been provided in the last three to four years to the JMDC for taking up various developmental activities. We are also getting some funds from the United Nations Developmental Fund.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, the point is that the problem or the challenge that the jute industry is facing is mainly regarding modernisation of technology and upgradation of technology.

Now I think that there is sort of a communication gap in understanding the two distinct components of R&D. One component is investment for the actual development of new products and second is whatever achievements have been made in a laboratory, transferring that technology from the laboratory to the industry and from the laboratory to the jute growers. I feel that we should go into this in a discreet manner and have different allcations. Sir, there are also problems with the IJIRA becasue the programmes relating to the development of different crop varieties, have now been abandoned. So, I would request the Minister to assure us in what manner this kind of discreet allocation will be there. We are not so much interested about the quantitative allocation figures as we are interested in disaggregating the allocatioa in the right direction so that the challenges posed by the industry can be met. What response would the hon.

Minister like to make on these observations?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: I have already submitted that I have no idea about the developments, that researches are being carried out by this institution. And I brought to the notice of the hon. Members that whatever research is done, it is for the other agencies to carry out this research and pass on the effects of the research to the farmers and the industry. To the farmers, it is done by *the Agriculture Department, and to the industry, it is done by the Industry Department. Anyway, I will go through all these things and I assure this House, Sir, that I will take up whichever measures are necessary for the development of the jute industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Obviously, a well-thought-out approach is necessary.

Exports earnings from cotton handloom fabric

*284. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the value in rupees of cotton handloom fabric goods exported by Government during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and during three months of current year; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the export of handloom goods?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The figures of cotton handloom fabrics and made-ups exports during 1994-95, 1995-96 and the latest available figures for April-May, 1996 are given below:

Export (Value in Rs .	
1994-95	1504.6
, 1996	
1995-96	1491.3
April-May	207.5

(b) Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of handloom goods from the country, such as sponsoring Buyer-Seller Meets, participation in fairs in major markets, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines, product development and quality upgradation through appropriate training programmes.

In order to give a fillip to the export of handloom fabrics, made-ups and other handlooms items from all parts of the country, a comprehensive scheme for developing exportable products, building up infrastructure for export and thereafter marketing it, has been drawn up by the Government of India. The objectives of the scheme are to identify and select handloom concentration areas, engage designers, modify looms, train weavers, generate exportable designs and samples, develop appropriate packaging for exportable products, exercise quality control on exportable products, documentation and monitoring etc.

श्री इकबाल सिंह: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो आंकड़े दिये हैं 1504 करोड़ प्वाइंट सम्बंधित यह 1994-95 और 1995-96 के हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमने टारगेट फिक्स किया था, क्या उसको 100% पूरा कर लिया गया है? महोदय, आज पूरे भारत में जो भारतीय हैंडलूम का सामान है, इसको बढ़ावा मिल रहा है और पूरी दुनिया में, पूरे संसार में इनकी डिमांड बहुत बढ़ गई है। इसी के साथ भारत के कस्बों का भी बाहर के मुल्कों में बहुत प्रचार हो रहा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन्होंने टारगेट पूरा किया है या नहीं?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, for the last two years, we could not achieve the targets. There is a shortfall of six to seven per cent.

श्री इकबाल सिंह: मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि मिनिमम कामन प्रोग्राम के तहत जो 70 प्रतिशत आबादी गांवों की है वह अपने रोजगार के लिए हैंडलूम में काम कर रहे हैं। क्या उनकी गरीबी को दूर करने के लिए या गांवों में कॉटन हैंडलूम में काम करने वाले बच्चों की एजुकेशन के लिए, महिलाओं की हेल्थ के लिए हम क्या-क्या कर रहे हैं?